

Foundations of Language Technology: Dialogue

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(from “Doing Pragmatics” by P. Grundy. 1995. pp. 112-115)

A: can you help me I have to go to Edinburgh (.) somebody told 1  
me it was cheaper to go by plain than by train (.) is that 2  
right 3  
B: (1.5) well we`re not British Rail agents so I don`t know 4  
the difference 5  
A: oh I see 6  
B: I can tell you what it is to go to Edinburgh 7  
A: yes (1.0) by plane 8  
B: by plane 9  
A: yeh (1.7) thanks very much 10  
B: (13.0) well there`s a shuttle service (0.4) um (.) sixty pounds one 11  
way (2.5) er (2.3) when do you want to go 12  
A: I want to go at the weekend 13  
B: (0.3) what weekend 14  
A: next weekend (3.5) how does that work you just turn up for 15  
the shuttle service 16  
B: that might be cheaper then (1.8) that`s fifty 17  
A: fifty 18  
B: that`s a saver (0.7) burit it`a stanby 19  
A: a st//andby\* 20  
B: //you ha\*ve to book it in advance but um (.) 21  
A: are you guaranteed a seat 22  
B: (8.0) I don`t think you are 23  
A: so you buy a ticket bef//ore but\* 24  
B: //Ron\* with the shuttle saver 25  
M: (0.8) yeh 26  
B: um (.) are they guaranteed seats 27  
M: (3.5) er 28  
B: this is a new one that Marie`s just added in here (1.7) oh 29  
hang //on see\* 30

M:	//British Airways*	31
B:	see see stop press (( ))	32
M:	(0.3) British Airways	33
B:	yeah	34
M:	er yeah the flight is a standby guarantee (..) yeah you you	35
	turn up and you`ve got to er (1.0) if they can`t get on one	36
	flight they`ll put you on the next any of the next two	37
A:	(0.2) and h//and*	38
B:	//(( ))*	39
A:	how often do they go	40
M:	every two hours	41
A:	every two hours (1.6) so you could wait four hours	42
B:	(1.0) yeh	43
A:	um hum (2.0) and that`s fifty pounds one way	44
B:	yes	45
A:	(0.8) and have you got a timetable for	46
B:	not to give out no (0.7) I can tell you the times but I	47
	don`t	48
A:	ye-es could you tell me how often they go Saturdays and	49
	coming back on Sundays	50
B:	(13.0) all right (0.3) Saturdays you`re going out	51
A:	yeh	52
B:	(1.0) yeh	53
A:	yeh	54
B:	seven-forty nine-forty eleven-forty thirteen-forty	55
A:	(0.6) seven-forty eleven-forty	56
B:	(0.5) seven-forty	57
A:	nine-forty	58
B:	every two hours	59
A:	every two hours on on on forty minutes	60
B:	till (.) nineteen-forty	61
A:	yes (1.3) good	62
B:	and coming back they er (3.4) er (0.4) you`re coming back	63
	Sunday aren`t you	64

A: Sunday please	65
B: (2.8) nine-forty eleven-forty	66
A: ah ha (.) so it`s forty either way and it starts at seven-forty on Saturday from London and nine-forty from Edinburgh on Sunday (.) until what time on Sunday night	67 68 69
B: same time nineteen-forty	70
A: nineteen-forty (.) now what happens if you turn up for the nineteen- forty flight and they get you on any of the next two does that mean Monday (1.5) or do they guarantee to do something about it on Sunday night	71 72 73 74
B: (2.0) I don`t know (.) Ron what happens if he wants the last flight (3.7) will they do it like that or don`t they allow that	75 76 77
M: (1.0) what`s that	78
B: what happens if he wants the last fl//ight*	79
A: //if I*want to come back on the//last flight on the Sunday night*	80 81
B: //( ( ) ) they don`t put *on an extra plane do they	82 83
M: (1.4) well theoretically if it`s full they`re supposed to put a back-up plane on	84 85
A: um hum	86
M: in theory (2.1) whether or not it works in practice I don`t know	87 88
A: (3.0) now if I buy a ticket from you then it costs I I pay you a hundred pounds //(.) n*	89 90
M: //yes*	91
A: then I go there and (0.6) n I`m in their hands	92
M: that`s right sir yes	93
A: do you know what the rail return (.) weekend return to Edinburgh is by any chance	94 95
B: we`re not British Rail //agents*	96
A: //you`are* not a//gents I see*	97
M: //but I`ll*give you a	98

rough idea	99
A: ah ha thank you very much	100
M: (12.0) sixty-eight pounds sixty	101
A: sixty-eight sixty (0.6) good thank you very much (.) I //thin*	102
M: //that`s * from	103
London sir	104
A: that`s from london (.) either way I`ve got to get myself (.)	105
M: yeh	106
A: to the right//place*	107
M: //yes*	108
A: yeh I`ll think about it	109
M: yeh	110
A: thanks very much that`s very helpful (.) bye-bye	111