

B2

MEETINGS & STATUS UPDATES

DIALOG · 4 MIN.

Raising a Risk Without Causing Panic · *Podcast*

A project manager flags a supplier risk to his programme director — early, factual, and with solutions ready.

Listen to the episode + comprehension test:

<https://www.englisch-lehrer.com/podcasts/raising-a-risk-without-causing-panic>

NAME

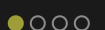
DATE

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
to flag a potential risk	auf ein mögliches Risiko hinweisen	<i>I want to flag a potential risk before it reaches the client.</i>
warning signs	Warnsignale	<i>Late deliveries and staff changes are classic warning signs.</i>
under financial pressure	unter finanziellem Druck	<i>Several suppliers in the sector are under financial pressure this year.</i>
sensitive	sensibel, heikel (Achtung: nicht „sensible“!)	<i>Supplier finances are a sensitive topic, so ask carefully.</i>
worst case	schlimmster Fall	<i>In the worst case, the launch slips by six weeks.</i>
risk register	Risikoregister (Projektmanagement)	<i>Every risk above ten per cent probability goes on the risk register.</i>
mitigation	Risikominderung, Gegenmaßnahme	<i>Qualifying a second supplier is our main mitigation.</i>
early warning	Frühwarnung	<i>Monthly supplier calls give us an early warning system.</i>



BRICK 2 · FILL THE GAPS



Complete the missing word from the conversation.

sensible

sensitive

sensual

senseless

register

list

chart

protocol

01 A _____ topic, you mean. Sensible means reasonable — sensible and sensible are false friends.

02 The probability is low in my view — perhaps twenty per cent — but the impact would be _____ high, so it belongs on the risk

BRICK 3 · TRUE OR FALSE?



Tick one. T = true, F = false.

01 Tobias estimates the probability of a delivery failure at about twenty per cent.

T ☐ F ☐

02 Richard decides to remove the supplier immediately and cancel the contract.

T ☐ F ☐

BRICK 4 · ORDER



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

01 ☐ Tobias proposes three mitigation steps

02 ☐ Tobias describes the two warning signs

03 ☐ Tobias rates probability and impact

04 ☐ Tobias states that the project itself is on track

05 ☐ Tobias gives his interpretation and the rumour from the industry

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/raising-a-risk-without-causing-panic>

to flag a potential risk

I want to flag a potential risk before it reaches the client.

auf ein mögliches Risiko hinweisen

warning signs

Late deliveries and staff changes are classic warning signs.

Warnsignale

under financial pressure

Several suppliers in the sector are under financial pressure this year.

unter finanziellem Druck

sensitive

Supplier finances are a sensitive topic, so ask carefully.

sensibel, heikel (Achtung: nicht "sensible")

worst case

In the worst case, the launch slips by six weeks.

schlimmster Fall

risk register

Every risk above ten per cent probability goes on the risk register.

Risikoregister (Projektmanagement)

mitigation

Qualifying a second supplier is our main mitigation.

Risikominderung, Gegenmaßnahme

early warning

Monthly supplier calls give us an early warning system.

Frühwarnung

Answer key

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

BRICK 2 · FILL THE GAPS

01 **sensitive**

German trap: "sensibel" is "sensitive" in English. "Sensible" means reasonable — Richard's later pun ("Sensible steps") plays on exactly this difference.

02 **register**

"Risk register" is the standard project-management term for the formal list of risks with probability and impact.

BRICK 3 · TRUE OR FALSE?

01 **True**

True — he calls the probability low, perhaps twenty per cent, with a high impact.

02 **False**

False — they agree on three mitigation steps (second supplier, more safety stock, monthly contact); the contract stays in place.

BRICK 4 · ORDER

- 01 **1.** Tobias states that the project itself is on track
- 02 **2.** Tobias describes the two warning signs
- 03 **3.** Tobias gives his interpretation and the rumour from the industry
- 04 **4.** Tobias rates probability and impact
- 05 **5.** Tobias proposes three mitigation steps

KEEP PRACTISING LIVE

Want to practise these phrases in a real conversation?

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