

APOLOGIES & EXPLANATIONS

We often make mistakes. When we do something wrong, we are expected to apologise:

- *I'm (awfully) sorry ...*
- *Please apologise (for...)*

These are possible replies:

- *It's (perfectly) all right.*
- *Don't worry.*
- *Forget it.*

An apology seems incomplete without an explanation. In real life, we usually apologise first and then give an explanation.

Work with your partner...

Apologise for some of the things you did wrong (listed below); then add a good explanation of your own and listen to your partner's replies.

- 1) You were late for work this morning.
- 2) You forgot an appointment with the dentist yesterday.
- 3) You didn't phone your partner on Friday, as you had agreed.
- 4) You can't understand what your partner is saying.
- 5) You've taken someone's seat at a pub.
- 6) You've jumped a queue; someone has noticed.
- 7) You drank up your flatmate's milk in the fridge.
- 8) You borrowed your flatmate's jacket without asking first.
- 9) You said something silly. Someone is sore about it.
- 10) Some data were lost while working on your friend's computer.