



Common Exclamations

Lesson code: 1159-D6CD-G3P1

UPPER INTERMEDIATE

American English

1 Uses of exclamations

Words and phrases such as 'Cheers!', 'Oh my God!', 'That's crazy!' etc. are called *exclamations*. They are used to express a sudden emotion such as excitement, fear, surprise, etc. Match the exclamations on the left with the feelings/expressions of emotion and uses on the right:

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|----------------------------|---|
| 1. Guess what? | a. Annoyance: used when someone is interested in something you feel is private |
| 2. Don't be ridiculous! | b. Disapproval: said sarcastically when someone has done something that you expected |
| 3. Thank God! | c. Disbelief: used when someone says something that you do not believe is true |
| 4. Suit yourself! | d. Excitement: used before saying something interesting |
| 5. Surprise, surprise. | e. Frustration: used when a difficult situation has become worse |
| 6. That's all I need! | f. Mild anger: used to mean 'do what you want to do' when someone does not want to do what you think they should do |
| 7. Mind your own business! | g. Relief: when you are happy that something bad did not happen |
| 8. My condolences. | h. Sympathy: used when someone's close friend or a member of someone's family has just died |

2 Practice

Respond to the following sentences with an appropriate expression. Listen and check your answers, repeating the expressions with the correct pronunciation and intonation.



- Oh, there's my phone. _____ . I thought I'd lost it.
- "I've heard that Andrew's Japanese is getting pretty good." " _____ ! He's only been in Japan a couple of weeks."
- "I don't think I'll go to Jack's birthday party tonight." "Alright, _____ ."
- "Excuse me, how much money do you earn?" " _____ !"
- "Martin was late for work... again!" " _____ !"
- I've had a horrible day at work. And now the internet isn't working. _____ !
- "My grandfather has just died." " _____ ."
- _____ ? I've passed my driving test.



3 Role play

In pairs, write a short dialogue for each of the expressions in Ex1. Read each dialogue aloud.



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1. d
2. c
3. g
4. f
5. b
6. e
7. a
8. h

2 Practice

When the students have completed the task individually or in pairs, play the audio file or scan the QR code. Have the students repeat the correct expressions as a class. Encourage them to pay attention to the pronunciation and intonation of the speakers.

1. Thank God
2. Don't be ridiculous
3. suit yourself
4. Mind your own business
5. Surprise, surprise
6. That's all I need
7. My condolences
8. Guess what

3 Role play

Go around the class monitoring the activity. Select pairs of students to read aloud dialogues to the class.

