# FUNCTIONS: Asking for Clarification

Unit 2

**Fumbe:** You know what? I strongly believe Adede is a jinx.

**Chizoba:** Sorry, I didn't get your point.

**Fumbe:** I mean she brings bad luck!

**Chizoba :** Could you be more explicit, please?

**Fumbe :** Whenever I meet her something bad happens to me. It's strange! Isn't it?

**Chizoba :** It is indeed. Is that why you are wearing a rabbit's foot as a good-luck charm?

**Fumbe :** Yes, that'll be my only solution to her evil eye.

**1- Answer the following questions:**

**a.** Did Chizoba understand what Fumbe meant by saying Adede is a jinx?

**b.** What expression did Chizoba use to show her lack of understanding?

**c.** What expression did she use to ask for clarification?

**2- Put the following expressions in the correct columns:**

- Would you elaborate on that, please?
- I beg your pardon!
- I beg your pardon, but I don't quite understand.
- I'm not quite sure I know what you mean.
- Could you say that again, please?
- Could you repeat please?
- I'm not quite sure I follow you.
- I don't quite see what you mean.
- Could you clarify that, please?
- I'm not sure I got your point.
- Sorry, I didn't quite hear what you said.
- Could you explain what you mean by...?
- Could you give us an example?
- Sorry, I didn't get your point.
- Could you be more explicit?
- I don't quite see what you're getting at.
- What do you mean by...?
- I wonder if you could say that in a different way.

| Expressing Lack of Understanding | Asking for Clarification |
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**3- Fill in the blanks using the appropriate expressions:**

**Suzan:** "Como estas?"

**Peter:** .....

**Suzan:** I said "como estas?".

**Peter:** .....?

**Suzan:** Sure! How are you? in Spanish Haaahhaahh.

**Peter:** Oh! I'm fine thanks.

**4– What would you say in the following situations ?**

**A.** You're a foreigner and you want to know why some Moroccan people knock the wall and say "**chkiko**" or lick silver when they talk about other people's tragedies.

**B.** You explain to him/her the reason why.

**A.** You're a teacher trying to explain the meaning of "**a witch doctor"** to your student.

**B.** You're a student who doesn't understand and wants more clarification.

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