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Pre-Intermediate
Learning new words and expressions
Episode 8 - Mind your own business!



In this episode of Lingvistov podcast we again have a splendid new dialogue.

Dialogue:

- Mary, what's bugging you?
- Don't ask. Mind your own business.
- Hey, take a chill pill!
- Sorry, Bob, I am very stressed.
- What are you stressed about?
- Bob, I cannot conceal it anymore from you.
- What's wrong?
- Last month I told you that I obtained a new job.
- Yes, you did. It was a dramatic change in your life. You were just a secretary and then became an assistant financial director. This is a huge success! It even makes me a bit envious.
- No, Bob, I deceived you. I was fired and I am still unemployed. And despite all my attempts I still can't find a job.
- Why didn't you want to tell me anything about it? I am always here to support you. You can always rely on me.

Now it's time to check out some new vocabulary and phrases:

mind your own business is a phrase which asks for a respect of other people's privacy. For example: *'How much did that dress cost you?' 'Mind your own business!' I wish he'd mind his own business and stop telling me how to do my job!* When you say "I mind my own business", it means that you do your things without bothering other people: "I was just standing there minding my own business when he approached and hit me in the face!"

There is an interesting phrase "**to be out of one's mind**": *He is out of his mind means he is crazy or mad. You're wearing red socks and blue shoes, You are out of your mind!*

take a chill pill - to calm down, relax: *Don't be so nervous. Take a chill pill. Agrrr, I wanna kill her! - Relax, mate, take a chill pill!*

chill out usually means relax in literal meaning: *We are chilling out in the sun* means We are relaxing in the sun. In the evenings I can forget about work and just chill out.

conceal - hide: *He concealed from me that had a daughter. Women always want to conceal their age except for French. French women never conceal their age.*

obtain - to receive something after some work or effort: *After years of hard work he finally obtained promotion he wanted. It is difficult to obtain success in life. Today it is not very hard to obtain Shengen visa.*

A synonym to "obtain" is also "**acquire**": *Students acquire new knowledge at universities.*

dramatic here doesn't have anything to do with drama. It means radical and powerful. It is very popular to use an expression "dramatic change". Another version is "drastic change". For example: *She moved to the USA from Moscow. It was a dramatic change in her life.*

envious - means to feel envy or show envy: *I was envious of my neighbor's new car. Harry felt envious of his sister's big house.*

deceive - to make somebody believe something that is not true. For example, there is an expression "Appearances can deceive", which means that appearances lie. Another examples are: *It is difficult to deceive her - usually she can see through you.*

unemployed - an unemployed person is a person without a job. *There were a lot of unemployed people at the time of the Great Depression. After university I was unemployed during 2 years, I just could find a job.* Pay attention to the difference between two words: employer and employee.

- employer is a person who gives a job;
- employee is a person who works somewhere.

fire somebody - here we speak about employers that let their employees go. For example: *I don't have a job any more, I was fired yesterday. If you are fired, it's just an opportunity to find a better job!*

despite: Despite his illness, he finished his work in time - means "even if he had an illness, he could finish his work in time." Or Despite he didn't like jazz, he enjoyed listening to Duke Wellington. It means that even if he didn't like jazz, he enjoyed listening to Duke Wellington. Synonyms to the word "despite" are: in spite of (In spite of bad weather we had a great time in the park), regardless of (Regardless of his bad English, he could communicate in America using gestures).

attempt is a try, very often is used in the expression "to make an attempt" which means "to try": *He made an attempt to invite her to dinner but she refused. Despite his attempt to find a good job, he remained unemployed for 2 years.*

rely on somebody or something - to trust somebody. When you rely on somebody you need them and depend on them. You can also use it to say that you rely on somebody's advice, meaning that you trust this person's opinion. You can always ask me for help - you can rely on me. The only people I can rely on are my friends and family.

reliable is something or somebody that you can rely on: *Apple devices are not very reliable. Jane is a reliable friend.*

In this dialogue we had a sentence: "**Why didn't you want to tell me anything about it?**" Pay attention: we use words with some in positive sentences: I have something to tell you. There is somebody in the room. But in the negative sentences and in questions we use words with any: Do you have anything in the fridge? I couldn't find anybody in the street who could speak Russian. I didn't go anywhere yesterday. But you can use something in offers or requests: Do you want something to drink? Can I ask you something?

Besides you can use "any" in the meaning one or another, it doesn't matter: You can ask anybody about this problem. Any child knows that it is wrong to lie. People now park anywhere they like!

And lastly let's talk about the following sentence: **What are you stressed about?** We often have question words with prepositions. In the Russia language we say them like this: about what? with whom? for what? from where? But in English it's the other way round: what about? who with? where from? Thus in the questions the preposition is put at the very end: Where are you from? What are you waiting for? What music do you listen to? Who did you go to your holiday with?

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