The Wrong Cup | A Chance for Maya (Slow English)

Complete transcript and practice

Use this after listening. It includes every spoken part, including Peter’s explanations, shadowing instructions and final repeated conversation.

Opening AI notice

Peter

The voices in this podcast are AI-generated to help you understand and practise English.

Introduction

Peter

Maya is at the café for her first morning of work.

Peter

She wants to do a good job.

Peter

But a small mistake can feel big when something is new.

Peter

Can Maya ask for help and try again?

Peter

Welcome to episode nine of A Chance for Maya.

Peter

Today, you will learn how to say that something is wrong, ask for help, and talk about a mistake.

Peter

First, hear the whole conversation at natural speed.

Peter

Then we will open it step by step, slowly.

First listening - natural speed

Leo

Good morning, Maya.

Maya

Good morning, Leo.

Leo

Are you ready?

Maya

I am a little nervous.

Leo

That is normal.

Leo

Please put these cups on the table.

Maya

This blue cup?

Leo

No, that cup is for tea.

Leo

The small white cup is for coffee.

Maya

I am sorry.

Maya

I made a mistake.

Leo

It is okay.

Leo

Can you show me the coffee cup?

Maya

Is this the right cup?

Leo

Yes, that is the right cup.

Maya

Thank you.

Maya

Can you show me again?

Leo

Of course.

Leo

You learn fast.

Maya

I want to do a good job.

Leo

You are doing a good job.

Maya

Thank you, Leo.

Dive In - part one

Peter

Let us listen to the first part again.

Peter

This time, slowly.

Leo

Good morning, Maya.

Maya

Good morning, Leo.

Leo

Are you ready?

Maya

I am a little nervous.

Leo

That is normal.

Leo

Please put these cups on the table.

Maya

This blue cup?

Leo

No, that cup is for tea.

Leo

The small white cup is for coffee.

Maya

I am sorry.

Maya

I made a mistake.

Leo

It is okay.

Peter

Good morning is a friendly greeting before noon.

Peter

Maya says, I am a little nervous.

Peter

A little makes nervous softer.

Peter

Leo says, That is normal.

Peter

He tells Maya that new work can make people nervous.

Peter

Please put these cups on the table is a polite instruction.

Dive In - part two

Peter

Now, listen to the mistake and the helpful question.

Leo

Can you show me the coffee cup?

Maya

Is this the right cup?

Leo

Yes, that is the right cup.

Maya

Thank you.

Maya

Can you show me again?

Leo

Of course.

Leo

You learn fast.

Maya

I want to do a good job.

Leo

You are doing a good job.

Maya

Thank you, Leo.

Peter

This blue cup asks Leo to check one cup.

Peter

That cup is for tea tells Maya its purpose.

Peter

For tea means we use it when we drink tea.

Peter

The small white cup is for coffee gives Maya the right information.

Peter

I am sorry is a polite phrase after a small mistake.

Peter

I made a mistake is honest and clear.

Peter

Can you show me the coffee cup asks Leo to point to it.

Peter

Is this the right cup asks Maya to check her choice.

Peter

Right means correct here.

Peter

It is not about the direction right.

Peter

Can you show me again is a very useful question when you need another explanation.

Useful Sentences

Peter

Useful sentences.

Peter

I made a mistake.

Peter

You can say, I made a mistake with the time, when you arrive at the wrong time.

Peter

Is this the right cup?

Peter

You can say, Is this the right bus, when you are not sure.

Peter

Can you show me again?

Peter

You can say, Can you show me again, when a teacher explains something new.

Peter

I want to do a good job.

Peter

You can say, I want to do a good job at school, when you want to try your best.

Pay Attention

Peter

Pay attention.

Peter

We say, I made a mistake.

Peter

Made is the past form of make.

Peter

The mistake happened before now.

Peter

Do not say, I make a mistake, when you mean one mistake from the past.

Peter

Also notice, the right cup.

Peter

We use the before right cup because Leo and Maya know which cup they mean.

Shadowing

Peter

Listen to each sentence.

Peter

Repeat during the four-second pause.

Peter

I made a mistake.

[Four-second pause for you to repeat.]

Peter

Is this the right cup?

[Four-second pause for you to repeat.]

Peter

Can you show me again?

[Four-second pause for you to repeat.]

Final listening - natural speed

Leo

Good morning, Maya.

Maya

Good morning, Leo.

Leo

Are you ready?

Maya

I am a little nervous.

Leo

That is normal.

Leo

Please put these cups on the table.

Maya

This blue cup?

Leo

No, that cup is for tea.

Leo

The small white cup is for coffee.

Maya

I am sorry.

Maya

I made a mistake.

Leo

It is okay.

Leo

Can you show me the coffee cup?

Maya

Is this the right cup?

Leo

Yes, that is the right cup.

Maya

Thank you.

Maya

Can you show me again?

Leo

Of course.

Leo

You learn fast.

Maya

I want to do a good job.

Leo

You are doing a good job.

Maya

Thank you, Leo.

Closing

Peter

Read the free vocabulary and grammar guide in this episode description for extra examples and ten short practice questions.

Peter

Thank you for listening and see you in the next episode.

Peter

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Transcript practice - answers are on the next page

Exercises

1. Where is Maya working today?
2. How does Maya feel?
3. Which cup is for tea?
4. Which cup is for coffee?
5. Complete: I made a ___.
6. What does Maya ask Leo to do again?
7. Complete: Is this the ___ cup?
8. What does Maya want to do?
9. Complete: You are doing a good ___.
10. Is Leo angry about the mistake?

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Transcript practice - answers

1. At the café.
2. A little nervous.
3. The blue cup.
4. The small white cup.
5. mistake.
6. Show her again.
7. right.
8. Do a good job.
9. job.
10. No, he is helpful.