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Foster's English Shorts

AU PAIR IN LONDON

Discuss after the programme:

- Majja seems to have been fairly good at English already before she left for London. Still, she says she feels like her school English was not enough. Why do you think she feels that way? What do you think the difference is between speaking a language in a classroom and speaking it in a country?
- The mother in the family says Majja's English has improved since her arrival, especially around vocabulary. Why do you think that is?
- Would you like to go abroad a year after school? Why/why not? Could you imagine being an au pair? Or would you prefer to do something else? What do you think are the advantages /disadvantages of working as an au pair?
- Majja speaks of the difficulty in expressing one's own personality through a foreign language. Can you understand what she means? Do you feel the same? Explain! Do you have any advice to give her or anyone else who is dealing with the same issues?
- Majja gives an example where she asked someone to go and get her diarrhea instead of her diary. Have you done anything similar (or have you heard of anything similar?) Tell each other some language mix-up stories.

To work with after listening:

- Browse the Internet for some ads wanting to hire au pairs. Write an application!
- Alternatively, imagine you are very tired of the au-pair job where you have just spent 6 months. Write a letter of resignation, explaining the reason why you want to leave.

Vocabulary from the episode:

improve – förbättra
vocabulary – ordförråd
subtle – subtil