



EMERGENCIES



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Expemo code:
16F6-J6CC-7QPJ

1

Types of emergency

Look at the different types of emergency below and match each one to the emergency workers on the right. Then talk about what types of emergency are common in your country.

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|---------------------|
| 1. a house fire | → | a. a firefighter |
| 2. a car accident | → | b. a lifeguard |
| 3. a break-in | → | c. a paramedic |
| 4. somebody drowning | → | d. a police officer |
| 5. an earthquake | → | e. a rescue worker |

2

Key words

Complete the definitions with the words below.

ambulance
squad car

break-in
trapped

firetruck
unconscious

hurt
wildfire

- A **wildfire** is an uncontrolled fire that can spread very quickly.
- If you **break-in**, you enter a building illegally and by force.
- An **ambulance** is a vehicle used by paramedics to respond to an emergency.
- If you are **hurt**, you have a physical injury.
- If you are **unconscious**, you are not awake because of an injury.
- If you are **trapped**, you are unable to move or escape from some place.
- A **firetruck** is a vehicle used by firefighters to respond to an emergency.
- A **squad car** is a vehicle used by police to respond to an emergency.



3 Emergency dialogues

Listen to the dialogues and put the type of emergency next to each one.

Watch



Dialogue 1: _____

Dialogue 2: _____

Dialogue 3: _____

Listen



4 Useful expressions

Now complete the dialogue and listen again to check your answers.

Can you see if anyone is hurt

Is everybody safe

I want to report a fire

I would like to report a break-in

Was anything stolen

We need an ambulance right away

Dialogue 1

Operator: Hello. Fire Department.

Alice: _____¹.

Operator: OK. Where is the fire?

Alice: On Bridge Street. Behind the town hall.

Operator: Is it a house fire?

Alice: No, I don't think so. I see a lot of smoke and I think it's coming from the park.

Operator: OK. _____²?

Alice: Yes.

Operator: Right. Wildfires can be pretty dangerous. So just make sure that everyone stays away from the smoke and flames. The firefighters are on their way.

Alice: Thank you.

Operator: Can we contact you at this number?

Alice: Yes, you can.

Operator: OK.



Dialogue 2

Operator: Emergency services. Please state your emergency.

Alice: _____³ at my house.

Operator: When did this happen?

Alice: I believe it happened last night.

Operator: _____ ?

Alice: It looks like just the TV.

Operator: And how did they break in?

Alice: Well, my front window was broken.

Operator: OK, we'll send a squad car shortly.

Alice: I'd appreciate that.

Dialogue 3

Operator: Emergency services. Please state your emergency.

Alice: _____⁵.

Operator: What is your name?

Alice: Alice. Alice Johnson.

Operator: And can you tell me what happened?

Alice: There's been a car accident.

Operator: OK. Where are you?

Alice: I'm on Clifford Road, in front of the cinema.

Operator: _____⁶?

Alice: One of the drivers seems to be unconscious. And there might be someone trapped in the back of the car. I can't quite see.

Operator: OK, madam, I'm sending an ambulance right now. It will be there very soon.

Alice: OK, please hurry!



5 Grammar - Reporting a recent event

Look at the following sentence from Dialogue 3:

"There's been a car accident."

Answer the questions below:

1. When did the car accident happen? A long time ago or a short time ago?
2. Does Alice say exactly when the accident happened?
3. Which tense is used in this statement? What is the structure of this tense?
4. How do we form questions and negative statements with this tense?

Complete the rule below with 'present perfect simple' or 'simple past':

We use the _____ to report 'fresh' events that happened a short time ago, without saying when exactly they happened.

We use the _____ to talk about events that happened in the past and don't have a connection with the present.

6 Practice

Complete the sentences below with the present perfect simple or simple past.

1. Help! Somebody _____ (steal) my wallet!
2. Yesterday, I _____ (lose) my wallet.
3. Last week, there _____ (be) a car accident on my street.
4. I _____ (lose) my dog. Have you seen her anywhere?
5. _____ (you/see) my keys anywhere? I can't find them.
6. Somebody _____ (break into) my apartment last night and _____ (steal) my TV.
7. The party is very quiet at the moment. I think everyone _____ (leave).
8. It's the end of the match! France _____ (win) the World Cup!
9. France is the current world champion. They _____ (win) the World Cup last time.
10. He _____ (not/call) me last night.

7 Role play

In pairs, practice making emergency calls. Role play the situations below and invent your own details. Take turns to be emergency operator.

1. There is a house on fire across your street.
2. You are on the highway. You see a car crash.
3. You can't find your laptop. You think somebody stole it.
4. Your car window is broken. The radio is missing.
5. You hear an explosion. One of the buildings in your town is on fire.



Transcripts

3. Emergency dialogues

Dialogue 1

Operator: Hello. Fire Department.

Alice: I want to report a fire.

Operator: OK. Where is the fire?

Alice: On Bridge Street. Behind the town hall.

Operator: Is it a house fire?

Alice: No, I don't think so. I see a lot of smoke and I think it's coming from the park.

Operator: OK. Is everyone safe?

Alice: Yes.

Operator: Right. Wildfires can be pretty dangerous. So just make sure that everyone stays away from the smoke and flames. The firefighters are on their way.

Alice: Thank you.

Operator: Can we contact you at this number?

Alice: Yes, you can.

Operator: OK.

Dialogue 2

Operator: 911 what's your emergency?

Alice: I would like to report a break-in at my house.

Operator: When did this happen?

Alice: I believe it happened last night.

Operator: Was anything stolen?

Alice: It looks like it was just the TV.

Operator: And how did they break in?

Alice: Well, my front window was broken.

Operator: OK, we'll send a squad car shortly.

Alice: Thank you so much.

**Dialogue 3**

Operator: 911 what's your emergency?

Alice: We need **an ambulance right away.**

Operator: What is your name?

Alice: Alice. Alice Johnson.

Operator: Can you tell me what happened?

Alice: There's been a **car accident.**

Operator: OK. Where are you?

Alice: I'm on Clifford Road, in front of the movie theater.

Operator: Can you see if anyone is hurt?

Alice: One of the drivers seems to **be unconscious. And** there might be someone **trapped in the back of her car.** I can't quite see.

Operator: OK, ma'am, I'm sending an ambulance right now. It will be there very soon.

Alice: **OK, please hurry!**



Key

1. Types of emergency

Go through the different emergencies and check understanding. Students work individually and check in pairs. Go through the answers with the class.

1. a 2. c 3. d 4. b 5. e

2. Key words

Students work individually and check in pairs. Go through the answers with the class.

1. wildfire 2. break-in 3. ambulance 4. hurt
5. unconscious 6. trapped 7. firetruck 8. squad car

3. Emergency dialogues

Students work individually and check in pairs. Go through the answers with the class.

1. a wild fire
2. a break-in
3. a car accident

4. Useful expressions

Students work individually and check in pairs. Go through the answers with the class.

1. I want to report a fire
2. Is everybody safe
3. I would like to report a break-in
4. Was anything stolen
5. We need an ambulance right away
6. Can you see if anyone is hurt

5. Grammar - Reporting a recent event

1. a short time ago
2. no
3. present perfect simple – have/has + PAST PARTICIPLE
4. QUESTIONS: "have/has + SUBJECT + PAST PARTICIPLE"; NEGATIVES: "haven't/hasn't + PAST PARTICIPLE"

We use the present perfect to report fresh events. We use the simple past to talk about events that happened in the past and have no connection with the present.

6. Practice

Students work individually and check in pairs. Go through the answers with the class.

1. has stolen 2. lost 3. was 4. 've lost 5. Have you seen
6. broke into; stole 7. has left 8. has won 9. won 10. didn't call



7. Role play

Put students into pairs. Demonstrate with a strong student. Go around monitoring the activity. Note down language problems and do a class feedback session.