

# Making requests and asking for permission.

Read the conversations below and fill in the gaps with the words and phrases from the lists.

Do you mind if I ~~here you are~~      is it OK if I ~~telling me~~      could you turn ~~thanks~~      What's the problem ~~can I borrow~~      ~~go ahead~~

## Conversation 1

A: Yeah?  
B: Hello, **Could you** ..... turn the music down, please? It's one o'clock and I'm trying to sleep.  
A: Oh, sorry. Is that better?  
B: Yes, **Thanks** ..... Perhaps I can get some sleep now. Good night.

## Conversation 2

A: I'm sorry, ..... leave early today? I'm going to take my cat to see the vet.  
B: You're going to take your cat to the vet? What's the matter with her then?  
A: Him. I don't know. That's why I'm going to take him to the vet's.  
B: Oh, I see. Sure, **go ahead** ..... Thanks for **telling me** .....

**veterinarian**

**thanks + verb in  
-ING**

## Conversation 3

A: David, do you have your mobile phone with you?  
B: Um... yes. Why?  
A: **Can I borrow** ..... please? I need to make a quick call to my mother.  
B: OK, **here you are** .....

**THANKS FOR  
BEING SO KIND**

## Conversation 4

A: **Is it ok if I** ..... change seats?  
B: Yes, all right. **What's the problem** .....?  
A: I can't see because of the sun.  
B: OK, then. Why don't you sit there, next to Andrea.

**Where are the people?**

Match the sentences (a-h) with the correct reactions (1-8).

- ? **6**  
**3**  
**2**  
**1**  
**7**  
**8**  
**4**
- |  |   |
|--|---|
| a. Can I have a glass of water?                    | 1. Yes of course. What about?                           |
| b. Is it OK if I make a phone call?                | 2. Oh, sorry, I said we only have \$50 tickets left.    |
| c. <b>Could you say that again, please?</b>        | 3. Well, all right. If it's a local call.               |
| d. Can I speak to you for a moment?                | 4. Oh sure. The remote's on the table.                  |
| e. Do you mind if I look at your CDs.              | 5. Well, not really. Why can't you come?                |
| f. Is it OK if I miss the English lesson tomorrow? | 6. Of course, there's a bottle in the fridge.           |
| g. Could you move over, please?                    | 7. You can borrow some if you want.                     |
| h. Do you mind if I turn the TV up?                | 8. Yes, sorry. I didn't realise you wanted to sit down. |

With your teacher act out four-line conversations for four of the situations below.

1. It's very hot in the room and you would like to open the window.
2. You need to borrow some money from a friend because you have lost your bus fare.
3. Someone's mobile phone is always ringing during a film
4. You didn't understand the address someone gave you and you would like them to spell it for you.
5. The person behind you is talking all the time during the lesson.
6. You are watching the TV but you can't hear because the volume is very low. Your friend has the remote control.
7. You would like someone to take a photo of you and your friend in front of a famous monument.
8. You can't see the timetable at a train station because a stranger is standing in front of it.