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Simplified Speech #184 – Andrew and Kassy catch up (again)

Episode description

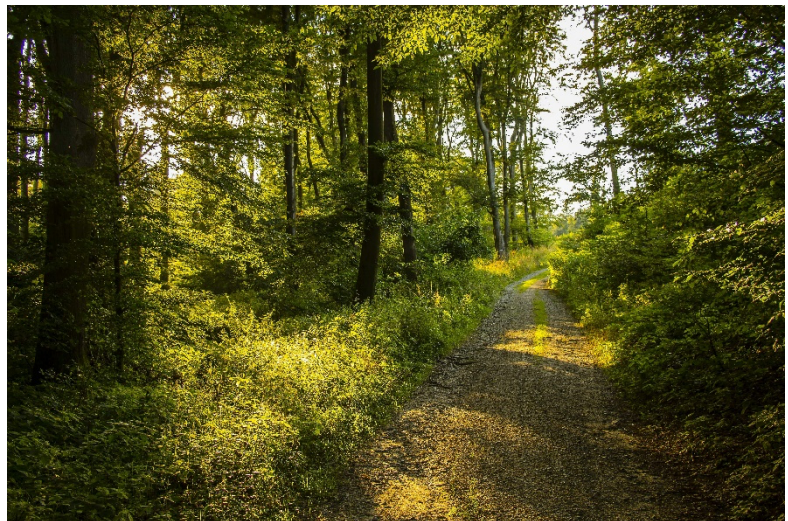
After a couple of weeks apart, hosts Andrew and Kassy reunite in this episode to catch up! They talk about Kassy's recent trip to South Korea and a health issue that Andrew has been facing. They also share their love for Korean food and discuss the dishes they crave the most when they're out of the country.

Fun fact

Mudeungsan is a beautiful mountain located in a national park. It provides stunning views of Gwangju city and has many hiking trails to explore. South Korea is home to twenty-two national parks, covering a remarkable 6.6% of the country's total land area!

Expressions included in the study guide

- Someone's neck of the woods
- To rest up
- To be wiped out
- To clog up
- To compensate for
- A cliffhanger



Transcript

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. The transcript has been edited for clarity.

Andrew: Simplified Speech number 184, "Andrew and Kassy catch up (again)."

Featuring, Andrew and Kassy. Today, I'm joined by my cohost, Kassy. Hey there, Kassy.

Kassy: Hey, Andrew and hey, listeners. Hope you're all doing well, excited to be here today.

Andrew: Kassy, this is my favourite kind of Simplified Speech episode, because we are just going to chat and hang out and talk about what's new with us, we're going to catch up. And Kassy, we haven't recorded together for a couple of weeks, so I'm excited to learn about what's new with you and what's going on in your **neck of the woods** and in your life.

Kassy: Yeah, me too. It's been a while and I haven't listened to all the bonus episodes. So, I'm sure there's some stuff you can tell me that I haven't heard as well.

Andrew: Kassy, let's start with you. What's new? What's up?

Kassy: Well, the most exciting thing that happened recently was we had our fall break at school, which means we had 10 whole days **to rest up**. And me and my husband went to Korea for 10 days.

Andrew: Yeah, you came here to Korea. Now, wow, I'm really jealous a 10-day holiday in the fall. Kassy, on our Discord recently, somebody asked a question about you. And the question was, "What job does Kassy have that she can take so many vacations around the world?" And I guess that's one of the benefits of being a teacher, right? Is that you do get some nice vacations.

Kassy: Yeah, that's right. I'm super stressed for certain months of the year. And then I have lots of time to have fun the other months.

Andrew: Yeah, that's awesome. So, you came here to Korea and how did that go? How was your trip?

Kassy: It was really nice. We didn't plan a whole lot of activities. We mostly just came to relax and spend time with some friends and our family and eat lots of delicious Korean food, which I did.

Andrew: What was the most delicious meal, the one that stands out in your mind?

Kassy: They're all so good. There's this restaurant. It's owned by my husband's, one of his family members. Not a close one, but maybe like a second cousin or something. And they own a roast duck restaurant.

Andrew: Oh, nice.

Kassy: Yeah, it's so good. It's just a giant plate of roast duck with veggies and rice and then a million side dishes on the side. Amazing.

Andrew: Yeah, I'd like that, too. Unfortunately, my wife doesn't really like duck too much. So, I don't get to eat it very often. But yeah, it is delicious. Kassy, I know that you lived in Korea for a long time. Maybe around five years or so. Is that right?

Kassy: Six years. Isn't that crazy?

Andrew: Six years. Yeah. OK, so six years in Korea. Now you're living in Thailand. I'm wondering, do you ever get like a big, major craving for Korean food? And if so, what is the dish that you crave the most while you're away from it and you can't eat it?

Kassy: Yeah, I totally do. Probably I just miss the side dishes the most. But luckily, Korean barbecue is super popular here in Thailand. So, kkaennip. Kaennipin English is called perilla leaf.

Andrew: Yeah, perilla leaf.

Kassy: Yeah, so anytime that I'm really craving some like radish kimchi, or perilla leaf, we can head on down to the Korean restaurant and get some.

Andrew: Nice. Yeah. For listeners who aren't really too familiar with Korean food, Kassy was talking about side dishes. And if you go onto Google and do a Google search for Korean side dishes, you'll see that there are many different varieties that come up. But at many Korean restaurants, when you order your main meal, you'll get all these little side dishes that accompany it. And it's things like, kimchi, or some vegetables or there's many different types. And they're just supposed to be eaten with rice. And yeah, they're very delicious and kkaennip like you said, Kassy, is this green leaf and it's used to wrap your meat that you eat from the barbecue and super delicious and kind of a unique flavor. I don't really know how to describe it. Listeners, if you haven't tried it, you just have to try it. It's almost impossible to describe, very unique and I also agree with you, Kassy, very delicious.

Kassy: Yeah, if I ever have to eat meat without it, I'm so sad. Like, where's the perilla leaf?

Andrew: OK, Kassy, let's change the topic because I haven't had dinner yet. And it's around 7:45 in the evening, and I'm getting hungry. So, let's not talk about food right now. Let's change the topic to something else. You were here in Korea for about 10 days. And did you like do anything particularly noteworthy?

Kassy: This is exciting. So, I was in Gwangju, which is where I lived for the six years before I moved to Thailand. And Gwangju has a famous mountain called Mudeungsan. Mudeung Mountain.

Andrew: Wait, Kassy, were you in Gwangju last weekend?

Kassy: Yeah, I was.

Andrew: Yeah, me too. I was there just for a little bit. I was there like from Saturday afternoon until Sunday morning, just for a minute. That's funny. I never even thought that you would be in Gwangju at that time. That's crazy. Anyways.

Kassy: Yeah. But anyways, yeah, so Mudeung Mountain. Have you hiked it, Andrew?

Andrew: Yeah, several times. It's a big mountain in Gwangju, in that city in the southern part of South Korea, yeah.

Kassy: Yes. Well, I love hiking. So of course, 10-day holiday, I have to hike. What was really cool was that Mudeung Mountain has some military, I don't know, satellite bases, something on the top. So, you weren't allowed to go to the very tippy top of the mountain before. But they have opened the top now for the first time in many, many years. It's only like an extra 200 meters up. But I did it.

Andrew: Nice. Yeah, I've seen that area. I know exactly what you're talking about. It's just this like fenced off area. It looks like there's some satellite dishes or antennas or something inside there. So that's cool, you got to go all the way to the top. How long did it take you round trip? Because that's a pretty big mountain. It can be pretty intense.

Kassy: Yeah, with the hike and a short lunch took about five hours, five and a half, maybe.

Andrew: About five and a half hours, that's not so bad. That's pretty good timing. I think you must have hiked fairly quickly.

Kassy: Yes. Last thing, I'll talk about this trip, that I was really proud of, Andrew. So, you know, as a language learner, I'm sure all of our listeners can empathize with me. One of my biggest fears about moving to Thailand was that I would forget all of my Korean because I don't use it on a day-to-day basis anymore. I'll talk Korean with my husband occasionally. But you know, it's everyday language, then half the time I'm using English. But yeah, so I come back to Korea for 10 days and we stay at his parents' house, my in-laws and you know, they don't speak English, so it's all Korean all the time. And on the plane over, I was like, "Ah, can I do it? Will it be OK?" And yeah, of course, there were some words and phrases that I forgot. But I was really surprised with how much I still remembered. I was very proud of myself.

Andrew: Nice. Yeah. What's that like staying with your in-laws for 10 days? Like not what, I don't want to know about your relationship with your in-laws that's up to you and your in-laws. But what I want to know about is like, how is that on your brain having to interact in only Korean for 10 days at a time? Because, you know, when I hang out with my wife's family, even after just one day of speaking and listening only to Korean for the whole day, I'm pretty exhausted. I'm like mentally tired at the end of the day. And I have only had to do that for like maximum of like, two days at a time, never 10 days. What is that like after 10 days? Are you pretty **wiped out** mentally?

Kassy: Honestly, I got pretty used to it. And I do a lot more listening than I would speaking if it was you know, with my in-laws at home and English. So, my personality is slightly different. But I don't know, I really surprised myself with how there were a variety of topics that came up and I was able to at least add to the conversation in all of those topics. And I was satisfied with that. I think it can sometimes feel discouraging when you can't explain yourself the way that you want to in a foreign language. But my advice to listeners would be you know, don't get too hard on yourself. And as long as you're making an effort

and you're putting something into the conversation, then the person you're talking to is also so appreciative. And you can still build that warm connection. I felt like I got even closer to my in-laws these 10 days, just speaking Korean all the time and being with them.

Andrew: I think what you said there is a really great lesson. And it's something that I tried to do, but it's not so easy to do, sometimes. But I think it goes a long way in this kind of situation. And that is to be a driver of the conversation, to contribute something to the conversation. I know, a lot of times, especially in a group situation, if you're like speaking with just one other person, and it's one on one, it's easy to participate in a conversation, even in your second language, compared to group situations, right? But when you've got five or six people together, it can be hard to participate in the conversation and often you find yourself just sort of sitting there listening. And so, it can be difficult to sometimes jump in. I know personally, I find that I'm keeping up with the conversation, but I'm trying to add something and then I'm too slow, the conversation has moved by the time I thought of what I wanted to say. So, something that's nice to do to avoid that situation is actually be the person who starts the conversation, starts the topic, asks the question, right? And if you start it, then you can kind of steer it in the direction that you want. So, I've been trying to do that more a little bit lately, myself, and it sounds like you were doing that as well, Kassy. So, how about I tell you an update from my life, something completely different.

Kassy: You mentioned it before we got started, but you didn't tell me any details. I'm very excited.

Andrew: So, I have been going crazy the last few days. And it's because of my ear. So, it's only happening to my right ear. And I don't know exactly what's going on. But I guess maybe three weeks or so ago, I had a pretty bad cold. And I went to the doctor and the doctor said that I had a kind of sinus infection, and he gave me some medicine for that. And my cold cleared up, I feel fantastic now. Back then I had a bit of a sore throat, I was really congested. But now I'm totally fine. However, when I am walking to work, going to work, not every day but some of the days I have about a 20-minute walk to get from the

subway station to where my office is. On the way to my office, my right ear will kind of **clog up** and it feels like I have water in my ear. And I've been, you know, doing anything I can to get that sensation of having a clogged ear go away. But nothing seems to help. I've been, you know, not putting any headphones in my ears, not putting my air pods in my ears. I've been trying to chew, I've been trying to yawn, and nothing is really helping. The sensation is so terrible. It makes it so that when I speak my own voice sounds really muffled in my head. And I don't really know my own volume. So, I get really self-conscious like, am I shouting too loud to **compensate for** having this blocked ear? Or am I speaking too quietly? So yeah, it's been really driving me crazy. And nothing seems to be able to unclog it except time. Like it will just be clogged and then suddenly one second goes away. And then it will be totally fine for like three or four days. And then boom, all of a sudden, it's clogged again. So, I don't know if it's still like something related to being congested from before. Or maybe if it's like the change in temperature, because right now the seasons are changing, and it's getting quite cool here in Korea. I also have to like climb up almost a mountain to get to my office. So, I'm wondering if it's like an elevation thing coming out of the subway and walking all the way up to my office, maybe?

Kassy: Have you thought about going to an eyes, nose, throat doctor and maybe asking them to put a camera in your ear and see if there's any blockage of some kind?

Andrew: Yeah, I think that's what I'm gonna do. I always like tell myself, you know, I'll be doing a class or even recording the podcast. I was trying to record the podcast recently and it was driving me crazy trying to record with this sensation. So, when it happens, I'm always like, I'm gonna like go to the doctor as soon as I'm finished doing what I'm doing, teaching my class, or recording my podcast or whatever. But then you know, like, I get busy doing something else and it just goes away and then I forget about it and then like three or four days later, it will happen again. So, yeah, it's on my list. I'm gonna go and check it out. But, you know, have you ever had that before Kassy, where you're like, kind of sick, you feel sick, something's wrong, but then it kind of gets better and you don't want

to go to the doctor because you're like, "OK, so doctor, I was feeling sick now I'm fine. But it might come back!"

Kassy: Yes, I've had that before.

Andrew: Yeah, I feel like I'm wasting the doctor's time, almost.

Kassy: It's the worst. In America, I don't know about Canada, but in America, we just ignore that because going to the doctor's annoying and time consuming and expensive. But in Korea, or probably Canada where I think healthcare is better, it is that conundrum. You're like, do I go and waste my time and the doctor's time? Do I not go? It's like a seesaw.

Andrew: I think I gotta go though, because this is really, really driving me crazy. And the funny part about this story, Kassy, we were talking a little bit off the air before we started recording, and I was telling you how my wife has started taking swimming lessons recently. And so, she's going to the swimming pool several times a week to swim. And the other day while she was swimming, she got water in her ear. And so, her ear was like really clogged up from having water in it. And then at the same time, my ear was like clogged up from I don't know what this is congestion or something. So, we were both like, "Ahh, we're going crazy!" And we're like shaking our heads to the side. And like yawning and chewing gum and trying to get the feeling out of our ears. But we must have been quite the sight. A weird couple for a day at least.

Kassy: Were you in public when you guys were doing this?

Andrew: We were for a little bit, yeah. Yeah, thankfully, you know, hers came loose. I don't know, came unclogged, the water came out. So, she's feeling fine now. And I'm feeling fine now. But it did happen to me earlier today. And I'm just worried that it will happen again in the future, a really unpleasant feeling.

Kassy: I can't imagine, but good luck.

Andrew: Thank you. Thank you. Kassy, before we wrap things up, is there anything else that you wanted to tell us about?

Kassy: Not really, I guess one tidbit was one book that I've been waiting for, for ever has finally been released today. So, I'm very excited to start reading after we're done recording today.

Andrew: Ah, so you got a plan for this evening.

Kassy: Yes, me and my book.

Andrew: You're gonna have to let us know what the book is called.

Kassy: It's called "A Curse for True Love." It's like a fantasy novel. And it's the final book in a trilogy. And the ending of the second book almost killed me. Such a **cliffhanger**, Andrew. So, I cannot wait to read about it.

Andrew: And how long have you been waiting for this book to be released?

Kassy: Almost a year.

Andrew: Almost a year! Oh my god. OK. Well, Kassy, I think we should wrap things up then so that you can get to your book. I don't want to keep you waiting any longer.

Kassy: Sounds good.

Andrew: All right, everyone. Well, that will bring us to the end of the episode. So, thank you for tuning in and studying with us. Of course, we hope that you found this conversation

useful for improving your English skills. We'll be back soon with another brand-new English lesson, and we'll talk to you all then. Goodbye.

Kassy: See ya!

Andrew: That brings us to the end of this lesson. Talk to you next time. Bye!

Detailed Explanations

Someone's neck of the woods

Idiom

Andrew and Kassy haven't talked in a while, so Andrew is eager to find out what's been happening in Kassy's **neck of the woods**.

The phrase "neck of the woods" is a friendly and informal way to talk about the place where someone lives. We often use it when we haven't seen or visited someone for a long time. For example, you could say, "I haven't been to David's neck of the woods in a while. I hope he's doing well." This means you haven't been to the area where David lives recently.

You can also use this expression when you want to know how someone you haven't seen in a while is doing. You can say, "What's new in your neck of the woods?" This is a natural way to ask someone who lives in a different neighborhood or even farther away how they are doing. However, it wouldn't make sense to ask your next-door neighbor what's new in their neck of the woods because you already live in the same area!

Here are a few more examples to help you understand "neck of the woods" better:

Howard: I'm in the mood for Chinese food.

Stephanie: Me too. Want to go to Szechuan Grill tonight?

Howard: Szechuan Grill? That restaurant is almost forty minutes away!

Stephanie: I know, but it's the closest decent restaurant. We don't have any good Chinese food restaurants in **our neck of the woods**.

Britney: Hey Carl! Long time no see.

Carl: Oh, Britney! It's great to see you.

Britney: So, what's new in **your neck of the woods**?

Carl: Nothing much. My wife and I have mostly been busy working. We are thinking of getting a hot tub installed in our backyard, though.

Britney: That sounds lovely.

To rest up

Phrasal verb

Kassy explains that she was fortunate to take a long vacation in South Korea recently because the school she works for had its autumn break. In total, she and her husband took ten whole days to **rest up**!

The phrasal verb "to rest up" is quite similar to "to rest." However, "to rest" is a general term that covers various forms of relaxation, such as taking a nap, sitting down, or sleeping. On the other hand, "to rest up" specifically means engaging in these activities with the intention of recovering from hard work or preparing for something challenging.

For instance, a coach might say to his sports team, "Everyone, please make sure to rest up before the big game tomorrow." Here, the purpose of resting is clear – they have an important and demanding sports match the next day. Likewise, a university student might take a few days to rest up and relax at home after a busy final exam period. After putting in a lot of effort into her studies, she needs to recover from all that hard work by resting up.

In Kassy's case, she mentions that she and her husband had ten days to rest up. By using "rest up" instead of just "rest," she implies that they needed to recharge and recover after working hard at their jobs. While the difference in meaning between "to rest" and "to rest up" may seem subtle, using "to rest up" can help emphasize that the act of resting serves a specific purpose.

Here are a few more examples of using "to rest up":

George: Do you want to get drinks tomorrow night?

Deanna: I wish, but I'm flying to Vancouver for a conference tomorrow. The conference is from Monday to Friday next week and I have to make a few presentations.

George: Oh, that's cool. I've never been to Vancouver. What are you going to do in your free time before the conference begins?

Deanna: Honestly, not much. I'm planning to **rest up** at the hotel in preparation for the conference week.

Nina: Mike, I'm going out with Casey and Tiffany in a few minutes. I'll get back late, probably around midnight.

Mike: Are you serious? You have three final exams tomorrow. Don't you think you should be studying and **resting up** for your big day?

Wiped out

Adjective

Kassy and Andrew both have Korean in-laws. When Kassy visited South Korea during her autumn break, she stayed with her husband's family and had to use her Korean language skills for ten days straight. Andrew wonders if she felt mentally **wiped out** after speaking in Korean, a language she doesn't usually use, so much.

The expression "wiped out" is an adjective that means feeling extremely exhausted. Sometimes, it's shortened to just "wiped." You can be physically wiped out or mentally wiped out. For example, you would probably feel wiped out after completing a marathon. You might also feel wiped out after taking many final exams or giving presentations at work all day. This word is a great synonym for "tired," and using it will add some flair to your English!

It's essential to know that there are two similar-sounding phrasal verbs – "to wipe [something] out" and "to wipe out." However, their meanings are quite different from the adjective "wiped out."

"To wipe [something] out" means to completely destroy or use up all of something. For example, you might hear, "The shoppers wiped out the sales section," which means they quickly bought every single item in that section. "To wipe out," on the other hand, means to fall off a board or bike. For instance, a skateboarder might run into a rock and wipe out, indicating that she fell off her board and likely got hurt.

Be careful about the parts of speech in these phrases. Even though they might look related to the adjective, they can have significantly different meanings!

Here are a few more examples of using "wiped out":

Teresa: I saw Thomas jogging in the park this afternoon. He looked pretty **wiped out**.

Nathan: I bet he did! He's training for a marathon, you know. He told me he was going to run fifteen miles today.

Teresa: Fifteen miles?! Wow, no wonder he looked so exhausted.

Rudy: You don't look so good. Are you okay?

Emma: I am so **wiped out** from work. I had the worst day today. I just want to collapse on the couch and watch TV.

Rudy: I'm sorry to hear that. Let's order a pizza and just relax tonight!

To clog up

Phrasal verb

Andrew explains to Kassy that he has been experiencing a minor medical issue recently. After recovering from a sinus infection a few weeks ago, Andrew felt fine. However, on his way to work, his ear often **clogs up**, and it feels like there's water trapped inside, making it quite uncomfortable and affecting his hearing.

The expression "to clog up" means to become blocked or obstructed. This often happens when something prevents the smooth flow or function of a system, process, or object. While we typically use it to describe pipes or tubes, it can also be used to talk about traffic, such as when heavy traffic clogs up the entire city during busy times.

You can either clog something up intentionally or something can clog up on its own. For instance, you might accidentally clog up the toilet if you flush paper towels or tissues instead of toilet paper. Another example is that the gutters on a house can clog up over time with leaves and debris. In Andrew's case, his ear is likely clogging up due to some form of fluid or mucus that resulted from being sick recently.

Opposite expressions for "to clog up" include "to unclog," "to clear up," or "to clear out."

Here are a few more examples using "to clog up":

Wyatt: You sound congested. Do you have a cold?

Polly: No, it's just allergies. My nose and ears always **clog up** this time of year. It's because of all the pollen in the air.

Wyatt: Oh. I have some medicine in the bathroom, do you want to take some?

Polly: That would be great, thanks!

Greg: How many times do I have to remind you to clean your hair out of the drain after you take a shower?

Beth: Sorry, Dad...

Greg: It drives me crazy. It **clogs up** and the water stops going down the drain. Then when I take a shower, I have to stand in a pool of dirty water! Gross! Please remember next time.

Beth: OK!

To compensate for Verb

One of the issues caused by Andrew's clogged-up ear is that he's having difficulty hearing his own voice when he speaks. His voice sounds strange to him, and he's worried he might speak too loudly in front of his students **to compensate** for his difficulty in hearing himself.

The expression "to compensate for" means to do something extra or different to make up for a problem or a lack of something. It's like trying to balance things out or make things right when something is not as it should be. For example, if you can't see well, you might wear glasses to compensate for your poor vision. Similarly, if you feel tired because you didn't get enough sleep, you could compensate for your tiredness by drinking coffee to stay awake.

So, "to compensate for" is about finding a way to fix or improve a situation when something is not quite right or when there's a problem. It's like taking an extra step to make things better or more balanced.

One final thing. When we want to express what we are trying to balance or fix, we use 'compensate for.' When we want to specify how we are addressing that issue, we use 'compensate by.' For example, if you are tired you could compensate for the tiredness by drinking coffee or compensate by taking a nap.

Here are a couple more examples using "to compensate for":

Freddy: I can't believe how behind we are on this deadline. How are we ever going to submit this work on time?

Olivia: Things aren't looking good for us. Let's try **to compensate for** being so behind by working through lunch and staying late today.

Freddy: I hate missing lunch, but I think that's what we'll have to do.

Denise: Woah, this soup is way too salty!

Jeff: Is it really that salty?

Denise: I can hardly eat it.

Jeff: I'm so sorry. I'm still getting over a cold, so I don't think my sense of taste has fully recovered. I think I probably ended up adding extra salt **to compensate for** my lack of taste.

Cliffhanger

Noun

As a final piece of news, Kassy shares that a book she has been eagerly waiting for was finally released today. She's excited to begin reading it tonight, especially because the previous book in the trilogy finished with a **cliffhanger**.

A "cliffhanger" is when a story or chapter in a book or movie ends suddenly, leaving the audience in suspense about what might happen next. It's often used to build excitement and anticipation for a sequel. The term "cliffhanger" is derived from the idea of someone being in a dangerous situation, like hanging off the edge of a cliff.

Related to this is the phrase "to leave someone hanging," which means to leave someone in suspense, similar to a cliffhanger, without providing information or an answer. In Kassy's case, the cliffhanger at the end of the second book in the fantasy series left her hanging, eagerly anticipating what would happen next!

Here are a few more examples involving the use of "cliffhanger":

Violet: Wasn't that movie great?

Will: I absolutely loved it. The actors' performances were fantastic. I wish it hadn't ended on a **cliffhanger**, though. I'm dying to know if the main character's love interest survived that plane crash!

Violet: Me too. I'm sure they will announce the release date of the sequel soon.

Brad: So then, my girlfriend said "We need to talk..."

Mary: Oh no. What did she want to talk about?

Brad: She wouldn't say. She said she would tell me when we met for dinner that night.

Mary: Alright, and then?

Brad: I arrived at the restaurant and she was already at our table. She had been crying.

Mary: Oh my gosh. Why? What happened?

Brad: Hold on, I need to go get another drink.

Mary: No way! You can't just leave me with a **cliffhanger** like that! What did she need to talk to you about?!

Quiz

1. Your spouse comes home and tells you, "I'm so wiped out." What do they mean?

- a) Your spouse is feeling sad
- b) Your spouse is feeling exhausted
- c) Your spouse got into a car accident
- d) Your spouse is feeling bored

2. What is a cliffhanger?

- a) A funny joke in a story that makes you laugh out loud
- b) A satisfying resolution to a story
- c) A suspenseful ending that leaves you wondering what happens next
- d) A dramatic turn of events halfway through a story

3. In the phrase "someone's neck of the woods," what does "neck of the woods" refer to?

- a) The area where someone lives
- b) A part of someone's body
- c) A nearby forested area
- d) Someone's house

4. Your roommate complains, "The drain in the bathroom is always clogging up." What does she mean?

- a) It always smells bad
- b) It always gets blocked
- c) It always makes weird noises
- d) It always lets water pass through it

5. What would be a good way for someone to compensate for lack of sleep?

- a) Drink a cup of coffee
- b) Go for a ten-mile run
- c) Adopt a dog
- d) Watch a TV show

Writing and Discussion Questions

1. What's new in your life? Have you been **resting up** recently or are you feeling **wiped out**? Describe what's been happening in **your neck of the woods**.
2. What do you usually do to relax when you're feeling **wiped out**?
3. Have you ever experienced a similar issue to Andrew's **clogged up** ear? If so, what did you do to address it? If not, explain what you think he ought to do in order to solve this issue.
4. Is there a food you sometimes crave because you can't find it where you live? Please describe your favorite comfort foods.
5. Do you enjoy the use of **cliffhangers** in books or movies? Why or why not? Please describe one of the most memorable **cliffhangers** in a book, movie, or show you have seen.

Quiz Answers

1.b 2.c 3.a 4.b 5.a

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Image: [pexels.com](https://www.pexels.com) [Pixabay]