

FIRST STEPS ENGLISH FOR BEGINNERS

Looking Back at Maple Street | Chapter 1 Recap Listening (Slow English)

Chapter 1 Learning Review Book

Looking Back at Maple Street | Chapter 1 Recap Listening (Slow English)

Welcome back to Maple Street

Maya arrived with no home, no job and little confidence. She missed the last bus, found a locked door, asked for help, looked for work, prepared for an interview, made a poster, made a mistake and learned from it. Now she is talking with Leo after closing time.

The Chapter 1 story in ten steps

Episode	Story step
1	Maya misses the last bus and meets Leo.
2	A key helps Maya enter her new home.
3	Maya needs work.
4-5	Maya prepares for an interview.
6	She finds her folder.
7-8	Maya discovers a skill: drawing.
9	She makes a mistake and asks for help.
10	Leo offers morning work.

Vocabulary from the conversation

after closing

after a shop or café closes for the day

Example: We can talk after closing.

worried

nervous or afraid about a problem

Example: I was worried before the interview.

locked

closed with a key

Example: The shop is closed, but the door is not locked.

happy for someone

pleased because something good happened to them

Example: I am happy for you.

miss home

feel sad because you are away from home

Example: She misses her family.

two streets away

very near, at a distance of two streets

Example: The bank is one street away.

free on Sunday

available, not busy, on that day

Example: Are you free on Friday?

invite

ask someone to come to an event or meal

Example: I want to invite my neighbour for tea.

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Grammar you can use

1. Past feelings: was

I was worried. Use was for one past feeling. Now: I am worried.

2. Still and again

I still miss home: the feeling continues. Say that again: repeat one more time.

3. Polite request

Could you say that again, please? Use could for a polite request.

4. Questions about availability

Are you free on Sunday? Use are before you, then free, then on + day.

5. Suggestion

Maybe you can invite him for lunch. Maybe makes the idea gentle, not an order.

6. Distance

He lives two streets away. Far away means not near.

Pronunciation and listening notes

In natural speech, Could you can sound connected. In the question Two streets away?, the voice normally rises at the end. In worried, the first part, wor-, is strong.

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Practice - complete before checking answers

A. Listening and story - 10 questions

1. Complete: The café is quiet after ___.
2. Maya was ___ on her first night.
3. Maya lost the last ___.
4. The door was ___.
5. Maya can ask for ___ in English.
6. Maya called her ___.
7. Her mum was happy ___ her.
8. Maya still misses ___ sometimes.
9. Leo’s dad lives two streets ___.
10. Maya suggests lunch with Leo’s ___.

B. Vocabulary and grammar - 10 questions

1. Choose: I (was / am) worried yesterday.
2. Choose: Please say that (still / again).
3. Complete: I ___ miss home sometimes.
4. Put in order: free / are / Sunday / on / you / ?
5. Choose: A locked door needs (a key / a bus).
6. Complete: He lives two streets ___.
7. Choose: I am happy (for / at) you.
8. Complete: Maybe you can ___ him for lunch.
9. Correct: You are free on Sunday?
10. Complete: Could you say that again, ___?

C. Build useful sentences - 10 questions

1. I / worried / was.
2. that / again / Could / say / you / please?
3. still / sometimes / home / I / miss.
4. Sunday / free / Are / on / you?
5. can / Maybe / invite / you / him.
6. far / Does / live / away / he?
7. happy / She / for / was / me.
8. I / think / will / about / it.

9. a / step / One / small.
10. street / one / away / is / It.

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Answer Key - check after you try

A. Listening and story

1. closing
2. worried
3. bus
4. locked
5. help
6. mum
7. for
8. home
9. away
10. dad

B. Vocabulary and grammar

1. was
2. again
3. still
4. Are you free on Sunday?
5. a key
6. away
7. for
8. invite
9. Are you free on Sunday?
10. please

C. Build useful sentences

1. I was worried.
2. Could you say that again, please?
3. I still miss home sometimes.
4. Are you free on Sunday?
5. Maybe you can invite him.
6. Does he live far away?
7. She was happy for me.
8. I will think about it.

9. One small step.

10. It is one street away.

Next on Maple Street

Leo has one small question to ask his dad. Chapter 2 begins with a chair, a lunch invitation and a relationship that needs care.