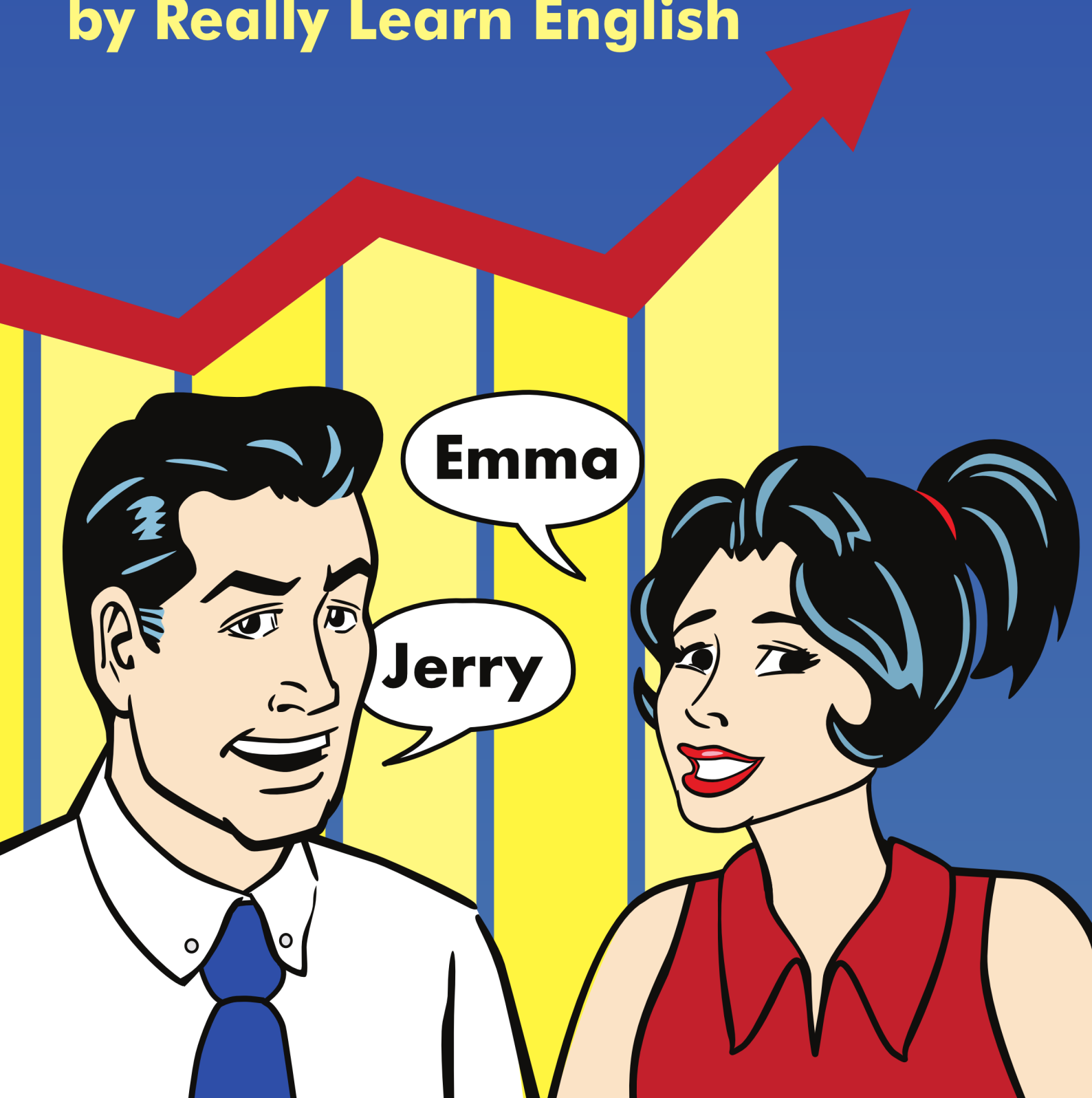


# ENGLISH

## Short Stories<sup>2</sup>

by Really Learn English



English Short Stories

Emma & Jerry

## Volume 2

By

Really Learn English

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**This is a sample of the full  
book and workbook.**

**To get ALL the stories and  
exercises, please visit:**

**English Short Stories Book and  
Workbook, Emma and Jerry**



# English Short Stories

## Volume 2

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## Story 9

# Not Really

Emma and Jerry attend the wedding for Jerry's cousin, Greg. At the reception, Emma and Jerry sit at a table with Greg's brother, David, who has had an extremely rough year.

Before they sit, Emma tells Jerry that they must be especially kind to David. "David has had such a difficult year," Emma whispers. "If we talk about our year, it might make him feel bad. You really should make it look as if your situation is bad, too, so David does not feel even worse!"

Jerry is not sure about this plan. "Emma, are you sure you want me to do this?" Jerry asks.

"Yes, Jerry," she replies. "If it helps David, then it's okay."

Jerry and Emma sit with David. They talk about Greg's wedding and the weather. The food arrives as David changes the conversation. "Jerry, you are so lucky," he says. "You really have it all. You have such a great job. I hear you make a lot of money!"

"No, not really," Jerry replies, "I actually make very little money."

Jerry follows their plan. Emma is pleased.

"Oh, I see," David says, "but I hear it's interesting work."

"No, not really," Jerry replies, "it's actually quite boring."

Again, Jerry follows their plan. Emma is pleased.

"Well, the job is not everything," David continues. "I hear you and Emma moved into a nice new house this year."

"No, not really," Jerry sighs, "it's actually a dreadful old place."

Emma smiles at Jerry.

“I’m sorry to hear that!” David exclaims. “But you know what’s important in life: your family! At least you have such a beautiful wife!”

Now Emma is sure Jerry will compliment her as he always does. She smiles at Jerry.

“No, not really,” Jerry replies, “she is actually quite ugly!”



# Exercises

## Vocabulary—Fill in the Blank

A) This is a copy of the original story. Go over it and fill in the blanks with the right words from the box below.

great	boring	important	it's	look
is	make	not	their	sit
and	difficult	but	for	you
helps	brother	does	food	she

Emma and Jerry attend the wedding \_\_\_\_\_ Jerry's cousin, Greg. At the reception, Emma and Jerry sit at a table with Greg's \_\_\_\_\_, David, who has had an extremely rough year.

Before they \_\_\_\_\_, Emma tells Jerry that they must be especially kind to David. "David has had such a \_\_\_\_\_ year," Emma whispers. "If we talk about our year, it might make him feel bad. You really should make it \_\_\_\_\_ as if your situation is bad, too, so David does not feel even worse!"

Jerry is \_\_\_\_\_ sure about this plan. "Emma, are you sure you want me to do this?" Jerry asks.

"Yes, Jerry," she replies. "If it \_\_\_\_\_ David, then it's okay."

Jerry and Emma sit with David. They talk about Greg's wedding \_\_\_\_\_ the weather. The \_\_\_\_\_ arrives as David changes the conversation. "Jerry, you are so lucky," he says. "You really have it all. You have such a \_\_\_\_\_ job. I hear you make a lot of money!"



“No, not really,” Jerry replies, “I actually \_\_\_\_\_ very little money.”

Jerry follows \_\_\_\_\_ plan. Emma is pleased.

“Oh, I see,” David says, “\_\_\_\_\_ I hear it’s interesting work.”

“No, not really,” Jerry replies, “it’s actually quite \_\_\_\_\_.”

Again, Jerry follows their plan. Emma \_\_\_\_\_ pleased.

“Well, the job is not everything,” David continues. “I hear \_\_\_\_\_ and Emma moved into a nice new house this year.”

“No, not really,” Jerry sighs, “\_\_\_\_\_ actually a dreadful old place.”

Emma smiles at Jerry.

“I’m sorry to hear that!” David exclaims. “But you know what’s \_\_\_\_\_ in life: your family! At least you have such a beautiful wife!”

Now Emma is sure Jerry will compliment her as he always \_\_\_\_\_. She smiles at Jerry.

“No, not really,” Jerry replies, “\_\_\_\_\_ is actually quite ugly!”

## Vocabulary—Find the Right Word

**B) Read the description and write down what it is. Use the box below for help.**

compliment	plan	family	difficult	reception
dreadful	job	conversation	year	money

1. It is a social gathering after a wedding. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_
2. It is the way you will do something. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_
3. It means “unpleasant.” What is it? \_\_\_\_\_
4. It is when two people talk to each other. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_
5. It usually has 365 days. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_
6. It is when you get paid to work. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_
7. It is a group of related people. Who are they? \_\_\_\_\_
8. It is the opposite of “easy.” What is it? \_\_\_\_\_
9. It is when someone says something nice about someone else.  
What is it? \_\_\_\_\_
10. You use this to buy items in a store. What is it? \_\_\_\_\_

## Grammar—Sentence Structure

**C) The following sentences are all mixed up. Put the words on each line in the correct order to make a logical sentence.**

1. David Jerry with and Emma sit.

---

2. I new year you and moved house Emma a nice into this hear.

---

3. sure Emma as her is Jerry will he compliment does always.

---

## Grammar—Questions, Negative Sentences, and Positive Sentences

**D) Turn the following sentences into questions.**

1. Emma and Jerry attend the wedding.

---

2. You really have it all.

---

3. It's interesting work.

---

**E) Turn the following sentences into negative sentences.**

1. It helps David.

---

2. Emma is pleased.

---

3. She smiles at Jerry.

---

**F) Turn the following sentences into positive sentences.**

1. Jerry is not sure about this plan.

---

2. The job is not everything.

---

3. It is actually not boring.

---

## Grammar—From the Story

*“If we talk about our year, it might make him feel bad.”*

This is an example of the first conditional.

**conditional** = sentence or part of a sentence that expresses a condition.

**condition** = something that must happen before something else can happen.

**We use the first conditional to talk about possible future events.**

**If + simple present, + will (or modal verb)**

**will (or modal verb) + if + simple present**

For example: (the conditional is in purple)

- “I will go to the beach if it does not rain.”
- “If you ask him, he might help you.”
- “He can watch television if he cleans his room.”

**G) Write each sentence in a conditional form. Write the result first and the condition second.**

**For example:** I will stay. He will ask. --> I will stay if he asks.

1. We will not be late. You come on time.

---

2. We will visit you. We will be in New York.

---

3. Jack will pass the test. He will understand the questions.

---

**H) Write each sentence in a conditional form. Write the condition first and the result second.**

**For example: He will ask. I will stay. --> If he asks, I will stay.**

1. The price is fair. I will buy the dress.

---

2. Janet will sell the house. She will move to an apartment.

---

3. Tony will find his keys. He will be so happy.

---

**I) Fill in the blank with the right verb.**

1. If they \_\_\_\_\_ him the truth, he \_\_\_\_\_ feel bad.  
(might, tell)

2. He \_\_\_\_\_ come, if he \_\_\_\_\_ enough time.  
(should, has)

3. We \_\_\_\_\_ stay at home if it \_\_\_\_\_.  
(will, rains)

4. If I \_\_\_\_\_ Bob, I \_\_\_\_\_ tell him the good news.  
(must, see)

5. If you \_\_\_\_\_ everything, you \_\_\_\_\_ go home early.  
(may, finish)

*For more on conditionals,  
visit this step-by-step explanation on Really Learn English:  
[www.really-learn-english.com/english-conditionals.html](http://www.really-learn-english.com/english-conditionals.html)*

***“You really have it all.”***

“Really” is an English adverb.

**An adverb is a word that describes or gives more information about a verb, an adjective, another adverb, or even an entire sentence.**

**1. Adverbs usually answer the following questions.**

- Where? (“He went **home**.”)
- When? (“He called **today**.”)
- How? (“The children yell **loudly**.”)
- How often? (“**Sometimes** he is late to work.”)
- How long? (“The machine is **temporarily** broken.”)
- How likely? (“He can **possibly** win the game.”)
- To what degree? (“I was **really** happy!”)

**2. Many adverbs can move around in a sentence.**

- **Recently**, I started a new job.
- I started a new job **recently**.
- I **recently** started a new job.

**J) Underline the adverb in each sentence.**

1. They walk slowly.
2. She runs fast.
3. You talk happily.
4. We will study tomorrow.
5. I will sit here.
6. This is really true.
7. It rains heavily.
8. They work well.

**K) Add an adverb to each sentence to answer the question in brackets.**

**Use any of the following adverbs: very, yesterday, surely, slowly, permanently, home, never, tomorrow, here, heavily**

1. They come \_\_\_\_\_. [where?]
2. We will meet \_\_\_\_\_. [when?]
3. The turtle walks \_\_\_\_\_. [how?]
4. We are \_\_\_\_\_ late. [how often?]
5. This store is \_\_\_\_\_ closed. [how long?]
6. Bill will \_\_\_\_\_ win the game! [how likely?]
7. You are \_\_\_\_\_ important to her. [to what degree?]
8. It snows \_\_\_\_\_ all the time. [to what degree?]
9. We will stay \_\_\_\_\_ tonight. [where?]
10. \_\_\_\_\_ she was not here. [when?]

*For more on adverbs, visit this step-by-step  
explanation on Really Learn English:*

[www.really-learn-english.com/english-adverbs.html](http://www.really-learn-english.com/english-adverbs.html)



## Comprehension

**L) Answer the following questions.**

1. Why does Emma tell Jerry to be especially kind to David?

---

---

---

1. What does Emma want Jerry to do?

---

---

---

2. What things does David talk to Jerry about?

---

---

---

3. What does Jerry tell David about his life?

---

---

---

## Essay Writing

**M) Answer the following questions. Write a short essay for each.**

1. What do you think about Emma's plan? Why?

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1. Does Emma's plan work? Explain?

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## Speaking Practice

**M) Tell your partner or teacher what happens in this story.**

**This is a sample of the full  
book and workbook.**

**To get ALL the stories and  
exercises, please visit:**

**English Short Stories Book and  
Workbook, Emma and Jerry**

