

9J – Preview Answers



You choose *Answers will vary*

For each situation, choose an excuse from the examples below and make it into a sentence.

bus was late I didn't want to hurt you I didn't know not feeling well
my dog ate it computer is broken my wife is sick just having a bad day

1. You are late for work.

I'm sorry, but the bus was late again.

2. You forgot to do your homework.

I'm sorry, but my dog ate it.

3. Your friend invites you to a bar but you don't want to go.

I'm sorry, but I'm not feeling well today. Maybe another time.

4. You stole money from a bank.

I couldn't help it. My wife is sick, and medicine is very expensive.

5. You haven't finished your work on time.

I'm sorry, but my computer is broken. I couldn't get any work done.

6. Your team lost the football.

It's okay. They're just having a bad day.

7. You lied to someone but they found out the truth.

I'm sorry that I lied. I didn't want to hurt your feelings.

8. You cheated on a test at school.

I'm sorry. I didn't know I wasn't allowed to look at another student's paper.



What do you think? *Answers will vary*

Read the excuses below. What do you think these people have done wrong?

1. I know I forgot, honey, but you know how busy I've been lately.

I think they forgot their wife's birthday.

2. I was going to get it fixed, but one thing led to another and it just slipped my mind.

I think they forgot to take their car to the mechanic, and now it's still broken.

3. I'm sorry, I thought they were free.

I think this person accidentally took a newspaper from a convenience store without paying.

4. I'm sorry, but there weren't any other parking spots available.

I think this person parked illegally on the sidewalk and is now speaking to the police.

5. I know it's not exactly what you wanted, but I think you'll like this one better.

I think this person forgot to buy a present until too late.

6. He's not badly hurt; we were just playing.

I think this person is talking to his mother about accidentally hurting his little brother.

7. I'm sorry, but I didn't get there in time and they were all sold out.

I think this person promised he would buy tickets, but slept late and didn't get to the store in time.

Do you know someone who makes a lot of excuses for their actions? What do you think of their behaviour?

My husband is always making excuses. I sometimes ask him to clean the kitchen, but he watches T.V. and falls asleep on the sofa instead. After he wakes up, he makes the excuse that he's very tired from working all day. That sort of behaviour makes me very angry, and I am always scolding him for not keeping his promises. I still love him, though.