

## Everyday English Talking in clichés

- 1 Some people like to end a conversation with a cliché. Nothing else needs to be said because this says it all! Underline the clichés in these conversations.

I didn't get that job I applied for. They said I need more experience.

Oh, well! You win some, you lose some.

Did you know 25% of the world speaks English?

Really? You learn something new every day!



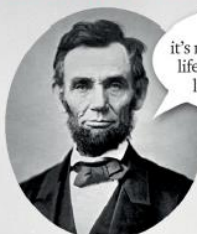
- 2 Match a line in A with a cliché in B.

A	B
1 I left my phone on the bus! I'm lost without it. So many meetings and no decisions made!	I know. It's all talk and no action. Come on! It's not the end of the world.
2 I can't make him see that there's a problem. I was about to text you, and you texted me.	Yes, it's like banging your head against a brick wall. Great minds think alike.
3 I don't know why you like Kim. She's strange. Pat is full of good, practical ideas.	Yes, she certainly has both feet on the ground. Well, it takes all sorts to make a world.
4 I've got ten exams in the next two weeks. I've got three months' holiday!	Rather you than me. It's all right for some.
5 The report doesn't have to be sent in today. I'm amazed. The garden looks great now.	What! And I just bust a gut to get it done. Thanks – but it's all in a day's work.
6 That lecture was awful. I was bored to death. I reversed into a wall and broke a headlight.	Never mind. It could have been worse. You can say that again. I fell asleep.
7 I wonder if their marriage will last. He loves nothing more than evenings at home.	Only time will tell. Ah, he's a man after my own heart.
8 Our neighbours are extreme right-wing. I lent Peter £100, and he never paid me back.	That's awful, but you live and learn. Oh, well. Live and let live. That's what I say.

- 3 12.9 Listen and check. Practise with a partner. Take turns at being A and B.

- 4 Read the quotes from **Abraham Lincoln** and **Muhammad Ali**. What do they mean? Do you agree with them?

### Famous last words ...



'In the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years.'

Abraham Lincoln  
1809–1865  
16th President of the US



'Don't count the years. Make the years count.'

Muhammad Ali  
1942–2016  
Boxing champion

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