HOW LONG DOES IT TAKE

Lesson Twenty-Four

Objectives: This lesson provides practice with time spans - how long it takes to do something. Besides learning to ask how long something takes, you’ll practice various responses and get an idea of the relative times for Kiribati activities.

Activities: Link the 'A' questions with appropriate 'B' answers and follow them up with a 'C' finish, forming mini-dialogues. Add other questions and answers you can think of.

Translation of Exercise:

How long does it take...

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>A</th>
<th>B</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>to travel from here to America?</td>
<td>Not very long.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to cook a fish?</td>
<td>It takes a long time.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to build a house?</td>
<td>Ten minutes.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to patch a tire?</td>
<td>Four days.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to weave a mat?</td>
<td>Three hours.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to read a book?</td>
<td>A month.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to walk a mile?</td>
<td>Fourteen years.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to cut toddy?</td>
<td>Half an hour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to earn $20?</td>
<td>A little long.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

C

Really!
You’re kidding!
I don’t believe it!
I see.

Almost twenty minutes.
No time at all.
MAANRA TE TAI?
Reirei U'abwi Ma Aua

Exercise
for Study:

Maanra te tai...

A

ni m'ananga mai ikai nako (Amerika)?
ni kam'aa (te ika)?
ni katea (te auti)?
ni bonota te rab'a?
n rarangaa te kie?
ni wareka te boki?
n nakonako n te raroa ae teuana te maire?
ni koro karewe?
ni mm'akuri ni karekea uabwi te taaraa?

B

E aki rangi ni maan.
E maan.
Tebwina te miniti.
Abong.
Tenioua te aoa.
Te nam'akaina.
Tebwi ma aua te ririki.
Te itera n aoi.
E boni maan teutana.
Ti teuana te miniti.
Ngkai naba.
N ai aron te iti.
N aki toki.
E kaan uabwi te miniti.
E waekoa.

C

E koaua?
Ko kewe!
I aki kakoauaa!
A, ngaia.
Additional Activities: Write a dialogue using the expressions provided in the lesson. Try to include Kiribati activities for your time questions, and ask your teacher for the best answers.

Dialogue:
Outside Activities: Try to prepare a list of Kiribati activities and the time it takes to do them. Ask different people how long something takes and compare their answers. How does the Kiribati sense of time compare with your own? Do things seem to take more or less time than you expect?