

NUMBER 7 • BONUS STORY

Tomás nunca llega tarde

A week in the life of Tomás, who has a list for everything: his mornings, his mother's Sunday phone call, and the one Monday when nothing goes to plan.

ANSWER KEY

LISTENING & UNDERSTANDING

L1) WHO SAYS IT?: 1c, 2b, 3a

L2) A DIFFERENT MORNING: 1a, 2b, 3a

L3) THE PROBLEM AND THE HELP: 1b, 2c

Translation

A brand-new flat near the station. Monday, six o'clock in the morning. On the fridge door hangs a long list.

Tomás lives near the station. There are lists everywhere.

One for work and another for shopping. And a list of his lists.

- Monday. I get up at six. I shower at quarter past six.
- At seven I have breakfast. Two eggs and bread.
- At half past seven, café. Table three. Coffee without sugar.

- At quarter to nine, office. Not at nine!

Tomás gets up at six every day. Even on Sundays.

Sunday evening. At seven o'clock exactly, Tomás's phone rings.

Every Sunday, his mother calls at seven in the evening.

- Good evening, Tomás! How are you? Do you eat well?

- Yes, Mum. Breakfast at seven, lunch at half past twelve and dinner at six.

- Good. Dad and I get up at five. How is work?

- Good. I have a new colleague. They live in the house with the cat.

- With the cat? But you are afraid of cats!

- Not of all of them. Just a little.

- Take care. And do not be late. Good night.

- Mum, I am never late.

That night at three the old bedside clock stops.

On Monday, Tomás is still asleep at six. His alarm does not ring.

- Half past eight? The alarm is broken!

The mobile says 08:30. Thirty minutes until nine.

- No! I am very late!

Today Tomás does not shower. He neither has breakfast nor goes to the café.

The café. Clara looks at the empty window table.

- ▲ Eight o'clock. Table three is empty. Where is my Black Coffee?

The office. Your desk, and Tomás's desk, still empty.

- Ten past nine. Tomás is not here.

The door flies open.

- Good morning, Tomás. You are late today.

- I know! The alarm is broken. And my list is at home.

- When is the meeting? What do I have to do?

- Do not worry. Here is your coffee.

- Today is Monday. The meeting is on Thursday.

- That is right. Thank you. You are a good colleague.

Michi jumps onto the desk.

- You too, Michi? Good morning.

- Tomás, why are you afraid of cats?

- Because of a cat from my childhood. My grandmother's cat.

- Big, black and not at all friendly.
- Imagine: I am five, I am in bed... and the cat is on my face!
- On your face?
- Yes. That is why I do not like cats very much.

Michi looks at Tomás. He is neither black nor mean. Just hungry.

- All right. You can sit here. But not on the computer.

Evening. Three alarm clocks stand on the kitchen table.

At night, Tomás writes a new list.

- One: three alarms. Two: Tomás, do not be late!

Tomás looks at Michi. He writes the third rule.

- Three: Michi is grey. Not black.