

1 Complete the sentences with the correct form of the phrases below.

add your number disable data roaming leave a message
lose the signal put you on loudspeaker put your phone on silent
recharge my phone run out of credit top up my mobile

- 1 Remember to _____ when you travel abroad. The fees can be very high.
- 2 I'm sorry, I'm _____. I can't hear you. Can you hear me? Hello? Hello?
- 3 I forgot to _____ last night and now the battery is flat.
- 4 Welcome to the Odeon cinema. Please _____ while you are watching the film.
- 5 I've _____ to my contacts list, so I can call you later.
- 6 I'm sorry, Sarah's out at the moment, but you can _____.
- 7 Let me _____ and then everyone can hear you.
- 8 I can't make any calls at the moment because I've _____, but I'll _____ when I get paid tomorrow.

2 Chose the correct phrases to complete the dialogue.

Karen Hello, this is Karen speaking.

Joe Hi, Karen. Are you OK? I've been trying to call you for ages, but I couldn't ¹**get through / get back** to you.

Karen Hi, Joe. Yes, sorry I wasn't ²**picking up / breaking up** the phone. I'm trying to get a project finished at the moment. Look, I really need to concentrate on it – can I ³**cut you off / call you back** later?

Joe Well, OK, but don't forget. And there's one more thing, before you ⁴**hang up / switch off** ... Karen? Karen?

...

Karen Hello, this is Karen speaking.

Joe Karen! Why did you ⁵**cut me off / get back to me**? I was in the middle of talking to you!

Karen Hello? Hello? Sorry, I can't hear you. You're ⁶**running out / breaking up**. Could you ⁷**speak up / pick up**, please?

Joe Karen? It's Joe again! Karen? Karen?

3 SPEAKING Work in pairs. Act out a phone conversation between two friends.

Student A You are on a train. Your phone signal is very weak and you can't always hear the other person. You want to give them an important message.

Student B You are at home. When Student A calls, you can't hear him/her very well. You are also in a hurry because you need to go out in five minutes.

8A On the phone

Aims: To recycle collocations and phrasal verbs for phoning.

Time: 10–15 minutes

Materials: One handout for each student

Exercise 1

- Give each student a handout and ask them to do exercise 1. Remind them that they may need to change the verb form in some sentences. Check answers with the class.

KEY

- 1 disable data roaming
- 2 losing the signal
- 3 recharge my phone
- 4 put your phone on silent
- 5 added your number
- 6 leave a message
- 7 put you on loudspeaker
- 8 run out of credit, top up my mobile

Exercise 2

- Students choose the correct options to complete the dialogue. They can work in pairs to do this task and then swap partners and read out the completed dialogue to check their answers.

KEY

- 1 get through
- 2 picking up
- 3 call you back
- 4 hang up
- 5 cut me off
- 6 breaking up
- 7 speak up

Exercise 3

- This exercise is a role-play activity. Encourage students to think of their character's emotions – are they feeling frustrated, angry, upset, etc.? This should be a situation with which they are all familiar, so ask them to think of their own experiences and add extra details to make the conversation more realistic.