

C1

PHONE & VIDEO CALLS

MONOLOG · 5 MIN.

Recovering After You Send a Private Chat to the Whole Call . *Podcast*

A private chat message goes to the whole video call — damage control in four steps, explained at C1 level.

Listen to the episode +
comprehension test:

<https://www.englisch-lehrer.com/podcasts/recovering-after-you-send-a-private-chat-to-the-whole-call>

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
a private message	eine private Nachricht	<i>I sent her a private message instead of posting in the group chat.</i>
an awkward silence	eine peinliche Stille	<i>After his comment, an awkward silence filled the meeting room.</i>
mortified	zutiefst beschämt	<i>She was mortified when she realised the client had heard everything.</i>
to own your mistake	zu seinem Fehler stehen	<i>He owned his mistake in front of the whole team and moved on.</i>
to regain your composure	die Fassung wiedergewinnen	<i>She took a breath, regained her composure and continued the demo.</i>
damage control	Schadensbegrenzung	<i>After the wrong email went out, the team started damage control.</i>
to take it offline	ein Thema nach dem Meeting persönlich klären	<i>Good point, but let's take it offline after the call.</i>
to double-check the recipient	den Empfänger doppelt prüfen	<i>Always double-check the recipient before you hit send.</i>



BRICK 2 · FILL THE GAPS



Complete the missing word from the conversation.

boss

chef

cook

kitchen

recipient

message

subject

password

01 In English, my _____ will kill me — not my chef.

02 Before you type anything in a meeting chat, double-check the _____ field.

BRICK 3 · TRUE OR FALSE?



Tick one. T = true, F = false.

01 The message was about the budget figures on slide twelve.

T ☐ F ☐

02 The narrator wrote a long email of excuses to all forty participants afterwards.

T ☐ F ☐

BRICK 4 · ORDER



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

01 ☐ He follows up privately with Dana

02 ☐ The narrator owns the mistake and apologises briefly

03 ☐ He phones his boss directly after the call

04 ☐ The private message goes to the whole call

05 ☐ He moves the meeting forward, back to the budget

BRICK 5 · YOUR VERSION



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

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.....

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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/recovering-after-you-send-a-private-chat-to-the-whole-call>

a private message

I sent her a private message instead of posting in the group chat.

eine private Nachricht

an awkward silence

After his comment, an awkward silence filled the meeting room.

eine peinliche Stille

mortified

She was mortified when she realised the client had heard everything.

zutiefst beschämt

to own your mistake

He owned his mistake in front of the whole team and moved on.

zu seinem Fehler stehen

to regain your composure

She took a breath, regained her composure and continued the demo.

die Fassung wiedergewinnen

damage control

After the wrong email went out, the team started damage control.

Schadensbegrenzung

to take it offline

Good point, but let's take it offline after the call.

ein Thema nach dem Meeting persönlich klären

to double-check the recipient

Always double-check the recipient before you hit send.

den Empfänger doppelt prüfen

Answer key

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

BRICK 2 · FILL THE GAPS

01 **boss**

"Chef" is "boss" in English — a "chef" works in a kitchen. The most embarrassing place for this false friend is a chat everyone can read.

02 **recipient**

"Recipient" means Empfänger. Not checking the recipient field is exactly what caused the whole story.

BRICK 3 · TRUE OR FALSE?

01 **True**

True — he was writing about the numbers on slide twelve: "These figures are a disaster."

02 **False**

False — he phoned his boss directly ("take it offline") and sent Dana only a short, sincere two-line note.

BRICK 4 · ORDER

- 01 **1.** The private message goes to the whole call
- 02 **2.** The narrator owns the mistake and apologises briefly
- 03 **3.** He moves the meeting forward, back to the budget
- 04 **4.** He phones his boss directly after the call
- 05 **5.** He follows up privately with Dana

KEEP PRACTISING LIVE

Want to practise these phrases in a real conversation?

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· Online.

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