

## *In the garden*

British English 

Transcription taken from

### **Hodder Plus**

<http://www.hodderplus.co.uk/linguistics/Gimsons/pdfs/Connected-Texts-phonetic.pdf> (visited 05-Aug-12)

<http://www.hodderplus.co.uk/linguistics/Gimsons/pdfs/EPPTxts-orthographic.pdf> (visited 05-Aug-12)

### **Make a phonemic (broad) transcription of the following passage:**

(Speakers: George Smith and Mr. Robinson.)

Robinson Good afternoon, Smith! Out in the garden, I see! It'll keep us all busy for the next few weeks, won't it?

George Oh, hallo, Robinson! I'm not really what you might call 'out in the garden' yet. This is by way of being a reconnaissance. Just to see what the winter's left us.

Robinson Yes. I know. I've been itching to get out here for weeks. But there's been so much rain that one couldn't get on to the soil. Fortunately, I haven't lost any plants through the frost. I take precautions, you know. It's a bit expensive in time and money. But it's worth it in the long run. How did you fare?

George Well, what I'm particularly interested in at the moment is a little patch of mint I put in last year. I shan't be at all popular with Mary if that's disappeared. That looks rather like it over there! What do you think? Can you see over the fence?

Robinson Just a minute. I'm having to pick my way rather gingerly over the flower-bed. Oh, yes. That's mint all right. But it's rather badly choked, isn't it?

George The grass, you mean? Yes. This bed gets covered with grass every year between my autumn and summer appearances. It's an awful job digging it out every spring. And, of course, the bed gets lower and lower as I take out more and more soil. And then it floods every time it rains.

Robinson You go about it in the wrong way. You ought to dig the bed over every year in the late autumn. Tidy it up, and don't let the grass get a hold. I never have that sort of trouble. Except, if I may say so, where a little comes through from your side of the fence.

George Oh, I am sorry! I really must be more careful about that in the future. You seem to manage to keep your garden in such a disciplined state. Nature wins hands down every time with me.



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- Robinson It's a matter of time and patience, you know. You may have noticed that I'm out here most evenings when it's light. Not to mention nearly every week-end. There's always something to do. Something to tidy up. I enjoy just pottering about out here.
- George I'm sure that's the only way to do it. I'm afraid my gardening consists of a few violent skirmishes during the season. By the way, Mary and I've been intrigued by the splendid hole you've been digging over there for the last few days. Are you sinking a mine by any chance?
- Robinson Good gracious, no! You will have your joke! I've been busy constructing an ornamental pond. We think it'll be a great joy when it's finished. Though it's taking longer than I thought it would.
- George Will you keep fish in it?
- Robinson Oh, yes. Though I haven't quite decided what sort to have. As a matter of fact, I've got a couple of books on the rearing and care of fish out of the local library. It's a fascinating subject. Though I can't say I've done more than scratch the surface as yet.
- George I'm sure we can look forward to having a well-behaved colony of fish next door. Didn't I feel a spot of rain? Pity! I'll have to postpone my inspection.
- Robinson It's not going to be very much. Not enough to send a real gardener scurrying indoors. Before you go, you won't mind if I mention just one thing, will you? This fence is yours, you know. And I'm afraid that in a good many places it needs attention. I did nail up one section when it blew down in November. But it was more than a temporary repair. I've been meaning to have a word with you about it for some time.
- George I really must apologise. I know the fence is my responsibility And I feel very guilty for not having done anything about it before. But I promise you I'll get some fencing contractors to come and have a look at it, and put up a new one if necessary.
- Robinson Well, if you want any help, just let me know. Now it really is coming on. Good for the young plants!
- George I must be off! I'll see you again during the next fine spell.



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### 'In ðə ˌɡɑːdn

'spi:kəz / 'dʒɑːdʒ 'smiθ / ən 'miːstə ˌrɒbɪnsn.

rɒbɪnsn      ɡʊd aɪftə ˌnuːn smiθ. / 'aʊt ɪn ðə 'ɡɑːdn aɪ siː. / ɪtl 'kiːp əs 'ɔːl biːzɪ /  
fə ðə nek s fjuː ˌwiːks / 'wəʊnt ɪt?

dʒɑːdʒ      əʊ 'hɪləʊ / ˌrɒbɪnsn. / aɪm nɒt 'riːli wɒt juː maɪt ˌkɔːl / ˌaʊt ɪn ðə ˌɡɑːdn  
jet. / 'ðɪs ɪz baɪ weɪ əv biːɪŋ ə ri'kɒnɪsn. / 'dʒʌst tə siː wɒt ðə 'wɪntəz left  
əs.

rɒbɪnsn      'jes. / aɪ 'nəʊ. / aɪv biːn 'ɪtʃɪŋ tə get ˌaʊt hɪə / fə 'wiːks. / bət ðəz biːn səʊ  
mʌtʃ ˌreɪn / ðæt wʌn 'kʊdn get ɒn tə ðə 'sɔːl. / ˌfɔːtʃənətɪ / aɪ 'hævnt lɒst  
'eni plɑːnts / θruː ðə ˌfrɒst. / aɪ teɪk pri'kɔːfɪz juː nəʊ. / ɪts ə bɪt  
ɪkspensɪv ɪn taɪm ən ˌmʌni. / bət ɪts wɜːθ ɪt ɪn ðə 'lɒŋ ˌrʌn. / 'hau dɪd 'juː  
feə?

dʒɑːdʒ      wel wɒt aɪm pə'ɪkʃəleɪ ˌɪntrəstɪd ɪn / ət ðə ˌməʊmənt / ɪz ə 'ɪtl pætf əv  
'mɪnt aɪ pʊt ɪn lɑːst jɪə. / aɪ 'ʃaːnt biː ət 'ɔːl pɒpjulə / wɪð ˌmeəri / ɪf  
'ðæts dɪsə ˌpɪəd. / 'ðæt lʊks rɑːðə ˌlaɪk ɪt / 'əʊvə 'ðeə. / 'wɒt dʊ 'juː θɪŋk?  
/ kæn juː 'siː əʊvə ðə fens?

rɒbɪnsn      'dʒʌst ə ˌmɪnɪt. / aɪm 'hævɪŋ tə pi:k maɪ > weɪ / 'rɑːðə > dʒɪndʒəleɪ / əʊvə ðə  
'flaʊəbed. / 'əʊ ˌjes. / ðæts 'mɪnt ɔːl ˌraɪt. / bət ɪts rɑːðə bædɪ ˌtʃəʊkt /  
'ɪznt ɪt?

dʒɑːdʒ      ðə 'ɡraːs juː miːn? / 'jes. / ðɪs bed gets 'kʌvəd wɪð ɡraːs / 'evrɪ jɪə /  
bɪtwɪn maɪ ˌɔːtəm ən sʌmə ə ˌpɪərənsɪz. / ɪts ən ˌɔːfl dʒɒb dɪŋɪ ɪt aʊt  
evrɪ sprɪŋ. / ənd əv 'kɔːs / ðə bed gets 'ləʊə əv ˌləʊə / əz aɪ 'teɪk > aʊt /  
'mɔːr ən mɔː ˌsɔːl. / ən 'ðen ɪt ˌflɪdz / 'evrɪ taɪm ɪt ˌreɪnz.

rɒbɪnsn      juː 'ɡəʊ ə > baʊt ɪt / ɪn ðə 'rɒŋ 'weɪ. / juː 'ɔːt tə dɪŋ ðə bed > əʊvə / 'evrɪ jɪə  
ɪn ðə leɪt 'ɔːtəm. / 'taɪdɪ ɪt 'ʌp / ən 'dəʊnt let ðə ɡraːs get ə 'həʊld. / 'aɪ  
ˌnevə hæv ðæt sɔːt əv trʌbl. / ɪk'sept / ɪf aɪ meɪ ˌseɪ səʊ / weə ə ɪtl kʌmz  
θruː frɪm 'jɔː saɪd əv ðə fens.

dʒɑːdʒ      əʊ aɪ ˌæm sɒri. / aɪ 'riːli mʌst biː mɔː 'keəfl / əbaʊt ˌðæt / ɪn ðə ˌfjuːtʃə.  
/ 'juː siːm tə mənɪdʒ tə kiːp jɔː ˌɡɑːdn / ɪn sʌtʃ ə 'dɪsɪplɪnd steɪt. / 'neɪtʃə  
wɪnz hændz 'daʊn / 'evrɪ 'taɪm / wɪð ˌmiː.



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- rɒbɪnsn      its ə 'mætər əv taɪm ən 'peɪfns juː nəʊ. / juː meɪ əv ˜nəʊtɪst / ðæt aɪm 'aʊt  
hɪə 'məʊst ɪːvniŋz / wen its ,laɪt. / 'nɒt tə 'menʃn / nɪəli evrɪ wɪ:k ˜end. /  
ðəz ɔːlwɪz `slɪmθɪŋ tə ,duː. / `slɪmθɪŋ tə taɪdɪ ,ɹp. / `aɪ ɪn ,dʒɔɪ / dʒɹst  
'rɒtəriŋ ə'baut aʊt hɪə.
- dʒɔːdʒ      aɪm ʃɔː ðæts ðiː əʊnlɪ weɪ tə ˜duː ɪt. / aɪm əfreɪd `maɪ ,gɑːdnɪŋ / kənsɪsts  
əv ə 'fjuː vaɪələnt `skɜːmɪʃɪz / 'dʒʊəriŋ ðə `sɪzn. / baɪ ðə `weɪ / 'meəri ənd  
aɪv bɪːn ɪn'trɪːgd / baɪ ðə 'splendɪd `həʊl juːv bɪːn dɪŋɪŋ əʊvə ðeə fə ðə laɪst  
fjuː deɪz. / 'ɑː juː sɪŋkɪŋ ə ,maɪn baɪ enɪ tʃɑːns?
- rɒbɪnsn      gʊd 'greɪfəs ,nəʊ. / juː wɪl hæv ʒɔː ˜dʒəʊk / aɪv bɪːn 'bɪzɪ kən ˘strʌktɪŋ /  
ən 'ɔːnəmentl `rɒnd. / wɪː θɪŋk ɪtl bɪː ə 'greɪt dʒɔɪ / wen its ,fɪnɪʃt. / ðəʊ  
ɪts teɪkɪŋ lɒŋgə ðn aɪ `θɔːt ɪt ,wʊd.
- dʒɔːdʒ      wɪl juː kɪːp 'fɪʃ ɪn ɪt?
- rɒbɪnsn      'əʊ 'jes. / ðəʊ aɪ hævnt kwɑɪt dɪsaɪdɪd wɒt `ɔːt tə ,hæv. / əz ə mætər əv  
˜fækt / aɪv gʊt ə 'kɹɪl əv ˘bʊks / ʊn ðə 'rɪəriŋ ən 'keər əv fɪʃ / 'aʊt əv ðə  
ləʊkl 'laɪbrəri. / its ə ,fæsəneɪtɪŋ slɒbdʒɪkt. / ðəʊ aɪ 'kaɪnt seɪ aɪv dɹn ˘mɔː  
/ ðn 'skræʃ ðə `sɜːfɪs / əz ,jet.
- dʒɔːdʒ      aɪm 'ʃɔː wɪː kn lʊk ˘fɔːwəd / tə hævɪŋ ə 'wel bɪ'heɪvd kɒləni əv fɪʃ neks dɔː.  
/ 'dɪdnt aɪ fɪːl ə spɒt əv ,reɪn? / ,pɪtɪ. / aɪl 'hæf tə pəʊs`pəʊn maɪ ɪnspekʃn.
- rɒbɪnsn      its ,nɒt gəʊɪŋ tə bɪː veri ,mʌʃ. / nɒt ɪnlf tə send ə `rɪəl ,gɑːdnə / ,sklɹɪŋ  
ɪn ,dɔːz. / bɪ`fɔː juː ,gəʊ / juː `wəʊnt maɪnd ɪf aɪ menʃn dʒɹst wɹn ,θɪŋ wɪl  
juː? / 'ðɪs fens ɪz `ʒɔːz juː nəʊ. / ənd aɪm ə ˜freɪd / ðæt ɪn ə gʊd `meni  
,pleɪsɪz / ɪt 'nɪːdz ə'tenʃn. / aɪ dɪd neɪl ɹp `wɹn ,sekʃn / wen ɪt blʊː ,daʊn  
ɪn nəʊ ,vembə. / bət ɪt wəz nəʊ mɔː ðn ə `tempɹəri rɪ ,peə. / aɪv bɪːn  
'mɪːnɪŋ tə hæv ə ,wɜːd wɪð juː əbaut ɪt / fə 'slɪm `taɪm.
- dʒɔːdʒ      aɪ 'rɪəli `mʌst ə ,rɒlədʒaɪz. / aɪ nəʊ ðə `fens ɪz ,maɪ rɪspɒnsəbɪlɪtɪ. / ənd  
aɪ fɪːl `veri ɡɪltɪ / fə 'nɒt hævɪŋ dɹn enɪθɪŋ əbaut ɪt bɪ'fɔː. / bət aɪ `prɒmɪs  
juː | / aɪl get sm `fensɪŋ kən ,træktəz / tə 'kɹɪm ən hæv ə 'lʊk ət ɪt / ən 'pʊt  
ɹp ə `ŋjuː wɹn / ɪf ,nesəsɪtɪ.
- rɒbɪnsn      wel ɪf juː wɒnt enɪ ˜help / 'dʒɹst let mɪː `nəʊ. / nəʊ ɪt rɪəli ˘ɪz kɹmɪŋ ʊn. /  
gʊd fə ðə ʒɹŋ ˜plɑːnts.
- dʒɔːdʒ      'aɪ məst bɪː `ɒf. / aɪl 'sɪː juː ə ˘geɪn / dʒʊəriŋ ðə `nekst faɪn spel.

