

Do you have the language you need to let someone know that you need further explanation or clarification? What about when you want to check to see if someone understands what you are saying?

Here are some expressions you can use:

If you don't understand or hear what someone says, you say:

Pardon me? (*more formal*)
I'm sorry. I'm not following you.
Could you please repeat that?

Sorry, I didn't catch what you said.
I'm sorry, I didn't get that.
Come again? (*informal*)

If you want to check to see if someone understands you, you can say:

Do you understand?
Is that clear?
Did you get that?

Are you following me?
Okay so far?
Got that? (*informal*)

Ask another student to do this role play with you. Ask them to explain a topic from the idea list below. When they speak too quickly or what they say is unclear, ask for clarification. As they speak, they can also check to see if you are following the explanation. Then reverse roles. You can change topics too!

Topic Ideas

- 1) Explain the directions for getting from school to your home
- 2) Describe in detail how to make your favourite meal/dish/dessert
- 3) Explain the many features on your cell phone

Here is an example of how you could begin:

Student A: To get to my house from here, you take Elgin to Sherbrook and turn right.

Student B: I'm sorry, I didn't quite catch that. Did you say turn right?

Student A: Yes, turn right. Then you go one block to William and turn left. Got that?

Student B: Yes, thanks.

Student A: And then...

Etc.