



Episode 885

Hello!

While I work on some other episodes which I have in the pipeline, here is another rambling episode for you.

The plan for this episode

- Your regular dose of English listening practise
- Some podcast news and updates
- Some stand-up comedy dates
- Some comments relating to recent episodes and answer some questions from listeners
- This will include things like:
 - Whether I give one to one lessons
 - Transcripts on Spotify
 - What LEP Premium actually includes
 - The vocabulary workshop I did on Zoom a few weeks ago. How can you see the recording of it?

- Some thoughts about accents and pronunciation from the Barbara Serra interview
- Why some episodes perform better than others on YouTube
- The crucial difference between a viaduct and an aqueduct
- A little bit about learning music (and teaching it to my kids) and a tour of the guitars in my room
- My intentions for upcoming episodes of this podcast and a look ahead at the summer on LEP
- A song on the guitar, perhaps with some comments and explanations about the lyrics (at the end)

That sort of thing.

How long will this take? How long is a piece of string?

Podcast News & Updates

Good news: I have no plans to stop doing this any time soon.

Premium listeners: P60 parts 1&2 were released. Check them out.

A reminder of what you get when you sign up for LEP Premium

- You get an updated podcast feed which includes all the premium episodes, and also the automatic ads get removed.
- There are over 200 episodes now.
- In 99% of them I teach vocabulary, grammar or pronunciation (or all three).

- There are also quite a lot of story episodes with vocab explanations, grammar practice and pronunciation practice.
- There are a couple of rambling episodes.
- There's a 30-minute recording of a stand-up comedy show I did at the Comedy Store in London.
- You get PDFs for nearly every single premium episode, plus video versions for almost all the ones I've done in the past few years.
- Go to <u>www.teachereluke.co.uk/premium</u> to sign up (choose option 1 -\$4 per month)
- Sign into your Acast+ account access it at www.teacherluke.co.uk/account
- Click "add podcast to app" (or similar) to add the premium feed to a podcast app on your phone. I recommend pocketcasts.
- In the show notes for each premium episode (all marked with a P) you will find links for PDFs and video versions.
- You get new premium episodes every month, plus the entire back catalogue of all the premium episodes, ever.

Luke, I would love to see you perform stand-up comedy on stage. Do you have any shows coming up?

Yes, I do. I have several, including one special show where I am performing a longer set. If you can come - come!



Some stand-up comedy dates

I just have two upcoming shows to tell you about at the moment.

They're both happening in Paris and if you want to see me do stand-up, these would be good shows to come to, if you can.

Paul Taylor & Friends (25 June)

I'm doing about 15 minutes of stand up.

Also on the show - Paul Taylor and other comedians performing in English.

It is always a good show and the quality of performers is high. Procomedians.

100% in English.

Tuesday 25 June at 8PM.

Apollo Theatre in Republique

https://www.apollotheatre.fr/paul-taylor-friends-ouverture-des-ventes-le-14-03-2024-a-10h00-lo3732.html

Same Difference (19 July)

This is a special 2-man show, and I am doing a full 30 minute set!

Come and see me do a longer performance.

Have a drink afterwards.

I *might* do a live podcast recording after the show, in the room, on the stage - but this is not confirmed yet.

Friday 19 July at 8:30PM

Au Soleil de la Butte in Monmartre 32 Rue Muller, 75018 Paris

It's a smaller room than the Apollo.

Charles and I are organising this one ourselves. We're taking over the French Fried Comedy Night. Normally about 5 or 6 comics on the show, but for this one it is just us.

Free entry!

This is the one I recommend!

If you are in Paris - come to the show, have laughs, have a drink and say hi to me if you like! Let me and my friend Charles entertain you for an hour.

I'll remind you about this show again on the podcast over the next few weeks.

If you want to reserve a spot - here's a link (the show is still not listed yet, but it will be soon)

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/french-fried-comedy-night-tickets-6 03182383747

Luke, can you record your stand up shows for those of us who can't come?

I'm afraid not. I don't want to publish all my stand up comedy material online yet.

My reason is that I want to protect my material.

If everyone sees it online, then it won't be a surprise when they see me live. I am hoping, one day, to record it properly and publish it, but I am not ready to do it yet.

Having said that, there is a stand-up show which I recorded in 2018 which you can see if you are a premium subscriber.

It's about 30 minutes of stand up, recorded at the Comedy Store in London.

It's episode P26 in the premium subscription. There is a video version of it too.

I think I have improved since then, but sign up to LEP Premium if you want to see it!

Other Questions from Listeners

Luke do you offer one to one lessons?

Luke - can you add subtitles to episodes on Spotify?

I keep trying but it says the option isn't available at the moment.

So, I keep waiting. I think it's available for podcasts hosted on Spotify and they're working on it for podcasts hosted elsewhere.

You can get subtitles on YouTube. They're 95% accurate.

The accuracy is better when I'm on my own.

You can open the transcript and read along and click on a certain part in order to hear it again.

Always check the episode page on my website - you might find notes and transcripts there. The link is always in the description.

Comments on recent episodes



877. "How to learn vocabulary" a conversation with Clare Whitmell

This was a preview of my Zoom workshop on learning vocabulary which happened in April at some point.

Some of you were there - it was very nice to see those of you who were there and quite a lot of people made a point of saying some lovely things about the podcast, which is always extremely encouraging for me, so thank you for that.

For those of you who didn't/couldn't attend - I'm going to publish it on the podcast soon.

I was wondering whether I should publish the recording of the workshop, or if I will just make a whole new episode using the slides I created.

I will have to do that for the audio version in any case (the audio from the workshop wouldn't work as an audio episode).

In any case - you will get that at some point.





878. From Learning to Teaching and Beyond (with Elena Mutonono)

Elena is an inspiration and a great help for a lot of teachers trying to make it on their own.

She is also very inspiring for fellow learners of English, and plenty of listeners expressed this sentiment in comments.

Here is a selection of the top comments (most upvoted) on YouTube.

Comments from YouTube

roman

1 month ago

I am from Ukraine and I found the whole monologue of Helena amazingly touching and inspiring. I almost cried sometimes. she made incredible progress and the way she talks about is so relevant.

Thank you both for this podcast.

@ElenaMutonono

1 month ago

Thank you for tuning in, Roman! I'm glad it's inspiring to you <3



879. Think Fast, Talk Smart: Communication Techniques for Spontaneous Speaking with Matt Abrahams

This was a wonderful conversation which was absolutely full of great advice from Matt.

Matt was a great guest.

Top comments

@AliceinWonderland631

This is one of the most useful channels for learning English

@Crisguay

When one of the best communicators I've ever met tells us that he blushes when he speaks, it makes me feel like we're all the same

and a little more confident in myself and my way of conveying information in the language I'm learning. Thank you for getting down to our level. This is really motivating!!

I was happy to talk about blushing. It's annoying but it's something that happens to everyone. It's nice to know that loads of other people have the same experience, and generally people find it quite endearing.



880. Is Paris ready for the Olympic Games 2024? (Article + Vocabulary)

Top comments

@chantalpat2514

4 weeks ago

As a French person living in the south of France, I recently discovered your podcasts and I find them amazing, especially the Short stories - But all are so interesting, clearly explained - many thanks for this enormous work for us.

@shihabahmad9861

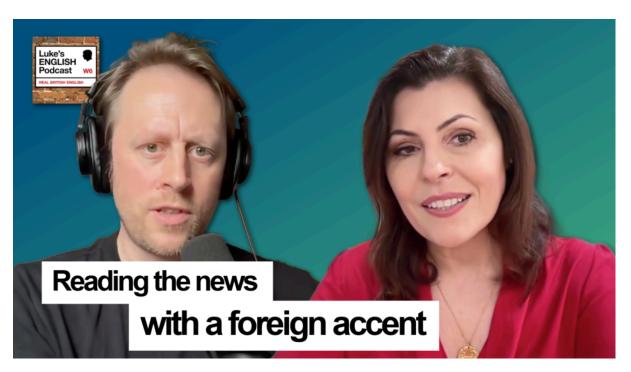
4 weeks ago

Thank you Luke for your efforts and explaining bit by bit and word by word..

If you listened to the end of that episode, you heard a lot of vocabulary explanations. It would be good to recap a lot of that in a premium episode.

At least I recommend going back through the word list to refresh your memory.

You can find it on the episode page for 880 in the archive www.teacherluke.co.uk/episodes



881. The first non-native speaker to read the UK TV news (with Barbara Serra)

It was great to talk to Barbara.

13/36

She was very down to earth, very professional, very honest, tried her best to be as insightful and clear about her experiences relating to using English in her work and especially about considerations around accents.

A response to Barbara Serra's episode (from the website page)

Mahboubeh

Finally, does learning a specific accent matter or not?

To add context - Barbara is an Italian-born journalist who describes herself as a non-native speaker who has English as her dominant language. She learned English from the age of about 9 when she moved to Denmark and went to an international school and these days English is the language she uses the most and probably feels most comfortable in - but people can still tell she's not British).

Barbara told several stories in which she talked about how her foreign-sounding accent caused some problems for her when working as a TV newsreader - she said she was taken "off air" because people complained that her accent was foreign-sounding, and she also talked about how a British RP accent still carries a lot of clout in the world of broadcast journalism - it stands as a kind of model for clear, respectable and impressive sounding speech, but she also said that learners of English shouldn't worry too much about sounding "British" because it's actually nearly impossible to gain a British accent with no trace or imprint from your first language, and you should just be yourself and own it - but there is absolutely no room for compromise when it comes to clarity and this is the most important thing.

I can understand that there was a bit of a mixed message in there. Should you strive to learn a particular accent or not?

First of all I think it's important to make a distinction between a "clear" accent and a "British accent" (and by British accent in this instance we are talking about a standard British BBC accent - modern RP like the way I speak, more or less).

This British accent means speaking in a way that shows that you are British - you use all the sounds, inflections, stress, intonation etc that are completely typical for this way of speaking.

But speaking with clarity might mean that your accent can be placed somewhere - often this just means "outside of the UK" or "foreign but we're not sure where, exactly" or "from this particular place but we can understand you perfectly".

I expect a lot of people expect that a British accent is by definition the "correct" accent.

But really first and foremost an accent should be considered correct if it is clear - if people understand you perfectly when you speak.

*A side note about listening skills here. I'm afraid you still have to develop your listening skills to be able to understand people who don't speak clearly, and the definition of what is "clear" can change depending on the situation.

I mean - learners of English who are familiar with BBC English or standard American pronunciation might hear someone from Glasgow and conclude that their English is impossible to understand, but clearly this isn't true because people in Glasgow understand each other just fine, and so do plenty of other people of course.

My point here is - yes, you should strive for clear speech as much as you can, but also strive for good listening skills and don't just expect everyone to speak to you in a certain way, and just dismiss them if they don't.

English is a very diverse language and you should be willing and prepared to understand all the varieties.

Being a great speaker means being clear.

Being a great listener means being able to understand all kinds of speech.

Two different skills.

Anyway, what about this question from Mahboubeh?

Finally, does learning a specific accent matter or not?

Luke's Reply

I think it depends on the context in which you will be using English. According to what Barbara said, if you're reading the national news to a UK audience, then yes it does matter - you should sound like a British person.

Otherwise, in most other cases when you are speaking English in an international context or when it's fine to sound a bit foreign, then it's ok to have a bit of an accent. What is vital in all situations is clarity. It's possible to have a foreign accent and still be very clear. Clarity is the main thing, and the ability to make connections with the people you're talking to.

Luke comes back from the future to continue the conversation with Mahboubeh.

Hello, this is Luke from the future. It's still raining, by the way.

I'm interrupting here just because since I recorded this, Mahboubeh replied to my reply, and asked a good question which I am sure a lot of other people listening have thought about.

So, even though this will extend the length of this episode even further, I just wanted to add a few more comments and perhaps draw a line under this issue.

Let me read out Mahboubeh's comment and I'll add my thoughts as I go.

Mahboubeh → **Luke Thompson**

9 hours ago

Thank you very very much for your clear response, but there's something I've been struggling with. I'm not sure if it was episode 762 (meditation and learning english) where you had a conversion with Antony Rotunno, talking about your ability to speak French like a native speaker and that the fear of being judged might stop you from speaking as well as you are able to (actually I'm not sure if i

get the point cause I'm not sure if you sait that in terms of accent or not and if i don't, sorry for that).

I mean according to what you've said, is there anything wrong with a learner who wants to omit the effects of his/her first language and try to speak with an accent she/he prefers to? (of course with clarity i mean)

Would the individual be judged by native speakers? or does it sound ridiculous to native speakers? Then, why would we try something like the shadowing technique?



882. 47 "Funny" Country Jokes, Explained 🌍 😂 Learn English with Humour

I really enjoyed this and was extremely happy with the overwhelmingly positive response the episode got.

It was great to add a bit of levity and just to have some fun with some pretty awful and cringeworthy jokes (although some of them were actually really funny I think).

I'll do some more joke explaining at some point. I have been collecting more jokes.

@nathaliadepaula6121

2 weeks ago

You explaining each one of them is even funnier 😂 😂 😂 😂

My personal favourites from the episode.

- 1. What's the best thing about Switzerland?

 I don't know, but the flag is a big plus.
- Amsterdam is a lot like the Tour de France.
 Just a lot of people on drugs riding bikes.
- 3. Which country's capital is growing the fastest? Ireland. Every day it's Dublin.
- Why do bagpipe players walk while they play?
 To get away from the noise.
- 5. Why is it hard to make friends in Antarctica?

 Because you can't break the ice.
- 6. I've heard that Argentina is starting to get a little colder... In fact, it's bordering on Chile.
- 7. Did you hear McDonalds will stop serving fries in Switzerland?

 Because the Swiss don't take sides.

By the way, I get the one about Greece, but I just think it's a terrible joke.

What are Greek houses made out of? Greeks and con-Crete!

Greeks here means "bricks" but the words don't rhyme (in UK English) and why would you make houses out of people??

The best jokes make sense on both levels.

Which country's capital is growing the fastest? Ireland, because every day it's Dublin.

It's not perfect but both meanings do make sense.

- 1. Dublin is expanding by 100% every day, which is why it is growing the fastest. (ok this is not true but it's feasible)
- 2. Dublin is the capital of Ireland every day.

Both sentences mean something.

Argentina is bordering on Chile.

- 1. Argentina shares a border with Chile.
- 2. Argentina is getting colder and is nearly chilly. (not actually true but still makes sense)

Both meanings make some sense.

I'm trying to think of a joke that works well on both levels.

Why did the scarecrow win the prize? He was outstanding in his field.

- 1. He won the prize because he was better than everyone else
- (oustanding).

 2. He won the prize because he was doing his job (standing, ou
- 2. He won the prize because he was doing his job (standing, out in a field)



But...

What are Greek houses made out of? Greeks and con-Crete!

1. Greek houses are made of bricks and concrete (OK this makes sense)

2. Greek houses are made of Greek people, and con-Crete (huh?)

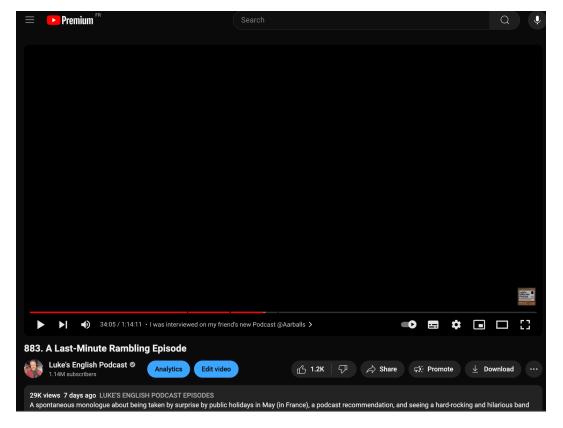


883. A Last-Minute Rambling Episode

In this one I recorded the whole episode, then checked the recording and discovered that my camera wasn't capturing anything.

Thankfully the microphone worked.

I didn't have the time (or the heart) to re-record it, so I blessed the podcasting gods that the audio got recorded and just published that. The audio podcast was not affected, but the video version had a completely black screen, like the Spinal Tap album cover.



■ None More Black - The Inspiration

@rosilynnloopainting

7 days ago

It's great to really listen to you and not get distracted by the visuals.

This episode on YouTube underperformed - meaning that it didn't get picked up by the algorithm and therefore not so many people watched it, probably because of reasons like this:

 Fewer people than normal clicked on the thumbnail (because it was a bit weird - a black outline of me - it looked like a vague black ghost or something). Maybe I could have done something better, but I don't want to use clickbait.

I just don't like it. So, I always want to show in the thumbnail

- roughly what you're going to get in the episode. This time it was a video without a video. Anyway, the thumbnail probably affected the "click through rate" (one of the factors which affects the success of a video).
- 2. People probably didn't watch it for very long, or didn't click "like" because there was no video just a black screen. I expect quite a lot of people "jumped ship" and stopped watching, which affected the "watch time" (another factor which affects performance and the algorithm).

Those two factors meant that the video didn't get promoted in things like suggested videos etc.

As a result, the episode got fewer views, because it was being suggested to fewer people etc.

The audio podcast version did well, as the audio episodes usually do - because of the nature of the platform. If you are subscribed to the audio podcast, you receive each new episode in your app and you probably listen to it with less of a judgement or expectation, and you're more likely to continue listening and finish the episode. YouTube is always suggesting new videos for you, and they often have very intriguing or compelling thumbnails, and so the likelihood is that you'll click away more easily.

But the people who stayed and listened to the episode - on YouTube (and in audio-land I suppose - although I get less feedback on audio episodes), liked it and a few people understood that with this show it's the listening part which is the most important, and listening without video is actually great, for lots of reasons (which I gave in the episode).

So, consider downloading PocketCasts on your phone and then subscribing to LEP on there.

Then you can listen to all the episodes while you are doing other things, and you don't have to stare at the screen the entire time. Of course, if you prefer watching on YouTube, that's great. I just wanted you to consider the other option - the audio podcast.

A correction from episode 883

I talked about "doing the bridge" in France, which is when there's a public holiday on a Tuesday or Thursday, and people take the Monday or Friday off to make an extra long weekend.

Then I mentioned times when there's an super extra-long weekend, when two public holidays arrive right next to each other in the middle of the week - Weds and Thurs - and people take a day off, creating a 5-day weekend, which is what happened a few weeks ago.

In fact my son's creche took the Monday off as well (for a training day) and so it was a 6-day weekend. And in France people are calling this a viaduct.

I said a viaduct was a big Roman bridge which carried water - but of course that is an aqueduct.

So I just wanted to clarify what a viaduct and aqueduct are.

An aqueduct is a big Roman bridge which carried water over a valley or riverbed.

A viaduct is a similar structure to an aqueduct, but it is (or was) designed to carry a road or railway - very high, goes across a valley.

This just in!

My friend just sent me this and I have to share it.

Rich Ben, it means rich.. 😂 🤣



Prince William has been named UK's third sexiest man of 2024.





884. British Music: Madness (with James)

This episode was a bit of a labour of love - because I spent so much time working on it - inserting the clips, editing the conversation (there were quite a few little interruptions and things) and generally putting the whole thing together.

But I really enjoyed getting back into the music of Madness and also learning more about this band that James and I have been fans of since we were kids.

And it's always nice to chat with James on the show.

But again, the video version on YouTube underperformed - probably for the same reasons as the previous one, and because the title and thumbnail didn't quite catch people's attention as much as other episodes (the country jokes one, the short story ones - they have catchy titles, catchy thumbnails and an obvious sense of appeal for the average learner of English).

A response to the Madness episode with a couple of questions @annasamek5179 • 6 minutes ago

Hi Luke! I really enjoyed this episode with your brother James. Your enthusiasm for music is really infectious. I had never heard of the band Madness before, but I was certainly familiar with the songs Our House and One Step Beyond, although before this podcast, I wouldn't have been able to identify the band. But now thanks to you and your brother, I know more! I hope you will continue talking about music in future podcasts.

I would be really interested in finding out how you learned to play musical instruments and what you think about teaching music to young children and adults.

Are you planning to give, for example, piano lessons to your kids? Are you familiar with American youtuber Rick Beato? His son developed perfect pitch at a very young age.

- The benefits of learning musical instruments
- How I learned to play different instruments
- Are you planning to teach music to your kids?
- Am I familiar with Rick Beato and his son (Dylan) who has perfect pitch?

I also received a comment at some point recently from someone asking me to give a quick tour of the instruments in my room and to talk about them a little bit.

I talked about my guitars a little bit in a recent episode but I am happy to do it again!

Luke takes a 21-hour break

Intentions & plans for upcoming episodes

I get quite a lot of requests for the most popular types of episode stories, articles, explaining things like jokes, song lyrics and the walk & talk episodes as well.

I want to do these things, but they do take time - finding the right materials, finding ways to present the topics, choosing language to highlight and explain (and preparing that a bit) and overall preparing the visuals for the video versions - notes, text for the screen etc.

It all takes time and I'm always working on lots of different episodes at the same time.

Rambling episodes usually take less preparation, so when time is tight, I can do them, buying myself more time to prepare.

Stories - I'm working on several story episodes at the moment including some that I am writing myself and that requires a bit of extra work - I'm trying to make the stories as good as possible.

Being a good writer is tricky! It's hard to compete with the likes of Roald Dahl, Katherine Brush, etc.

I'm also looking for interesting true stories and anecdotes written on sites like Quora, Reddit etc.

So, I'm searching for and preparing short stories all the time.

I have also been playing around with AI to see if it can create stories which I think are good enough. Most of the time the stories written by ChatGPT for example are not quite right. They just lack a certain special something.

Al stories often don't include the details which make stories come alive - bits of dialogue, moments of humour or other human elements. But they can provide a starting point which I can work on.

So I am working with some AI stories, to try to develop them into the kind of thing I can use on the podcast.

Articles - it's the same as above, basically. I'll read out more articles and explain language I find in them, as well as discussing the topics.

It also takes time to prepare this kind of thing. There are lots of articles online which I can adapt.

Explaining song lyrics - I have a couple of episodes like this in the pipeline. They both involve actually singing the songs to you, which might result in copyright strikes and loss of revenue on YouTube.

Every episode is an experiment.

Walk & Talk - I'm waiting for the good weather to return and then I will go for a walk with my camera and microphone by the river and will talk about a specific topic - I think my next topic in the list is health and keeping fit.

Conversations with guests - friends, family, other people. It's important for you to hear conversations, especially with people you are less familiar with.

If you understand me all the time, this is fine and it's good to get comprehensible input, but if you only ever listen to me then you could get a slightly false sense of your own ability, and you'll be unable to understand other people, and there's a chance you will end up with that attitude of "Meh, these people don't speak properly! I will only put up with properly spoken English!" which would be a pity, because not only does that sound snobbish, it also would betray the fact that your listening skills still aren't quite up to scratch.

The Rick Thompson Report - remember that?

UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak (not for long) recently announced a general election in the UK, seemingly taking most of the governing Conservative party by surprise, making it clear that the party is surely doomed.

But what's going on in UK politics in this big election year?

I feel a Rick Thompson Report coming on. It's been a while, hasn't it? Why?

Well, my dad *is* retired, and so I don't want to hassle him to do journalism, *for free* of course.

Also, he has been fairly busy writing a third book (I'll interview him about that when it's ready).

Back to conversation episodes - I have about 5 in the pipeline, and I'm spreading them out a bit - publishing them one by one, but with solo episodes in between.

But you can expect a couple of work-related episodes coming up, including one about job interviews, one about networking in English.

Also one with a friend of mine who is a journalist who lived in China for 3 years (Charles - who I am doing the comedy show with on 19 July), and one with Alastair from English Learning for Curious Minds in which we do a sort of True Crime episode.

All that will be coming up over the next few weeks, along with some solo episodes which are still coming together.

Summer will be busy - will LEP be affected?

August off, and a busy June/July

As usual at this time of year I reckon that there might be no episodes for a while in the summer as I am unable to record anything - certainly in August, but also during parts of July.

I'm teaching a couple of intensive English courses at the British Council in June and July, which means teaching all day and then rushing home to look after the kids - no time for podcasting, just collapsing and recovering in the evenings!

It also might be brutally hot.

In August we're going away on holiday for about 3 weeks and so I will be away from my computer and won't be able to do anything.

So, like last year, I am going to try to record as many episodes as possible in the next few weeks in order to have a backlog which I can publish during July and August, to cover my absence.

But I might not manage it. Time is tight. So there might be no episodes in August - but please don't forget about LEP.

It will return in September, when I have more time at my disposal.

I'll try to make sure there is premium content all the way through the summer. Two episodes a month at a minimum.

I have plenty of other ideas for episodes - it's all just a matter of time management. Episode 900 is coming up, and then I've got my sights set on episode 1000. Another nice milestone!

Luke can you tell us a bit about the guitars in your room? Yes, I would be happy to!

I will try to just give you one or two brief bits of info about each one - brief stories about how I got the guitars or something else related

to them, and I'll see if I can play them all for you a bit (certainly the bass guitars).

Luke talks about the different guitars, and ukuleles in his room

Luke - learn finger picking on the guitar

I've tried and can't do it - but I should practise.

How about this one?

D

Homeward bound

Homeward Bound Chords by Simon & Garfunkel

Homeward Bound C	noras by Sin	<u>1011 & Gart</u>	<u>unkei</u>	
[Verse 1] A*				
I'm sitting in the railw	vay station			
C#m/G#	C#dim/G F	- #		
Got a ticket for my d	estination, n	nm-mmm		
Bm	G			
On a tour of one-nigl	ht stands, my	y suitcase	and guitar i	n hand
Α	Ε	Α		
And every stop is ne	atly planned	for a poet	and one-m	an band
[Chorus]				
(A) D A				
Homeward bound, I	wish I was			

A Bm A G D/A
Home where my thought's escaping
A Bm A G D/A
Home where my music's playing
A Bm A G D/A
Home where my love lies waiting
E A
Silently for me
[Verse 2]
A*
Every day's an endless stream
C#m/G# C#dim/G F#
Of cigarettes and magazines, mm-mmm
Bm G
And each town looks the same to me, the movies and the factories
A E A
And every stranger's face I see reminds me that I long to be
[Chorus]
(A) D A
Homeward bound, I wish I was
D
Homeward bound
A Bm A G D/A
Home where my thought's escaping
A Bm A G D/A
Home where my music's playing
A Bm A G D/A
Home where my love lies waiting

Ε Α Silently for me [Verse 3] **A*** Tonight I'll sing my songs again, C#dim/G F# C#m/G# I'll play the game and pretend, mm-mmm Bm G But all my words come back to me in shades of mediocrity Α Ε Like emptiness in harmony I need someone to comfort me [Chorus] (A) D Α Homeward bound, I wish I was D Homeward bound Α Bm A G D/A Home where my thought's escaping Α Bm A G D/A Home where my music's playing Α Bm A G D/A Home where my love lies waiting Ε Α Silently for me [Outro] C#m/G# C#dim/G A Silently for me