The Road Less Travelled
Christmas special
Episode 4: New Year’s Eve

The story so far:
Christmas has been and gone and, after a few days apart, Katie and Sal are back together to celebrate New Year’s Eve. Katie can’t believe that Sal still hasn’t told Rich her news.

Listening

1. Listen to the episode. Where are they celebrating New Year’s Eve?

2. Listen again and put the sentences in the correct order.

a. Michael is surprised by the variety of crisp flavours!

b. Sal tells Rich he’s going to be a father.

c. The clock strikes midnight.

d. Katie advises Sal to tell Rich that she’s pregnant.

e. Michael gives Katie a special present.

f. Rich asks Sal to dance.

Language

3. There are lots of phrases and expressions we use on special occasions and important events. Match the expressions on the left with the occasion you would say it on the right.

1. “Happy New Year!”

2. “Congratulations!”

3. “I’m really sorry to hear it.”

4. “Congratulations, well done!”

5. “Happy anniversary.”

a. celebrating the date of an important occasion which happened on the same date in the past

b. news of a death, a divorce, losing a job, etc.

c. passing exams, getting a new job, passing a driving test, etc.

d. 1st January

e. weddings, engagements and births

Discussion

4. Talk together and discuss the following questions.

- What do you think the future holds for Sal and Rich when they go home to LA?
- Imagine the scene when Michael introduces his family in Ghana to Katie. How do you think they will all get on?
- Do you think Katie and Sal will ever move back to live permanently in the UK? Why/why not?
Kat: I can’t believe the trip is almost over. This time next week we’ll be back in New York.
Sal: I know. It’s flown by, hasn’t it? Oh, I dread to think of all the bills and problems waiting for us back in LA.
Kat: Don’t worry, Sal – it will all work out. A new year, a fresh start. Things are going to get better, you’ll see. By the way … when are you going to tell Rich the news?
Sal: Oh Kat, it’s just never the right moment.
Kat: You’ll feel so much better when you’ve told him.
Rich: Here are the drinks, ladies.
Michael: And the crisps! ‘Prawn cocktail’ and ‘roast lamb and mint’ flavour. I thought you were joking – but they do exist!
Kat: Great. Thanks.
Dj: So, everyone. Not long now until midnight! Enjoy the last moments of 2010. Here’s a song for all you romantics out there!
Rich: Sal, it’s our song! Let’s dance.
Rich: What? I can’t hear you!
Sal: I said I’ve got some news.
Rich: Hit me with it, honey.
Sal: I’m having a baby.
Rich: What? I can’t hear you! You’re what?
Sal: I said, I’m pregnant. I’m having a baby!
Rich: Oh, wow. That’s um …. Wow …
Sal: You’re going to be a dad, Rich. Are you ready for that?
Rich: Ready as I’ll ever be, I guess. Wow, honey … this is the best news ever!
Sal: Oh, Rich, but it’s the worst timing in the world.
Rich: Don’t worry – everything will be just fine. I’ve got a few ideas up my sleeve of how to get us back on track.
Sal: Oh, Rich!
Dj: Ok, this is it! Goodbye 2010 – Hello 2011! Ten, nine, eight, seven, six, five, four, three, two, one! HAPPY NEW YEAR! …
Michael: Katie – this is for you.
Kat: What is it?
Michael: Tickets to Ghana. Oh, no way!
Michael: I want you to meet my family, I want to show you my country. If you want to come, that is?
Kat: Oh, I’d love to! I’m so pleased I took the road less travelled!
All: Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne? …
Answer key

Listening

1. in a pub with a disco
2. d; a; f; b; c; e

Language

3. 1. d; 2. e; 3. b; 4. c; 5. a