



Tejali

नमस्कार! ऐकलंत का? Listen Here मध्ये तुमचं स्वागत! मी तेजाली...

Tom

And I'm Tom! Hi everybody

Tejali

अनेकदा SMSच्या, पत्रांच्या शेवटी 'X' लिहिलेलं आपण पाहतो; त्याचा अर्थ होतो kisses. आपल्याकडे याचा वापर गेल्या दशकभरापासून सुरु झालाय, पण पाश्चात्य देशांत प्रियजनांना पत्र लिहिण्यासाठी शेवटी X लिहून सही करणं सामान्य आहे. 'X' चा असा वापर का आणि कधीपासून सुरु झाला ते आजच्या भागात ऐकणार आहोत. Do you put Xs on the end of your messages, Tom?

Tom

I do, actually, yes, but only with my mother!

Tejali

चला, बीबीसी रेडिओ 4च्या *Word of Mouth* मधला एक छोटासा भाग ऐकू. पत्रात 'X' लिहायची पध्दत कधीपासून सुरु झाली?

Woman

Well, we've been adding Xs, for kisses, at the bottom of our letters, since at least 1763, so the very first one we know of had seven Xs!

Tom

She said 'since at least 1763'!

Tejali

Wow! More than 250 years ago! And she said there were seven Xs!

Tom

That's right! 'X' starts with a vowel sound. Often, words which begin with vowel sounds can take the last sound of the word which comes before. 'Seven Xs', then, is pronounced 'seveNexes'. I could also say 'seveNever'. Listen again for 'seveNexes'. Which verb and preposition come before?

Woman

Well, we've been adding Xs, for kisses, at the bottom of our letters, since at least 1763, so the very first one we know of had seven Xs!

Tom

She said 'the very first one we know of'.

Tejali

Know of एखादी गोष्ट अस्तित्वात आहे, पण तिच्याबद्दल तपशिलात माहिती नाही; अशा वेळी 'know of' वापर होतो.

Tom

So, we **know of** a piece of evidence – this is the old letter which contains Xs.

Tejali

Hmm... पण '**know about**'चा अर्थ वेगळा आहे. '**Know about**' चा अर्थ एखाद्या गोष्टीची तुम्हाला तपशिलात माहिती आहे.

Tom

We **know of** the letter, but we still don't understand our main question! We need to **know about** X. Why does X mean kiss in English?

Tejali

Let's listen to the rest of the clip for the answer! 'X'चा उगम कुठून झाला? आणि त्याचा नक्की उच्चार कसा करायचा, चला ऐकूया ?

Woman

We get X from the Roman alphabet, which got it from the Greek alphabet, pronounced 'kss'. And the romans certainly found it good for...

Man

Oh! That's nearly a kiss, isn't it?!

Woman

Yeah, it is, isn't it? I think a penny's just dropped there.

Tom

So, X comes from the Roman alphabet! And they pronounced it 'kss'.

Tejali

Exactly! The Roman alphabet म्हणजे रोमन अक्षरं. पुन्हा ऐकूया. नीट ऐका.

Woman

We get X from the Roman alphabet, which got it from the Greek alphabet pronounced 'kss'. And the Romans certainly found it good for...

Man

Oh! That's nearly a kiss, isn't it?!

Woman

Yeah, it is, isn't it?

Tejali

त्यांनी tag questions वापरले. खात्री करून घेण्यासाठी tag question प्रश्नाच्या शेवटी वापरतात.

Tom

So, after 'it is', we could say 'isn't it'.

Tejali

बरोबर. म्हणजे दोन्ही प्रश्नांवर जोर आला, दुसऱ्या प्रश्नामुळे, समोरच्याच्या प्रतिसादाची अपेक्षा आहे, हे ही व्यक्त झालं.

Tom

That's right! Repeat after me. We'll begin with the stressed question. Ready?

isn't it?

it is, isn't it?

Yeah, it is, isn't it?

Tejali

आता दोघांनीही tag questions वापरून त्यांना किती माहिती आहे ते सांगितलं. हे सांगताना त्यांनी कुठला वाकप्रचार वापरला?

Man

Oh! That's nearly a kiss, isn't it?!

Woman

Yeah, it is, isn't it? I think **a penny's just dropped** there.

Tom

They used the idiom '**the penny's dropped**'.

Tejali

When we say **'the penny has dropped'**, याचा अर्थ होतो, शेवटी आपल्याला काहीतरी समजलंच !

Tom

Hopefully, **the penny's dropped** for you, too, and they now **know about X**, and why it means kiss in English. I think this is a good time to finish, **isn't it?**

Tejali

That's right! Thanks for joining us on this week's *Listen here!* See you again!

Tom

See you next week everybody! And I'm signing off with an X!