



Live Lesson Notes

Patience

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IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Patience

Warm up!

Fill in the gap with one word

1. I was annoyed when someone _____ the queue
2. I am a patient person, I rarely _____ out of patience
3. At work I am always in a _____ I never have time to stop and think.

Answers at bottom of PDF

IELTS Speaking: Patience Vocabulary

To **wait for** someone / something

I'm waiting for the bus

'**I'm waiting for you**' = I am waiting and I'm a bit angry

If you are not angry it is better to say,

'**No problem, take your time**'

'**No problem, don't rush**'

To queue (up) (UK)

To stand in line (USA)

To join a queue = to stand at the end of a queue (the correct way)

The 4 following phrases all mean someone enters the middle of a queue (the incorrect way)

- To jump the queue
- To cut in line
- To cut in front of someone
- To jump in front of someone

To be patient (adj.) = to be able to wait calmly = to have patience

A patient (n.) = a sick person (this is the same word with a different meaning)

I am not patient = I am **impatient** (adj.)

To stick it out = to continue to the end of an unpleasant situation

If you are patient, and waiting in a line, then you will probably stick it out.

I'm a patient kind of person

If you have little time to do something we can say,

- To be **in a rush**
- To be **in a hurry**

To have a **short span of attention** = to be able to focus only for a short time

Fast pace of life = the quick speed at which changes and events happen

The following are both ways of saying you no longer have any patience.

- **To lose your patience**
- **To run out of patience**

To **get fidgety** = to start continually moving (your hands)

When some people are losing their patience, they get fidgety

To **pace up and down** = walking up and down in a nervous/impatient way

I was pacing up and down waiting for you to get home!

IELTS Speaking Topic: Waiting

Tell me a situation where you have to wait

Waiting for an appointment (the doctor's, the dentist...)

At the doctor's

At the clinic

At the hospital

In the emergency department in a hospital

At the bus stop

At the airport

Waiting for a bus

Waiting for a taxi on a rainy day

At the restaurant, waiting for a seat/ table

In the school dining room

Queueing in a shop

Stuck in traffic

Waiting for the right partner (wife, husband...)

Waiting for the result of a job interview

Waiting for an exam result

Waiting for a special day (Christmas)

Are you good at waiting? Are you patient?

Here are some useful phrases for students who answered **this question on my Facebook Page:**

My patience **was pushed to the limits** = I almost lost my patience

I have **ants in my pants** = I get fidgety

I don't suffer fools gladly = I don't accept / tolerate stupid people

Good things come to those who wait = If you are patient, you will be rewarded

I like to let things **run their course** = I like to wait for things to happen naturally

Listening Task

Listen to someone talk about a time they lost their patience. Try to fill in these gaps with **ONE** word.

<https://vimeo.com/782872403>

1. Trolleys _____ full of stuff
2. So I decided to _____ it out and wait
3. And I was getting _____
4. In this case, my patience was _____ thin
5. That was the _____ straw

Answers at bottom of PDF

Listen again and pick out useful phrases or/and collocations

<https://vimeo.com/782883336>

Useful Phrases

So I remember **this one time**

when I was shopping in a supermarket

and I was **waiting in a queue to pay**,

and I just had **a few items** in my basket and everybody in front of me had full trolleys, right?

Trolleys **crammed full of** stuff (=extremely full)

To **cram** something in (to a space) = to put something into a restricted space

I crammed my basket full of fruit

My diary is crammed full of appointments

So I was thinking actually about **changing queue** because, just **to speed things up** (=to make things go more quickly).

But then I thought, "Well, knowing **Sod's law**, (=if something can go wrong, it will....same as *Murphy's Law*)

if I change queue, this one will suddenly speed up.

So I decided **to stick it out** and wait.

And the queue was moving slowly and I noticed the cashier was talking to everybody, to every customer.

She was **telling her life story** (= to talk a lot about yourself) to any **Tom, Dick and Harry** (= anybody, especially people you don't know)

And I was **getting fidgety**, right?

I was getting **quite nervous**.

I was just thinking,

"Come on, **get a move on** (= hurry up). We don't have all day."

Then I tried to **calm down**.

You know, normally I'm quite a **laid-back** (= *calm and relaxed*) person, but in this case, **my patience was wearing thin** (= *I was becoming impatient*)

because I **was in a rush** to get back home for dinner.

And then, eventually, **it came to my turn**, and would you believe it, she closed the till.

That was **the final straw**.

I was so angry. I **lost my patience**.

I just left my trolley and the food there and **stormed out** (= *I left angrily*), never to return.

I never went back to that supermarket.

I was so **disappointed with** the service.

IELTS Speaking: Idioms about Patience

To be **at the end of your tether** = to have no patience left or to run out of patience

I've asked my daughter to clean her room 3 times this morning, and she still hasn't done it; I am at the end of my tether.

My patience **is wearing thin** = I am becoming less and less patient

I have asked you so many times to do this, and now my patience is wearing thin.

To lose it = to lose your patience and temper (to get angry)

I am going to lose it if I have to repeat my order to the waitress again

To have **the patience of Job** = to be very patient

You need to have the patience of Job when waiting your turn in a government office

Hold your horses! = Wait!

Hold your horses, be patient!

Proverbs:

A watched pot never boils = Waiting for something eagerly seems to take a long time

Rome wasn't built in a day = All things take time to do

Good things come to he who waits = If you wait patiently, you will be rewarded.

IELTS Speaking Vocabulary: Patience ANSWERS

Warm up!

Fill in the gap with one word

1. I was annoyed when someone **jumped** the queue
2. I am a patient person, I rarely **run** out of patience
3. At work I am always in a **rush / hurry** I never have time to stop and think.

Listening Task: ANSWERS

Listen to someone talk about a time they lost their patience. Try to fill in these gaps with **ONE** word.

1. Trolleys **crammed** full of stuff (=stuffed)
2. So I decided to **stick** it out and wait
3. And I was getting **fidgety**
4. In this case, my patience was **wearing** thin
5. That was the **final** straw (= the final action that 'broke' me or made my really angry)

The straw that broke the camel's back

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