

Level: Upper-intermediate Theme: Complaints and apologies Lesson 09: Dealing with problems

Exercise 1. Complete the crossword: 1. not polite and behaving badly in social situations 2. made or done cheaply or carelessly 3. too small and not very pleasant or comfortable 4. in very bad condition

Down

- 1. in bad condition
- 2. damaged but not completely broken
- 3. not using time, money, energy etc in the best way
- 4. having the ability or skill to do a job properly
- 5. not as good as the average, and not acceptable
- 6. not very friendly towards someone when you are talking to them

Exercise 2. Fill in the gaps with the words below:

sh	abby	shoddy	pokey	offhand	slapdash	substandara	1
1.	The restau	rant looks gi _ inside.	reat from the	outside but could	I really do with	n a revamp ins	ide. It does look
2.	The vast ma	ajority of low-	income families	s are forced to live	in, f	frankly appalling	g circumstances.
3.	She has bee	en fired for be	eing	_ with customers.			
4.	We didn't l	ike the show.	It was a bit	and unde	erdeveloped.		
5.	•	spells out ca frequently to		or planning and co	oordination and	W	ork by executives
6.	The whole	family was cra	ammed into two	o little	e hotel rooms.		

Exercise 3. Put the words in the right order:

- 1. a replacement phone / offer you a refund / or, if you prefer, / I can either .
- 2. then give us / come by / Any problems, / a call or / the shop again.
- 3. if we can / what the problem is / work out / Let's see.
- 4. help you with? / I can / anything else / Is there.
- 5. and get back / by the end / the manager / I'll speak to / of the day / to you.
- 6. turn on again / days later / and now / it won't / went blank / A couple of / the screen.
- 7. be charged / I just assumed / don't need to / these new smartphones / that.
- 8. the bathroom didn't / it had been / pokey and pretty shabby / The bedroom was / and / look as if / cleaned properly /.
- 9. the charger / They must have forgotten / to include.
- 10. the replacement phone / all right / I'll go for / if that's.

ANSWERS:



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Exercise 1

Across

- 1. bad-mannered
- 2. shoddy
- 3. pokey
- 4. run-down

Down

- 1. shabby
- 2. cracked
- 3. inefficient
- 4. incompetent
- 5. sub-standard
- 6. offhand

Exercise 2

- 1. shabby
- 2. substandard
- 3. offhand
- 4. slapdash
- 5. shoddy
- 6. pokey

Exercise 3

- 1. I can either offer you a refund or, if you prefer, a replacement phone.
- 2. Any problems, then give us a call or come by the shop again.
- 3. Let's see if we can work out what the problem is.
- 4. Is there anything else I can help you with?
- 5. I'll speak to the manager and get back to you by the end of the day.
- 6. A couple of days later the screen went blank and now it won't turn on again.
- 7. I just assumed that these new smartphones don't need to be charged.
- 8. The bedroom was pokey and pretty shabby and the bathroom didn't look as if it had been cleaned properly.
- 9. They must have forgotten to include the charger.
- 10. I'll go for the replacement phone if that's all right.