BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

The English We Speak Out of juice



Helen

Hello welcome to The English We Speak, I'm Helen.

Neil

Hello everyone. I am Neil. It's great to be here today, Helen.

Helen

You are very cheerful today.

Neil

I feel pretty good, I walked from the train station to the office and it seems to have really energised me.

(phone rings)

Helen

That's my phone. Hello, hello? Anyone there? Hello?

Neil

Oh, it looks like you may be out of juice.

Helen

What? I am not drinking any juice, but my phone has just gone dead.

Neil

That's what I mean. Your phone isn't working because it's out of juice.

Helen

Please explain: what's juice got to do with my phone?

Neil

When you've used all the battery power of something like a mobile phone, so that it doesn't work anymore, we can say it's 'out of juice'. It's a slang expression. Have a listen to these examples:

Examples

My laptop's out of juice. This is so frustrating.

I am packing three spare phone batteries so I don't run out of juice on my climbing trip.

Helen

I see. Can we use it for anything else apart from batteries?

Neil

Sure, sometimes if a person feels low on energy, they could say 'I'm out of juice'. Also if your car is low on petrol, you could say 'The car's running out of juice.'

Helen

Thanks for explaining this phrase. Now I'm feeling quite thirsty - a glass of juice would be most welcome.

Neil

Let's get some then. Meanwhile, charge your phone, so it's got plenty of juice.

Helen

Will do.

Neil

See you next time.

Both

Bye!