
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

The English We Speak

Thingy



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This is not a word-for-word transcript

Feifei

Hello Finn. Looking forward to another The English We Speak?

Finn

Hi, Feifei! Oh yes, always...

Feifei

Actually, before we begin, could you pass me the thingy?

Finn

Which thingy? The script?

Feifei

No, no - not the script. The thingy behind you...

Finn

Ah, you need a pen? Here you go.

Feifei

No. I've got a pen actually. Two pens. I mean that... thingy over there...

Finn

Which thingy? I know this studio is a bit of a mess, isn't it? So if you keep saying 'thingy' we could be here all day!

Feifei

Sorry, Finn. 'Thingy' is a word which we sometimes use when I can't remember or don't know the name of an object.

Finn

It is indeed. And it can be used, informally, when you can't remember the name of a particular person too. And it's today's expression, Feifei?

Feifei

Yes, why not? 'Thingy' is our word today in The English We Speak. Let's hear some examples of how it's used.

Examples

You want a recipe for stew? Ask... thingy. She was talking about a lovely one the other day.

Sorry, I'm late for the meeting. Could you just pass me the thingy for my report... I mean... the stapler?

Feifei

That's it! I was asking for the... stopwatch! I need to time the programme, Finn.

Finn

No, you don't. The programme is over. And this stopwatch shouldn't really be here. It belongs to... to... he was looking for it the other day.

Feifei

Belongs to..?

Finn

It belongs to... thingy.

Feifei

Come one, Finn. It belongs to Rob. I'll return it to him!

Both

Bye!