

## Insurance English: Are You a Risky Person?

I have pretty cheap health insurance. . . because I have never been to a hospital. So, my insurance company thinks that they won't need to pay much money for me. Other people, like my wife, pay much more for health insurance, because the insurance company expects to pay a lot more for them.

Today, we're going to learn some vocabulary to discuss why your insurance premiums are as high—or as low—as they are.

### Before You Start the Recording

Think about the kind of insurance you use most. In the recording, I'll talk about car insurance, because a lot of people have and use car insurance. Do you know what your premiums are? Do you know what your friends are paying for the same insurance? Can you explain why the prices are different?

Start the recording now.

### After You've Listened to the Recording

Do you think you're a risky person? Does your insurance company think you're a risky person? Have you ever filed a claim with your insurance company? Is car insurance mandatory in your country? Health insurance?

### Vocabulary

**Claim:** You buy an insurance policy in case something bad happens and you need money. Of course, most of us hope that nothing bad *ever* happens, but, when it does, you want the money from your insurance company. You '*file a claim*' with the insurance company, that means, you tell them what happened and how much money you'll need.

**Risk /Risky:** *Risk* is the probability or chance of something bad happening. When we talk about insurance, the risk is normally the probability of you filing a claim with your insurance company. The higher the company thinks the risk is, the higher your premiums will be.

**Mandatory:** Do you have to buy car insurance in your country? If you do, car insurance is '*mandatory*.' Mandatory means that you are required to have or buy something. In fact, you can use it the same way you can use the word 'required.'