

EPISODE 54
LEVEL A1.2/A2.1

READING COMPREHENSION



BEHAVIOUR

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Mark was still angry with John when he went to his boss and told him this: "John **tends to** (= has a tendency to) make **snap decisions** (= too quick decisions). He usually doesn't **keep his word** (= doesn't keep his promises) and often **bears a grudge** (= remembers for a long time bad things which other people have done to him). He cannot **keep his temper** (= he gets angry) and he can be **brutally honest** (= honest even if it hurts) at times." When Mark finished his boss asked: "Are you sure you are talking about John?"



More contexts for the new words:

- I have a **strong sense of responsibility**. (= I feel responsible for what I do)
- I am **good company**. (= people like spending time with me)



EXERCISE 1

Match the expression halves

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. brutally | a. your word |
| 2. keep your | b. to |
| 3. keep | c. decisions |
| 4. bear | d. honest |
| 5. make snap | e. a grudge |
| 6. tend | f. temper |



EXERCISE 2

Complete the questions, then answer them.

1. Do you always keep word?
2. Do you snap decisions?
3. When was the last time you were brutally

ENGLISH IN USE



Today we will look at sentences in past simple with verbs other than "to be".
This is our sentence for today:

*Mark was still angry with John when he **went** to his boss.*

As you can see, we don't have "go" or "goes" here, we use "went". This is the past form of "go". Here is a short list of other verbs and their past forms:

GO - WENT

HAVE - HAD

SEE - SAW

GET UP - GOT UP

DRINK - DRANK

When you look at our example one more time, you will see we have no -s at the end of the verb, even if we use it with "he, she, it". Don't forget that in past simple we don't put "s" at the end of verbs. And now look at some more examples of past simple tense:

*I **had** a good job last year.*

*He **saw** his friend last week.*

*They **drank** a lot of beer yesterday.*

*She **got up** very early yesterday.*

IDIOM CLOSE-UP



A/ John cannot keep his temper.

*B/ No, he **LOSES HIS TEMPER** quite often.*

When you **lose your temper**, you get angry.

PHRASAL VERBS CLOSE-UP



1. When you MAKE UP your mind, you make a decision.

*John never makes snap decisions. In fact, he has problems **making up** his mind at all!
Come on, **make up** your mind!*

2. When you LET someone DOWN, you disappoint them.

*You **let down** your friends when you don't keep your word.
I was a little late but I couldn't **let them down** completely.*



EXERCISE 3

Complete each gap with one word.

1. It is really hard when your best friend lets you
2. I don't know if I want the red dress or the black one. I just can't make
3. When he lost the game, he lost his and started throwing chairs around.

NEWS



TOO MUCH WORK

Psychologists claim that more and more people are spending too much time at work. As a result, they show aggressive behavior at work and at home. Experts believe that you are more likely to **fly off the handle** if you're overworked. And even if you manage to leave your office after eight hours, be careful not to bring the work home – this is also **detrimental** to your health! So, what should you do to **maintain** good emotional health? Well, simply relax!

GLOSSARY

- **fly off the handle** – suddenly become extremely angry without a good reason
- **detrimental** – harmful
- **maintain** – keep

KEY TO EXERCISES

Ex.1

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

Ex.2

1. your
2. make
3. honest

Ex.3

1. down
2. up
3. temper