



Small Talk Phrasal Verbs

Audio transcript

From English with a Twist

Shanthi: Hello Jack. Sorry for being so late. Have you been waiting long?

Jack: Not too long. About half an hour.

Shanthi: Oh I am so sorry about that. I was just walking out of the door when I was called by my boss, who wanted to introduce me to a long-standing client of the firm's.

Jack: No problem at all. It gave me a chance to catch up with some emails.

What would you like? An espresso, cappuccino or latte?

Shanthi: I think I'll have a cappuccino.

Jack: That'll be one cappuccino and an espresso macchiato for me, thanks. So, how's it going?

Shanthi: Oh you know, same old, same old....

Jack: How do you mean?

Shanthi: Well, you know we're working on this new rail project? Well, we've been putting in hours and hours of work and we don't seem to be getting anywhere.

Jack: In what way, you're not getting anywhere?

Shanthi: The other side are insisting on double pay at the weekends for their employees and they simply won't give up their demands.

Jack: And that's something that's unacceptable for your clients?

Shanthi: Oh yes, they will not give in to bully tactics. Anyway, I don't want to talk about it. Let's change the subject.



By the way, did you pick up the message I left you about the Deighton case?

Jack: Yes, I did. I'm sorry I meant to get back to you.

Shanthi: Well, what do you think? Do you think we could work something out?

Jack: In terms of what exactly?

Shanthi: Well, in terms of whether your firm would be prepared to step in should we need?

Jack: I can't see that it would be a problem but I'll need to run this by my managing partner.

Shanthi: If you could do that sooner rather than later, I'd appreciate it.

Jack: I'll see what I can do.

Shanthi: Great. Now you set this meeting up, what can I do for you?

Jack: Well, I was wondering if you could put in a good word for me at the next AGM?

Shanthi: Of course, I could. After all, what are good friends for if we can't stick up for each other?

Jack: Oh, thanks so much. I really didn't know who I could turn to.

Shanthi: You can always count on (depend on) me.

Jack: You're not only a great client, you're a real friend!

PHRASAL VERB	MEANING
called in	Asked to attend a meeting.
catch up	Do something that should be done.
putting in	giving
give up	abandon
give in	surrender



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pick up	receive
get back to	Reply
work something out	agree
step in	Take someone's place.
run this by	tell
set up	arrange
put in a good word	Say something positive.
stick up for	support
turn to	Get help from.
count on	Depend on.