

B2

MEETINGS & STATUS UPDATES

DIALOG · 4 MIN.

Giving an Update When Another Team Is Blocking Progress · Podcast

Your team is waiting on another one: how to report a blocker in English — factually, without blame, with a clear escalation.

Listen to the episode +
comprehension test:

<https://www.englisch-lehrer.com/podcasts/giving-an-update-when-another-team-is-blocking-progress>

NAME

DATE

BRICK 1 · LEARN THE KEY PHRASES

● ○ ○

Read the eight phrases with meaning and example. You will hear all of them in the episode.

ENGLISH	DEUTSCH	EXAMPLE
stuck	festgefahren, blockiert	<i>The rollout is stuck until legal approves the contract.</i>
to receive	bekommen, erhalten – die richtige Übersetzung von „bekommen“	<i>We received the specification yesterday afternoon.</i>
dependency	Abhängigkeit (von einer anderen Leistung)	<i>The open dependency on the platform team is our biggest risk.</i>
to chase	nachhaken, hinterhertelefonieren	<i>I chased the supplier again this morning about the missing parts.</i>
critical path	kritischer Pfad (Projektmanagement)	<i>The test data is now on the critical path for the release.</i>
to escalate	eskalieren, eine Ebene höher tragen	<i>If there is no reply by Friday, we will escalate to the department head.</i>
blocker	Blocker, Hindernis	<i>Please list every blocker in the Monday update.</i>
impact	Auswirkung	<i>Describe the impact on the timeline in one sentence.</i>



BRICK 2 · FILL THE GAPS



Complete the missing word from the conversation.

become

received

taken

gotten

escalate

elevate

climb

promote

01 We still haven't _____ the test data from the platform team.

02 I suggest we _____ this to Petra today — factually, not emotionally.

BRICK 3 · TRUE OR FALSE?



Tick one. T = true, F = false.

01 Markus has already reminded the platform team more than once.

T ☐ F ☐

02 Sandra criticises Markus for complaining about the other team.

T ☐ F ☐

BRICK 4 · ORDER



Number the steps of the conversation (1–5).

01 ☐ Markus agrees to send a short factual summary within the hour

02 ☐ Markus describes his three reminders to the platform team

03 ☐ Sandra proposes escalating to Petra today

04 ☐ Markus reports that his team is stuck waiting for test data

05 ☐ Sandra asks whether the dependency is now the critical path

BRICK 5 · YOUR VERSION



Write two sentences of your own using phrases from Brick 1.

MINI-CHECK – CAN I DO THIS YET?

- ☐ I can announce a delay politely.
- ☐ I can propose an alternative.
- ☐ I can promise written confirmation.

Listened twice and ticked everything? Then you are ready for the real conversation.



Cut-out flashcards

✂ Cut out, fold on the line – English in front, German on the back. Or practise digitally:

<https://www.englisch-lehrer.com/podcasts/giving-an-update-when-another-team-is-blocking-progress>

stuck

The rollout is stuck until legal approves the contract.

festgefahren, blockiert

to receive

We received the specification yesterday afternoon.

von „bekommen“
bekommen, erhalten – die richtige Übersetzung

dependency

The open dependency on the platform team is our biggest risk.

Abhängigkeit (von einer anderen Leistung)

to chase

I chased the supplier again this morning about the missing parts.

nachhaken, hinterhertelefonieren

critical path

The test data is now on the critical path for the release.

kritischer Pfad (Projektmanagement)

to escalate

If there is no reply by Friday, we will escalate to the department head.

eskalieren, eine Ebene höher tragen

blocker

Please list every blocker in the Monday update.

Blocker, Hindernis

impact

Describe the impact on the timeline in one sentence.

Auswirkung

Answer key

Check only when you have finished. Every answer comes with the **why**.

BRICK 2 · FILL THE GAPS

01 **received**

False friend! "Bekommen" means "to receive". "To become" means "werden" — "we become the data" sounds like you turn into data.

02 **escalate**

"To escalate an issue" is the fixed phrase for raising a problem to the next management level.

BRICK 3 · TRUE OR FALSE?

01 **True**

True — he has chased them twice by email and once in their stand-up: three reminders in total.

02 **False**

False — she praises his wording ("That is an update, not a complaint") and helps him escalate factually.

BRICK 4 · ORDER

- 01 **1.** Markus reports that his team is stuck waiting for test data
- 02 **2.** Markus describes his three reminders to the platform team
- 03 **3.** Sandra asks whether the dependency is now the critical path
- 04 **4.** Sandra proposes escalating to Petra today
- 05 **5.** Markus agrees to send a short factual summary within the hour

KEEP PRACTISING LIVE

Want to practise these phrases in a real conversation?

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