

Sorry ★★☆☆

(★ = Basic ★★☆☆ = Intermediate ★★☆☆☆ = Advanced)

Grammar Bite

(read this)

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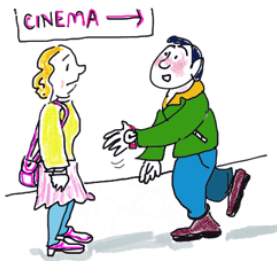
Worksheet

(do this)

Three ways of using **sorry**.

1 “Sorry I... / sorry about...”

To apologize for something that happened.. (looking back)



“Sorry!”
“Sorry about that”
“I’m sorry I’m late”

2 “Sorry to...”

To apologize for something that will happen... (looking forward)



“I’m sorry to say you did not pass the test.”

3 “Sorry for...”

To feel concern for someone else’s troubles:



**I feel (so) sorry for Mick;
his girl friend has left him**

Fill each blank with *to, for, about* or \emptyset [nothing] :

- 1 I feel sorry _____ the children in so many African countries.
- 2 “I’m sorry _____ tell you that John has had an accident.”
- 3 “Somebody has spilt coffee on the sofa!”
“yes, sorry _____ that.”.
- 4 “I’m sorry _____ say that the place is full.”
- 5 They’re sorry _____ they couldn’t stay.
- 6 I was sorry _____ John, he really hurt himself.”
- 7 We are sorry _____ inform you that your application has not been approved.
- 8 “Careful!” “Oh, I’m sorry _____ that.”
- 9 I am sorry _____ all those poor people living in Somalia.
- 10 “I’m sorry _____ I didn’t get back to you.”
- 11 He was sorry not _____ have seen the race.
- 12 “Careful with your coffee!” “Sorry _____ !”

Note

If you use “sorry + clause”, don’t use a preposition:

I’m sorry (that) she wasn’t ready on time.

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¹For DEFINITIONS, go to www.grammarbites.co.uk/definitions