

## EVERYDAY BASIC ENGLISH

C.K.Ogden

### THE HOTEL

**Hotel Porter:** Have you taken a room, sir?

**Mr. Anyman:** No. Put my things down here while I go to the office. (To woman at office) Have you a room for one?

**Woman at Office:** We're very full up this week. I have no small rooms at all at present. How long are you going to be here?

**Mr. Anyman:** For two weeks probably.

**Woman at Office:** I'll let you have a room with two beds at a special price till Monday, and after that we will be able to give you a small room. Will that be all right?

**Mr. Anyman:** I'm very much against moving if there's any possible way out of it. I was hoping to get everything out of my boxes after the journey. Have you no other suggestion to make?

**Woman at Office:** No, that's the best I am able to do. Every other hotel in London is full up in the same way. In fact, quite a number of persons been sent on to us.

**Mr. Anyman:** That's the worst of London at this time of year. Well, I'll have to take what there is. Is this room quiet? That's the great thing.

**Woman at Office:** Yes, very; it's at the back. And so's the other one. In fact, they're the two of the quietest rooms in the hotel.

**Mr. Anyman:** And has it got a bathroom?

**Woman at Office:** The room you're going into today has. The smaller one hasn't, but it's only one door off the public bathroom. And all the rooms in the hotel have telephones.

**Mr. Anyman:** Good. And the price?

**Woman at Office:** The room with the bathroom is fifteen shillings. The other will be ten shillings.

**Mr. Anyman:** That's without any meals?

**Woman at Office:** Yes. Meals are separate.

**Mr. Anyman:** All right, I'll take the room.

**Woman at Office:** Will you put your name in the book, please?

**Mr. Anyman:** Certainly.

**Woman at Office:** The room is on the second floor, near the lift. Here is your key. Let me have it back when you go out.

**Mr. Anyman:** I will. A friend may be coming in to see me between six and seven. If he does, will you let him go straight up to my room?

**Woman at Office:** Certainly. The porter will take you up if you are ready to go now.

**Hotel Porter:** Your boxes will come up separately. This is the room, sir.

**Mr. Anyman:** Is it possible to get the window open? It's very warm in here with the heating.

**Hotel Porter:** Is it open enough now? This window's very stiff, and that's the best I'm able to do.

**Mr. Anyman:** That will be all right.

**Hotel Porter:** I'll send the girl to you.

**Servant:** Have you everything, sir?

**Mr. Anyman:** Yes, but there doesn't seem to be a bell of any sort in the room.

**Servant:** All orders are sent over the telephone, sir. You get through to the porter's office.

**Mr. Anyman:** I see. I have some dirty things. How do I send them to the wash?

**Servant:** If you make out a list, I'll put them in a parcel for you, sir, and send them off tomorrow. They will be back on Saturday.

**Mr. Anyman:** Good. Then another thing. When are the shoes taken for cleaning?

**Servant:** If you put them outside your door at night the boot boy will do them when he comes round early in the morning.

**Mr. Anyman:** Oh, one minute. There is no soap in the bathroom.

**Servant:** I'll go and get you a bit now. We've had very little time to get things straight in this room.

**Mr. Anyman:** Well, I'll be going out in a short time. Where's writing-room

**Servant:** On the first floor. But there are writing-tables in all the public rooms.

**Mr. Anyman:** May I have a cup of tea at eight tomorrow morning?

**Servant:** yes, sir. I'll be back with your soap in a minute or two.

**Hotel Porter:** Here are your boxes, sir. The boy got the numbers mixed, or you'd have had them before.

**Mr. Anyman:** Good; and while you are here, will you see what has gone wrong with the electric light over my bed? It's probably the bulb, because the other light is all right.

**Hotel Porter:** That's what' wrong, sir. I'll have to put in another.

**Mr. Anyman:** Now I'm going to take a rest. If any one comes, the office is to say that I will not be in till six.

**Hotel Porter:** Yes, sir.