

## Simplified Speech #081 – Kassy moves

### Episode description

Anyone who has moved from one home to another knows that it can be stressful. In this episode, Andrew and Kassy talk about her big move out of the city. They even have a few tips for anyone who is moving soon.

### Fun fact

The weight of the all the stuff in an average household is between 6,000 and 6,500 pounds, which is about the same weight as an elephant. It takes an average of 60 boxes to move everything.

### Expressions included in the study guide

- The sticks and the boonies
- To get rid of [something]
- To pass on [something] to [someone]
- For the sake of [something]
- Prepper
- A pain in the neck



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## Transcript

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Note: The words and expressions that appear in **bold text** within the transcript are discussed in more detail in the Detailed Explanations section that follows the transcript.

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**Andrew:** Hello, everyone. My name is Andrew.

**Kassy:** And I'm Kassy.

**Andrew:** And you're listening to Culips.

**Andrew:** Hey, there, Kassy.

**Kassy:** Hey, Andrew.

**Andrew:** Today, we are going to talk all about moving.

**Kassy:** Ugh, my favourite subject.

**Andrew:** My favourite thing to do in life—not. Actually, I hate moving. It's really terrible.

**Kassy:** Me too.

**Andrew:** So, guys, this is the topic for today's Simplified Speech episode, moving. But just before we talk about moving, guys, I wanna remind you that there's a study guide for this episode available on our website, Culips.com. And we'd recommend that you give it a download and follow along with us while you listen here today.

**Andrew:** OK, Kassy, let's get into it. The reason why we're talking about moving is because you recently moved, right?

**Kassy:** That's correct, I moved this week.

**Andrew:** Oh, it was this week? Oh, I thought it was like a month ago or something.

**Kassy:** Nope, three days ago.

**Andrew:** Three days ago? Wow, so you must be tired?

**Kassy:** Nah.

**Andrew:** How far was your move? You didn't leave cities, you stayed in the same city. But was it across town or was it just down the block?

**Kassy:** It was across town, but my original house was directly downtown, amazing. And my new house is on the very outskirts of the town.

**Andrew:** Oh no.

**Kassy:** Yeah, it's about a 30- or 40-minute car ride.

**Andrew:** To downtown?

**Kassy:** Yeah, from my new house. And the new house is just, like, rice fields, almost.

**Andrew:** OK. So, you're living in Gwangju in the southern part of South Korea. And so this is—I'd say the suburbs of Gwangju are more rural, right? There's a lot of farms and agriculture.

**Kassy:** There's no farms directly in my line of view but, you know, you drive 5 minutes up the road and they're there.

**Andrew:** OK, so you're out in **the sticks**.

**Kassy:** Yes, that's correct, **the boonies**.

**Andrew:** **The boonies**, yeah. And so why did you decide to move right to the edge of the city?

**Kassy:** I got a new job and they offered me housing.

**Andrew:** OK, all right. So, a lot of English teaching jobs in Korea give housing to the teachers, right?

**Kassy:** Yeah, I'm really grateful for it, actually.

**Andrew:** Yeah, it's nice to have a place to live. But you don't get to choose where it is?

**Kassy:** That's correct.

**Andrew:** OK. Are you close to the school you'll be working at, at least?

**Kassy:** That is the biggest perk. It is in my backyard.

**Andrew:** OK, so you can just walk to work?

**Kassy:** Yes.

**Andrew:** OK, that's good. Now, is your new place smaller than your old place?

**Kassy:** It is smaller, but it's really clean and everything's provided, so it's really nice.

**Andrew:** OK, all right. So everything's kind of there for you. That means, I guess you had to **get rid of some stuff**?

**Kassy:** Yeah, I did, actually. Actually, so Andrew moved last year, and he actually gave me a bunch of furniture.

**Andrew:** I passed on my old things that I didn't need any more to Kassy and then ...

**Kassy:** And then, so I wanted to do the same thing for someone else, so I donated it, just yesterday, actually.

**Andrew:** OK, you got rid of all the old furniture again.

**Kassy:** Yes.

**Andrew:** Nice. Now, what about physically moving your things? I guess if everything was provided, you pretty much just need to bring your clothes and some personal items.

**Kassy:** Yeah, but I don't know about you, but whenever I move, I just realize how much stuff I have and don't need.

**Andrew:** I know, isn't it the worst?

**Kassy:** The worst. So, I actually didn't use a moving service. I just moved everything with, you know, my own hard labour and that of my boyfriend and friends.

**Andrew:** OK. Did you have to rent a truck, or did you just carry everything on the bus or the subway?

**Kassy:** Oh, that would be crazy. No, we did rent a Socar. There's a service here in Korea where you can rent cars for an hour or 3 hours or a day, and they're all over the city.

**Andrew:** OK.

**Kassy:** I used that.

**Andrew:** Great. OK. Nice. And I wanted to ask you about your personality, because you said that you noticed that you have things that you don't really need, but that you hold on to. Are you kind of a sentimental person? Do you tend to keep stuff just **for the sake of keeping it**?

**Kassy:** Actually, I'm not.

**Andrew:** OK.

**Kassy:** But, I am a, what is that called?

**Andrew:** A hoarder, are you a hoarder?

**Kassy:** I'm not a hoarder, I'm a disaster. What would you call that?

**Andrew:** A prepper?

**Kassy:** Yes, not a disaster necessarily, but if I find something interesting, I'm like, oh, I could use that in the future.

**Andrew:** Ah.

**Kassy:** Or I should keep this, maybe I'll use it again.

**Andrew:** Yeah, OK.

**Kassy:** And I don't use it ever again.

**Andrew:** Right, I'm kind of the same way. I've been really making an effort to try and downsize some of the stuff that I have in my life, because I've probably moved, since I was 20—I'm 35 now, so in the last 15 years—I've probably moved, like, over 10 times. So it's really annoying when you have things that you have to move, which, now, if you look around my place here, Kassy, you won't see very many books or very many records. But if you saw my house when I was 25, you'd see lots of books and records. And I just got tired of toting these things around everywhere.

**Kassy:** I totally understand. Andrew, do you know this is my third move this year?

**Andrew:** What? Third move this year? Oh my gosh, why did you move so much?

**Kassy:** I've been so unlucky. I lived in the States for 5 months, if you remember.

**Andrew:** Oh, that's right, you went back home for a bit.

**Kassy:** Yeah, so I actually moved on January 3rd last year.

**Andrew:** 2019.

**Kassy:** Yes, and then I ... There was some craziness that happened with my landlord and he was suing someone. Anyway, I had to leave.

**Andrew:** OK.

**Kassy:** So I moved again. And then now I have this new job and I moved on December 31st of 2019. So that's three times in 1 year.

**Andrew:** Those are some big distances between those places, from Korea to USA and then back to Korea.

**Kassy:** Yes.

**Andrew:** Wow. OK. Well, I'm hoping that for the foreseeable future you can settle in and not have to move anytime soon, 'cause it is just **a pain in the neck**.

**Kassy:** That's true. But I'm an expert now. So, if you ever need advice ...

**Andrew:** Well, if I ever have to move, then I will get in touch and maybe you can tell me some packing tips or something.

**Kassy:** However, one thing I am not an expert in is finding someone to take over my lease.

**Andrew:** Oh, yes.

**Kassy:** Did you ever have that problem, Andrew?

**Andrew:** Did I ever have this problem? No, thankfully, I have never had this problem. And maybe we should explain what the problem is to our listeners. So, guys, you know when you sign a lease, this is the contract between the landlord and you for the, for renting an apartment, right? We call this the lease and usually it's 12 months, but sometimes 24 months, could be longer, could be shorter as well. But if you decide to move out before the contract is finished, before the lease is finished, then you're in kind of a sticky situation, right? Either you have to keep paying the monthly rent on your apartment or you have to find somebody who wants to take over the contract, to take over the lease. And I've been in this situation where I've taken over somebody's lease before, but I've never had to find somebody to take my lease. Is this the problem that you're facing right now?

**Kassy:** Yeah, it is, and I've never been in the situation either. And I thought it would be really easy, because I live in a very low rent, very brightly lit, and very amazingly located apartment.

**Andrew:** And it's very affordable. You told me how much your monthly rent is off-air here earlier and I was like, "What, how can you not find somebody to take over your lease?" The location is good, and you know when we're talking about real estate we always say location, location, location, right? It's very important. So, your location is good. I've been to your place before, it's bright and sunny. It's got a nice high ceiling. It's very open and it's affordable.

**Kassy:** Yeah, my mind is like blown. Why is this so difficult to find someone? But, you know, I'm letting it out to fate and hoping that I'll have this settled in the next 2 weeks.

**Andrew:** If you're looking for an apartment in Korea and you need a good place, send us an email to [contact@Culips.com](mailto:contact@Culips.com) and maybe we can set you up with Kassy's old place.

**Kassy:** Yeah, seriously. Hit me up.

**Andrew:** Well, good luck with finding somebody. I hope that that gets resolved for you.

**Kassy:** Thank you.

**Andrew:** Yes.

**Andrew:** Thank you, everyone, for listening today. I think that will wrap it up for us. Before we let you go, though, I wanna remind you about our website, Culips.com. It's the place where you can download the study guide for this episode and also listen to all of our past episodes as well.

**Andrew:** We are also all over the place on social media, on YouTube and Instagram and Twitter and Facebook. So if you would like to stay up to date with all of the news here at Culips, just follow us on social media and you can do that.

**Andrew:** We'll be back soon with another brand-new episode and we will talk to you then. Goodbye, everyone.

**Kassy:** See you around.

## Detailed Explanations

### The sticks and the boonies

Noun

**The sticks** and **the boonies** are synonyms. They are both nouns for any area that is not close to any towns or cities.

In this episode, Kassy mentions that she's moved out of Gwangju's downtown to the outskirts of town. Andrew calls this **the sticks** and Kassy calls it **the boonies**. Both mean out of town.

We explained these expressions in detail in Catch Word #186: I'm from **the sticks**. If you'd like to study with that episode, go to <https://esl.culips.com/2017/06/catch-word-186-im-from-the-sticks/>.

Here are a couple more examples with **the sticks** and **the boonies**:

**Niki:** Did you go to Jeremy's birthday event this weekend?

**Valentin:** No, it was too far away.

**Niki:** It couldn't have been that far. He said it was just on the outskirts of the city.

**Valentin:** Ten minutes out of town! All the way out in **the sticks**!

**Niki:** Yikes.

**Valentin:** Well, why didn't you go?

**Niki:** I was in **the boonies** on the other side of town for my parents' anniversary.

**Yaffe:** Ugh, I hate coming into town. There are too many people.

**Zora:** Oh, yeah, I forgot you live all the way out in **the boonies**.

**Yaffe:** It's not that far.

**Zora:** It's pretty far.

**Yaffe:** Well, at least you can walk around without running into people. Or things.



## To get rid of [something]

### Idiom

**To get rid of something** is an idiom that means to remove or throw away something. Usually it's something that you don't want and that was annoying or bothering you.

This idiom can also be used to describe ending a conversation or interaction with someone. **To get rid of someone** means you've stopped putting yourself in their company or have ended a conversation.

In this episode, Kassy had **to get rid of some stuff**. She had to do this not because the stuff itself was annoying or bothering her. Instead, it was because she had too much stuff and moving it all would have been annoying or bothersome.

Here are a couple more examples with **to get rid of [something]**:

**Maria:** Noooooo!

**Miles:** What's wrong, Maria?

**Maria:** My favourite sweater has a hole.

**Miles:** Oh, good, now you can finally **get rid of that old thing**.

**Maria:** Hey! I happen to like this sweater. It's the first thing you ever bought me.

**Miles:** I'll buy you a new one, then. Come on, throw it away already.

**Yeong-Gi:** Oh, nice car! Is it new?

**Aliya:** Yeah! Well, new to me. My dad's friend was **getting rid of it**, so my dad bought it and fixed it up for me.

**Yeong-Gi:** That was nice of him!

**Aliya:** Yeah, he's a good dad. Plus, now I have a car!

## To pass on [something] to [someone]

Phrasal verb

**To pass on [something] to [someone]** is a phrasal verb meaning to give someone something so they can have it instead of you. Andrew gave Kassy his old furniture and things that he didn't need anymore; she did the same thing, giving those things to other people who needed them.

**To pass on** has a few other meanings. When you **pass on** costs or savings to someone, you're making them pay the costs, or you're giving them the savings. When someone has **passed on**, that means they have died; it's a kinder way of telling people about a loved one's death.

Here are a couple more examples with **to pass on [something] to [someone]**:

**Estela:** I'm so glad we're finally going through the closets, Gustavo. Our boys have outgrown a lot of their clothes.

**Gustavo:** They really are growing. I noticed Diego's ankles peeking out from between his shoes and his pants the other day. What are we doing with the clothes they've outgrown?

**Estela:** I thought perhaps we could **pass on their clothes to my sister**. Her boy is growing so fast, they're going to need something for him to wear.

**Gustavo:** Sounds like a plan. I'll get a box.

**Renee:** Hey, boss. I won't be able to come to work today.

**Haris:** Hi Renee. What's wrong? Sick?

**Renee:** Yeah, I've got a really bad cold and I don't want to **pass it on to everyone**.

**Haris:** We'd appreciate it if you didn't. Stay home, rest, and get better soon. We'll see you on Monday.

**Renee:** Thanks, Haris. See you Monday.

## For the sake of [something]

### Idiom

**For the sake of [something]** means to do something for a specific purpose or to achieve a specific result. Andrew asked Kassy if she keeps stuff just **for the sake of keeping it**. He was asking if Kassy kept things just to have them, not because they have a use.

For example, people keep pots and pans because you need them to cook; they have a use. Some people keep old magazines in their house but never open them. Those magazines have no use and are being kept just **for the sake of keeping them**. Kassy, as we learn in this episode, does not keep things just **for the sake of keeping them**. She doesn't keep things in her house that have no use.

Similarly, when you do something just **for the sake of it**, you do that thing for no special reason except that you want to do it. For example, if someone collects baseball cards just **for the sake of it**, this means that the person is collecting the cards just because it is fun. They are not collecting the cards as an investment or for any other special reason.

Here are a couple more examples with **for the sake of [something]**:

**Robert:** Just got back from my interview. I think it went well!

**Eloise:** That's great news! You really need this job, don't you?

**Robert:** Yeah. My mom's car really needs repairs.

**Eloise:** **Just for the sake of argument**, what are you going to do if you don't get the job?

**Robert:** I dunno. Probably sell her car and give her mine. I can just take the bus.

**Chanah:** How was your weekend?

**Norberto:** Really good. Antoine and I went skydiving!

**Chanah:** What? Why? Why would you do that?

**Norberto:** **Just for the sake of it**. The thrill of it. To say I've done it. It was amazing!

**Chanah:** Throwing yourself out of a plane and plummeting to earth is amazing?

**Norberto:** It was! The view was phenomenal and the feeling of falling ... There are no words to describe it.

## Prepper

Noun

A **prepper** is someone who believes a disaster or emergency is going to occur in the future and stores food and other supplies in their home to prepare for this emergency. They are also called survivalists. This is different from a hoarder. Hoarders keep things just for the sake of having them, while **preppers** believe everything they keep will be needed in the future.

**Prepper** could also be used to describe someone who prepares things ahead of time. For example, someone who makes their lunch the night before could be called a **prepper**.

In the United Kingdom, **prepper** refers to prep school or someone who goes to prep school.

Here are a couple more examples with **prepper**:

**Julio:** I'm a doomsday **prepper**. I have boxes and boxes of supplies in my basement.

**Osvald:** You've watched too many disaster movies.

**Julio:** I don't really think there's going to be a big disaster ... I like having all this stuff in my house just in case, though. Who knows what could happen in the future?

**A'isha:** Oh, your lunch smells good.

**Henrika:** Thanks! I made it last night.

**A'isha:** You're such a **prepper**. I wish I had the discipline to do that!

**Henrika:** Well, I'm already making lunch for my kids, so I figure why not make something yummy for myself.

**A'isha:** Definitely beats my bologna sandwich and fruit snack.

**Henrika:** Want some of my rice?

## A pain in the neck

Noun

**A pain in the neck** is someone or something that annoys you, causes trouble, makes you unhappy, or is difficult. It is slang, and a more polite way to say **pain in the butt** or **pain in the ass**.

In this episode, Andrew says he doesn't want to move anytime soon because it is just **a pain in the neck**. The act of moving is annoying, troublesome, and difficult.

Here are a few more examples with **a pain in the neck**:

**Irina:** Ugh, my little sister is such **a pain in the neck**.

**Raul:** What did she do this time?

**Irina:** She keeps taking my clothes without asking and putting them back dirty! If she just asked, I would let her borrow them. But she never does!

**Raul:** That's tough.

**Nicole:** Hey, Lukas. Frank is asking for those reports. Have you finished them?

**Lukas:** I'm so close to being done. They're such **a pain in the neck**!

**Nicole:** Were they that bad to do?

**Lukas:** Yes. I have to input all the numbers one by one. There are thousands of numbers, Nicole. Thousands.

**Nicole:** All right, then. I'll tell him you'll get them to him tomorrow.

**Lukas:** That'd be great. Thanks.

## Quiz

**1. What did Andrew pass on to Kassy when he moved?**

- a) a cold
- b) furniture
- c) books
- d) a football

**2. What do you call something that is annoying, troublesome, or difficult?**

- a) a cramp in the leg
- b) a tickle in the side
- c) a burn on the tongue
- d) a pain in the neck

**3. Why does a prepper keep things in their home?**

- a) just for the sake of it
- b) they use it every day
- c) they want to be prepared for a future disaster
- d) they plan to sell it in the future

**4. Which words are synonyms meaning far from the city?**

- a) the stocks and the stones
- b) the bunnies and the boonies
- c) the sticks and the boonies
- d) the salt and the pepper

**5. To get rid of means \_\_\_\_\_.**

- a) to kill or harm
- b) to insult or annoy
- c) to pick up or purchase
- d) to remove or throw away

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## Writing and Discussion Questions

1. If you had to move tomorrow, what would you get rid of, what would you pass on to someone else, and why?
2. What area would be considered the sticks and boonies around where you live?
3. If there were a disaster coming and you needed to prepare, what would you keep in your home? Why?
4. What was something you've had to do that was a pain in the neck? Why was it so annoying?
5. Describe something you've done or kept just for the sake of it.

## Quiz Answers

1. b    2.d    3.c    4.c    5.d

### Episode credits

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