

## **Materi Speaking for Intercultural Communication**

**B. Yuniar Diyanti**

**yuniar\_diyanti@uny.ac.id**

### **Asking for certainty:**

- 1 What if we ....
- 2 Will it be okay if we ....?
- 3 How about this one? It's ..... than that one.
- 4 Would you mind if I .....?
- 5 Do you mind if .....?
- 6 Really?
- 7 Are you sure?
- 8 Is it confirmed?
- 9 Do you?/Will you?/Can you?
- 10 Do you believe that ....
- 11 Do you think that....

### **Expressing certainty**

1. That sounds good/perfect.
2. Okay. No problem.
3. Fine. Go ahead.
4. No, you can't. I'm sorry.
5. I'm afraid you can't.
6. I'm sure that ....
7. I'm definitely sure.
8. I'm absolutely certain.
9. Sure, I'm certain.
10. I'm positive.
11. Without a doubt/No doubt about it.

## **Expressing uncertainty**

1. I'm not sure that ...
2. I don't believe that ...
3. I'm not certain that ...
4. I doubt that ...
5. I'm not really sure that ...
6. I think it was a bad idea.

### Examples:

1. Rio : Are you sure that your girlfriend can be the  
winner in English Speech Contest?

Alex : I'm positive . She used to  
live in America, her English is excellent

2. Ratih : I'm going to the cinema tomorrow.  
Will you come along?

Lisa : Hmm, I'm not sure, I have to prepare  
for the semester test.

# Expressing Regret

## Introduction

### "To err is human"

What is done is done and it will never be undone. The only possible thing to do instead is just sobbing and showing regret if the things done or missed were not part of one's expectations. Don't worry, there are plenty of ways to express regret!

However; before we can tackle the subject, allow me to advise you to do the right deed for the right reason, then you won't need to be sorry or to regret anything.

People make mistakes. They are not perfect but to certain limits. Stupidities are not to be classified in the category of fate. Don't rush to do things for fear you should regret them for all the rest of your life.

You are a student and you are supposed to listen to your teacher, to ask her for [clarification](#) if you don't understand something, to do your homework and to revise your lessons regularly. In brief, to work hard.

There will be nothing to regret or to be sorry for even if you don't succeed because you did what you had to as a serious and committed student.

Regret is expressed after you did something you shouldn't have done or you didn't do something you should have done. We never regret things we were not responsible for.

## Expressing Regret

Expressing regret is as tough as [apologizing](#). Yet it is quite human to admit one's faults.

- You didn't do your homework and the teacher is angry with you!
  - *I ought to have done it.* (said to the teacher)
  - *I should have done it.* (said to the teacher)
  - *If only I had done my homework.* (said to yourself)
  - *I wish I had done my homework.* (said to yourself)
- You did a stupid mistake and the teacher is mad about it!
  - *I'm sorry, I oughtn't to have made such a mistake.* (said to the teacher)
  - *I shouldn't have made such a mistake.* (said to the teacher)

- *If only I hadn't made such a mistake.* (said to yourself)
- *I wish I hadn't made such a mistake.* (said to yourself)

## Structure

- should (not) have + verb in the past participle.
  - ought (not) to have + verb in the past participle.
  - if only + Past Perfect
  - wish + Past Perfect
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## Practice

### Examples

- I wish I had been more careful. (but in reality I wasn't and I regret it now)
- If only I hadn't told her those hurting words.(but I did)
- I oughtn't to have driven fast.(but I did)
- I should have been punctual. (but I wasn't)
- I wish I had warned him. (but I didn't)

### Quiz

#### What should they say in these situations?

1. Someone who had an accident because he drove fast.
2. Someone whose wife left him because he was a gambler.
3. Someone who didn't tell the truth and went to jail.
4. Someone who said "No" and regretted it.
5. Someone who was offered a job and refused it and he regretted it.

1. Someone who had an accident because he drove fast.

I should have been more careful.

I wish I had driven slowly.

If only I hadn't driven fast.

I oughtn't to have been careless.

2. Someone whose wife left him because he was a gambler.

I shouldn't have been a gambler.

I wish I hadn't been a gambler.

If only she hadn't left me.

I oughtn't to have been a gambler.

3. Someone who didn't tell the truth and went to jail.

I should have told the truth.

I wish I had told the truth.

If only I had told the truth.

I ought to have told the truth.

4. Someone who said "No" and regretted it.

I should have said 'Yes'.

I wish I hadn't said 'No'.

If only I hadn't said 'No'.

I oughtn't to have said 'No'.

5. Someone who was offered a job and refused it and he regretted it.

I should have accepted the job.

I wish I hadn't turned down that offer.

If only I hadn't refused the job.

I ought to have accepted the job.

**EXPRESSING SATISFACTION and DISATISFACTION**

**ENQUIRING ABOUT SATISFACTION and DISSATISFACTION**

**Read and practice the conversation below!**

a. Rick: I went to a new restaurant last night.

Sue : Oh, is it the one in the corner of the street?

Rick : Yep!

Sue : *So, how's the food?*

Rick : *It was awful!* Too spicy and the place was too crowded too. Overall, *I was not satisfied with it.*

b. Meg: I took my daughter to the dentist yesterday. *I wasn't happy with the place.*

Jim : Why? What happened there?

Meg : It took two hours to wait for the doctor to come and there were two men smoking in the waiting room. They should not be permitted to smoke in the place!

Jim : Well, the last time I went there for my six monthly-dental check, *I found that the place was fine. I felt quite happy and convenient with the services there.*

Meg : You've got to be kidding Jim!

Discussion

1. What are Sue and Rick talking about?
2. What are Meg and Jim talking about?
3. What do the italicized expressions mean?

4. Do these situations ever happen to you?
5. Do you ever have that feeling? Tell the class!
6. Do you express the feeling too? How do you express the feeling in your language?

### Useful Expressions

enquiring about satisfaction/dissatisfaction	expressing dissatisfaction	expressing satisfaction
<p>What do you think of the....?</p> <p>Is this what you want(ed) / need / meant / had in mind?</p>	<p>The place was awful!</p> <p>The hotel was inconvenient.</p> <p>The people were unfriendly.</p> <p>I wasn't happy with it.</p> <p>It's awful / terrible.</p> <p>It's not alright.</p> <p>I'm not satisfied/happy with it.</p>	<p>Good!</p> <p>Nice!</p> <p>Marvelous!</p> <p>Great!</p> <p>Wonderful!</p> <p>Fine!</p> <p>It's quite alright.</p> <p>It's just as I wanted / needed / meant / had in mind..</p>
<p>Are you satisfied/happy with...?</p> <p>How do you like/find the....?</p> <p>Do you like the...?</p> <p>Is this what you want(ed) / need / meant / had in mind?</p>	<p>I'm not satisfied/happy with it</p>	<p>It's quite alright.</p> <p>It's just as I wanted / needed / meant / had in mind.</p> <p>I'm satisfied/happy with it.</p> <p>It's fine/ok.</p> <p>That's good/great/wonderful (<i>and so on</i>)</p>
<p>Is this what you want(ed) / need / meant / had in mind?</p>	<p>It's not quite alright</p>	<p>That will do.</p>



## **Role play**

Work in groups of three, design a little drama with the following situation:

- a. You went to a music concert. You complain about many things in the concert.
- b. You went to the hospital. You felt happy with the services there.
- c. You need to renew your driving license. You complain about many things in the police office.
- d. You go to the beach. There are many things you don't like about the place but there are also many things that make you happy.
- e. You went to a new shopping mall. You like it.
- f. You go to a new eating spot. Many things there make you unhappy but the food was ok.
- g. You don't like your speaking class. You complain about many things.
- h. The restroom facility in the campus is not good enough. You complain about it.
- i. The library has a new building. You like it and you like the new books and the services are great.

Interview your friends, find out what they were obliged to do when:

They were kids	They were at their early teen age	They were at their senior high school time	They were still living in their parents' house / are living with their parents



