

Everyday English

Making the right noises

- 1 Look at the photo. Why do you think they are laughing?
- 2 Look at the words in the charts. They are all possible responses in conversation. What do they express? Write in the correct heading.
 - Agreement • Sympathy • Pleasure • Surprise

How fantastic! That's great! Congratulations! Good for you!	Lovely! Brilliant!	Absolutely. Of course. Fine.	Definitely. Fair enough. OK.
That's amazing! You're kidding! You did what?	You didn't! Really? Did you?	That's a shame. That's too bad. How awful!	Oh dear. Bad luck. What a pity!

- 3 **1.10** The stress and intonation in phrases like these are often quite exaggerated. Listen and repeat them with a wide voice range.
- 4 **1.11** Listen to the conversation and complete B's responses. Practise with a partner. What other responses from 2 are suitable?

- 1 A My grandfather hasn't been too well lately.
B _____
- 2 A He's 79, but he's always on the go. Don't you think at his age he should slow down a bit?
B _____
- 3 A But he won't listen to me. He says he wants to enjoy his life to the full.
B _____
- 4 A Last summer, he went on a two-week cycling holiday in France.
B _____
- 5 A We're going to give him a big party for his 80th birthday.
B _____
- 6 A But before that I'm going to have a word with him and tell him to take things easy.
B _____

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- 5 Read the lines of conversation. Write in a suitable response. There are sometimes several possibilities. Then practise the conversations with a partner.

- 1 A I just had a weekend in Paris with my boyfriend.
B _____ (surprise) _____ (pleasure)
- 2 A Will Spaghetti Bolognese be OK for dinner?
B _____ (agreement) _____ (pleasure)
- 3 A My flight was cancelled because of a pilots' strike.
B _____ (sympathy) _____ (sympathy)
- 4 A I failed my driving test again.
B _____ (surprise) _____ (sympathy)
- 5 A We're expecting a baby!
B _____ (surprise) _____ (pleasure)
- 6 A So you think I should get a new job?
B _____ (agreement)
- 7 A I told him I never wanted to see him again.
B _____ (surprise) _____ (sympathy)

- 1.12** Listen and compare your answers.

- 6 These are B's further comments. Match them with the lines 1-7.
 - a Better luck next time.
 - b When is it due?
 - c It's time to move on.
 - d I always thought the two of you were so good together.
 - e Will you get your money back?
 - f It's one of my favourites.
 - g What was the weather like?

- 1.13** Listen, check and compare. Practise the conversations again.

- 7 Work with a partner. Have a conversation about a good or bad day you have had recently. React as you listen and talk.

Last Sunday was the worst day of my life!

Oh dear. What happened?

Well, ...