


Support Systems for Injured Workers

OBJECTIVES

In this episode you will:

- *Learn how to talk about the past*
- *Learn the past tense of regular and irregular verbs*
- *Learn about support systems for injured workers*

INTRODUCTION

 Watch the next section of video, this is the conversation you will hear.

INT. AMBULANCE - DAY


The WIZARD, a paramedic, is in the back of a fast-moving ambulance. We hear the SIREN WHIRRING. The ambulance makes a sharp turn, which makes the wizard hang on for dear life.

WIZARD


Wow! Whoa! This thing can really move. Oh, hello. Welcome to English for All. In today's episode, you will learn to talk about the past. Verbs can be used to describe an action that happened in the past. A minute ago, an hour ago, a week ago, a year ago. There are two types of past tense verbs. First, there are the regular past tense verbs, where we usually ed to the end of the verb. For example, clean. Today, I clean tables. Yesterday, I cleaned tables. You add ed to clean. Then there are the irregular past tense verbs. For example, sell. Today, I sell roses. Yesterday, I sold roses. Sell is an irregular verb. Whoa! Whoa! You will also learn about support systems for injured workers. Have you ever been injured at work? What can you do when you get injured at your job? Well, speaking of injured, let's see what happens to Alejandro.

The ambulance comes to a stop.

VOCABULARY


 Read and learn these words

Broken	Bother
Care	Medication
Law	Pay
Lie	Training
Blame	Tell
Hurt	Quit
Rights	Insurance
Angry	Death
Workers' Compensation	Truth
Rehabilitation	Happen

 Put these words in alphabetical order. Use numbers 1-20.

1. Broken		11. Bother	
2. Care		12. Medication	
3. Law		13. Pay	
4. Lie		14. Training	
5. Blame		15. Tell	
6. Hurt		16. Quit	
7. Rights		17. Insurance	
8. Angry	1	18. Death	
9. Workers' Compensation		19. Truth	
10. Rehabilitation		20. Happen	

COMPREHENSION

 Video script

COSMO'S KITCHEN

There's commotion. ALEJANDRO is on the floor with a broken shelf and several industrial sized cans of food on top of his lower body. COSMO MILLER, ELSI, and REZA are there – the latter two are picking up cans off of Alejandro. The two paramedics enter. Alejandro is in pain, but he's conscious. He sees the paramedics.

ALEJANDRO

I don't need an ambulance. I'm okay. Oh, God. My leg -- it's hurt.

He tries to get up, but he MOANS in agony.

PARAMEDIC #1
ALEJANDRO

Sir, just lie still. What happened?

I walked into the back room. I noticed that the shelf is loose. So I screwed it in. But the shelf broke. And it fell on me.

COSMO MILLER
ALEJANDRO
PARAMEDIC #1

That's not true. He broke that shelf. He's a liar

I -- I don't want to go to the hospital. I don't have enough money.

Don't worry about the money right now. The restaurant must have insurance.

Cosmo Miller's eyes widen when he hears this.

COSMO MILLER

I'm not going to pay for his hospital bills. He's a liar, and he quit this afternoon. He got another job.

PARAMEDIC #1
COSMO MILLER

This is not the time to argue, sir!

I'm just letting you know. If you lie, I'll take you to court. I'm not paying one cent of

your medical care.

The Paramedics lower the gurney. They get Alejandro on the gurney and roll him out:

HOSPITAL ROOM

ALEJANDRO *Alejandro in a wheelchair, with SOFIA and a NURSE. Alejandro is upset.*
I can't believe I broke my leg.
SOFIA You're lucky it's only a broken leg.
NURSE And it's not a bad break, Alejandro. It will heal soon
ALEJANDRO But my new job starts in two weeks. And my boss blames me for the accident. How am I going to pay for this?
NURSE Your boss has Worker's Compensation which will pay for your injuries.
ALEJANDRO Workers' Compensation? What is that?
NURSE Workers' Compensation is insurance. Your employer pays for medical care in four different situations.
NURSE (CONT'D) Worker's Compensation is insurance. Your employer will pay for your medical care in four different situations. The first situation is when you are hurt on the job. This is what you should get, Alejandro. It pays for ambulance, hospital, medication, time away from work and other related costs. The second type of care you can get is rehabilitation. Care that helps you get well. A third type of care is for permanent injuries. An employer has to pay for new job training a worker needs. The fourth situation relates to death on the job.
ALEJANDRO Death?
NURSE Unfortunately, sometimes people die on the job. And when a worker dies, a worker's family gets help.
ALEJANDRO Wow. Worker's Compensation is great. But I know my boss won't pay for anything.
NURSE He has to. It's the law. You have rights, Alejandro. If your boss gives you any trouble, you can call the state division of Worker's Compensation. They have information and assistance offices there to help.
ALEJANDRO And how do I get in touch with them?
NURSE You can find the number in the government section of the telephone book or on the Internet.
SOFIA Thank you. We'll call them first thing in the morning.
NURSE One more thing. It's possible you might have to go to court.
ALEJANDRO Go to court? With a judge?
NURSE Sometimes you have to fight for your rights.
ALEJANDRO What?
SOFIA In court all you have to do is tell the truth.
ALEJANDRO Yes. Tell the truth.

COSMO'S OFFICE

He's on the phone and fuming.
COSMO MILLER Never. I will never pay for Alejandro's bill. It was all his fault. And he was drunk.


INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE OFFICER'S OFFICE

MS. PARSONS is a no-nonsense woman. Strong-willed and determined. Alejandro and Sofia are seated in front of her.
MS. PARSONS Well, Mr. Miller, it seems like you and Mr. Cordero will have to go to court to solve this.
Ms. Parson's hangs up.
MS. PARSONS (CONT'D) All right, Mr. Cordero. We have tried everything. And your boss insists that you lied about what happened.

**ALEJANDRO
MS. PARSONS**

Really? There's no other way?
Mr. Cordero, if what you said happened is the truth, you have nothing to worry about.
All you have to do is tell the truth.

Alejandro and Sofia look at each other semi-defeated.

 Next to the number, write Y for a correct statement , N for incorrect.

- N 1. Mr. Miller had an accident in the kitchen.
- 2. Alejandro broke some cans in the kitchen.
- 3. A shelf fell on Alejandro and broke his leg.
- 4. Mr. Miller refused to pay for Alejandro's hospital bill.
- 5. Alejandro thinks his boss will pay for everything.
- 6. The nurse tells Alejandro about Worker's Compensation.
- 7. Mr. Miller blames Alejandro for the accident.
- 8. Alejandro lies to his wife about the accident.
- 9. Mr. Miller wants to help Alejandro.
- 10. Ms Parsons tells Alejandro he has to go to court.

LIFE SKILLS

 Video script

COURTROOM

Alejandro is with Sofia. There's also a JUDGE, a BAILIFF, a COURT REPORTER (the Wizard), and the AUDIENCE.

*Cosmo Miller is on the podium. The bailiff is holding a bible.
Cosmo Miller places his hand on the bible.*

BAILIFF

Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

**COSMO MILLER
JUDGE**

Certainly. I'm no liar.

COSMO MILLER

Mr. Miller, please tell us what happened on the day of the accident

Yes, your Honor. On the day of the accident, I left my home at 4 p.m. I got in my car and drove down to the restaurant. I drove past Rick's Bar. That's when I saw Alejandro walking in. So I got curious because none of my employees drink before work. So I parked the car, got out, walked over to the bar and opened the door. Then I looked around for Alejandro. He was at the bar. He ordered a whisky. And he drank it. Then he drank a tequila. Then he drank a vodka. Oh, I was very angry. I left and I went to the restaurant. Later that day, Alejandro came to work. He was very, very drunk. He walked up to me and said "I quit".

**ALEJANDRO
COSMO MILLER**

He threw it at me and went over to the kitchen area. He made a


ALEJANDRO mess of everything. He wouldn't listen to me.
COSMO MILLER I'm hungry.
ALEJANDRO Alejandro, you're drunk. You need to sit down and rest.
COSMO MILLER No!
ALEJANDRO He pushed me down. He tried to hit me. He missed.
COSMO MILLER I'm hungry.
ALEJANDRO The shelf broke and everything came tumbling down on him.
COSMO MILLER Your Honor, he was drunk. And his medical expenses aren't my responsibility.
JUDGE Thank you, Mr. Miller. You may sit down.
SOFIA *(quietly, but ferociously, to Alejandro)* What a liar! He makes me so angry! You didn't go to the bar!
ALEJANDRO *Alejandro looks ashamed.*
SOFIA Sofia. I went to the bar.
ALEJANDRO You did?
SOFIA But I won't tell them.
ALEJANDRO Alejandro, you have to tell the truth!
SOFIA But we need the money.
ALEJANDRO Mr. Alejandro Cordero, could you please come to the stand?
JUDGE You have to be honest, Alejandro!
SOFIA It'll be OK.
ALEJANDRO *Alejandro nods. With crutches, he makes it to the stand. The bailiff places Alejandro's hand on the bible:*
BAILIFF Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you God.
ALEJANDRO *Sofia looks at him.*
JUDGE I do.
WIZARD Is it true, Mr. Cordero that you went to a bar on the day of the accident?
WIZARD And Freeze!

Read and understand

It is important to know your rights and that protect you as an employee. For example, worker's compensation insurance can protect you in four ways:

1. When you get hurt on the job, it pays for the ambulance, hospital, medication, time-off from work, and other related costs.
2. It pays for rehabilitation, or care that helps you get well.
3. It pays for new job training in case of permanent injuries.
4. It also pays for costs related to accidental death.

Information on workers' compensation can be found in the phone directory, or on the Internet.

 Next to the number, write T for a true statement , F for false.

1. T In case of an accident, call 911.
2. ___ In case of an accident, move the injured to a safer location.
3. ___ Worker's compensation insurance pays for medical care in accidents at work.
4. ___ In an accident at work, the employee is responsible for transportation to the hospital.
5. ___ Time off from work is a cost paid by workers' compensation insurance.
6. ___ Rehabilitation is care that helps the employee get well.
7. ___ Worker's compensation insurance will pay for new job training.
8. ___ Employees can get information from the State Division of Worker's Compensation.
9. ___ In court all you have to do is tell the truth.
10. ___ Lying in court is called perjury.

GRAMMAR

 Video script

WIZARD

So, Alejandro did go to the bar before he went to work. Should he tell the truth? He is worried about the money from Worker's Compensation. Hmm. What would you do? We'll get back to Alejandro in just a minute. But now, today's lesson. The past tense. Let's start with regular past tense. Notice how we add 'ed' to the verb.

**PARAMEDIC #1
ALEJANDRO**

Just lie still, sir. What happened?
I walked into the back room. I noticed that the shelf was loose. So I screwed it in.

WIZARD

It's easy to turn a regular verb into the past tense, isn't it? Now let's take a look at some irregular past tense verbs.

COSMO MILLER

On the day of the accident, I left my home at 4 p.m. I got in my car and drove down to the restaurant.

WIZARD

The past tense for irregular verbs is more difficult. You will have to memorize them. But with practice, they will be easy to remember.

 Read, understand and practice

Past Tense of Regular and Irregular Verbs

The past tense of regular verbs is formed by adding -ed to the simple form of the verb.

Examples:

Present Tense

Past Tense

I walk to my house everyday.
He lives in Los Angeles.

I walked to my house yesterday.
He lived in New York last year.

When the simple form of the verb ends in *y* preceded by a consonant, the *y* is changed to *i* before adding *-ed*.

Present Tense

We study every night.

Example:

Past Tense

We studied last night.

The past tense of irregular verbs is different. Many verbs in English have special past tense forms. You must memorize these forms. They are the same in all persons in the past tense.


Example:

Present Tense

I always tell the truth.
He leaves his house at 6:00 a.m.

Past Tense

I told the truth in court.
He left his house at 7:00 a.m.

 Choose the correct answer

1. After Alejandro walked into the back room, he b some cans of food.
a) walked b) picked up c) pick up
2. Alejandro _____ the shelf was loose.
a) broke b) noticed c) tell
3. The shelf _____.
a) tell b) walked c) broke
4. The shelf _____ on Alejandro.
a) tell b) break c) fell
5. Alejandro _____ hurt when the shelf broke.
a) get b) got c) fell
6. Mr. Miller _____ Alejandro for the accident.
a) blamed b) took c) told
7. Mr. Miller _____ Alejandro quit his job before the accident happened.
a) paid b) let c) said
8. Alejandro is happy because he _____ another job at La Adelita.
a) got b) go c) get
9. The nurse at the hospital _____ Alejandro about Workers' compensation.
a) lie b) tell c) told
10. Ms. Parson told Alejandro she _____ everything to make Mr. Miller pay.
a) paid b) tried c) hurt
11. Mr. Miller said he _____ his house at 4:00 p.m. the day of the accident.
a) leave b) left c) drove
12. Mr. Miller _____ to the restaurant.
a) walked b) drove c) trained

13. Mr. Miller said he _____ Alejandro entering Rick's Bar.
 a) called b) drank c) saw
14. Alejandro _____ the bus and went in Rick's Bar.
 a) got at b) got off c) went
15. Rick said Alejandro only _____ lemonade.
 a) drink b) drank c) buy

SPECIAL SKILLS

 Video script

WIZARD Now, back to our story. Alejandro went to the bar. What will he do now? A -- Alejandro lies. B-- Alejandro tells the truth. A -- Alejandro lies. Let's see what happens. And action.

COURTROOM

The judge is waiting for Alejandro's answer. He asks again:

JUDGE Is it true, Mr. Cordero, that you went to a bar on the day of the accident? Sir, please answer the question. Did you go to the bar on the day of the accident?

ALEJANDRO No, I did not go into that bar that day.

Sofia looks at him with disappointment.

JUDGE Then could you tell us what happened?

ALEJANDRO Yes. That day, I left my apartment about 3 p.m. I got off the bus near work. Then I walked down the street and passed Rick's Bar. But I did not go in. I went straight to work.. Later, I noticed that the shelf needed to be fixed. I started to fix it. But it broke and fell on me.

Alejandro looks at the judge.

JUDGE So you didn't go into the bar? Cosmo Miller, your boss, says you went into the bar. But you say you didn't.

Just then, Rick the bartender quietly enters, panting.

ALEJANDRO Yes, your Honor..

JUDGE Well only one of you can be telling the truth. Mr. Cordero, you may return to your seat.

Alejandro steps down from the stand. Suddenly, he notices Rick. Alejandro's face fills with concern.

Well, only one of you can be telling the truth. Mr. Cordero, you may return to your seat. Mr. Rick Fleming, come to the stand.

BAILIFF Do you swear to tell the truth, the whole truth and nothing but the truth so help you God

RICK So that's when I saw Alejandro come into the bar. He came into the bar and ordered a lemonade.

JUDGE (*surprised*) He ordered a lemonade? Did he drink any alcohol?

RICK No, your Honor. He only drank lemonade..

JUDGE Thank you. You may sit down. Mr. Cordero and Mr. Miller, could you both please

approach the podium? Mr. Cordero, it seems that you were not drunk during the accident. The accident was the fault of Cosmo Miller and his restaurant. Mr. Cordero, I award you full benefits from Worker's Compensation to be provided by Cosmo's restaurant. But Mr. Cordero, you did not tell the truth. You lied under oath. This is called perjury and it's a serious crime. For committing perjury, I sentence you to six months in jail plus a fine of \$5,000. Court is in recess. Oh, boy. The judge is serious about telling the truth, isn't she? Alejandro didn't tell the truth and he'll be in jail. And he won't be able to start his new job. Oh. Wait. We have one more choice. Choice B -- Alejandro tells the truth. I like that one. Let's see what happens. And action.

WIZARD

COURTROOM

The judge is waiting for Alejandro's answer. He asks again. Sir, please answer the question. Did you go to the bar on the day of the accident?

JUDGE

Alejandro locks eyes with Sofia.

ALEJANDRO

Yes, your Honor. I went to the bar before I went back to work.

The onlookers GASP. Cosmo Miller smiles.

On that day, I got off the bus and walked toward work. Then I saw Rick's Bar. I was happy about my wife having a baby and my promotion, so I went in.

JUDGE

Quiet, please. So you did go into the bar?

ALEJANDRO

Yes, I did. I went in the bar, sat down, told Rick about all my good news and ordered a lemonade..

Just then, Rick enters.

JUDGE

You only ordered a lemonade? You didn't drink any alcohol?

ALEJANDRO

No, your Honor. I only drank lemonade and went to work.

JUDGE

But your boss says he saw you drink. Only one of you can be telling the truth. Mr. Cordero, you may return to your seat. Mr. Rick Fleming, please come to the stand.

Rick rises and heads for the stand.

RICK

So then, I saw Alejandro come into the bar.

JUDGE

So you saw Mr. Cordero walk into your bar?

RICK

Yes, your Honor. He sat down and ordered a lemonade.

JUDGE

I see. Is that all he ordered?

RICK

Yes, your Honor. He only drank lemonade.

Alejandro and Sofia smile. The judge gives a stern glare at a worried-looking Cosmo Miller.

JUDGE

Thank you. You may sit down. Mr. Cordero and Mr. Miller, could you both please approach the podium? My decision lies with the defendant. Mr. Alejandro Cordero, I award you full benefits from Worker's Compensation to be provided by Cosmo Miller. This court is in recess.

Alejandro and Sofia cheer and hug. The onlookers APPLAUD.

ALEJANDRO'S APARTMENT

Sofia helps Alejandro with his tie.

SOFIA

How do you feel?

ALEJANDRO

My leg feels so much better.

SOFIA


I am so happy for you, Alejandro. You finally get to be an assistant manager.

Alejandro takes in the sight of the majestic restaurant.

ALEJANDRO My first day as an assistant manager. But I'm very nervous.
SOFIA I understand. But you'll do a great job!
ALEJANDRO What if I don't? What if I fail?
SOFIA Oh, you'll do just fine, Alejandro. I'm very proud of you. Now go. I'll see you later. Bye

ALEJANDRO *She kisses him on the cheek.*
 Bye!

Injury on the Job Report	
Date of injury:	2/25/2001
Time of injury:	6:46 p.m.
Name(s) of person(s) injured:	Alejandro Cordero
Type of injury:	Broken leg
Place where injury occurred:	Cosmo's Restaurant
Name of person in charge:	Cosmo Miller
Title:	Owner
Telephone Number:	555.3454
Was an ambulance necessary to deal with injury?	Yes
Explain how injury occurred	
Mr. Cordero was trying to fix a loose shelf. The shelf broke and the food cans fell on Alejandro. He fell and broke his leg.	

 Read the information above and choose the correct answer.

- b What's this?
 a) A Job Report b) An Injury on the Job Report c) A schedule
- When did the injury occur?
 a) May 6, 2000 b) February 25, 2001 c) Yesterday
- What time did the injury occur?
 a) 6:46 p.m. b) 6:46 a.m. c) 6:36
- Who was injured?
 a) Mr. Miller b) Alejandro Cordero c) Stanley
- What happened to Alejandro?
 a) He was drunk b) He went to sleep c) He broke his leg

6. ___Where did the injury happen?
a) Cosmo's Restaurant b) At home c) At the bar
7. ___Did an ambulance come to deal with the injury?
a) No b) Yes c) Next day
8. ___Who is in charge at Cosmo's Restaurant?
a) Elsi b) Cosmo Miller c) Reza
9. ___What is Cosmo Miller?
a) The Owner b) The busboy c) The doctor
10. ___Alejandro was trying to fix a
a) loose shelf b) bad floor c) big meal

CONCLUSION

 Video script

WIZARD

Alejandro's ready to begin his new job as an assistant manager. Will he do a good job? You'll have to watch the next show and find out. But first, let's review what we've learned. We've learned that workers have many rights if they get hurt at work. But they have to tell the truth. We've also learned how to talk about the past. We use regular verbs. We've also seen some irregular verbs. So remember to practice what you saw and heard in this episode. And your English will improve. Come back and join me to see what happens to Alejandro on the next English for All.

ANSWERS

EPISODE THREE

VOCABULARY			COMPREHENSION		LIFE SKILLS
1. 4	2. 5		1. N		1. T
3. 10	4. 11		2. N		2. F
5. 2	6. 8		3. Y		3. T
7. 16	8. 1		4. Y		4. F
9. 20	10. 15		5. N		5. T
11. 3	12. 12		6. Y		6. T
13. 13	14. 18		7. Y		7. T
15. 17	16. 14		8. N		8. T
17. 9	18. 6		9. N		9. T
19. 19	20. 7		10. Y		10. T

GRAMMAR				SPECIAL SKILLS	
1. b	2. b	3. c		1. b	2. b
4. c	5. b	6. a		3. a	4. b
7. c	8. a	9. c		5. c	6. a
10. b	11. b	12. b		7. b	8. b
13. c	14. b	15. b		9. a	10. a