

UNDERSTAND A TOWN HALL MEETING

INTRODUCTION

What is a town hall meeting?



In many cities, people and local leaders meet to talk about community problems and ideas. This kind of public meeting is called a **town hall meeting**.

In a town hall meeting:

- City officials (like the mayor or council members) listen to citizens.
- People ask questions.
- People talk about problems (traffic, noise, parks, safety).
- And they suggest solutions.

In this lesson, you will:

- Learn words we use in town hall meetings.
- Listen to / read a simple town hall dialogue.
- Practice questions and suggestions.
- Write your own ideas as if you were in a town hall meeting.

Answer the following:

- What problems do people usually have in a city or neighborhood?
- For example: traffic, noise, trash, parks, safety, buses, etc.

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Example:

*There is a lot of traffic in my city.
The buses are always late.
There is too much noise at night.*



VOCABULARY

1. Roles in the town hall meeting

Word	Example
Mayor	The mayor listens to the people.
Council member	A council member answers questions.
Moderator	The moderator starts the meeting.
Resident	The residents ask questions.
Community	Our community is very active.
Citizen	Citizens come to the meeting.

2. Common topics



Word / phrase	Example
Traffic	There is a lot of traffic on Main Street.
Public transportation	The public transportation is not good.
Park	The park is dirty.
Noise / noisy	It is very noisy at night.
Safety	People are worried about safety.
Trash / garbage	There is trash on the streets.
Street lights	The street lights don't work.

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3. Useful expressions for the meeting

Expression	Example
Excuse me, I have a question.	Excuse me, I have a question about the park.
I'd like to talk about...	I'd like to talk about the traffic near the school.
I'm worried about...	I'm worried about the noise at night.
I think we need...	I think we need more street lights.
We need...	We need more buses in the evening.
We should...	We should clean the park every week.
Could you please... ?	Could you please fix the broken street lights?
What are you going to do about... ?	What are you going to do about the trash in the park?

GRAMMAR

1. Questions with "could" (polite requests)

Structure:

Could + you + base verb...?

Examples:

- *Could you fix the park?*
- *Could you clean the streets more often?*
- *Could you improve the public transportation?*

Note: "could you...?" is more polite than "can you...?" when making requests in public meetings.

2. Making suggestions: "We need..." / "We should..."

- *We need more buses.*
- *We need more police at night.*
- *We should clean the park every week.*
- *We should have more trash cans.*

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Note:

- “We need...” = a strong necessity.
- “We should...” = a recommendation / a good idea.

3. Questions about future plans (be going to)

Use the basic form:

- *What are you going to do about the traffic?*
- *Are you going to build a new park?*

Structure:

What / When / Are you + going to + verb...?

Modal Verbs Explained

Can (kan) Intención: habilidad, posibilidad • Yo puedo nadar. • ¿Puedes ayudarme?	Could (kud) Intención: posibilidad, habilidad en el pasado • Podría visitar mañana. • Ella podía tocar el piano de niña.
Must (mast) Obligación o necesidad • Debo estudiar para el examen. • ¡Debes usar casco aquí!	Should Obligación o necesidad • Debo estudiar para el examen. • ¡Debes usar casco aquí!
Should Recomendaciones, consejos • Deberías dormir más. • No deberías comer tanto.	May (mei) Posibilidad, permiso • Puede que llueva hoy. • ¿Puedo ir al baño?
Will (wil) Intención futura • Te llamaré más tarde. • Ellos viajarán mañana.	

Inglés Acelerado

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CONVERSATION

Moderator: Good evening. Welcome to our town hall meeting.

Resident: Excuse me, I have a question. I'm worried about the traffic near the school.

Mayor: Thank you. What is the problem exactly?

Resident: There is a lot of traffic in the morning and it's not safe. I think we need a traffic light and we should have more street lights.

Resident: Could you please do something about it?

Mayor: Yes, we are going to check the street this week and we are going to improve the safety there.

Moderator: Thank you for your question. Your suggestions are very helpful for our community.



References:

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