

# **Chapter 9**

## **Ways to Express Warning / Consideration / Sympathy**

### ***Objectives***

1. To know the meaning of warning, consideration and sympathy in English.
2. To be able to use many kinds of expressions of each type of speech act in conversation.

Students should know the expressions which are used to express warning, consideration, and sympathy. All of these aspects are important in daily conversation as most of them are concerned with the matter of politeness and good relationships among speakers and hearers.

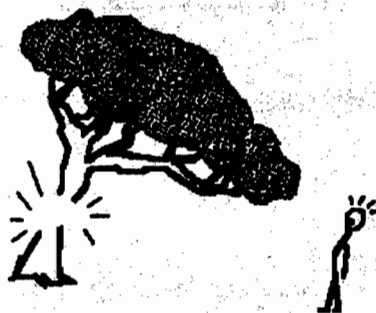
### ***A. Expressing warning***

To give a warning is to give an advance notice of some danger, unpleasant happening, or to avoid such unpleasant events.

## A1. Presentation

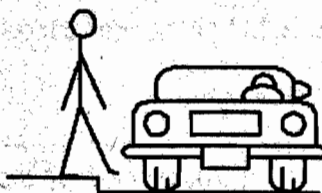
### Mini-talk 1 :

Be careful!  
The tree is falling down.



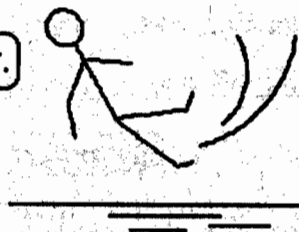
### Mini-talk 2 :

Look out!



### Mini-talk 3 :

Watch you step. It's slippery.



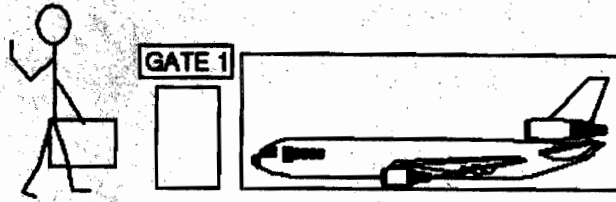
### Mini-talk 4 :

Don't work too hard. Take it easy.



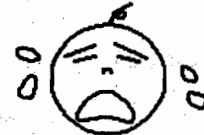
**Mini-talk 5 :**

Take care of yourself. Goodbye.



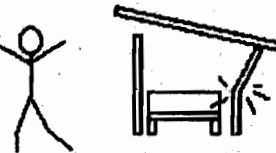
**Mini-talk 6 :**

Behave yourself. Otherwise no one'll love you.



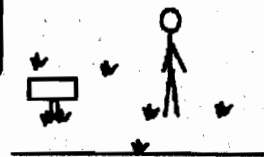
**Mini-talk 7 :**

Keep out of here. It's dangerous.



**Mini-talk 8 :**

Walking on the grass is prohibited. You might be fined \$100 or more.



**A1.1 Key to your pronunciation**

In an urgent situation, the warning must be given with a high-rising pitch.

<sup>3</sup> ————— <sup>4</sup>  
Be careful!

<sup>3</sup> ————— <sup>4</sup>  
Look out!

The punctuation used in the written form is the exclamation mark (!).  
 However, in an ordinary warning, only a full stop is used and the pitch can be raised either at the beginning or the end.

Intonation pattern 3-3-4

Intonation pattern 2-3-4

<sup>3</sup> Watch your step.

<sup>2</sup> Watch your step.

<sup>3</sup> Don't work too hard.

<sup>2</sup> Don't work too hard.

<sup>3</sup> Take care of yourself.

<sup>2</sup> Take care of yourself.

<sup>3</sup> Behave yourself.

<sup>2</sup> Behave yourself.

<sup>3</sup> Keep out of here.

<sup>2</sup> Keep out of here.

<sup>3</sup> Walking on the grass is prohibited.

<sup>2</sup> Walking on the grass is prohibited.

**A1.2 Explanations**

The structure of a warning is similar to a command. That is, the statement of a warning has no subject, but it is omitted as understood "you". Thus the above warnings have the following meanings.

(you) watch your step.

(you) don't work too hard.

(you) take care of yourself.

(you) behave yourself.

(you) keep out of here.

(you) walking on the grass is prohibited.

Sometimes, certain explanations is given after a warning. Notice the sentences below.

Warnings	Explanations
Be careful!	The tree is falling down.
Watch your step.	It's slippery.
Behave yourself.	Otherwise no one'll will love you.
Keep out of here.	It's dangerous.
Walking on the grass is prohibited.	You might be fined \$100 or more.

**A2. Practice : Listening / Speaking / Writing exercises.**

**A2.1 What would you say if :**

1. Your friend is about to step on a snake.

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Your friend is walking on a newly waxed floor.

\_\_\_\_\_

3. A naughty child wants to get near a hot stove.

\_\_\_\_\_

4. You are taking a ride with your boy friend in a new sports car, suddenly there is a buffalo walking from the roadside into the road.

\_\_\_\_\_

5. In front of your school is a beautiful rose garden. You don't want any students to pick the flowers.

\_\_\_\_\_

6. You are seeing your friend off at the airport.

---

**A2.2 Listening and speaking exercises. Follow the following steps.**

1. Teacher pronounces the following warnings using the pattern 3-3-4, then the students imitate them.
2. Teacher pronounces the following warnings using the pattern 2-3-4, then the students imitate them.
3. Teacher contrasts both types of pattern and let the students distinguish them and imitate them.
4. Teacher pronounces the warnings with 3-3-4, and students pronounce it with 2-3-4. If the teacher pronounce them with 2-3-4, they must pronounce them with 3-3-4.

Teacher should go through the list randomly.

**List of warnings**

Be careful!

Watch your step.

Don't work too hard.

Take care of yourself.

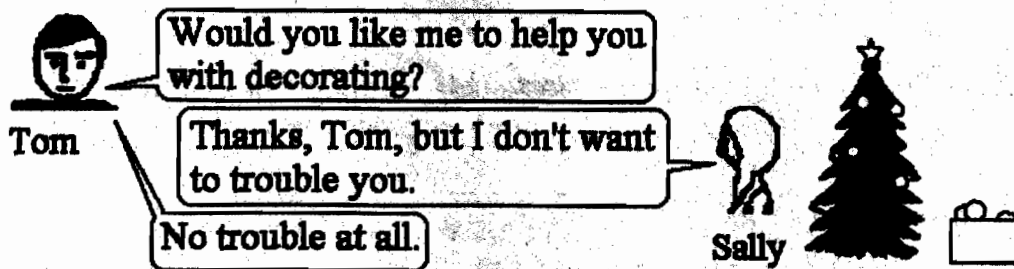
Keep out of here.

**B. Expressing consideration**

Consideration is a feeling of hesitating to ask for help or a feeling of being afraid of causing someone trouble or beginning to be worried. The patterns of expressing consideration can be found in the presentation.

## B1. Presentation

### Dialogue 1 :



### B1.1 Check your understanding

1. What did Tom offer?

---

2. Which phrase indicates "offer"?

---

3. Is Sally willing to get help from Tom?

---

4. Which part of the sentence indicates "consideration"?

---

5. What is the reply to consideration?

---

**Dialogue 2 :**



When are you moving out of here?

This coming Saturday.

Good. Ed and I will help you with the moving.

That's very kind of you, but I think I can manage.

Are you sure? We're more than willing to help.



**B1.2 Check your understanding**

1. What is Mike's plan?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Which sentence indicates "offer"?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Does Mike accept the offer?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Which part of the sentence indicates "consideration"?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. Which sentence indicates "insistence" to help?

\_\_\_\_\_

**B1.3 Key to your pronunciation**

Statements of consideration are normally used with compliment and appreciation; therefore, they are often conjoined sentences. The intonation



patterns are somewhat determined as a pause-group. Each pause-group receives one primary stress (Tone 3).

$\overset{2}{\text{That's very}} \overset{3}{\text{kind}} \overset{2}{\text{of you}}, \overset{2}{\text{but I}} \overset{3}{\text{think}} \overset{2}{\text{I can}} \overset{3}{\text{manage}}.$

The above sentence is spoken with 3 pause-groups. It can be spoken as 2 pause-groups as in the following. Notice the change in the intonation pattern.

$\overset{2}{\text{That's very}} \overset{3}{\text{kind}} \overset{2}{\text{of you}}, \overset{2}{\text{but I think I can}} \overset{3}{\text{manage}}.$

If the statement of compliment has a name of the addressee, then the addressee's name must be spoken with a rising tone, so the intonation pattern will be as below.

$\overset{3}{\text{Thanks}}, \overset{3}{\text{Tom}}, \overset{2}{\text{but I don't want to}} \overset{3}{\text{trouble}} \overset{1}{\text{you}}.$

#### ***B1.4 Explanations***

1. An act of consideration usually comes after the offer or help. Thus, it also goes together with a compliment or an appreciation. The person who makes an offer may simply respond to this consideration or may insist his offer. The sequence should be schematized as below.

**Speaker :** Proposal of an offer or accomplishment of an offer.

**Hearer :** Compliment + but + statement of consideration.  
Appreciation

**Speaker :** Reply to consideration

or

Insistence of offer.

Now go back to the previous dialogues and then analyze them. Discuss the sequence of acts with your friends.

2. There are many statements of consideration that students should know and learn to use in conversation. Notice the following statements of consideration with possible replies below.

Consideration

Possible replies

1) I don't want to bother you.

It's no bother at all.

2) I don't want to impose on you.

You're not imposing at all.

3) I don't want to inconvenience you.

It's no inconvenience at all.

4) I don't want you to be concerned.

Oh! It's my pleasure.

5) I don't want you to worry.

I'm glad to be able to help you.

6) Don't worry about me.

I'm more than willing to help.

**B2. Practice**

**B2.1 Speaking and writing practice : Supply the possible reply to the following statements.**

1. I'm afraid I've bothered you a lot.

---

2. Sorry for having troubled you so much.

---

3. Do you want me to help you with the assignment?

---

4. You lost your dentures again mom.

---

5. Do you need any help?

---

6. Can I help you with anything?

---

7. Thanks for the offer. But I don't want to trouble you.

---

8. Thank you for the lecture notes. I really didn't want to bother you.

---

9. I was worried when I didn't see you at home by 6 o'clock.

---

10. Forgive me. I didn't mean to impose anything on you.

---

**B2.2 Substitution Drills. Substitute the given words or phrases to the underlined words.**

1. Excuse me, am I bothering you?

Not at all.

troubling

It's all right.

imposing on

Not at all.

disturbing

That's all right.

2. I don't want to trouble you.

to bother

to disturb

to worry

3. I don't mean to worry you.

your mother.

your parents.

your brother.

**B2.3 Sentence Practice. Right to left drills. Listen and repeat after the instructor.**

1. I don't want to inconvenience you.

you.

to inconvenience you.

want to inconvenience you.

don't want to inconvenience you.

I don't want to inconvenience you.

2. That's very kind of you, but I think I can manage.

3. Thanks, but I don't want to trouble you.

4. I don't want to impose on you.

5. I'm afraid I've bothered you a lot.

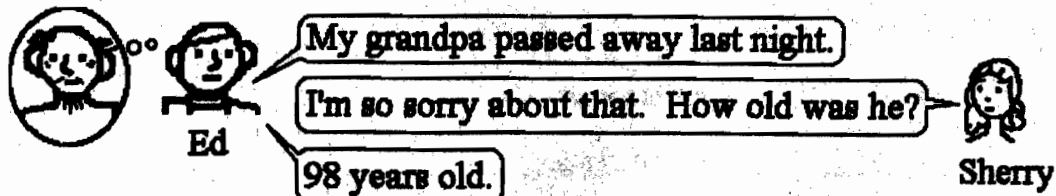
**C. Expressing sympathy**

Sympathy is a kind of feeling or understanding that we have for others, particularly for friends. There are two kinds, sympathy with regret and sympathy

with consolation. Students should learn how to use these expressions in daily conversation.

### C1. Presentation : Sympathy with regret.

#### Dialogue 3 :



My grandpa passed away last night.

I'm so sorry about that. How old was he?

98 years old.

Ed

Sherry

#### C1.1 Check your understanding

1. What was the bad news?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Who felt sorry for Ed?

\_\_\_\_\_

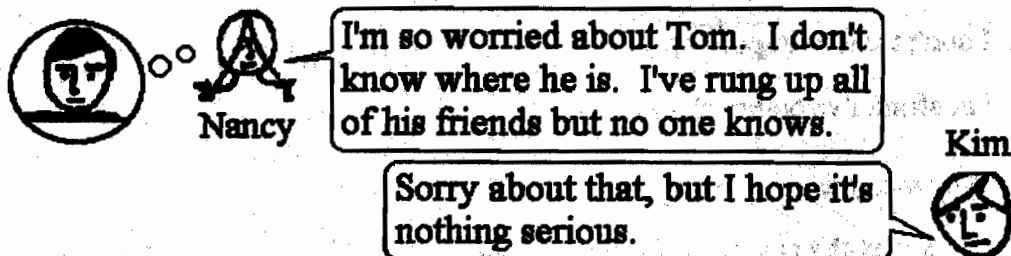
3. What was a common question to be asked when you know that someone died?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. How old was Ed's grandpa?

\_\_\_\_\_

#### Dialogue 4 :



I'm so worried about Tom. I don't know where he is. I've rung up all of his friends but no one knows.

Sorry about that, but I hope it's nothing serious.

Nancy

Kim

***C1.2 Check your understanding***

1. What causes Nancy to worry?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Can Nancy get in touch with Tom?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Did she call all of his friends?

\_\_\_\_\_

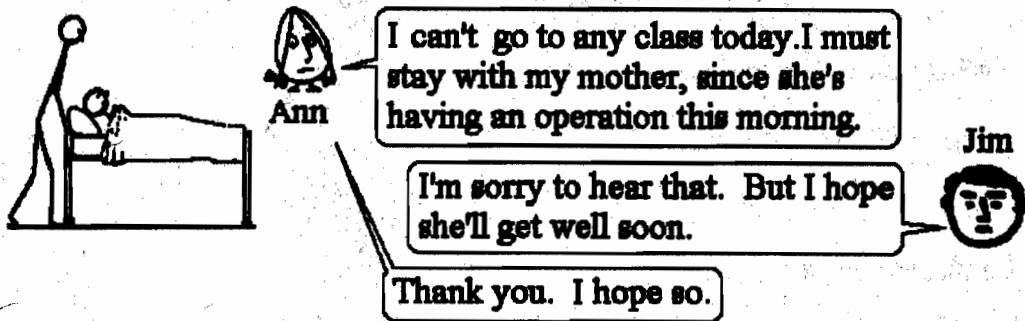
4. Has she heard anything about Tom?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. What did Kim say to her?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Dialogue 5 :**



***C1.3 Check your understanding***

1. Who didn't attend class?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. Why can't she?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What happens to her mother?

---

4. How does Jim feel?

---

5. What does Jim tell her?

---

### ***C1.4 Key to your pronunciation***

Practice saying the following sentences showing sympathy with regret.

I'm so sorry about that.

Sorry about that, but I hope it's nothing serious.

I'm sorry about that. But I hope she'll get well soon.

### ***C1.5 Explanation***

To show sympathy with regret, one might just say "I'm sorry." or he may say "I'm sorry about that.". The pronoun "that" refers to the topic being discussed. Sometimes, one might omit "I'm" and just say "sorry about that.". Moreover a statement of sympathy has been found to be with regret. Various forms of sympathy and regret are summarized as follows.

I'm sorry.

I'm sorry about that.

(I'm) sorry about + Noun

I'm sorry that + Noun clause

I'm sorry to hear that + Noun clause

Statement of sympathy +  
statement of regret

= (I'm) sorry about your grandpa.

= I'm sorry that your grandpa passed  
away.

= I'm sorry to hear that you mother has  
been sick.

= I'm sorry to hear that your mother has  
been sick, but I hope it's nothing  
serious.

= I'm sorry to hear that your mother has  
been sick. But I hope she'll get well  
soon.

## C2. Presentation : Sympathy with consolation

### Dialogue 6 :



Kim

I'm sorry for being late. There was a leak in the radiator and the engine broke down. I had to pull in to a garage.

Nancy



It's all right. It wasn't your fault.

### C2.1 Check your understanding.

1. Who came late?

---



2. Why did he come late?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. What caused the engine break down?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. What did he do with his car?

\_\_\_\_\_

5. How did Nancy feel?

\_\_\_\_\_

**Dialogue 7 :**



Bob

Have you got everything fixed for your trip?

Not quite. I have to confirm the hotel rooms in Seoul and Tokyo. Especially in Tokyo, it isn't easy at all to have a room reserved.



Ann

Take it easy. It'll be all right.

**C2.2 Check your understanding**

1. Who is planning to travel?

\_\_\_\_\_

2. What is her destination?

\_\_\_\_\_

3. Where will she stay?

\_\_\_\_\_

4. Did she make any reservation for the room?

\_\_\_\_\_

## 5. How does Bob feel?

### C2.3 Key to your pronunciation

Statements of sympathy with regret has many types of a structural patterns. Some of them are similar to warning. "you" is omitted as understood. Consider some examples of statements of sympathy with consolation below.

Take it<sup>2</sup>easy<sup>3</sup>. It'll be<sup>2</sup>all right<sup>3</sup>.

Don't<sup>2</sup>worry<sup>3</sup>. She'll be<sup>2</sup>all right<sup>3</sup>.

It's<sup>2</sup>all right<sup>3</sup>. It wasn't your<sup>2</sup>fault<sup>3</sup>.

### C2.4 Explanations

Students should study the differences of the expression between sympathy with regret and sympathy with consolation. Both of them are summarized below.

Sympathy with regret	Sympathy with consolation
Sorry about that, but I hope it's nothing serious.	Take it easy. It'll be right.
I'm sorry to hear that, but I hope she'll get well soon.	It's all right. It wasn't you fault.
Possible replies	Possible replies
Thank you, I hope so.	That's very kind of you.
Thanks, I think so.	That's very kind of you to be concerned.

### **C3. Practice**

#### ***C3.1 Speaking and writing exercises. What would you say if:***

**1. A friend of yours tells you that she failed EN 204.**

---

**2. You hear from you friend that she lost her beloved pet.**

---

**3. You visit your friend who just had an operation.**

---

**4. One of you friends feels very upset about her students violating the law. He didn't believe her warning.**

---

**5. Your friend owes you 500 Baht and she's still broke.**

---

**6. You meet your friend whose arm was broken.**

---

**7. A friend of yours tells you that a building in Egypt has collapsed and over a hundred people were killed.**

---

**8. Your friend tells you that she cannot attend the farewell party tonight because she'll have an exam tomorrow.**

---

9. Your teacher tells you that she can not check your homework because of your handwriting.

---

10. You couldn't drive her to the airport because your car wouldn't start.

---

**C3.2 Listening and speaking exercises.**

**C3.2.1 Substitution Drills.** Substitute the given words or phrases to the underlined words.

1. I'm sorry to hear that.

so sorry

terribly sorry

awfully sorry

2. Sorry about that, but I hope it's nothing serious.

she'll get well soon.

she'll recover soon.

3. Don't worry; I'll take care of it.

it'll be all right.

it's not your fault.

take it easy.

**C3.2.2 Sentence Practice. Right to left drills. Listen and repeat after the instructor.**

1. I'm / sorry / to hear / that / your mother / has been sick.

has been sick.

your mother has been sick.

that your mother has been sick.

to hear that your mother has been sick.

sorry to hear that your mother has been sick.

I'm sorry to hear that your mother has been sick.

2. I'm / sorry / for being / late.

3. Sorry about that, / but I hope / it's / nothing / serious.

4. I've rung up / all his friends / but / no one / knows.

5. Don't / worry; / it's / not / your fault.

**C3.2.3 Dictation. Listen to what your instructor says and then fill in the blanks.**

1. Walking on the grass is \_\_\_\_\_.

2. Would you like me to help you with \_\_\_\_\_ ?

3. I really don't want \_\_\_\_\_ on you.

4. I don't mean \_\_\_\_\_ on you.

5. I \_\_\_\_\_ all his friends but no one knows.

6. I \_\_\_\_\_ to hear that.

7. Have you got everything \_\_\_\_\_ for our trip?



8. It isn't easy at all to have a room reserved \_\_\_\_\_.



9. It's all right. It wasn't your \_\_\_\_\_.



10. I hope it's \_\_\_\_\_ serious.



### D. Application



D1. Supply the responses to the following contexts.



1.  I'm so sorry that I broke your ruler.  
Ed  Oh, that's all right. Don't worry about it.

2.  I'm so sorry that I missed the party.  
Sam  \_\_\_\_\_

3.  I'm terribly sorry that I hurt your feelings.  
Pat  \_\_\_\_\_

4.  Thank you so much, but I don't want to impose on you.  
Peter  \_\_\_\_\_

5.  That's very kind of you, but I think I can manage.  
Bob  \_\_\_\_\_

6.  Sorry that I left without you yesterday.  
Sue  \_\_\_\_\_

7.



Tom

Please don't worry about it.

\_\_\_\_\_



8.



Mary

Don't worry. I know you didn't mean it.

\_\_\_\_\_



**D2. Complete the dialogues below with the given words and phrases.**

**Dialogue 8 :**

won't be / don't think / wants me / 're having / can / because



Bob

We \_\_\_\_\_ a farewell party tonight. \_\_\_\_\_ you come?



I \_\_\_\_\_ I can make it \_\_\_\_\_ Mrs. Johnson \_\_\_\_\_ to be her baby sitter.



Sally

Oh! I'm sorry that you \_\_\_\_\_ able to come.

**Dialogue 9 :**

so much / go to / at there / to help / something / to impose on  
/ many things / an appointment / so busy



Tom

I'm \_\_\_\_\_ today. I've got  
to do, going to the bank, then to the  
post-office, a lecture at eleven,  
with the dean \_\_\_\_\_.

Nancy



Can I do \_\_\_\_\_ for you?

Thank you \_\_\_\_\_. I don't want  
\_\_\_\_\_ on you but just \_\_\_\_\_  
the post-office for me, will you?

Not at all. I'm glad to be  
able \_\_\_\_\_ you.



**Dialogue 10 :**

anyway / to be concerned / Please / a good care of / Don't /  
tomorrow / your health / look after / eating / warm

Are you going camping \_\_\_\_\_ ?

Mrs. Smith Yes, mom. I'll be away for a week.  
\_\_\_\_\_ I don't want you \_\_\_\_\_  
too much.

I'm only concerned about \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_ don't worry. I'll \_\_\_\_\_  
myself the very best.

Take \_\_\_\_\_ yourself. \_\_\_\_\_  
stay up late. Wash your hands before  
\_\_\_\_\_. Keep \_\_\_\_\_ at night.

Tom

Mother!

**D3. State the functions of the following statements.**

	<u>Function</u>
1. Not at all. I'm glad to be able to help you.	Reply to a consideration _____
2. I don't think I can make it.	_____
3. I don't want you to be concerned.	_____
4. Take a good care of yourself.	_____
5. Can I do something for you?	_____
6. I don't want to impose on you.	_____
7. Can you come?	_____

8. I'm sorry that I won't be able to come.

9. Don't stay up late.

10. Go to the post office for me, will you?

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