

to mean

What does this mean?

Steve: Sorry, Paulo: can you give me the salt please?

Paulo: Here you are, Steve.

Steve: Cheers.

Paulo: Sorry?

Steve: Cheers.

Paulo: What does 'cheers' mean?

Steve: It means 'thanks'.

Paulo: Really?

Steve: Maybe not in America but in Britain it does.

Kasey: Hi, Lien. Do you want a pop?

Lien: Sorry?

Kasey: A pop.

Lien: I'm sorry, Kasey I don't know what you mean. What is 'pop'?

Kasey: 'Pop' means 'soda'.

Lien: Soda?

Kasey: Yeah, soda: you know: soft drinks.

Lien: Ahh, you mean like Pepsi or Fanta?

Kasey: That's right: 'pop', 'soda' and 'soft drinks' all mean the same thing.

Hiromi: Do you like my new phone?

Steve: Oh, cool.

Hiromi: 'Cool'? What does that mean?

Steve: 'Cool' means it's really nice.

What does 'See you later' mean?

What do the letters UK mean?

On a website, do you know what the letters FAQ mean?

quiet noisy
noise to make a noise

A **noise** is something we hear. If a place is **noisy** it means that there is a lot of noise. The opposite of **noisy** is **quiet**.

Recep: Do you prefer a room at the back or at the front?

Lucy: At the back please. The front rooms are probably very noisy.

Recep: Yes, that's right. If you have the windows open there is a lot of traffic noise.

We can say that a person or a thing **makes a noise**.

- a) I think there is a problem with the air conditioner: it's making a lot of noise.
- b) The students in the next room are making a lot of noise: do you know where their teacher is?

If you tell someone to "**be quiet!**" it means "stop speaking!"

Lucy: Matt! Joe! Be quiet! You are making too much noise! Both of you sit down and read a book or something!

We can also say that people are **quiet** if they don't speak very much.

Zoe: I don't think your brother likes me. He never speaks to me.

Matt: No, no. I'm sure he likes you. He's just a very quiet boy. He doesn't like speaking to people he doesn't know very well.

How noisy is the street where you live?

What kinds of places are usually very noisy? –

What kinds of places are often quiet?

Is there anyone in the next room or in the corridor? –

Are they making much noise?

Are you a quiet person?

3) **Would like** is *less direct* than **want**. For example, we can use **would like** when we want something but we think that maybe it is not possible, and also when we like something but we *know* that it is not possible.

Steve: Look at that Porsche! I'd really like one of those.

Sarah: Well, you never know: maybe one day.

Steve: Yes: maybe.

Anne: Lucky Simon and Janet. They're on vacation at the Red Sea.

Lucy: Oh, I'd like to be there now too. I hate English winters.

4) When we use another **verb** after the verb **to like** we can say:

a) I *like playing* tennis after work.

b) I *like to play* tennis after work.

But when we use another verb with **would like** we can only use **the infinitive + to**:

a) *I'd like to play* tennis after work but I usually finish too late.

b) I don't like working in the centre. *I'd like to work* near home but all the big companies are in town.

Lien: Do you know Paris, Kasey?

Kasey: No I don't, but I'd really like to go there one day.

The negative is **wouldn't like**:

a) It's a beautiful place for a holiday but I *wouldn't like to live* there.
In winter it's completely empty.

Do you like going to the cinema? –

Would you like to go to the cinema this evening?

Is there a famous person you would like to meet?

Where did you go for your vacation last summer? –

Would you like to live there?

Look at these other examples when we can use **will** for the future when we don't talk about personal plans:

- a) Attention all passengers travelling to Tokyo on flight AZ 673. Your flight will now leave from gate 64 at 11.35 instead of gate 60 at 10.55.
- b) John took the fast train, so he'll arrive in York before noon.
- c) Next summer, the offices will close from Friday 31st of July and will re-open on Monday 13th of August.

1) We can also use the future with **will** when we talk about *what we think will probably happen in the future* (not for plans that we have made). We often use **will** together with the words **probably**, **I think** and **maybe** or **perhaps**.

Anne: Are you doing anything on Saturday morning, Lucy?

Lucy: I'm not sure. I'll probably stay at home and do some work – or maybe I'll go out and buy some new shoes instead!

Tom: I bought this scarf for Lien's birthday. Do you think she'll like it?

Kasey: It's beautiful, Tom. I'm sure she'll love it.

Paul: Was there a parcel from KBC for me this morning?

Anne: Sorry, Paul – there wasn't anything.

Paul: Oh, well! It'll probably arrive tomorrow.

Lucy: Are you going away this summer, Paul?

Paul: I don't know, Lucy. Maybe I'll just stay at home and relax, or perhaps I'll decide to go away at the last minute! I can't really decide. What about you?

Lucy: We're going to Morocco.

When did you start this course? –

When do you think we'll finish this book?

Will you speak English better when you finish this book? –

Do you think you will do the next course?

to become – became

to get

to get dark

to get cold

to get old

to get tired

To **become** means 'to change', or 'to begin to be different'. We can use **become** with an *adjective* – 'become famous', and with a *noun* – 'become a film-star'.

- a) You aren't happy in your job? That's normal. All jobs *become boring* after a few years!
- b) When she was a little girl Claire decided to *become a dancer*.

Instead of the verb **become** we can often use the verb **to get** when we use it with an *adjective*.

- a) I thought learning English was easy but now things *are getting difficult*!
- b) Don't stop the video now! It's beginning to *get interesting*.
- c) It's beautiful and warm during the day but *it gets quite cool* in the evening.
- d) Just tell me if *you're getting tired*. We can stop for a break.
- e) I'm beginning to *get a bit hungry*. Why don't we call for a takeaway?

Is the weather becoming warmer or colder this month?

Are the days becoming longer or shorter? –

When will the days begin to get shorter / longer again?

What time does it get light in the morning? –

What time did it get light this morning?

Do you get tired easily?

What do you do when you get hungry? –

And when you get thirsty?

Do you think your English course is getting easier? –

Do you think your English is getting better?