Unit 14

♦ Family Emergencies
♦ Calling in Late
♦ Adverbial Comparatives
Read the story and answer the questions with complete sentences.

Anh needed to go to work, and she was waiting for Sonia to babysit. Sonia arrived late because her bus was late. Anh gave her baby Eddie to Sonia. Sonia felt Eddie’s forehead and realized that he had a fever.

Anh called the doctor, but the phone was busy. She decided to take the baby to the doctor right away. Anh told Sonia to call her husband and then the flower shop to tell Mrs. Riley that she was going to be late to work.

Sonia called the flower shop, but the line was busy there, too. Then she called Anh’s husband to tell him what happened. Then Sonia’s bosspaged her to tell her to come in to work early.

1. Why did Sonia go to Anh’s house?

______________________________________________________________________

2. What was wrong with Eddie?

______________________________________________________________________

3. Did Ahn speak to the doctor on the phone?

______________________________________________________________________

4. What did Anh decide to do?

______________________________________________________________________

5. Did Sonia reach the flower shop by phone?

______________________________________________________________________
Anh finally got to work very late. Her boss, Jessica Riley, was angry that Anh missed work and didn’t call. Anh explained that her baby had a fever and she had to take him to the doctor. She tried to call, but the phone was busy.

Jessica believed Anh because she knew that the shop was very busy all morning and that she was on the phone. That’s why Anh’s call didn’t get through.

Jessica was calm now. She rearranged Anh’s schedule for the next day for Anh to take her baby to the doctor. Jessica told Anh that the next time the phone was busy, she should tell the operator to make an emergency breakthrough.

1. Why was Jessica angry when Anh arrived?

________________________________________________________________________

2. Did Jessica get the message that Anh had a family emergency?

________________________________________________________________________

3. Did Jessica feel better after Anh explained what happened?

________________________________________________________________________

4. What did Jessica do for Anh?

________________________________________________________________________

5. What should Anh do the next time the phone is busy?

________________________________________________________________________
**VOCABULARY**

Study these definitions.

- **decide**    to make a decision
- **emergency breakthrough**    to call the operator to break in on a busy line
- **funeral**    a ceremony for someone who died
- **lose (one’s) temper**    to get angry
- **rearrange**    to arrange again, or to organize

Complete the sentences below with the new vocabulary.

1. When my parents _____________ their _______________, they always shout at me.

2. Strawberry ice cream is my favorite. But I also like vanilla and chocolate. I can’t ________________ what to get.

3. When you can’t come to work, call the manager, Mr. Robins. He can ________________ the work schedule, and find someone to work for you.

4. Jerry’s uncle died from a heart attack last week. Jerry’s not working today because he’s at his uncle’s _________________.

5. I really need to talk to my mother, but the telephone line is busy. I should call the operator and make an _________________.

![Image of a family having a conversation]
CALLING IN LATE

Complete the following reasons for calling in late. Match the sentences on the left with a sentence on the right.

_____ 1. My son had an accident in school.   a. I have to file a report with the police.

_____ 2. My daughter is sick.                     b. I have to have it towed to the garage.

_____ 3. I’m stuck in a traffic jam.           c. I have to pick him up from school.

_____ 4. My car was stolen last night.         d. My alarm clock didn’t work.

_____ 5. My car broke down on Elm Street.      e. I have to go to the funeral.

_____ 6. There was a death in the family.     f. I waited 20 minutes at the bus stop.

_____ 7. My bus didn’t come.                   g. I have to take her to the doctor.

_____ 8. I woke up late.                       h. There was an accident on the freeway.
FAMILY EMERGENCIES — Part 3

Anh made an appointment with the doctor for 10:15. Jessica told Anh not to worry. She was going to find someone to fill in for her. Anh apologized for the trouble. Jessica understood that these things happened. Anh didn’t need to apologize for an emergency.

Jessica said that an emergency was when someone was sick or there was a difficult family situation. She wanted Anh to tell her anytime she needed to make a doctor’s appointment for her baby. Anh should call her at home or at the flower shop as soon as she makes the appointment. Then Jessica gave Anh a bouquet of flowers and wished her good luck with Eddie.

1. Did Jessica think that a difficult family situation was an emergency?

________________________________________________________________________

2. Was Jessica an understanding employer?

________________________________________________________________________

3. When should Anh call Jessica?

________________________________________________________________________

4. Where should Anh call Jessica?

________________________________________________________________________

5. Did Jessica sell Anh a bouquet of flowers?

________________________________________________________________________
ADVERBIAL COMPARATIVES — Part 1

To compare two actions, we often use **more + adverb**.

*Examples:*

Ara writes nicely, but Jose writes **more nicely**.

John speaks politely, but Michael speaks **more politely**.

*Fill in the blanks with the comparative forms of the adverbs.*

1. Ms. Brown types quickly, but Maria types _________________.

2. Sonia dances gracefully, but Anh dances _________________.


3. Jose files accurately, but Joaquin files ______________________________.

4. Mr. Reynolds drives carelessly, but Ara drives __________________________.

5. Cathy sings beautifully, but Shana sings ________________________________.

6. Ms. Davis sews carefully, but Mrs. Lopez sews ____________________________.

7. Raul paints sloppily, but Paulo paints __________________________________.
Mrs. Lopez was babysitting Eddie when she called Maria on the phone. She told Maria that she was worried about the big test she had to take at work. Maria told her to relax.

Eddie’s father, Dat, was supposed to pick him up from Mrs. Lopez, but he was late. Mrs. Lopez had to go to work. She called Sonia to ask her for help. Unfortunately, Sonia had to go to her job at the cable company. Mrs. Lopez needed Dat to get there as soon as possible so she could go to work.

1. Why was Mrs. Lopez nervous?

2. Was Mrs. Lopez babysitting Eddie?

3. Who was supposed to pick him up?

4. Who did Mrs. Lopez call for help?

5. Was Eddie’s father on time?
ADVERBIAL COMPARATIVES  — Part 2

• There are two ways to compare actions with the following adverbs:

  softly:  more softly or softer
  loudly:  more loudly or louder
  slowly:  more slowly or slower

• The comparative forms of hard, fast, well and late are:

  hard - harder  well - better
  fast - faster   late - later

Fill in the blanks with the comparative form of the adverb.

Example:

Joe speaks very loudly. He should speak (soft) **more softly**.
  or  He should speak (soft) **softer**.

1. Sue walks very slowly. She should walk (fast) ____________________.
2. Ara doesn’t dress very well. He should dress (well) _______________________.

3. Joaquin plays the guitar softly. He should pay it (loud) _____________________.

4. This class begins very early. It should begin (late) ________________________.

5. Anh speaks very quickly. She should speak (slow) _______________________.

6. The boys don’t work very hard. They should work (hard) __________________.
THINK ABOUT IT

Choose one question. Think about it and then write your ideas.

1. Name four good reasons to make an emergency breakthrough on the telephone.
2. Your friend always gives you a ride to work. One morning, he calls to say his car won’t start. What are you going to do?
3. You’re the boss. Name six excuses you would accept from employees who are late.

_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
_______________________________________________________________
PROBLEM SOLVING
(video - 22:00)

Watch the video section called “Problem Solving.” Listen to the conversation and identify the problem. Write a letter to Mrs. Lopez telling her your suggestions.

The problem is: _______________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Dear Mrs. Lopez,
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
____________________________________________________________________
Sincerely,
______________________________________________________
UNIT 14 TEST

Circle the correct answers.

1. Frank drives fast, but Michael drives ________________.
   a. fast
   b. driver
   c. faster

2. Frieda walks quickly, but Tanya walks ________________.
   a. quick
   b. more quickly
   c. fast

3. Maria types accurately, but Mrs. Williams types ________________.
   a. more accurately
   b. accurately
   c. accurate

4. Marty dances beautifully, but Louise dances ________________.
   a. beautiful
   b. beautifully
   c. more beautifully

5. Tom drives carelessly. He should drive ________________.
   a. safer
   b. more safely
   c. carelessly

6. Lawrence dresses sloppily. He should dress ________________.
   a. clean
   b. more neatly
   c. neat

7. Wait! You’re running too fast. Please run ________________.
   a. slow
   b. faster
   c. slower

8. I don’t understand you when you speak so fast. Please speak ________________.
   a. slow
   b. more slowly
   c. faster
UNIT 14 TEST

9. Our neighbors are angry because we’re playing the music too loudly. They want us to play it ________________.
   a. soft
   b. softer
   c. louder

10. Mr. Novella is upset because Joaquin always comes to work late. He needs to come to work ________________.
    a. earlier
    b. later
    c. slower

11. Joseph isn’t a very good worker. He should work ________________.
    a. more slowly
    b. louder
    c. harder

12. You dress terribly. You should dress ________________.
    a. more terribly
    b. better
    c. faster

13. If you can’t get to work on time, you should ________________ late.
    a. call in
    b. check in
    c. show up

14. I’m calling to ________________ that I will be late for work.
    a. let you know
    b. show up
    c. contact you

15. I’ll be late because I have a family ________________.
    a. affair
    b. emergency
    c. business
UNIT 14 TEST

16. I’ll be there as soon as I _______________.
   a. can
   b. want
   c. should

17. I don’t like the way my living room looks. I should ______________ the furniture.
   a. decide
   b. buy
   c. rearrange

18. The operator will help you make an _________________.
   a. emergency breakthrough
   b. long distance call
   c. local call

19. I can’t ________________. I like both of these videos, but I only have enough money for one. Which one should I rent?
   a. decide
   b. watch
   c. rent

20. Sherry’s grandmother died. Her ________________ is next week.
   a. celebration
   b. funeral
   c. ceremony
UNIT 14  
STUDENT ANSWER KEY

VOCABULARY  
(page 26)  
1. lose / temper  
2. decide  
3. rearrange  
4. funeral  
5. emergency breakthrough

CALLING IN LATE  
(page 27)  
1. c  
2. g  
3. h  
4. a  
5. b  
6. e  
7. f  
8. d

ADVERBIAL COMPARATIVES — Part 1  
(pages 29 & 30)  
1. more quickly  
2. more gracefully  
3. more accurately  
4. more carelessly  
5. more beautifully  
6. more carefully  
7. more sloppily

ADVERBIAL COMPARATIVES — Part 2  
(pages 32 & 33)  
1. faster  
2. better  
3. louder or more loudly  
4. later  
5. slower or more slowly  
6. harder