
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

English In A Minute

Expect, wait and hope



This is not a word-for-word transcript

Phil

Hi! I'm Phil from BBC Learning English. Today, I'm going to tell you the difference between **expect**, **wait** and **hope**.

They all talk about things in the future, but they don't mean the same.

We use **expect** to say that we think something is likely. **It's raining today, so I expect the traffic will be really bad.**

When we talk about time passing, we don't use **expect**, we use **wait**. **I'm waiting for the rain to stop.**

When we talk about wanting something to happen, we don't use **expect**. We use **hope**. **I hope it will be sunny tomorrow.**

So just remember: **You expect what's likely. Wait for things that take time. And hope for things that you want to happen.**

I expect you knew that, but I hope you'll practise it. I'm waiting for you to start... go on!