

141. The Annual General Meeting (Part 1)

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Hello, Ladies and Gentleman, welcome to Luke's English Podcast! I would just like to take this opportunity, right now, at the beginning of the episode, to invite you, to give you a special invitation to attend the Luke's English Podcast AGM, the Luke's English Podcast Annual General Meeting. Now it doesn't actually take place every year, in fact, to be honest, this is the first time it's ever happened and I've been doing the podcast for about four years now. But anyway, I'm still going to call it the AGM or the Annual General Meeting. Now, in fact, the meeting is going to start in just a few minutes. I don't know if you were realized, that this meeting was going to take place today. In fact, it's kind of a lucky coincidence that you are here, because it means that you'll be able to come in to the meeting room in order to, you know, attend the meeting and may be even take part. I don't know how exactly you are going to take part in a meeting which is just being recorded by one person into a microphone. I don't know how you can actually take part in that but anyway just use your imagination just go with it, OK?

Right, so the meeting is just, it's about to start in just a few minutes, so you've got, probably, enough time to just go and grab a coffee, or get a glass of water, or something like that, may be just go to the toilet quickly, smoke a cigarette something like that. If you need to, quickly go and do that and then you can just come in and join everyone in the meeting room. So, basically, what's the point of the AGM? Well, the reason that I've called the meeting is just, basically, to, well, give everyone a chance to get together, so just, kind of, to give everyone an opportunity to get together. There is going to be some snacks and some drinks available. I've spent a couple of pounds on, well, frankly, two packets of Cheese and Onion Crisps and one of those small bottles of Coke. So, hopefully, there will be enough food and drink for everybody, enough variety to keep everyone happy. OK, so, a chance for everyone to get together, you know, to have a sip of Coke, may be a crisp, and to, sort of chat a little bit but also it is an opportunity for me to just fill you in on all the latest news from Luke's English Podcast. And generally just kind of wrap things up before the summer holidays. OK? As you know summer holidays begin in just a couple of days. So, I thought it would be good to, sort of, you know, to just wrap things up and just give you some news and tell you what's been going on just before the holidays, OK?

Right, so go on, off you go, go and get your cigarette or your coffee or your toilet brake. I wouldn't recommend doing all of those things at the same time, because quite frankly, well, how many hands do you have? You've probably only got two hands, probably only two. I mean, you might have one, you might have none. I mean, that's possible. I don't expect that you've got three or more. Again, that is possible. I mean, some weird things happen in the world, it's a mysterious place. Sometimes people are born with three arms, they are not supposed to, but it happens, there is nothing wrong with it, if you are listening to this and you've got three arms or may be more arms. May be you feel shy about it, may be whenever you go outside, people stare at you, well, you won't be judged here at Luke's English Podcast and if you do have, you know, more limbs, than normal, then that's great, that's fine. I suppose it's useful, I don't know if

it allows you to smoke, drink coffee and urinate at the same time, then great, good for you! In fact, may be you are better than the rest of us and that is the thing that we are missing, is that the third arm, which can be used to perform other tasks. May be that's our next evolutionary step. Who knows? You know, all it takes, really is for that guy with the three arms to prove himself as being a much better life partner. After women have got used to the idea that he's got three arms and they see that, actually, these guys are very useful and like much more talented than just the usual two-armed men. May be women will suddenly start finding three-armed men more attractive and that's going to be in all the magazines, like, "How to find a three-armed man?" or "Techniques that you can use to seduce three-armed man" or "Sex with a three-armed man. How good is it really?" You know, that kind of thing and then, you know, evolution will just do its thing and it's the three-armed man, who will get all the ladies and just normal two-armed man or may be unlucky guys, who've got less than two arms. Although, I'm sure that there are guys out there and girls with less than two arms, who have made up for it using, you know, the creativity and their talent to become even better than the standard lazy two-armed people. But eventually, may be, the three-armed people, that the few three-armed people they are, will, you know, manage to procreate to have sex with more women, may be, and as a result, our next evolutionary step will be that the three-armed man will dominate the gene pool and as a result two-armed men are just going to die off and in the future we all will have three arms. We can only hope, can't we, really we can only hope. Anyway, good, you've had your cigarette, good, you've had your coffee, fine, you've taken a dump, great! I think it's probably time to start the meeting, so if you'd just like to come through this door, at this point, in the podcast episode hopefully I'll be able to insert the sound of a door opening and, may be, even the sound of like a large room full of people, sort of making small talk getting ready for a large meeting. So, hopefully in post-production I'll be able to add those sound affects into this, it's going to sound really awesome. Now if I haven't added all of those sounds affects then, well, I don't know, you just going to have to imagine it, may be, I couldn't find the appropriate sound affects on the Internet, may be, I just couldn't be bothered, you know, may be, I just decided after recording this and uploading it and editing it and doing all the other necessary things, may be, I just thought, "You know what? I can't be bothered to search the Internet for free door opening sound affect, because that's the sort of thing that can end up taking hours of your time unless you are one of those, you know, Internet geeksho know exactly the right website to visit in order to very quickly and efficiently download a free door opening sound effect. Yeah, may be, you are one of those people and you are thinking: "Come on Luke, it shouldn't take you that long, just less than a second, if you've got the right Internet connection. Just, bang! Like that and you've immediately got the door opening sound effect!" Well, may be, instead I can just insert my own door opening sound effect with my voice, because, you know, why not? I mean, it's not real anyway, so, who cares? Right. So, OK, good. Everyone had a cigarette, you've had a coffee, you've showed, you've shaved and you've emptied your bowels, good, we are all ready and prepared to get involved in the meeting. So, if you'd like to just come through this door, <A creepy door opening sound> for some reason that was unnecessarily creepy door. But, you know, this is Luke's English Podcast, the meeting by the way, let me just tell you about the venue for this meeting. We are holding this meeting in a rather lovely, old English stately home in the _____ countryside. The home is called '_____ house'. And it dates back from

the Tudor period, it is a really lovely old property and you probably would have noticed on the way here the beautiful Tudor architecture, the general sort of mysterious atmosphere that surrounds this property and I'm sure that you'll agree with me when you say that this is really fantastic place to hold the Luke's English Podcast Annual General Meeting. And it is not sort of a spooky place or slightly creepy or scary or anything like that no, it's definitely not haunted, despite some of the things you might have heard; no there are no ghosts, poltergeists. OK, sure, there is an indelible blood stain on the fireplace but it's just a legend, it's just the myth, OK? So, let's get the meeting started. Right, so hello everybody, hello, please quiet and down, we are about to start the meeting. Thank you very much for coming, as you know my name is Luke Thompson, yes this is me, this is what I actually look like. I know may be I look slightly different from how you imagine. Probably look a little bit older than I did when that photo on the web site was taken, yes I do, I've aged. People age, OK? Especially when they've got stressful jobs, and they have to spend, you know, difficult times producing episodes of multi award winning international podcasts. It takes its toll on you Lady and Gentleman but I'm very glad to see you all here, it's a pleasure for me to be able to not only speak to you but to look at you and talk to you and may be even sell you a used car, may be, at the end of the day. That's right, I've got, I'm selling my car, I have a white land, no, what's my car, it's a white Ford Escort van. It's a jay rage from pretty old, it's from 1994. 1994 Ford Escort transit van. So, if anyone is interested in buying that, then they can just come and see me after the show, that's not real by the way, I've just made that up, but if are interested in purchasing my 1994 Ford Escort transit van then you can just come and see me after this meeting.

Right, so. Hopefully, you will have received the agenda for the meeting today? It's everyone got the agenda? Yeah? good, ok, most of you had printed out the agenda, if you haven't got the agenda, maybe you didn't get my email, then, you can find the agenda online it's now being published online, you can find it at teacherluke.wordpress.com and just find the page for this episode this is "The Annual General Meeting" of Luke's English Podcast, if you go there you'll be able to see the agenda. Now, you see that there are many, many, many points to be dealt on with on the agenda, and now, this is Luke's English Podcast, so, you know, to be honest the agenda is pretty random, some things, I guess, are kind of, more important than others, but, these are just the things that I wrote down, that were just in my mind that I really wanted to deal with in this meeting. So, very crucial, very important things that have to be dealt with, okay? so, let me just, very quickly go through the agenda and then all go through it again in more detail, okay? So, point One (1), "New listeners", and, number two (2), "Just a general thankyou", point three (3), "Sweat", perspiration, sweat, so I'll come back to that. Point four (4), that's a "Recent episodes of Luke's English Podcast", point five (5) it's just a "Bassline", okay?, bassline, I'll be dealing with that in a few moments, the next point (6) is "The best voice for Luke's English Podcast", the most appropriate voice, after that we have "Transcripts" (point 7), "The toilet seat" (point 8), that's very important. After that, the "Play Station 3 system updates"(point 9), it's a bit of a sticky point, that we're going to have to talk about. After that we have just "The general subject of time" (point 10), just time in general, next is "Happy music" (point 11), okay?, just, happy music, alright? After that, "Method actors, Robert de Niro and Al Pacino" (point 12), we'll come to that in due course. After that, something very important, very significant, that's the "Pedagogical approach behind Luke's English Podcast" (point 13), I'll be

expanding on that in due course. After that, "The subjects of whisky in meetings" (point 14), whisky, that's all kinds of whisky Scotch, Single Malt, Bourbon, Jack Daniel's, and so on, we'll be talking about that in a moment. By the way, if you'd like to have a glass, there's a cabinet just over there at the back, so feel free to help yourself. After whisky and meetings, we'll be talking about "Background music" (point 15) okay?, different types of background music. OK, after that, we're going to take a small detour, and we're going to talk about "The Setlist Show", setlist, okay, maybe if you've been part of the email chain that's being going around about Setlist, if you've been on Youtube recently, you probably know what that is, but if you don't know, don't worry, I'll go through it in detail later on. The next point (point 16) is all about meeting listeners, that's "Meeting listeners to Luke's English Podcast". To be honest, I've lost count of all of the points on this agenda right now. But anyway, the next point is all about "Music mixes" (point 17) that's mixes you can download from the Internet, following that, just a small point to clarify the "Holidays and weather" (point 18). The next point after that will about my "New job" (point 19), after that I'll just briefly mention the subjects of merchandise. Following that will be something on new episodes of Luke's English Podcast. A point worth mentioning will be, the subject of "Wearing trainers without socks" (point 20) and the general dangers of that. And just following on from that point, the dangers of "Wearing flip-flops in Paris" (point 21), rather unfortunate story connected to that which I'll be outlining later on in the meeting. After that, I'll be talking about "The sound of your own voice" (point 22), just generally the sound of your own voice. The next point on the list is "Zdenek Lucas" (point 23), I hope I pronounced his name correctly, Zdenek Lucas, I'll be mentioning a contributor to Luke's English Podcast in due course, I'll talk about Zdenek at some point in the episode. After that I'll be talking about "The length of episodes" (point 24) just in general the length of episodes of Luke's English Podcast. Following that, a quick point about the movie "Pacific Rim" (point 25), Pacific Rim, yes, you know that, you know what that is? yeah? big robots, big robots punching monsters, yes, that's right, a bit like Godzilla. OK, good. Next point will be "Statistics" (point 26), just general website statistics. Then, I'll talk about "E-mails" (point 27), I'm going to talk a little bit about the new Star Wars movie and then finally, there'll be a chance for you to bring up any other business that you have, so the AOB's will be dealt with any other business. If you would like to interrupt me at any time during this meeting then I suggest that you don't, okay? because that's rude, and is just inappropriate, not really, I'm just joking really, no, if you do have any comments or questions, if you'd like to just, stop me at any time then please feel free to do so, I, again, I imagine that you won't be able to do that, because of the nature of the way in which I'm recording this and you're going to be listening to it at a later time, but maybe, I don't know, maybe you got a time machine, and you'll be able to like travel back in time to the moment when I'm recording this, and come and visit me, alright? I realize that you probably don't know my address, but, we'll just forget about that plot detail, shall we?, and just move on. Right, so you've got the agenda, so I think we should get started, okay?. So, is everyone ready? Yes? Good. You are all comfortable and everything fine. Just, please, feel free to just relax, use the comfortable sofas as a way of chilling out, you can, if you like, you can use a zero gravity room and just float. You'll hear the sound of my voice, being beamed into the room through speakers, so you can just go the zero gravity chamber and just float around and I do recommend that as an interesting way of listening to the podcast it can really allow you to focus on the voice more specifically. So you

can use the zero gravity chamber, you can just relax on the sofa, there is a beach there, you can see a very nice sandy beach on this side of the meeting room you can just sort of lie down on the beach if you like and relax, the waves might, you know, just, chill out a bit you can go for a swim if you like. You just basically do what the hell you want because this is a virtual reality meeting and it is not really happening so just use your imagination may be if you want imagine that, I don't know, ladies, if it makes you feel any better you can just picture yourself with your arms wrapped around George Clooney while you are listening to this, gentleman you can just do the same thing but insert a movie star or your crush in the place of George Clooney so, you know, I don't know, who is this going to be Scarlett Johansson, just imagine that Scarlett Johansson is undressing may be in front of you. If that sounds a little bit pervy then fine, you know, you can just, whatever you want just, whatever will turn you on, you can just think of something else if you want, just whatever makes you comfortable. Right, it's time to get started with the meeting.

So the first item on the agenda is "New listeners" and I would just like to welcome any new listeners to Luke's English Podcast. Hello! It's very nice to have you with us. You are a part of the team. Now I hope that you'll continue listening. Obviously I realise that some new listeners probably start with episode one, which goes back to over four years ago April 2009 I believe. March 2009, something like that. That's when I did episode one so you've got four with a bit years to catch up on. So may be in about four years they will finally get to this and then they'll feel welcome. It is going to take you four years before you feel you are the part of the team but anyway. Welcome to, all the new listeners, I hope you've enjoyed episodes 1 to 140, something like that. I hope you've enjoyed all the episodes so far. Welcome to the show and welcome to all the, hello to all the old listeners not you are old, a lot of you beautifly young and sprightly. But welcome to everyone and hello, it's very nice to have you with me. It's good to be talking to the team from Luke's English Podcast. I realize that some people out there some of my fans are genuinely truly devoted to Luke's English Podcast. I appreciate that very much, obviously I understand why you are, I mean, of course you are devoted to this, why wouldn't you be? Sometimes I consider forming this community into some kind of an organization and these are few different options available to me there I could turn you into a kind of, may be a team of ninjas that could be useful I could send you out on missions, I could send you off to the BBC to jeopardise or sabotage their podcast in a desperate attempt to get more people to listen to this, so you could become my sort of ninja assassins or we could just set up some kind of religious cult and then we can worship aliens from space or something, but that frankly is a bit ridiculous. I could, basically, how I consider you is just like a team of undercover secret agents which have been posted in different locations around the world. And if I needed to, if it was necessary I could call upon all of you to complete some kind of mission, it would probably be quite an easy mission, it would probably be something like just, I don't know what it would be, what could a good mission be, I mean just something nice, like just going and getting some ice cream that's it, that kind of mission, But anyway welcome to all the listeners, welcome to the cult and this sect of listeners that I've gathered around me and it's great to have you with us, I hope you agree, if you do agree, give us a nice sort of cheer and a round of applause. I realize I have to insert the sound of a cheer and a round of applause there but hopefully I've been able to find one those on the Internet, let's hear it again just to make sure that I've done it so welcome everybody to

Luke's English Podcast it's great to have you with us, give us a nice cheer and a round of applause. Absolutely fantastic, thank you.

Right, so, that actually leads us on to point two quite neatly and that is "Thank you", I just would like to say very sincere thanks to all the listeners to Luke's English Podcast you really are wonderful people and you make all of this possible, without you there would be no podcast. I know that obviously without me there would be no podcast too. In fact, may be I'm perhaps the most important part of this process but anyway, without you there would be no ears to listen to this. But genuinely with all sincerity thanks very much for listening to the podcast and thank you for being so enthusiastic about it over the years including doing things like just, you know, commenting on episodes, commenting on Facebook with very positive responses, liking the videos on Youtube, sending in donations which are very important, they help to keep the podcast alive. Thank you if you've done that. Thank you also for things like e-mails, which you've sent to me, which are very very encouraging, which allow me to keep doing this. And thank you for any other content any other contact or any other just nice stuff that you've done. Thanks to Andrey for sending me chocolate, I really appreciate it very much. Someone sent me chocolate, sent me a massive pack, massive pack of chocolate. It just arrived at work and there was ten huge packs of chocolate, amazing! I'm fat now as a result. I'm fat but I'm happy! Thank you Andrey! Thank you to everyone else. There are loads of people I can mention, loads of names, I can't name them all, you know who you are, thank you very much for listening and enjoying the podcast! I mean, you know, I'm sure you are feeling the benefits, I'm sure you are realizing this is damn good for your English, so everyone's happy.

Right, point three - "Recent episodes of Luke's English Podcast". Just wanted to just comment a little bit on some recent episodes. The last one was all about ghosts stories, I listened back to it just recently and yes, pretty creepy, some of those stories are actually genuinely creepy, they do make me feel a bit weird, but listening back to it, I can't help thinking I'm just rambling on and on and on but that's what you want, isn't it? I suppose, you want to hear me talking, you want to hear real British English as it actually is spoken that's why you listen to Luke's English Podcast so, I suppose, I'm not the target listener for the podcast. When I listen back to it, I can't help kind of picking out all the things that I wish I've done differently and I can't help thinking "Oh, my God, I just go on and on and on" but that's the whole point of Luke's English Podcast. It's so that you can listen to someone going on and on and on and I'm talking to you, I'm talking to you, the listeners, the learners of English or teachers of English or whoever you are I'm talking to you, I'm not talking to myself so, when I listen back to episodes myself, yeah, sure I might feel a bit sort of frustrated, hearing the sound of my own voice but ultimately, I'm not the target listener, you are. And, in fact, I've had comments, coming in about recent episodes, for example, "Ghost stories" or the episode called "Hard driving", in which I took a car and drove it around Paris, another episodes, including ones about movies and other subjects. So, I'm very happy to see the people that've been enjoying recent episodes and I've got loads of other ideas in my head, which are come to in a moment. So that's it, really, about recent episodes, I'm glad that I've had good responses, I'm glad that people enjoy them. Personally me, I'm not completely satisfied with anything I do, to be honest with you. I'm never satisfied, when I listen back to things I think "Oh God!", you know, I'd like to do it differently, I wish I had more time to edit it more carefully but you know, what you can do, when you are searching for

perfection, Ladies and Gentleman. When you are a perfectionist, when you all are perfectionists like me it's difficult to be happy with your work. Am I a perfectionist? I don't know. I don't know...

Anyway, that moves, that brings us on to the next point in the agenda. Oh I've just realized I missed a point in the agenda that was point three - "Sweat". And the only thing I have to say about that is that it's very hot and I'm sweating all the time. There you go, there is a nice image for you but sweat is beautifully fragrant it smells of jasmine and it smells of a scent of young roses on a spring morning, it's beautiful, it's a beautiful smell, it's clean, it smells also there is a slight sense of lite soap may be just a slight undersmell, if that's a word, of just the general vibe of cleanliness. OK? Good, right, I'm glad, I've cleared that up.

Right, the next point on the agenda is "Bassline", bassline. Now this is very important because I've had this bassline going round round and round in my head for about four hours today I woke up with it and I just need to share it with you because I think it's awesome amazing bassline. This is the bassline from a track called "Forget me nots" by Patrice Rushton who you might not know but she was a keyboard player in 1970-s and 1980-s from America. And this track has got an amazing bassline. Whoever is playing it, I don't know his name, he's playing a kind of slap bass and I think he's playing it on a fender precision bass, I mean, judging by the sound of the guitar it's sound like a fender precision bass. Anyway, I just really like it and when I really really like something I feel the need to share it with other people so that's it, I just wanted to play you the bassline. OK, so we've got the speakers, so we've got the speaking system setup, yeah, are you ready? The volume's set up properly? John! John! Shon! OK, I don't know where they are, I think they may be out the back having a drink. Shon! Yeah, yes please, could you turn it on? Alright, thanks mate! Thanks! OK, so, this is a little extract of "Forget me nots" by Patrice Rushton, check out the amazing bassline on this. Yeah, it's pretty good, isn't it? Pom, pom, pom. Pom, pom, pom... Come on that's amazing isn't it? I don't know may be you are thinking "Yeah, I'm not that impressed Luke, that is not my kind of music, it's not my kind of thing. In fact, to be honest I've heard this before, I don't like it, frankly, because it sounds like the music from "Men in black"" OK? It sounds like the music from the movie "Men in black". Well, to be honest "Men in black" Will Smith, they sampled this, so they just sampled it and changed the lyrics and stuff and it's not as good. Anyway, I just wanted to share that with you, so that's the point about the bassline. OK? Good.

So, moving on to the next point on the agenda and we've got a lot of points to deal with, OK? So we are going to have to, sort of, speed up a little bit I think. The next point on the agenda is about the best voice that I should use for Luke's English Podcast. This is just something I wonder about sometimes and I'd like to get your input, so if you do have any comments please leave, leave a comment under this episode or just say something now to shout out and just go Luke! Luke! Luke! Like trying to get my attention. Luke! Luke! Luke! Like that and you can do your best I'm not going to hear you so it doesn't matter how loud you shout Luke! you are not going to get my attention, so anyway, I'm just going to talk about it and if you have an input if you have any input just send me a message OK? Good, right. So what's the best voice that I should use for Luke's English Podcast? What should I, how should I speak? Now, obviously, I should just be myself, shouldn't I? I should just speak like myself. But sometimes, I think that it's necessary to speak in a slightly different way in order to grab the attention of the listeners that's you, that's you, people out there, who are actually listening

directly to this with your ears. You could try listening to it with other parts of your body but that's, frankly, that's not going to work. So if I add a slightly dramatic element into the way that I speak I obviously sound a bit like a news reporter at this point, maybe I'm a BBC news reporter covering a very important political story because it's moments like this you realized that this is why, perhaps, the language of news or factual programming is presented in this kind of way as a method of certainly bringing home to you just how important and significant these events really are. So I could continue to talk to you in this way and maybe I would hold your attention for a short period but after a while it's going to become rather boring and irritating I think you'd imagine, I think you'd agree. Anyway, I'm not sure that this is the appropriate tone to be using for this kind of podcast because it's, well, frankly, Luke's English Podcast is a little bit more informal, I think it's a little bit more relaxed, a bit more easygoing, so, maybe I could sort of speak in this kind of voice: "So, Hello! You are listening to Luke's English Podcast. This is still the voice of television presenter but in this situation I'm using a slightly more friendly, slightly more informal way of talking to the camera or, in this case, a microphone just as a way of just establishing that yes, this is a respectable programme and the things that we are talking about are factual but at the same time it's a bit like you are just sharing a lunch with a very knowledgeable and slightly patronizing friend." So, I could speak like that. I could just, I could just speak in my normal voice which is what I do normally so, let's see what's the normal way for me to talk? Let's see, maybe I'm just sort of, maybe talking to a friend on a phone and maybe I should do the podcast as if I'm just chatting to a friend on a phone so it would be like "Alright mate, yeah, alright, how is it going? OK? Good, yeah, I just thought I'd call just because I'm doing a podcast. No, no, really, no, well, only if you don't mind. You don't mind? Oh, that's great, OK. Well, have you got? Have you got any? Yeah, you do. So, alright I don't need to bring some. Alright that's cool. Ha, ha no, no, no, really? Ok, alright, well, fine, I don't have to come now, I can come in a bit, just, just let me know, just give me a call. Alright, well, I'll tell you what, I'll hang around here for a bit and when you are out and about then just give me a call, just let me know. OK? Because I wouldn't want to interrupt you or anything. Because, obviously, yeah, really, is she? She didn't. No, well, I don't know maybe, maybe, alright maybe I'll just leave you to it. Would you just give me a call anyway? Just tell me, just tell me what happens. OK mate, alright, OK, No, I'll leave it at home, yeah, it's probably for the best. No. I wouldn't want to make a jealous. OK. Alright, cool. OK, OK mate alright OK, OK, OK, alright mate, alright, no, I'm not even speaking English now, no, OK, alright, alright mate, OK, bye then, bye, bye, bye, goodbye! See you! Cheers! no, get lost, alright, just go, never call me again, I'm just kidding! See you later! Bye!" Maybe I should do the podcast like that but it's going to be weird isn't it? Especially since you can only hear one half of the conversation. That's how I naturally speak but it's not necessarily the best way to do episodes of Luke's English Podcast. There are billions of other voices that I can do this podcast in, I'm not going to do them all now that's another episode of the podcast I think. It's kind of one of my catch phrases: "I think that's going to be the whole episode of Luke's English Podcast in the future, so stay tuned for that! That could be a completely new episode, a whole other episode of a podcast about that subject." Maybe one of these days I'm going to do an episode of the podcast where I just list things that would be good subjects for other episodes of other podcasts in the future. I can easily do that.

Right, next item on the agenda is "Transcripts", transcripts, OK. Those are transcripts

of every word that is said in episodes of Luke's English Podcast. And if you have visited the web site teacterlucke.wordpress.com then you'll see that a lot of the episodes now have transcripts and, in fact, there are more and more transcripts coming all the time from different places, sometimes I produce them, sometimes they are produced by listeners who write the transcripts for episodes and send them to me and sometimes they are just produced by my mom because she is nice. So, going back to transcripts, which have been sent in by listeners, thank you very much, first of all, thank you to listeners who have sent in transcripts, it's very good of you to do that but also it's very clever of you because you realize that that is, perhaps, one of the best ways to improve your English. Well, one of the ways that you can do it but if you've ever tried to write a transcript of one of these episodes you'll know it's really hard, it's really time consuming, takes ages but it's a very very good exercise for your English, it's a very very thorough way of pushing your English because it makes you focus on every single word and it reveals certain gaps that you might have in your vocabulary or certain gaps that you have in your understanding of pronunciation. It's quite a revealing exercise, so I'd suggest that you try subscribe some stuff but if you do transcribe some things, send them to me, OK? Send them to me, now, that's when I suddenly get a lot of responsibility because it becomes my responsibility to proof read the transcripts. So anyway I'm kind of making even more work for myself by asking you to send in transcripts but if you've written one do send it in because eventually I will be able to proof read the script and then make sure it's ready to be published and then I can put it on the web site and then that's when you are saving the world, that's when you are making the world a much better place because you are sharing the transcript with everybody else and that can be very very useful for many people, they can actually read all the words that I'm saying, it can help them to understand, it can help them to notice any gaps that they have as I've said in their vocab, grammar, pronunciation and so on. So it can be a very useful tool. Just one thing though when you do send a transcript to me it means that I have to take time to read through it very carefully and sometimes, I mean, what I really have to do is read it while I'm listening to that episode that means after focus purely on that I have to just lock myself in, I can't talk to my girlfriend, I can't do any of the housework, I can't go to work, I can't use the toilet, do any basic things that I have to do, obviously, I can use the toilet, I can stop and go and come back but you know what I mean. So sometimes it does take quite a lot of time for me to get the transcripts online but I get there in the end. So, there you go, transcripts.

Next item on the agenda - "The toilet seat". (38:56) This is just a general announcement for everybody here in the building: "Please remember to put the toilet seat up when you finished". And I'm talking to the men here, really. We had a number of complaints from women working in the building that the toilet seats are always left, no sorry I'm getting confused, aren't I. It happens to me easily, I'm a man, I'm getting confused by the toilet seat. Sorry, let me just repeat this, OK? To make sure everyone's got it. Is everyone listening? Yeah. Are you still listening? John! I don't know why John is _____. Anyway, yes the toilet seat. We've had a number of complaints from some women in the office who said that they don't like when the toilet seat is left up. So Gentlemen, please, when you finished using the seat or maybe some women if you do it that way, can you remember to put the seat down again? In fact, put the whole thing, put both seats down, just close the lid on the toilet, OK? And don't ask to me questions why, I know it's not fair, I know it doesn't make sense, just do it, OK? Because

otherwise women will not be happy. OK? It's important, trust me, it's important that women are happy, OK? If women are not happy no one is happy. Do you understand? So, make the women happy. Put the toilet seat down. Good. Right, I just going to draw a line under that I know that men, you might have responses to that, send me an e-mail, OK? But please, just put the toilet seats down, I don't understand it either, really, there is no real logic there, you know, I don't really understand it myself, just do it because we are making the world happier, 50% happier. Women are important, women's happiness is important because it affects everyone, it's like nuclear weapons, OK? I'm not really, I'm not going to expand on that any further because it doesn't make sense, I know that the analogy between women and nuclear weapons is a bit shaky but just, anyway, put the toilet seat down when you finished, OK? Thank you very much, or Gentleman just use the urinal, just use the urinal, urinal, urinal, doesn't matter how you pronounce it, just use another method, If you have to just go to the bottom of the _____ OK? Good. Or if you are French you can just do it in the street. OK? Fine. Just a little joke at the French there but it's my prerogative, I can do that if I want because I live here I'm paying taxes, French people, so I'm allowed to make fun of you, OK? You can make fun of me, say that I don't know how to cook properly, you know, say that I've got no dress sense, do whatever you want I don't care, OK? We are just trading jokes, fine. Right, that's the end of that point, toilet seat dealt with.

Next point is about the Playstation 3 system updates and I just, it's just a question really and I'd like, when I see you in the building later on this year, I'd like you to just, sort of, give me your input on this. Why is it, that every time I turn on my Playstation 3, I have to perform a system update, I have download and install software every single damn time I start my Playstation 3, I have to wait for up to thirty minutes to install system updates, why is that? Yesterday I wanted to play Max Payne 3, right? I had to wait an hour before I could actually play in that damn game because of all the system updates, OK? So, just, can anyone explain that to me please? John! Right, thank you.

Next item is the question of time, time, that's it, just there isn't enough.

Right, next point on the agenda that's happy music. So I just wanted to share this with you, just music that makes me happy. OK, I'm just going to play you a little bit of music, that makes me happy. Hopefully it's just going to make you a little bit happier and that's going to make you work harder and the economy is going to improve and life will be better, OK, so just listen to this and then we will carry on. Alright, as I said feel free to have a bit of Coca Cola there is not much left and it's gone warm now, but, anyway, you can have some if you like. Alright, so, some happy music, here we are. So, how is that? Making you feel, is that making you feel any happier at all? No? How about if I just, sort of, talk about some really depressing things while you are listening to this and we'll see if that really confuses you, because music that's so uppy and happy like this I don't think it's possible to feel depressed when you are listening to this but let's try, I'm just going to try to talk to you about really depressing things and see if it works. OK, so, you know that feeling when you wake up on a Monday morning and you don't _____ get up and go to work because you hate your job, you hate everybody there but you also realise that there is really no much point in going on living. I mean really, ultimately, what's the point of it all? I mean, because, essentially, you just get old and you get weak and you get sick and then you die, you never achieve any of the ambitions you wanted to achieve, you never really get any

genuine satisfaction, all you experience more and more is just essence of pain and disappointment, so really, why bother? Just why bother doing anything? Why don't you just stay in bed and just touch yourself, I mean really there is no much more_____. I don't know if this is affected you in anyway and this is making you feel depressed if it has done, if you feel affected by any of the issues I've just mentioned please feel free to send me an e-mail or to contact your local GP who would may be give you advice or may be prescribe you a serious of antidepressant drugs which can help to conquer these feelings, otherwise you can just listen to this piece of music again and everything I guaranty will be absolutely fantastic. OK, Ladies and Gentleman thanks very much for listening to this presentation of the happiests music in the world, I've been Luke Thompson, goodnight, and goodnight, goodnight and goodnight, goodnight. Good, right, I had to time the ending of that properly. So, I think you'll agree it's impossible to feel depressed or sad when you are listening to that music, right? That, by the way, if you are interested, was the Heinz Orchestra, Heinz, **this** like Heinz Beans, that was the Heinz Orchestra and the track was called Young Sound and what an amazing piece of music it is, guaranteed to cheer you up at any time. Right, moving on, that's happy music, right.

So, Robert De Niro and Al Pacino is the next item on the agenda, what happened to them? What happened to them? They were great, they used to be the best actors in Hollywood, now they just turn out crap. Can you sold it out, please, Robert? And Al? Make some good movies again! You are some of my favourite movie stars and these days you are rubbish! So just sold it out. OK, good, fine. They used to work for me, they used to work at my company, I let them go in order to allow them to work on more movie projects and they haven't done anything good recently, have they? I don't know, I haven't seen all of their work to be honest, may be you've seen some Al Pacino movie, where Al Pacino is like 'Ho, hah' you know and he did it well because these days when he goes 'Hhh' you know it's sort of like yeah I've seen it before Al, you know, give me something new, it's like 'OK, in this movie I'm going to be a cop but I'm going to be very tired!' I've seen it before Al Pacino, 'OK, I'm going to be a cop who's got a caffeine addiction problem and I wake up in the morning and I speak very quietly like this and when I've had a coffee I suddenly start shouting for no reason!' That's a possibility. OK, so, Robert De Niro and Al Pacino send me a message tell me what have you been up to, I hope to see you in a descent movie at some point in the future.

Next item on the agenda is my pedagogical approach to Luke's English Podcast and this is where I just wanted to explain some of the approaches that I had behind doing this podcast. Educational methods like teaching, approaches and styles and techniques. Again, I'm going to have to devote a whole other episodes of this because there isn't time because I have already been talking for 48 minutes and I'm less than a half way through the agenda. Right, so. In a _____ my main aim for doing this is to encourage people to listen to English as it really is spoken and just to listen because, in my opinion, the students of English, the learners of English that I meet, and I regularly meet them every day from all over the world, the students I've come into contact with don't do enough listening, they don't listen enough. And why? Why don't they do it? Well, because they just don't really think of it. I mean, you, listening to this, you are special, OK, you listen to Luke's English Podcast, well done, you've made a step in the right direction but a lot of people they don't listen enough, so how are you going to, how can you expect to improve your English enough when you are not being exposed to English in the form

of listening enough? Right, so, all I want people to do is just listen a lot and I know that the way to get people listening is to engage them directly into the listening process. Right, so to draw them into, grab their attention. So, pretty much anything I'm trying to do, I mean it's more complex than this but at any given time in my podcast I'm just trying to think of how can I keep their attention and lock them in so that they listen to every single word of this because after, how many episodes, 140 episodes, that is going to be a massive help and in a way all you need to do is just listen and enjoy it. There is an approach by _____ who came up with this idea of the language acquisition theory and in that theory he says that, basically, language isn't so much learnt, you don't like directly learn the language by studying it, although that helps, definitely helps, we also just acquire language just as part of a communicative process, right, so you acquire, you just pick it up. Now I don't think that's the entire story that's not the only way to learn but it's definitely true to an extent, you know, I think it's very important to just connect with English, focus on understanding the message that you are listening to, just get involved in the communicative process now that's not just a conversation that can also be listening to something like this because this is an interaction, you are interacting with this because your all of your thoughts your feeling and your knowledge is combining with what you are hearing and you are interacting with it in your own head and consuming what you are listening to so, that process can be very affective as a way of just taking on or picking up or acquiring English, you hear chunks of language, you hear very commonly occurring phrases or combinations of words and your brain is storing all of these things in a kind of database in your head. And so, eventually, after listening to enough stuff and engaging and understanding it properly and really focusing on it and feeling like you personally involved in it, eventually, your brain will be creating a kind of, a kind of instinct for what's correct and incorrect in the language, OK? So, that's part of what I'm trying to do, there are other aspects to, for example, my, the fact that I can share certain phrases or certain things about language. Recent episodes have been less focused on language they've been more focused on topics or focused on other things to trying engage your attention. I've been interviewing friends, for example, in the recent episodes a cup of tea, a cup of tea with Sebastian Marx or the one with my dad and that's a chance for you to interact because you can send in questions via Facebook and it's a kind of another way to engage you in the communicative process but it's a **complex** that I've been an English teacher for twelve years, I'm university graduated, I've got a higher diploma in English language teaching to adults, I'm fully qualified, I've done lots of academic studying into the process of learning English as a second language. I hope that I know what I'm doing and I know what I'm talking about, you just have to trust me, just what I ask you to do is just listen carefully, try to understand what I'm saying and just enjoy the experience of listening to Luke's English Podcast and if you do that, you will reap the rewards eventually.

Right, next item on the agenda is whiskey in meetings. So, I'd just like to say: "Some people in the building do enjoy a glass of whiskey in meeting" and that's fine, that's absolutely fine, you can keep doing it, they did it in the 70-s and things were OK then, so I don't see why we can't continue to do it now. Just do it in moderation, don't drink too much because it's, well, frankly, it's difficult to achieve anything in the meeting when you are asleep, OK? That's all. OK.

So, next point is about background music and sometimes I wonder whether I should add background music to episodes of the podcast. For example we could hear some, sort of

mysterious atmospheric ambient music a bit like this. It's kind of nice and relaxing, isn't it? Slightly mysterious, may be. Can you hear that? Now I wonder how that affects the general atmosphere of the podcast, does it help? Does it help you to learn words? I don't know but it's nice, isn't it? It's interesting, sometimes I think "I'm going to add a layer of space sounds behind this episode of the podcast in an attempt to create a mysterious atmosphere which could be conducive to the learning of vocabulary and pronunciation" but, you know, we could have had this kind of music from outer space or we could have, I mean like the happy music from earlier on, although it's difficult to sustain that level of happiness for the whole length of an episode or we could go furthermore of a kind of a smooth sort of mellow jazz sound, a bit like this. You are listening to Luke's English Podcast, nice. This is quite possibly the smoothest podcast on the Internet. So _____ you just slide off your trousers and get involved in listening to another episode of quite possibly the nicest, and most lovely, most beautiful and smooth sound of the Internet in English. So, it's kind of nice, nice vibe, yeah, you know what I mean, is a nice feeling listening to this. You are probably thinking: "Luke, what is that beautiful sound?" Oh that's Harby Hancock, great pianist, playing the piano with some other guys playing other instruments. So maybe this is, it's kind of a hip groovy so sound, hey kids, I'm down with a lady's sounds of this new musical jazz, or maybe you are thinking: "Come on grand__, that music is a little bit old fashioned now, isn't it?" In which case may be I should play you something more like this. Yep, I know, you might be thinking: "Oh God! Luke what is this hell of noise, oh God I'm confused, it's electronic, it's too intense", but you know, this could _____ like some kind of amazing backing track to a very hiper very intense version of Luke's English Podcast, good evening Ladies and Gentlemen you are listening to Luke's English Podcast, it's probably the most high energy podcast episode of... now there is a person rapping.... it's still rapping.... I don't understand what she is saying.... speaking too fast rapping rapping rapping rapping rapping rapping rapping.... rapping on the podcast speaking too fast on a podcast... sip sip sip... speaking... making an ask on myself on a podcast speaking too fast... wow wow wow. Oh Lord, that was intense! I was trying to rap, I couldn't rap, someone else was rapping, while I was rapping, it didn't work. It's just weird, now we've got some strange sounds going on, what's happened in this Annual General Meeting Ladies and Gentlemen? What's going on? It's weird whipping, taking over by aliens here. What is happening, because it's like the future suddenly the future has arrived. Is this what happens when the future arrives and the robots have taken over already? Oh my God! Suppose this could be a futuristic, a futuristic version of Luke's English Podcast. You know when the robots come down from space and they take over the world. It's actually not bad I quite enjoy it. But no, quite frankly it's probably better if we don't have very intense electronic music made by robot aliens being played in the background of future episodes of Luke's English Podcast. May be it's OK sometimes, but basically the main thing is can you understand and follow what I'm saying, maybe it's OK to sort of add a bit of atmosphere by using music sometimes but the main thing is the voice, the music of the voice. I suppose that's what it is, I don't know what kind of music my voice creates, I don't know, like amazing, sort of jazz _____end that sentence there. So I need to move much more quickly because I've nearly at one hour and so, in fact, you know what we are going to do? Let's take a quick break, OK? Which can have a quick break you can just nip to the loo, you can go and make a telephone call, try to persuade someone to come and collect you so you don't need to attend

the rest of the meeting, just do whatever you, go to the bank to get some money so you can make a donation, maybe you need to try and go to the itune store in order to download that last piece of music which was called Wonky, that's W O N K Y Wonky by Orbital, OK? So, if you want to hear that again you can just look for Wonky by Orbital otherwise you can just, you know, avoid it at all costs, maybe you need to go and have a lay down in a darkened room with a cup of tea, just do whatever you are going to do Ladies and Gentlemen. We will be back soon in the next part of this Annual General Meeting where I will go through the second half of the agenda which I now realize is far too long and I've got no time management skills at all and I also rumble quite, well, almost incoherently sometimes I just ramble on. That's probably why things always take far too long in this company Luke's English Podcast. It's not a company it's just a, it's just a podcast. Thanks for listening to this and thanks very much for attending this Annual General Meeting, the very first Annual General Meeting even the podcast has been running for four years it's still the first Annual General Meeting and stay tuned for part two which should be available in your general area, your kind of Internet sort of area, that's not a technical term, soon, OK? Right, so thanks everyone if you'd just like to pick up any cups that you've used then just put them in the bin and do close the door on your way out. Thank you very much for attending the meeting and I'll see you at the next part, OK, which is going to start very soon, alright, good, cheers, bye, bye, bye, bye, bye.

[END]