



## Language Support for Migrants *A Council of Europe Toolkit*

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### 56 - Scenario: Using a mobile phone in the new language

**Aim:** To introduce some key words and expressions related to phone calls and to enable migrants to cope with simple phone conversations and SMS messages in the language of the host country.

#### Communicative situations

- Understanding a name or phone number you hear on the telephone.
- Receiving and understanding simple SMS messages in the target language.
- Sending a simple message.

#### Materials

- A) Picture of a mobile phone keypad.
- B) Picture of an SMS message.
- C) Recordings of phone calls (if possible).

#### Language activities

##### Activity 1

Learners listen to a recording of a phone call between two friends, then read a dialogue like this:

A. *Hello?*

B. *Hi Tom, it's Samira. I'm calling to ask for help: I'm looking for a job. Do you know anyone who needs a babysitter?*

A. *You can ask my friend Patricia: I know she is looking for a babysitter.*

B. *Great. What's her phone number?*

A. *0356789225.*

B. *OK. Thank you. Bye!*

A. *Good luck! Bye.*

Use simple questions to check learners' understanding of key words and expressions, e.g. *Who is speaking? Why is Samira phoning Tom? Does Tom help her?*

Check learners' understanding of numbers: e.g. *What is Patricia's phone number?* Invite learners to write down the number they hear and to read it aloud.

Then get learners in pairs to have a similar conversation with a partner and to exchange their phone number pronouncing the number clearly (they don't have to give their real number if they don't wish to).

### Activity 2

Learners can take it in turns to input their own numbers on the picture of a mobile phone keypad or on a real mobile phone. Then they can write down their own telephone number.

### Activity 3

Learners imagine that Samira is calling Patricia and listen to another recording:

- A. *This is 0356789225. I am not available to take your call at the moment. Please, call later or leave a message after the BEEP.*
- B. *Hallo Patricia. This is Samira, a friend of Tom's. He gave me your number because I am looking for a job as a babysitter. My number is: 0328965200. Please, call me back or send me a text. Thanks. Goodbye.*

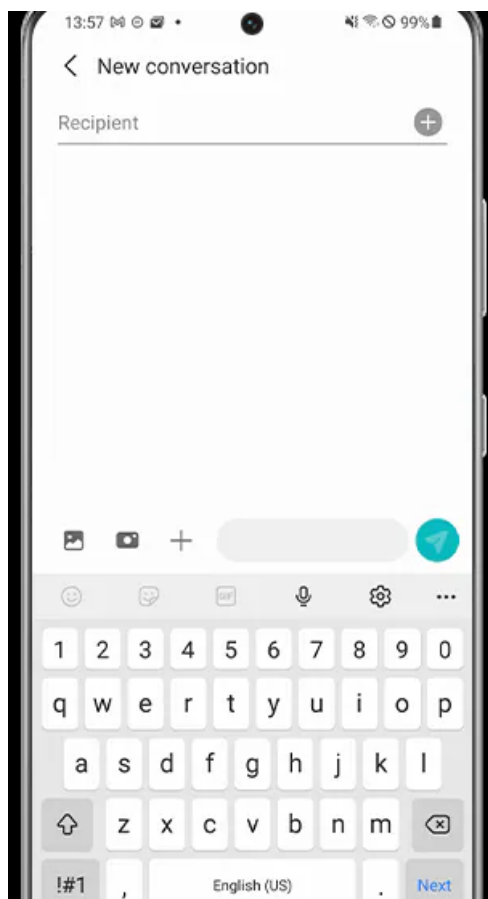
To check comprehension, ask questions like: *Was Samira able to speak to Patricia? Why not? What is Samira's phone number? What did Samira ask Patricia to do?*

### Activity 4

- Ask learners to read the text message from Patricia.
- Check comprehension, and then ask learners to write a reply to confirm the meeting.

### Sample materials

A)



Picture of a mobile phone keypad.

B)

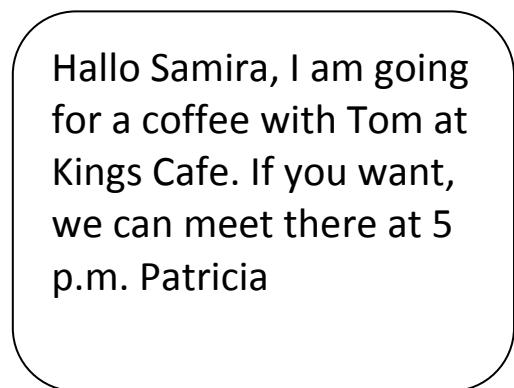


Image of an SMS.