



Colored text is informational only and not included in the audio file.

Audio Script Start

Strap yourself in, stop the music, turn the stove off, hey turn the TV off too, turn your brain on, loosen up your tongue and vocal cords because – you guessed it – it's time for the English Teacher John Show Number 43. C'mon, let's go!

[intro music]

SEGMENT 0 – INTRODUCTION

Hello everyone. This is John, your host for the ***English Teacher John Show*** and our other podcasts.

Well, I took a short break from creating podcasts. Besides feeling a bit lazy in the warmer weather, I wanted to give you time to re-listen to some of the older lessons. It's good to go back sometimes and review material that you studied a while ago. Don't you think??

[World Cup 2006]

Soccer soccer soccer football football football world cup world cup world cup 2006 in Germany. Yes, it's certainly an exciting time now with the World Cup taking place in Germany. But, what can I do???? I'm American and I live in Japan, so both of my teams are FINISHED in the World Cup! You know, we didn't play soccer when I was growing up so I can't say that I'm a big fan of the game, but I do enjoy the international excitement for sure.

What to do??? Both Japan and the U.S. are done. Who can I support? Who can I root for? Who can I cheer for? Italy? Brazil? Argentina? South Korea? Germany? England? Ghana? Australia? Since I'm not really a soccer fan, I'm just going to hope for a few things: a. exciting games b. lots of goals c. and I'm going to hope that the best team wins. Yes, that's all.

Okay. Let's have a look at the table of contents for our show today.

We will have four segments today:

1. In our **FIRST SEGMENT**, you'll learn about using the **PRESENT TENSE** with **TIME CLAUSES**. For example: *When I get there tomorrow, I'll show you the photos.*
2. And in Segment number 2, we'll talk about how to accept a compliment; accepting compliments or receiving compliments.
3. And, in our **THIRD** segment, we'll talk about a couple of **IDIOMS**: **GET THE HANG OF** something, or **GET THE FEEL OF** s.t.; and **KEEP SOMEONE COMPANY**
4. In our **FOURTH AND FINAL SEGMENT** ... you know what that is, don't you?? Yep, it's **PRACTICE TIME!!**

Let's get on with the show!

SEGMENT 1 – LANGUAGE SEGMENT – using present tense with time clauses

We're going to talk about **time clauses**. Eh??? A **time clause** is a group of words that starts with these kinds of words: BEFORE, WHEN, UNTIL, WHILE, AFTER, DURING, AS SOON AS. Please notice that the time clause is in the PRESENT TENSE in the following examples:

[The time clause is in bold; present tense verb is underlined]

When I get home from work, I'm going to call my parents. (NOT 'will get home')

I'll stay here **until you come back**. (NOT 'will come back')

They're going to paint the house **while you are on vacation**. (NOT 'will be on vacation')

Would you like a cup of tea **before you go**? (NOT 'will go')

Yes, these are *time clauses* and the verb in the time clause is usually in the present simple tense. I say *usually* because the present perfect tense is also possible.

For example, both of the following sentences are grammatically correct:

Can I borrow that book when you finish it? (present simple tense)

Can I borrow that book when you have finished it? (present perfect tense)

Or, how about: (using *after* instead of *when*)

Can I borrow that book after you finish it?

Can I borrow that book after you have finished it?

Here's another example where the **present simple** or **present perfect tense** can be used:

I'll come as soon as I finish.

I'll come as soon as I've finished.

Yes, they are all possible. My recommendation is to use the **present simple tense** in these kinds of time clauses. I think it's the most common way to say these.

Okay, that's it for time clauses. Don't forget that we'll have more time clauses in our **practice time** at the end of this lesson.

SEGMENT 2 – LANGUAGE – accepting/receiving a compliment

Compliments compliments compliments.

You did a great job in the game today.

Your voice really sounded beautiful at the concert last night.

The plan you mentioned at this morning's meeting was excellent!

I like your colorful sweater.

Well done! Good job!

Congratulations on the "salesperson of the year" award!

These are all compliments. You are complimenting someone, praising him or her, or making a flattering remark. So, what can you do when someone compliments you?

I think the obvious thing here is **humility**. Be **humble**. Be **modest**. If someone says, "Great Job!", please don't say, "Yeah, I know." That's really the worse thing you can do.

In my opinion, you also shouldn't completely reject the compliment, as in:

"Great job today!"

– "No, I don't think so. I did terrible."

It's okay to **play down** the compliment a little, but don't completely reject it.

Responding with, “*Well, I think I had a pretty good day.*” is acceptable. If you’re complimented about something you’re wearing, how about:

“Oh thanks. I bought this at a street market in Turkey last year.”

It’s probably easier and more comfortable to reply to a compliment about something you *bought* than praise about something you *did* or *made*.

All in all, the best thing is to **express your thanks**. And, if it’s a compliment about an object, then you can explain something about the object. If you’re a member of a group or team, then mention your group or team members when you thank the person who praised you.

Here are some examples:

Your presentation was really informative and inspirational.

-Thanks. The whole group put a lot of time into it and we’re glad you enjoyed it.

Your voice really sounded beautiful at the concert last night.

-Thanks. I appreciate that. I’m glad you enjoyed the concert.

The plan you mentioned at this morning’s meeting was excellent!

-Thanks a lot. I hope it turns out to be a good suggestion.

I like your colorful sweater.

-Thank you. My cousin gave it to me last year for a graduation gift.

You did a great job in the game today.

-Thank you very much. I think everyone played pretty well today.

I like your new hair style.

-Thanks. A friend of mine has a beauty salon, and I think she’s really good with hair.

That was a nice article. You write very well.

Ah, thanks a lot. It took me a while to write that. I hope some people liked it.

You are really good at that!

Oh thanks. I’ve been doing this for so many years. I guess I’m finally getting better at it.

So, can you see that it’s good to thank someone and give credit to your group members or team members. And, play it down. Be humble. Be modest.

SEGMENT 3 – IDIOMS

1. **GET THE HANG of s.t. – find out or understand how best to do s.t.; become familiar or experienced with doing s.t. (also: get the feel of it)**
2. **KEEP SOMEONE COMPANY**

We have a couple of idioms for you today. Let’s look at our first one.

[first idiom: get the hang of something]

Do you know how you feel when you’re not very experienced at an activity, sport, or maybe you’re new at a job. You don’t feel very comfortable doing it. You don’t have much experience with the sport, activity, task or job. It’s going to take some time to **GET THE HANG OF IT**. Get the hang of it.

It means it’s going to take time to gain experience and feel comfortable and proficient doing something – as in your new job, a new sport or musical instrument, or cooking *falafel*. It’s just going to take time to **GET THE HANG OF IT**. It’s going to take time to get good at it, or get used to it, or get used to doing it.

You can also say, GET THE **FEEL** OF IT, especially for physical activities involving movement and/or coordination. GET THE **HANG** OF SOMETHING or GET THE HANG OF IT can be used for both physical skills and mental activities or tasks.

Okay. Here are some examples:

How long do you think it will take him to get the hang of it?

Hey, it feels really weird to drive on the left side of the road in Japan!

- Oh, don't worry. You'll get the hang of it in a few weeks.

When I was young I really wanted to learn to play the violin, but I could never get the hang of it.

When making bread, kneading the dough takes a little time to get the feel of it.

[second idiom: keep someone company]

Our second idiom is KEEP SOMEONE COMPANY. Keep someone company.

Hey, you don't really want to walk to the park alone, do you? I'll **keep you company**. I'll **keep you company**.

It means, I'll **accompany you**. I'll **join you**. And the sense of it is for companionship or for conversation or friendship.

I ran into Tashi at the bus station, and he kept me company for an hour while I waited for my bus. The sound of this is that he sat with me, and we had a nice friendly chat.

So, when your friend is walking somewhere alone, sitting alone or has to wait alone – alone alone alone. Why don't you keep him or her company?? Keep her company. Keep him company. Hey, keep me company!

SEGMENT 4 – PRACTICE TIME

Are you tired of listening and ready to speak???? We'll now's the time for that, because it's **practice time**.

[[sound effect: oh no!!]]

Yeah, I know it's your favorite part of the show. Let's practice these sentences. Say them out loud. Say them now. Say them, pronounce them, practice them. C'mon, don't be shy!

First, here's a little practice for our time clauses, using the present simple tense.

[language: time clauses]

When I get home from work, I'm going to call my parents.

I'll stay here until you come back.

They're going to paint the house while you are on vacation.

Would you like a cup of tea before you go?

Can I borrow that book when you finish it?

I'll come as soon as I finish.

[language: receiving compliments]

Okay. Let's look at receiving compliments. Let's practice these:

Your voice really sounded beautiful at the concert last night.

-Thanks. I appreciate that. I'm glad you enjoyed the concert.

The plan you mentioned at this morning's meeting was excellent!

-Thanks a lot. I hope it turns out to be a good suggestion.

I like your colorful sweater.

-Thank you. My cousin gave it to me last year for a graduation gift.

You did a great job in the game today.

-Thank you very much. I think everyone played pretty well today.

I like your new hair style.

-Thanks. A friend of mine has a beauty salon and I think she's really good with hair.

That was a nice article. You write very well.

Ah, thanks a lot. It took me a while to write that. I hope some people liked it.

You are really good at that!

Oh thanks. I've been doing this for so many years. I guess I'm finally getting better at it.

[idioms]

[first idiom: get the hang of something]

Okay. A little practice with today's idioms. First, GET THE HANG OF something.

How long do you think it will take him to get the hang of it?

Hey, it feels really weird to drive on the left side of the road in Japan!

- Oh, don't worry. You'll get the hang of it in a few weeks.

When I was young I really wanted to learn to play the guitar, but I could never get the hang of it.

When making bread, kneading the dough takes a little time to get the feel of it.

[second idiom: keep someone company]

Our second idiom was KEEP SOMEONE COMPANY

Do you mind if I keep you company?

She kept me company while I waited for the train.

Hey, no problem. I'll keep you company.

Hey, that wasn't too bad, was it? Well, that's the end of practice time. Good job!

SEGMENT 4 – SIGNOFF

[frappr map]

Hey, have you seen our *frappr* map lately? We now have **97** members and pins on our *englishteacherjohngroup* *frappr* map. Thanks for that everyone. Let's send out some greetings to our newest *frappr* map members.

[LIST OF NAMES]

Paulo posted a nice, cool photo. Hey, that's a real close-up!

Enza sent in a cartoon elephant image with the title, "No More Circus."

Thanks for the images!

[email]

Thanks to many of you for sending us email. I do read the email, and it does help to improve our website and podcasts, although I can be very slow to respond. Sorry about that. Please send your opinions, suggestions and any positive or negative comments to: podcast@englishteacherjohn.com.

Even better, you can post your messages and comments on our **MY ENGLISH BLOG** at our website. If you post it on the blog, then the entire English Teacher John community can see your writing and comment on it as well. So, think about writing a message on our MY ENGLISH BLOG at: <http://englishteacherjohn.com/myenglishblog/>

[final signoff]

Don't forget. For all of our video and audio podcasts, some transcripts, and more, visit our website at **englishteacherjohn.com**, and that's where our blog is also. I think we will have a **TRANSCRIPT** for this episode number 43. So, please check our website. It will be ready in a couple of days. I promise.

Hey, last thing ... did you guys get some exercise this weekend? I know I did. I was out on my bike yesterday and today – on some busy roads which I don't like too much. I prefer small roads in the hills and mountain bike trails. Well, here's what happened ...

My wife's visiting some friends and she thought I was coming by bus yesterday for a visit. Well, I originally *planned* on taking the bus, but late Saturday afternoon instead of heading to the bus station, I jumped on my bike and rode quickly about 35 kms, and I arrived just before dark. Boy, that was good exercise!

We woke up early this morning with our friends at our friends' house and we worked with the grapes, the vineyards. They are farmers and we did some work pruning, arranging and organizing the grape vines.

Today, I did the reverse journey and I got back to Matsumoto about 4:00 pm and I felt just great – even though I had to battle the endless flow of cars and the narrow shoulder on the roads. It was still a great ride.

Okay. Let's call it a day. Thanks for listening and learning. Have a great week and I want to send GOOD LUCK WISHES TO ALL OF THE REMAINING WORLD CUP SOCCER TEAMS. Ganbatte ne!!
Bye bye.

Thanks to Martin Chenhall, our music man.