

Unit 4, Listening and Speaking, exercises 3 and 4

Presenter: You're listening to Talking About. On today's podcast, Charlotte Morden is talking about how to live on a desert island. Over to you, Charlotte.

Charlotte: You're on a boat in the middle of the sea, there's a lot of water in the bottom and the boat is going down. You decide to swim to the nearest island. What do you take with you? Some people want to take everything, their backpack, their sleeping bag, a full water bottle, things to make a fire, and so on. But if you can only take two things, a penknife and some boots are probably the most useful.

You can use a penknife to cut wild plants, open fish and make clothes and blankets. Boots keep your feet dry and safe. If you don't wear shoes, you can cut your feet and they sometimes take weeks to get better. If your boots are made of plastic, you can also use them for water.

Next, you must find water. We can live for over three weeks without food but only three to four days without water. If there are trees on your island, there's water. Look for the smallest rivers as the water is cleaner there. And don't forget to use your boots to collect the water from a good thunderstorm.

You can't just sleep on the floor, it's usually freezing at night and there are often dangerous snakes and insects, too. Make a fire and build something to sleep in. Be careful near trees – large fruit can fall on your head when you're sleeping!

And finally, of course, if you still have your mobile phone with you, let people know where you are!