

Podcast #129 Help is on the Way

Original Version

Kim heard the phone ring. She sprang to answer it.

"Darling, How are you? "

"Oh, Mother," Kim said crying, "I'm having a bad day. The baby won't eat. The washing machine won't work. I've sprained my ankle and I'm limping around. On top of all this, the house is a mess and I'm having guests for dinner tonight. I haven't even gone shopping yet."

The caller was very sympathetic. "Darling, let me handle everything. Sit down. Relax. I'll be over in half an hour. I'll do your shopping. I'll tidy up the house. I'll cook your dinner. I'll feed the baby. I'll call someone to fix the washing machine. Now stop crying. I'll even call David at work. I'll tell him to come home early."

"David?" said Kim. "Who's David?"

"Why, David 's your husband."

"But I don't have a husband."

"Oh, I'm sorry. I guess I dialed the wrong number."

There was a short pause. Then Kim said, "Does this mean you're not coming over?"

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Choose the correct word or term

Kim (heard – heared) the phone ring. She (springed–sprang) to answer it.

"Darling, how are you? "

"Oh, Mother," Kim said crying, " (I'm – Im) having a bad day. The baby (wan't – won't) eat. The washing (machine – mashine) won't work. I've sprained my (ankle – ankel) and I'm limping (a round – around). On top of all this, the house is a (muss – mess) and I'm having guests for dinner tonight. I haven't even (went – gone) shopping yet."

The caller was very (sympathetic – sympithetic).
"Darling, let me (handel – handle) everything. Sit down. (Relaxe – Relax). I'll be over in (half an hour – half hour). I'll do your (shoping – shopping). I'll (tidy down – tidy up) the house. I'll cook your (diner – dinner). I'll feed the baby. I'll call someone (for to fix – to fix) the washing machine. Now stop crying. (Even I'll call – I'll even call) David at work. I'll tell him (to come early home – to come home early)."

"David?" said Kim. ("Who's David?" – "Whose David?")

"Why, (Davids – David 's) your husband."

"But I (doesn't – don't) have a husband."

"Oh, I'm sorry. I guess I (dialed – diled) the wrong number."

There was a short (paws – pause). Then Kim said, "Does this mean (your – you're) not coming over?"

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Practice with incorrect or missing articles, indefinite pronouns, and verbs.

In the following version of the story, circle or underline places where (a) a grammatically incorrect article is used, or (b) any of the following is missing:

- a grammatically required article (*a, an, the*)
- a personal pronoun (for example, *he*)
- a possessive pronoun (for example, *his*)
- an indefinite pronoun such as *some* or *any*
- a form of the verb *to be* (for example, *was*)

The first two sentences have been underlined to show where you would circle or underline a word or phrase.

Kim heard phone ring. Sprang to answer it.

"Darling, How are you? "

"Oh, Mother," Kim said crying, "I'm having bad day. Baby won't eat. Washing machine won't work. I've sprained ankle and I'm limping around. On top of all this, house is mess and I'm having guests for the dinner tonight. I haven't even gone shopping yet."

The caller very sympathetic. "Darling, let me handle everything. Sit down. Relax. I'll be over in half hour. I'll do shopping. I'll tidy up house. I'll cook your dinner. I'll feed baby. I'll call someone to fix washing machine. Now stop crying. I'll even call David at work. I'll tell him to come home early."

"David?" said Kim. "Who's David?"

"Why, David 's your husband."

"But don't have husband."

"Oh, I'm sorry. I guess I dialed wrong number."

There was short pause. Then Kim said, "Does this mean you're not coming over?"