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No.174

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MOVEMBER 



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THE **KEY** TO BEING HAPPY!

THE MYSTERY OF THE **KILLER CAT!**

HOW TO MAKE **SMALL TALK!**

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EDITOR'S INTRO

How you learn English with *Learn Hot English* magazine

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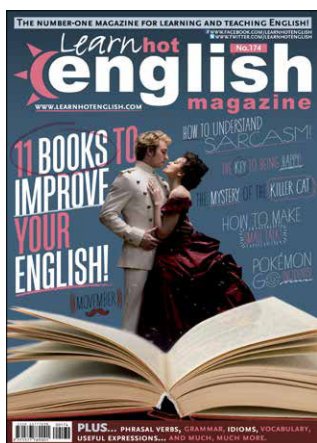
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Hi, everybody and welcome to another issue of *Learn Hot English* magazine – the fun magazine for learning English. This month, we're looking at 11 books to improve your English. Find out about them, then choose one that you'd like to read so you can learn lots of new language. Of course,

that's not all and we've lots more fun things for you to read and listen to so you can really improve your English. We'll be looking at sarcasm, fitness fads, the future perfect, how to make invitations, disastrous dates, unusual science prizes, emergency calls, ironic stories, Ancient Roman jokes, idioms, phrasal verbs, useful vocabulary and lots, lots more! Well, we hope you enjoy reading and listening to this issue of *Learn Hot English*. Have fun, learn lots of English and see you all next month!

Andy



AUDIO FILES

Download the MP3 audio files for this issue for FREE from our website: www.learnhotenglish.com/mp3s

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PLACES OF INTEREST!

Learn the names of some places of interest. Then, read or listen to the article on the next page with some of these words in it.



Museum (a building with interesting objects in it)



Church (a building in which Christians worship)



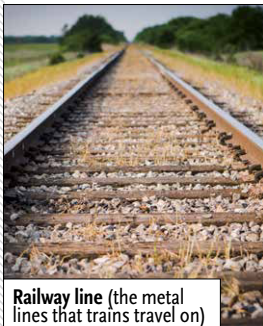
Police station (a place where police officers work)



Parliament (a building where politicians make laws, etc.)



Border (an imaginary line between two countries)



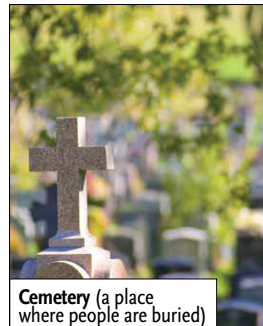
Railway line (the metal lines that trains travel on)



Road junction (where two roads cross)



Military base (an area where soldiers live)



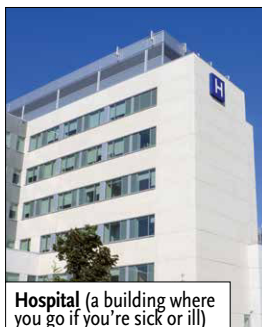
Cemetery (a place where people are buried)



Airport (a place where you go to travel by plane)



Bus station (a place where you can take a bus to your destination)



Hospital (a building where you go if you're sick or ill)



Post office (a place where you can buy stamps, send letters, etc.)



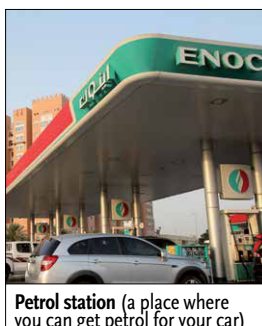
Train station (a place where you can catch a train)



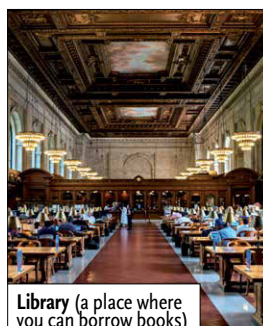
Court (a building where there are trials and legal cases)



Bank (a place where you deposit or withdraw money)



Petrol station (a place where you can get petrol for your car)



Library (a place where you can borrow books)



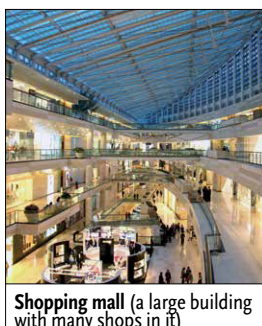
Car park (a place to leave your car)



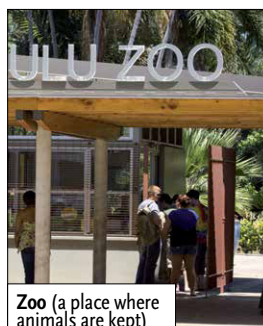
Park (a place with grass and trees where you can walk, play, do sport, etc.)



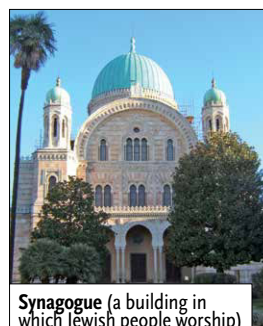
School (a place where children learn)



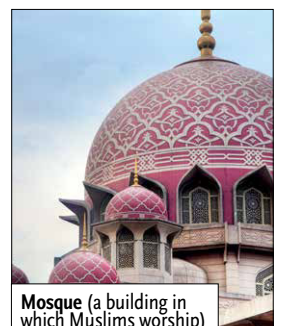
Shopping mall (a large building with many shops in it)



Zoo (a place where animals are kept)



Synagogue (a building in which Jewish people worship)



Mosque (a building in which Muslims worship)

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What video games do you play? What do you like or dislike about video games? What games do you play on your smartphone? What do you like about them? What other apps have you downloaded onto your phone? What do you use them for? In what way are they useful?

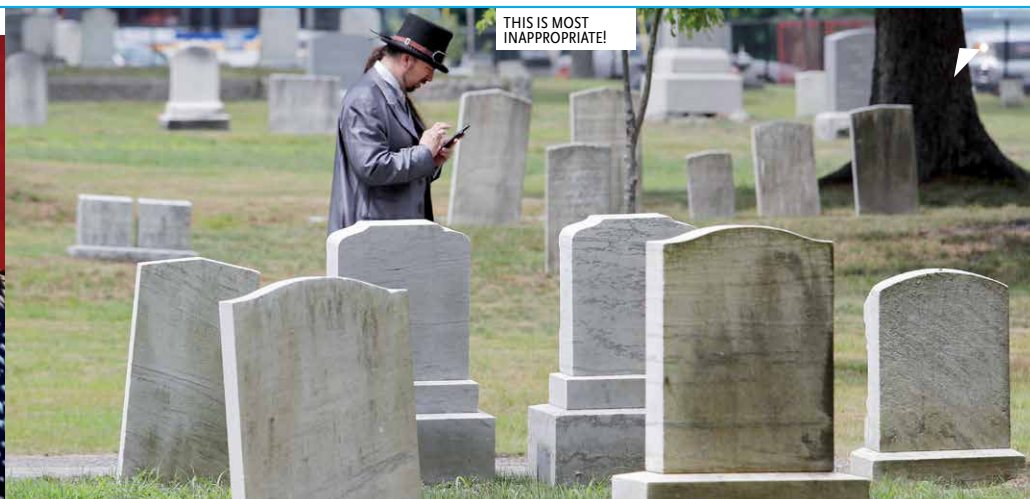
Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as KET and TOEFL.

© TRACK 1: ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN



NORWAY'S PRIME MINISTER
EMA SOLBERG

I'M BUSY!



THIS IS MOST
INAPPROPRIATE!

POKÉMON... NO!

Pokémon GO is the latest game **craze**. Players walk around the real world collecting creatures known as Pokémon. The game shows you where you are (just like with Google Maps), but also indicates where the Pokémon creatures are. The game is hugely popular, but has also **led to** a number of **incidents**.

Canadian teenagers playing *Pokémon GO* accidentally crossed the US border. They were initially arrested, but then released shortly afterwards.

British Transport Police recorded several incidents of teens **trespassing** on railway lines while playing the game.

Officers in Surrey (England) discovered nine cars "parked across a road junction" while the drivers were out looking for Pokémon.

A French Pokémon GO player walked onto an Indonesian military base. Romain Pierre, 27, was arrested in Cirebon but was freed when police realised he had **unintentionally** entered the base.

Several Pokémon players have been seen walking

around **Arlington National Cemetery**. Officials from the cemetery in Virginia said, "We do not consider playing *Pokémon GO* to be appropriate **decorum** on the grounds of the ANC."

In a similar incident, players have been wandering through the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in an attempt to trap the creatures. Officials there also issued a statement saying that playing a game in the memorial was "extremely inappropriate".

A 21-year-old blogger from the city of Yekaterinburg in Russia was arrested and jailed for two months after he posted a video on YouTube showing him playing the game in an **Orthodox church**. He was convicted of "insulting the feelings of **worshippers**".

A Pokémon GO player was arrested after searching for Pokémon near a police station. The 26-year-old man in **pyjamas** was riding his bike around Milford (Michigan) in search of a Pokémon GO gym. He eventually arrived at his destination on Atlantic Street without realising that it was actually the Milford police station. Police inside

recognized the man from a **wanted poster** and **promptly** arrested him.

And finally, Norway's Prime Minister Ema Solberg was caught playing Pokémon Go during a debate in the Storting – the Norwegian parliament. Apparently, she's a big fan of the game. During an official trip in Slovakia, she took some time out to play the game, according to an article in the *Guardian* newspaper.

Whatever next! ✨

GLOSSARY

a craze ⁿ
if there is a "craze" for something, it's very popular for a short time
to lead to ^{exp}
if situation A "leads to" situation B, situation A causes situation B
an incident ⁿ
something that happens, often something bad
to trespass ^{vb}
if you "trespass", you walk on someone's land without permission
unintentionally ^{adv}
if you do something "unintentionally", you do it without meaning to do it – it happens by accident
Arlington National Cemetery ⁿ
a famous United States military cemetery
decorum ⁿ
behaviour and actions that people consider to be correct, polite and respectable
an Orthodox church ⁿ
Orthodox churches are Christian churches in Eastern Europe. They separated from the western church in the 11th century
a worshipper ⁿ
someone who says prayers (words said when speaking to God)
pyjamas ⁿ
clothes you wear to sleep in bed
a wanted poster ⁿ
a poster showing the face of someone who the police want to arrest
promptly ^{adv}
quickly, immediately

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the words on the vocabulary page (the previous page). Which of these places do you think Pokémon GO players have visited?

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity. Which places were mentioned?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. Which border did the teenagers cross?
2. In which country was the military base that the Pokémon GO player entered?
3. Where is Arlington National Cemetery?
4. What type of church did the blogger enter?
5. In which state is the police station mentioned in the article?
6. In which other country (apart from Norway) has the Norwegian prime minister played the game?

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What do you do to keep fit? Have you ever joined a gym? What was it like? Have you ever bought any equipment? What was it? How did you use it? How long did you use it for? What did you think of it? What other things are on offer to help you get fit and healthy? What do you think of them?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as KET and TOEFL.

TRACK 2 ENGLISHMAN & SCOTSWOMAN



FIVE RIDICULOUS FITNESS TRENDS!

What are your top tips for losing weight or **getting fit**? Over the years, there have been a number of solutions. Here are a few of them.



1 Weight Loss Sunglasses

These **blue-tinted** sunglasses are designed to **put you off** your food. Blue is apparently an **unappetising** colour, so you'll instantly have control over your diet. Of course, this ignores the important role that smell plays in making food attractive. But so what? At least you look cool!



2 The Treadmill Bike

This is a combination of a **running machine** and a bicycle. According to its creator, the Treadmill Bike "protects your feet from dirt and other **contaminants** commonly found on the Earth's surface". And at the retail price of \$2,286, that's a **bargain**!

3 Air Shorts

The 1970s saw the launch of Air Shorts. These were basically **inflatable** shorts. The idea was simple:



wearing them would help you **sweat off** body fat. It sounded great, but it was **utter rubbish**. When you sweat, you lose weight through water loss. But as soon as you drink some water, your body will **retain** it to **rehydrate** and you'll go back to your previous weight.



4 Prancercise

This exercise routine was created by Joanna Rohrback. It involves dancing around using a **springy step**, much like a happy horse might do. A book available on Prancercise.com has all the details. As the author says, "It's about self-expression. It's about non-violence. It's about conservation." Just make sure no one is watching!



5 The Hawaii Chair
We've saved the best for

last. The Hawaii Chair is a chair that **spins around** while you're sitting on it. And as the **lyrics** to the **jingle** go, "If you can sit, you can get fit." In a promotional video, office staff are shown happily working while spinning around on the chair, although how anyone could get any work done with that happening is beyond us!

Health and fitness fads come and go. And in most cases, it's clear why they went! 🌟

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch an ad for the Hawaii Chair. Search YouTube for "Hawaii Chair Infomercial".

GLOSSARY

to get fit *exp*
to become strong and healthy
blue-tinted *adj*
"blue-tinted" glasses make everything look blue
to put you off *phr vb*
if something "puts you off" your food, it makes you feel sick and you don't want to eat that food
unappetising *adj*
food that is "unappetising" doesn't look nice
a running machine *n*
a machine that you run on to get fit and healthy
a contaminant *n*
something that makes the air, water, etc. dirty
a bargain *n*
something that's a "bargain" is good value for money
inflatable *adj*
an "inflatable" object needs air in it
to sweat off *phr vb*
if you "sweat off" fat, you do exercise so that you lose fat. Literally, when you "sweat", liquid comes out of your body
utter rubbish *n*
a complete lie; something not true
to retain *vb*
if you "retain" liquid in your body, you keep it
to rehydrate *vb*
if you "rehydrate", you put water in your body again
a springy step *n*
someone who walks with a "springy step", seems to walk and jump at the same time, like a lamb does
to spin around *phr vb*
to turn around many times and often quickly
lyrics *n*
the words for a song
a jingle *n*
a song or piece of music used to promote a product

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the **product names** in the article. How do you think these things can help you get fit and healthy? Make notes.

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity. Which idea is the most ridiculous? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of one of the health and fitness ideas next to each statement.

1. They appeared in the 1970s.
2. It costs more than two thousand dollars.
3. There's a book you can buy to explain how to do it.
4. It's designed to use in an office.
5. It's a combination of two objects.
6. They make your food look horrible.
7. Doing it makes you look like a happy animal.
8. You have to blow them up before you can use them.

Think about it What dangerous animals are there in your country? Have you ever seen one? Where? When? What happened? What other animals are typical of your country? Are there any mysterious monsters or strange beasts supposedly in your country? What are they? What stories are there associated with them? What do you think of the stories?

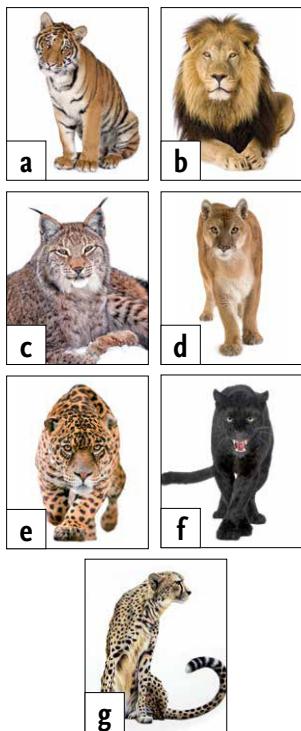
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Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Match the big cats (1 to 7) to the pictures (a-g).

1. Lion
2. Tiger
3. Puma
4. Leopard
5. Cheetah
6. Jaguar
7. Lynx



THE MYSTERY OF THE BEAST OF BODMIN!

Mysterious shapes in the night. Dead sheep. **Savaged** cows. For years, stories of a monster **terrorising** areas of the UK have appeared in the press. But are they true

The UK is home to very few dangerous wild animals. In fact, some of the **deadliest** creatures are spiders, foxes, seagulls and cows. However, over the years, some people have claimed that they've seen big cats – similar in size to pumas.

In 1994, **footage** of a large black cat was recorded in Cambridgeshire (England) and was named in the media as the "Fen Tiger".

In 2004, video was recorded of what appeared to be a large black cat near a farm in Shropshire. The cat had been seen by the farmers on numerous occasions.

And in July 2009, photographs and video footage of a large black cat were taken by an **off-duty** police officer. The animal was walking along a railway line in Helensburgh (in Argyll, Scotland).

Some people have even been attacked. In 2000, an 11-year-old boy in Scotland was **scratched** by what he

claims was a large black cat. It left him with five long **claw** marks across his left **cheek**. The police called in a big cat expert to investigate the incident.

In 2005, a man from south-east London was **pounced on** in his back garden. The man, who was over 182cm and weighed around 100 kilos, described the cat as big and black. He was left with scratches all over his body. Police were called and, according to the BBC, one police officer saw a cat the size of a Labrador dog.

In 1993, a number of reports were made of a large black cat around Bodmin Moor, **nicknamed** the "Beast of Bodmin". There were stories of **sightings**, **slain livestock** and even videos of the monster. For over two decades, it was one of Britain's most feared animals.

However, it seems that part of the mystery might have been solved. Apparently, the famous circus owner Mary Chipperfield **set** three Pumas **free** in 1978 after her zoo in Plymouth was forced to shut down. The large cats were supposed to be taken to their new home at a wildlife park. However, only two pumas out of a

consignment of five ever arrived. It is thought Ms Chipperfield **released** her favourite **breeding pair** and another **male** into the wild rather than see them go into a new home. Many believe that the pumas could easily have survived on the moor.

Miaow! 🐾

GLOSSARY

- savaged** *adj*
attacked very violently
- to terrorise** *vb*
if something is "terrorising" people, it is frightening them
- deadly** *adj*
something "deadly" can kill you
- footage** *n*
a film of something (an event, for example) or part of that thing
- off-duty** *adj*
an "off-duty" police officer isn't working
- to scratch** *vb*
if a cat (for example) "scratches" you, it cuts you with its claws (see next entry)
- a claw** *n*
the long, sharp nails at the end of an animal's feet
- a cheek** *n*
the side of your face
- to pounce on** *phr vb*
to jump on suddenly
- a moor** *n*
an area of open and high land that is often covered with grass, etc.
- to nickname** *vb*
to give an informal name to
- a sighting** *n*
if there's a "sighting" of something, someone has seen that thing
- slain** *adj*
killed (from the verb "to slay")
- livestock** *n*
animals that are kept on a farm such as cattle, sheep, etc.
- to set free** *exp*
if you "set free" an animal, you let it return to the forest, the wild, etc.
- a consignment** *n*
a "consignment" of goods is an amount of those goods that will be taken to a place
- to release** *vb*
if you "release" an animal, you let it return to the forest, the wild, etc.
- a breeding pair** *n*
a male and female animal who breed: make babies
- a male** *n*
a man or boy

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which big cats are mentioned?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. What name did they give the big cat from Cambridgeshire?
2. Who took the video footage of the large cat in July 2009?
3. How old was the boy who was attacked in Scotland?
4. How much did the man attacked in London weigh?
5. Who released the pumas into the wild in 1978?
6. Where were the pumas supposed to be taken?

GRAMMAR BOOSTER

THE FUTURE PERFECT

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
I'll have done it by 1pm.	I won't have done it by 1pm.	Will I have done it by 1pm?
You'll have done it by 1pm.	You won't have done it by 1pm.	Will you have done it by 1pm?
He'll have done it by 1pm.	He won't have done it by 1pm.	Will he have done it by 1pm?
She'll have done it by 1pm.	She won't have done it by 1pm.	Will she have done it by 1pm?
It'll have done it by 1pm.	It won't have done it by 1pm.	Will it have done it by 1pm?
We'll have done it by 1pm.	We won't have done it by 1pm.	Will we have done it by 1pm?
They'll have done it by 1pm.	They won't have done it by 1pm.	Will they have done it by 1pm?

We form the Future Perfect with *will have* + a past participle. For example:

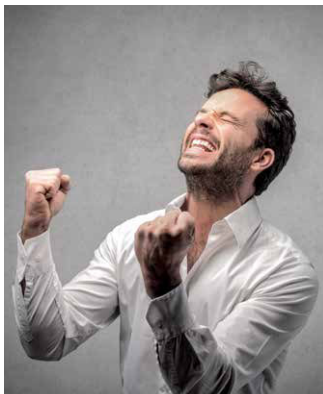
- a) They **will have completed** it by tomorrow.
- b) She **will have finished** in an hour.

We use the Future Perfect to describe actions that will be completed before a time in the future. We often use the preposition *by* + a time. For example:

- a) They will have arrived by 3pm.
- b) She will have sent it by Monday.

Passive forms are created with *will have been* + a past participle. For example:

- a) They **will have been paid** by next week.
- b) He **will have been awarded** the prize by this time next year.



Dialogue: The restaurant opening night

Restaurant owner Grace is opening a new restaurant. However, she's starting to panic as the building work isn't finished. Frank, the builder, is talking to her. **[Listen and complete the dialogue with the correct verbs.]**

G=Grace F=Frank

G: Have you seen the state of this place? The restaurant is due to open in TWO DAYS and we've spent a fortune on advertising it. We've got six VIPs coming, two restaurant critics and over 100 guests.

F: It'll be all right. Chill out!

G: But it's a complete mess. Where are the kitchen table tops?

F: At the back. We'll have (1) _____ them by 7pm this evening.

G: And what about the lighting? Look, if I turn on this switch, the light in the bathroom (2) _____ off.

F: Don't worry. We'll have (3) _____ that by tomorrow afternoon.

G: And look at all these wires and cables everywhere.

F: Calm down! We'll have (4) _____ them all up in a couple of hours. Besides, they aren't live. They're perfectly safe. Look. *[He picks one up and gets a shock.]*

G: Did that hurt?



F: A bit!

G: And the toilets? Have you (5) _____ the gent's toilet? It's just a hole in the ground.

F: The hole in the ground is the toilet. You said you (6) _____ it basic but functional.

G: We can't have a hole in the ground.

F: It's hygienic.

G: I don't care. Put a proper toilet in there.

F: Oh, all right, we'll have (7) _____ it by 10am

tomorrow morning.

G: Great! So, you've got a lot to do.

F: Yes, I know.

G: So, erm, why are all your guys all sitting down?

F: Tea break.

G: Tea break?

F: Yes, they need their tea break.

G: But it's almost lunch time.

F: It's a pre-lunch cup of tea.

G: I'll be back in a couple of hours. I (8) _____ to see some progress!

F: You will. Guaranteed!

G: I hope so! ☺

SPOOKY WORDS

This month we're looking at some spooky words.



Witch



Ghost



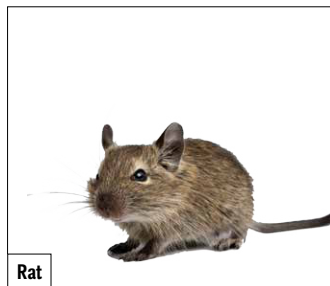
Skeleton



Blood



Owl



Rat



Bat



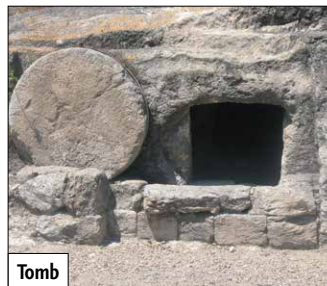
Black cat



Werewolf



Vampire



Tomb



Cemetery



Corpse



Gravestone (tombstone)



Skull



Zombie



Spider's web (cobweb)



Broom



Mausoleum



Mummy



Ogre



Troll



Devil (demon)



Cauldron

PRACTICAL ENGLISH

HOW TO RECOGNISE SARCASM!

Sarcasm is an important part of language; and it's often used in English. But what is it, exactly?



Mini-dialogues

First of all, listen to these two mini-dialogues. Can you notice a difference in B's response?

- 1 A:** So, how was the trip? **2 A:** So, how was the trip?
B: Great! **B:** Great!

The words are the same, but the intonation changes. In the first mini-dialogue, speaker B's intonation goes up slightly, and he sounds excited. So, we can assume that when he says "great" she actually means... "great".

However, in the second mini-dialogue, speaker B's intonation goes down a bit, and he doesn't really sound excited or happy about the trip. So, we can probably determine that when he says "great", he actually means "not great".

This is an example of sarcasm – saying the opposite to what you really mean. It's a form of speaking that's quite typical in many English-speaking countries, and it's important to be able to recognise it. So, why do people use sarcasm? Well, basically it can be a form of humour. Other times it can be used to hurt or attack people, or make them feel stupid. Here are some more examples of sarcasm. Notice how speaker B is using sarcasm to say the opposite of what he really means.

AT HOME

- A:** I love this song!
B: Yeah, me too. [meaning: "I hate it!"]

AT THE AIRPORT

- A:** The plane's cancelled again.
B: This is going to be fun. [meaning: "it isn't going to be fun!"]

So, how can you recognise sarcasm?
 Here are our top tips.

1 Tone of voice

When people are speaking normally (i.e. not sarcastically), the intonation often goes up and the pitch might be slightly higher when responding to a question. Listen to speaker B's response.

- A:** What was it like?
B: Oh, it was great!
 [rising pitch]

However, when someone is being sarcastic, the pitch may drop at the end.

- A:** What was it like?
B: Oh, it was great!
 [falling pitch]

2 Word length

When people are being sarcastic, they might **elongate** some sounds in the words, often for comic or theatrical effect. See if you can notice the difference between these two mini-dialogues:

- A:** You just **trod** on my foot!
B: Oh, sorry! [high pitch + short syllable sounds]

- A:** You just trod on my foot!
B: Oh, sooooooorry! [low pitch + elongated syllable sounds]

3 Drama

People speaking sarcastically may become a bit theatrical – often as a way of being funny. For example:
A: So, how do you feel about the breakup

with Jenny?

- B:** How do I feel? Oh, great! Absolutely fine! I mean, it's amazing. I'm just so happy. I feel wonderful!

4 Laughter

People speaking sarcastically may also use a type of sarcastic laugh – a mock, cynical form of laughter that isn't real or genuine. For example:

- A:** Did you have a good time at the casino?
B: Ha! If you call losing all your money having a good time, yeah, I had a great time.

5 Context

To help you decide whether someone is being sarcastic or not, you also need to think about the context. For example, if your friend spends most of the conversation saying what a terrible time she had on her birthday, when she tells you that her presents were "great", you can probably guess that she's being sarcastic.

6 Body language

Finally, look at the speaker's body language. If they're saying that something is "nice", but they've got their arms crossed and an angry, silly or funny expression on their face, you can be sure that they're being sarcastic.

Good luck!

PRACTICAL ENGLISH

HOW TO RECOGNISE SARCASM – PART II

Sarcasm is often used as a form of humour, or to make other people feel silly or stupid. And it often comes in the form of a **witty** and fast response to a question or observation. For example:

AT WORK

A: Is that pen yours?
B: No, I stole it.

AT HOME

A: Am I supposed to pick a card?
B: No, you're supposed to pick your nose.

IN A RESTAURANT

A: Are you going to eat that?
B: Only if you want it.

IN A SHOP

A: Will there be anything else?
B: Why? Wasn't that enough?

AT THE RIVERBANK

A: Did you catch that fish?
B: No, I asked it to jump out of the water and into my bucket.

Witty people

Some people are famous for their witty, sarcastic comments. Here are a few examples of this. Notice how the comments start off sounding nice but end up being more aggressive:



"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others *whenever* they go."
Oscar Wilde



"Sometimes I need what only you can provide: your absence."
Ashleigh Brilliant



"I never forget a face, but in your case I'll be glad to make an exception."
Groucho Marx



"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."
Mark Twain



"I like long walks, especially when they are taken by people who annoy me."
Fred Allen

VIDEO

Watch this video clip of someone being sarcastic. Search YouTube for "When Someone Doesn't Know You're Being Sarcastic".

Answers on page 44

1 Exercise

Now that you know how to recognise sarcasm, try our little exercise. Listen to the following mini-dialogues. In which ones is speaker B being sarcastic?

1 IN A SHOP

A: I love this colour.
B: Yeah, it's one of my favourites.

2 OUTSIDE THE CINEMA

A: Are you waiting to get tickets?
B: No, I'm just standing here for fun.

3 IN THE SHOP

A: I think I'm next in line.
B: Yes, you are, go ahead.

4 AT THE TRAIN STATION

A: Are you waiting for the train to London?
B: No, I'm hoping to catch a cruise ship to New York.

5 AT THE THEATRE

A: He's just so funny!
B: Yeah, hilarious.

6 OUTSIDE THE CINEMA

A: That film was great.
B: Yeah, I thought it was really good.

7 IN A RESTAURANT

A: That was delicious.
B: Yes, it was one of the best meals I've ever had.

8 AT HOME

A: Stop worrying about it!
B: Of course, there's nothing to worry about, I mean, my job's at stake, and my whole future is in jeopardy, but there's really nothing to worry about, is there?

9 AT WORK

A: It's going to be great.
B: Yes, I'm sure it is. We've put so much work into it.

10 ON A PLANE

A: Is that noise annoying?
B: No, it's my favourite thing in the whole world.

11 IN THE KITCHEN

A: Shall I make us something to eat?
B: Yes, please. I'm starving.

12 AT HOME

A: So, are you going to just sit there all day?
B: No, I'm planning to fly to the moon later on.

13 AT THE PUB

A: Did you like the present we got you?
B: Oh, yes, I love brightly-coloured sweaters with reindeer on them!

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you invited someone to do something? What was it? What did the other person say? When was the last time you were invited to something? What was it? How did you respond? What would you like to be invited to? Why? What events would you like to attend in the near future? Why? What do you like or dislike about parties? What about dinner parties?

TRACK 7: ENGLISH ACCENTS

Exams This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as KET and TOEFL.



Note!

Don't read the audio script until you've completed the exercises and activities.

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

What are some typical things you could invite someone to? Make a list. For example: to go to the cinema, to go to a restaurant...

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to two dialogues with people inviting friends out. Listen once. What types of party are the two invitations for? Did you think of any of these ideas as part of the Pre-listening task?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

Dialogue I

1. On which day is Greg's birthday?
2. What time is Sandra taking him to the pub?
3. What time will Sandra bring Greg back to the house?
4. What number is Greg's house on Barnes Street?

Dialogue II

5. On which day is the party?
6. Who is going to be there besides Frank and Jenny?
7. Whose number does Marcie want?
8. What is his number?

Dialogue I

Jessica: So, have you got anything planned for next Wednesday evening?
Ben: I don't think so. Why?
Jessica: Well, it's Greg's birthday and we're organising a surprise party for him. Would you like to join us?
Ben: Sounds like fun. Where are you going to do it?
Jessica: At his house. Sandra is going to take him to the pub about 7pm. Then, as soon as he's out of the house, we'll sneak in to set things up. She'll bring him back at about 8:30 and then we'll jump out!
Ben: Sounds great!
Jessica: I could come and pick you up before if you want.
Ben: OK. Have you got my address?
Jessica: It's 8 Barnes Street, isn't it?
Ben: Yes, that's it.
Jessica: OK. I'll be there about 6:30.
Ben: Great, see you then.

Dialogue II

Barry: So, are you doing anything on Friday?
Marcie: Erm, I don't think so. Why?
Barry: Well, we're having a dinner party. Do you fancy coming along? Frank and Jenny will be there, and Paul too.
Marcie: Oh, thanks. That sounds nice, but you know, I think I might take a rain check.
Barry: Oh, that's a pity.
Marcie: I'd love to go, but I'm really busy with exams. Next time, maybe.
Barry: OK. No problem. Next time.
Marcie: Hey, talking about Frank, have you got his number? I've been meaning to talk to him. He promised to come around and show me how to use this new video camera I bought.
Barry: Yeah, sure, I've got it on my mobile. Yes, here it is, it's 623 817 922.
Marcie: 623 817 922.
Barry: That's it!
Marcie: Great, thanks.
Barry: No problem. ★

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NATURAL ENGLISH

©TRACK 8: BELGIAN MAN, N. IRISH WOMAN, SPANISH MAN, US WOMAN, BRAZILIAN MAN & US WOMAN

What are some of your favorite TV series? Why do you like them?

Photos and interviews by Georgie & Danielle

Remember!
When people talk informally, they often use non-standard English.

Tal (Belgium, Web Designer)

Erm... *The Office*... *Parks and Recreation*... are definitely some of the best series, but recently *The Newsroom* is really, really good. Erm... I quite like this new **genre** where it's like a **mockumentary**, so... er... they're aware of the camera and they talk into the camera sometimes. It's usually very funny, so I find those **hilarious**.



Laura J (N. Ireland, Student)

Well, I've just started watching one that's called *Community*, which is so **addictive** because it's only 20-minute episodes, which is great! Er... yeah, I **tend** to watch quite a lot of American dramas just because they're easy to watch – you don't have to think about them. But also, I really like **period dramas** as well.



José (Spain, Flight Attendant)

OK, that's a difficult question for me because I don't really watch TV a lot. But I have... if I had to choose one, I would... I would go for... er... this... er... this... er... recent... recent one called *Fragiles*, which is "fragiles" in English. They talk about the life of... well... some very normal people and the... and the problems that they... they have in their... in their lives.



Ashleigh (USA, English Teacher)

Erm... there's a new show, currently, that I like called *New Girl*. And I'm **obsessed with** it because it's very... er... it seems very real-life. Just... it's not about this perfect life or anything, it's just normal day-to-day relationships and how... er... life can be **crazy**, but also you create friendships, and... and **move on** past the... beyond the crazy things.



Julio (Brazil, Management Consultant)

Well, I liked one that was... that's called *Boston Legal*. Yeah, it's really good because it talks about politics, and it's a funny show... and a **smart** show. I actually like more smart... like... comedy and... and smart shows.



Laura H (USA, English teacher)

Pan Am. Erm... *Pan Am* is a really good period drama. The acting was really good. It was very well **put together**, well written and everything... and that's why I like *Pan Am*. But then I also really like... er... Oh, there's just so many TV shows! How can I decide? [Yeah, there's so many!]



GLOSSARY

- a genre** *n*
a particular type of TV series or programme
- a mockumentary** *n*
a film or television show with actors that is presented as a documentary and as if it were real
- hilarious** *adj*
very funny
- addictive** *adj*
if something is "addictive", you can't stop doing it, seeing it, eating it, etc.
- to tend** *vb*
if something "tends" to happen, it usually happens
- a period drama** *n*
a film or TV series set in a particular historical period
- obsessed with** *exp*
if someone is "obsessed with" something, they keep thinking about that thing and nothing else
- crazy** *adj*
mad, insane, uncontrollable
- move on** *phr vb*
if you "move on" with your life, you forget about the past and start to live a new life
- smart** *adj*
clever and intelligent
- to put together** *phr vb*
if something has been "put together" very well, it's very good and well constructed

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you ever had a massage? What was it like? How did you feel? When was the last time you went to the hairdresser's? What did you get done there? What other services do you pay for? How much do they cost? Why do you pay for these services? Have you heard of any companies offering unusual services? What are they? Would you ever use their services? Why? Why not?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as PET and TOEFL.

TRACK 9: ENGLISHMAN & SCOTSWOMAN

SERVICE WITH
A SMILE!

By Yiu Siu

WHO NEEDS A GRANDMA?

Got a hangover, dirty ears or a **guilty conscience**? These days, there are companies that provide services for just about everything.

Goldfish

Feeling lonely in a hotel room? Why not order a goldfish? The Happy Guest Hotel Lodge in Cheshire (UK) will rent you a goldfish for £5 a night. What better company to keep when you're away from home?

Ears

Got dirty ears? The Yamamoto Mimikaki Clinic of Japan is an ear-cleaning parlour. With soft music playing in the background, a young woman will place your head in her **lap** and gently clean your ears... just like mum did!

Hangover

Got a hangover? The Hangover Heaven bus in Las Vegas can help. Just climb aboard and receive **IV** hydration and anti-nausea and anti-inflammatory medication so you can feel normal again.

Apologising

Need to say sorry to someone? The Shazaiya Aiga Pro company of Japan charges 25,000 yen (about €250) for a face-to-face **apology**, and 10,000 yen (about €100) for an e-mail or phone apology. They're open 24 hours a day, seven days a week. There's a **surcharge** for crying.

Grandmas

Missing your grandma? Don't worry! Australia-based company Rent-a-Grandma offers a selection of grandmothers for a variety of services, including babysitting, housekeeping and pet care.

Dirt

The Dublin based Auld Sod Exporting Company sells official Irish soil. Why? Well, Irish immigrants around the world are often in need of some earth from the **hometown**, and use it for **housewarmings**, weddings and funerals (to **sprinkle** over the **coffin**). This simple idea of exporting soil has made company founder Pat Burke extremely rich.

Stalkers

Ever wondered what it feels like to be a celebrity? The New York-based firm Methodizaz can offer you your very own **stalker**. For a modest fee, you can have a stranger follow you (or someone else), taking secret photos. Later, you're presented with your "personal works of art". Creepy!

So, which service will you be contracting? ☺

GLOSSARY

- a hangover** *n*
a pain in your head (and sometimes body) after drinking too much alcohol
- a guilty conscience** *n*
if you've got a "guilty conscience", you feel bad about something you did in the past
- a lap** *n*
the top, flat part of your upper legs as you're sitting down. Someone else can sit on it
- IV** *abbr*
intravenous – "intravenous" food or medication is given to someone through their veins, rather than their mouth
- an apology** *n*
if you make an "apology", you say sorry for something
- a surcharge** *n*
an extra amount of money you must pay for something (on top of the base price)
- a hometown** *n*
the country where you were born
- a housewarming** *n*
a party you have in a new house
- to sprinkle** *vb*
if you "sprinkle" soil (for example) over something, you put a small amount of soil on top of that thing
- a coffin** *n*
a box where a dead body is placed
- a stalker** *n*
someone who follows another person, especially a famous person, in an annoying and frightening way

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the paragraph titles in the article. What services do you think are offered in relation to these things? Make notes.

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

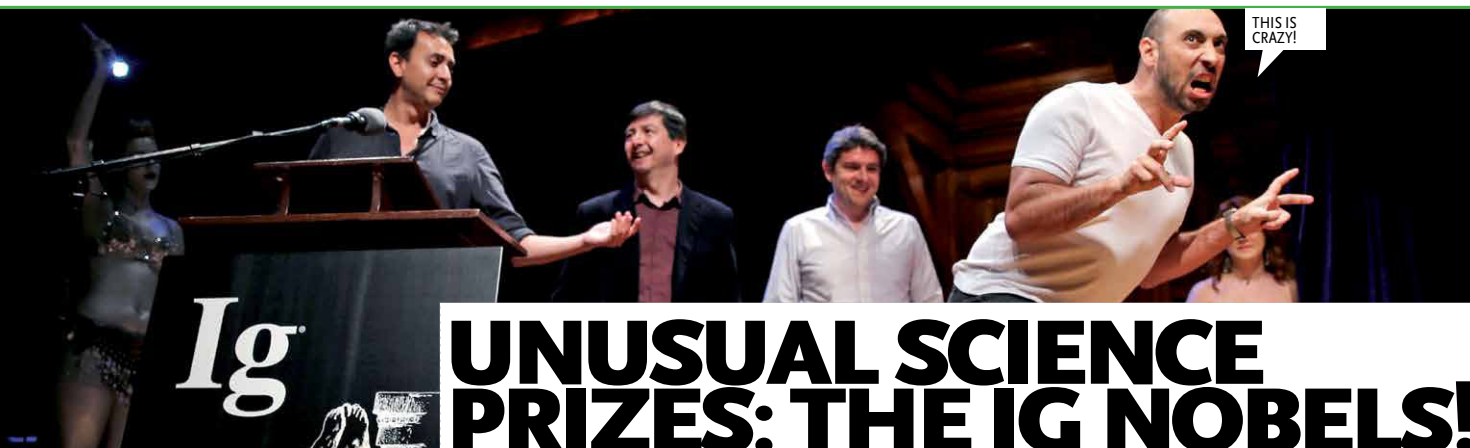
1. How much does it cost to rent a goldfish?
2. Where is the ear cleaning parlour?
3. In which form of transport can you get a cure for a hangover?
4. How much does it cost (in euros) to make an apology by e-mail?
5. What services do the grandmas offer?
6. What is the Irish soil used for?

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you ever won a prize for something? What was it? Have you ever done any research? What was it for? Have you ever had an idea for some research? What was it? Have you heard about any scientific research lately? What was it? How could it help us in the future?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as PET and TOEFL.

TRACK 10: ENGLISHMAN & SCOTSWOMAN



UNUSUAL SCIENCE PRIZES: THE IG NOBELS!

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the following list of prizes. What sort of research would any of these prizes involve? What things would scientists look at to win one of these prizes? Make notes.

reproduction prize

psychology prize

medicine prize

perception prize

chemistry prize

economics prize

biology prize

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity.

3 Reading II

Read the article again.

Then, answer the questions.

1. What animals did Mr Shafik use for his research?
2. Who did the winners of the psychology prize talk to as part of their research?
3. What common object did the winners of the medicine prize use for their research?
4. Which company won the chemistry prize?
5. What animals has Charles Foster lived as in the wild?
6. Why did Thomas Thwaites appear to get worried once during his time as a goat?

What's it like to live like a goat? Do cotton trousers affect the sex lives of rats? Can rocks have personalities? The scientists who did research into all these questions were awarded Ig Nobel prizes.

Ig Nobels are awards for unusual scientific research – the kind of research that makes you laugh, then makes you think. The ceremony for the prizes is organised by science magazine *The Annals of Improbable Research*, and takes place every year at Harvard University. Here are some of this year's winners.

The Reproduction Prize went to the late Ahmed Shafik for testing the effects of polyester, cotton or wool trousers on the sex life of rats.

Mark Avis and colleagues were awarded the Economics Prize for assessing the personalities of rocks, from a sales and marketing perspective.

The Psychology Prize went to Evelyne Debey and colleagues for asking a thousand liars how often they lie, and then deciding whether to believe those answers or not.

This year's Perception Prize was awarded to Atsuki Higashiyama and Kohei Adachi for investigating

whether things look different when you **bend over** and view them between your legs.

Christoph Helmchen and colleagues were given the Medicine Prize for discovering that if you have an **itch** on the left side of your body, you can **relieve** it by looking into a mirror and **scratching** the right side of your body (and vice versa).

This year's Chemistry Prize was given to Volkswagen. They solved the problem of excessive automobile pollution emissions. They did this by electromechanically producing fewer emissions whenever the cars were being tested.

And finally, the Biology Prize was awarded jointly to Charles Foster and Thomas Thwaites for trying to experience life from an animal's perspective. Charles has lived in the wild as a variety of animals including a deer, a fox and a bird; Thomas spent three days in the Alps as a mountain goat, complete with a special set of goat legs. In an interview with the BBC, he said that he'd developed a strong **bond** with one animal in particular – a "goat **buddy**", but also very nearly got into a fight. "I was just sort of walking around, you know **chewing** grass, and just looked up and then suddenly realised

that everyone else had stopped chewing and there was this tension which I hadn't kind of noticed before, and then one or two of the goats started **tossing** their horns around and I think I was about to get in a fight."

How unusual! ✨

* IG NOBELS

The name of the competition (The Ig Nobels) forms an expression that sounds like the English word "ignoble", which is basically the opposite of "noble" (a "noble" person has a good character and is honest, generous and selfless (they don't just care about themselves)). For more information on Ig Nobels, visit: www.improbable.com/ig

GLOSSARY

an award *n*
a prize (a type of present) for something good that you've done
research *n*
scientific investigation
a ceremony *n*
an event in which prizes are given
a perspective *n*
if you look at something from a particular "perspective", you look at it in that particular way
to bend over *phr vb*
if you "bend over", you move your body forwards and down
an itch *n*
when you have an "itch", you have an unpleasant feeling on a part of your skin and you need to scratch it (see entry below)
to relieve *vb*
if you "relieve" a pain (for example), you make the pain go away
to scratch *vb*
if you "scratch" your skin, you move your fingers over it quickly
a bond *n*
a special connection between two people
a buddy *n*
a friend
to chew *vb*
if you "chew" grass, you eat it slowly
to toss *vb*
if you "toss" something in the air, you throw it in the air

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Where do people go for dates in your country? What is it typical to do on a date? Who usually pays for the bill at a restaurant on a date? What do you think of this? What type of film would someone see on a date? What would a definition of the perfect date be? What kind of things can go wrong on a date? How could any of these things be resolved?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as PET and TOEFL.

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DATING DISASTERS!

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

In what way could the following things be associated with a disastrous date? What could go wrong there? What could happen? Make notes.

a restaurant Facebook

a street festival

a trip abroad a car journey

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity. Which date is the most disastrous? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. How many women had the man taken to the restaurant that week?
2. How much did the steak cost that the woman ate in the restaurant?
3. How long were the woman and her date at the street festival for?
4. Whose houses did the man show his date during a car journey around the neighbourhood?
5. Which adjective did the girl from Slovenia use to describe the man?
6. What present did the man buy his date?

When was the last time you went on a date? How did it go? Hopefully not as bad as any of these.

"I was in a restaurant with this guy I'd met just recently. Things seemed to be going well, but while he was in the toilet, the waiter came over and told me that I was the third woman he'd brought to the restaurant that week!" **Melissa**

"After a pleasant evening with this girl I'd met online, we went to a bar to have a few drinks. After an hour or so, she **leaned in** for a kiss, which was great. But before actually making contact, she whispered, 'I need to go to the dentist, so don't get frightened if my tooth falls out!'" **Gordon**

"I met up with a guy after talking with him over Facebook for a few months. We went to a pub where he said, 'From your photo, I thought you were too good for me, but I'm glad to see that you aren't that perfect.' He then went on to list my '**flaws**!'" **Georgina**

"I went out to dinner with this girl with a very **healthy appetite**. She had a £40 steak, several drinks and a **huge** dessert. I just had

a £12 salad and tap water. She later suggested we **split** the bill." **Mike**

"I went to a street festival with a guy I'd met. But after about an hour, he suddenly said that we had to leave. I later found out that this ex-wife had **turned up**, and that she had a **restraining order** on him, which meant he couldn't be within 100 metres of her." **Petra**

"I was at a restaurant with a girl. About half-way through the meal, her **ex** phoned up. She took the call, spoke for about 10 minutes and then decided to get back together with him. She did apologise to me though." **Pete**

"I went out for dinner with a guy. He talked about himself all evening, then drove me around the neighbourhood, showing me where all his ex-girlfriends lived." **Stacy**

"I met a really nice girl in Slovenia while I was travelling there. We were having so much fun that I decided to cancel my hotel reservation for the rest of the week and stay at her **place**. One day, I looked her up on Facebook. The **status updates** were in

Slovenian, but I **ran them through** Google translate. Big mistake: she'd posted several comments complaining about how annoying I was, and how she couldn't get rid of me." **Nigel**

"On my third date with this guy a while back, he bought me a present. 'How cute!' I thought... until I opened it: it was a box of blonde **hair dye** because he didn't like the colour of my real hair." **Michelle** ☺

GLOSSARY

a date *n*
if you have a "date" with someone, you have a romantic evening with them at a restaurant, at the cinema, etc.
to lean in *phr vb*
if you "lean in", you move closer to someone
a flaw *n*
a "flaw" is something bad about someone: something about their character, the way they look, etc.
a healthy appetite *n*
someone with a "healthy appetite" likes to eat a lot
huge *adj*
very big
to split *vb*
if you "split" the bill, you divide it so you each pay 50% of the total
to turn up *phr vb*
to arrive
a restraining order *n*
a legal order that tells someone not to go close to another person
an ex *n*
someone who was your boyfriend, girlfriend, husband, wife, etc. in the past
a place *n*
if you go to someone's "place", you go to their house
a status update *n*
a comment explaining what is happening in your life at a particular time
to run through *phr vb*
if you "run text through" Google, you use Google to find out what it means
hair dye *n*
a chemical substance that can change the colour of your hair

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you ever picked anyone up at the airport? Who was it? Where were they coming from? Was the flight delayed at all? Who did they arrive with? How much luggage did they have? Has anyone ever picked you up from an airport? Where did you go? How much luggage did you have? Where did the person take you?

Exams This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as PET and TOEFL.

© TRACK 12: ENGLISHMAN & SCOTSWOMAN



Note!

Don't read the audio script until you've completed the exercises and activities.

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

What questions could you ask someone who you've just picked up at the airport? Think of at least three. For example: How was the flight? / What was the food like?

2 Listening I

In this conversation, John is meeting Claire at JFK airport to take her to her hotel. He's holding up a sign with her name on it. Listen once. What questions does he ask her? Had you thought of any of these questions as part of the Pre-listening task?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. What time did John get to the airport?
2. What did he do while he was waiting?
3. What films did Claire see on the flight?
4. What does Claire say about the in-flight food?
5. Which department is Claire in?
6. How many days is Claire going to attend the conference for?
7. Which parking bay is the car in?
8. What time is John going to pick Claire up from the hotel?

Audio script

The airport pick-up

Claire: Hi, I'm Claire.

John: Oh, hi Claire. Hi I'm John Bates from the Manhattan office. I was sent to pick you up.
Nice to meet you

Claire: Nice to meet you.

John: So, how was your flight?

Claire: Fine, thanks.

John: Here, let me take your bag. It's this way.

Claire: Oh, thanks. So, have you been waiting long?

John: No, not really. I got here about half an hour ago, and I had a coffee in the café over there.
So, did they show any decent in-flight movies?

Claire: You know, I haven't got a clue. I slept most of the way.

John: Lucky you! I never sleep well on planes. So, was the food any good? I read somewhere that they'd hired a celebrity chef to spice things up.

Claire: It was all right – nothing special.

John: The car is just down here in the car park.

Claire: Great.

John: So... which department are you in?

Claire: Advertising. I've been there for six years now.
How about you?

John: Marketing but I used to be in sales.

Claire: Do you know Paula Pancetti? I think she's in the marketing department.

John: She was, but she moved on. So, are you going to the conference?

Claire: I think so. It starts tomorrow, doesn't it?

John: That's right.

Claire: I'm scheduled to spend a day or two there, but I'm mostly here for the meetings with Standown Limited – you know the company that want to buy us out. So, are you going too?

John: Yes, I'll be there for a day or two. *[taking out his wallet]* I just need to pay for the parking.

Claire: Sure I'll just wait here.

John: The car is just on this floor – parking bay 57 if I remember rightly. So, I guess you want to go straight to the hotel, don't you?

Claire: Yes, please.

John: I could pick you up later though if you want.

The CEO wants to meet up for a few pre-dinner drinks in a bar near the restaurant.

Claire: Sounds great. What time?

John: 7pm. So, I could pop round at about 6:30. That should give you time.

Claire: Perfect! So, is it far to the hotel from here?

John: About 20 minutes if there isn't much traffic, which there shouldn't be at this time of the day.

Claire: Great! So... *[fades out]*



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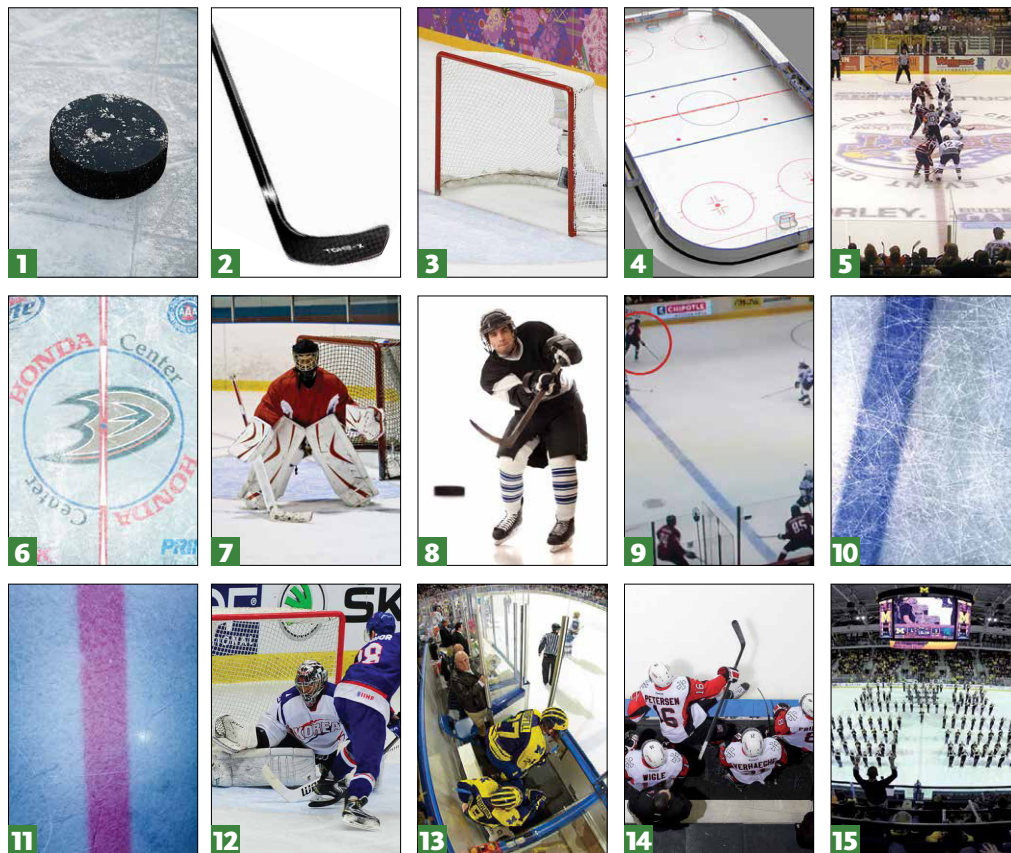
TRAVEL ENGLISH

ICE HOCKEY

By Ben Nicoll

Learn over 15 useful words and expressions for when you go to an ice hockey game.

Ice hockey is Canada's official national winter sport. However, most teams in the world's best league, the NHL (the National Hockey League), are based in America. Ice hockey is played with six players on each side, including the goalie. Going to a hockey game is unlike attending any other sporting event: it's fast-paced, exciting and most of all loud. Here are some words to learn for when you go to watch the fastest game in the world.



- 1 Puck** – the small black disk that the game is played with
- 2 Stick** – a long thin object which players use to hit the puck
- 3 Net** – (also called the goal) – the object players try to shoot the puck into
- 4 Rink** – the semi-circular area covered in ice where the game is played
- 5 Period** – a 20-minute time period; a typical game consists of three periods
- 6 Center ice** – the circle in the middle of the rink where every period starts

- 7 Goalie** – the player defending each team's net
- 8 Shot** – when a player hits the puck towards the net with the intention of scoring
- 9 Offside** – when a player crosses the opposing team's blue line before the puck does; play stops and there is a face-off
- 10 Blue line** – the blue line on the ice that distinguishes a team's defensive zone, or where their goalie is located
- 11 Red line** – the red line at

- the center of the ice which splits the rink into two
- 12 Penalty** – when a player is given a "penalty", he/she must sit in the penalty box for two minutes while his team has to play with one less player
- 13 Penalty box** – the little room on the side of the rink in which players must sit if they're given a penalty
- 14 Bench** – where members of a team who aren't currently playing sit
- 15 Intermission** – the time between periods

Dialogue

At the ice hockey stadium



Jessica has taken her friend, who's visiting the United States for the first time, to an ice hockey game.
J=Jessica G=Greg

- J: So, how do you like it? Exciting right?
- G: Yeah, but why does that team have one fewer (1) _____ than the other?
- J: Well, that team just received a (2) _____, which means one of their players has to sit out for two minutes.
- G: Oh, right, does that happen a lot?
- J: Usually a few times per (3) _____, but it can happen any number of times depending on who is playing.
- G: I see... whoa! There's a (4) _____! Is that legal?
- J: Kind of, the only penalty will be time in the (5) _____ for each player.
- G: Wow! Hockey's pretty (6) _____!
- J: Yeah, it can be. You hungry?
- G: Yeah! What can you get to eat here?
- J: Mostly burgers and (7) _____, but I think I'm going to get some (8) _____. Want any?
- G: Definitely!
- J: Great, we'll go get some at the end of this (9) _____! ☆

VIDEO

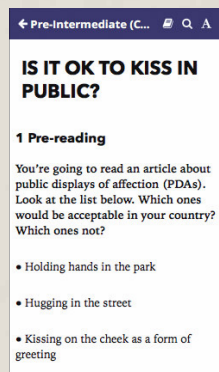
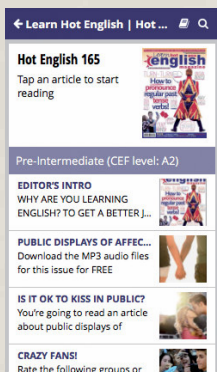


There's one song every hockey fan should know: The Good Old Hockey Game. Teams often play it during commercial breaks. Search YouTube for "Hockey Song - Good Old Hockey Game".

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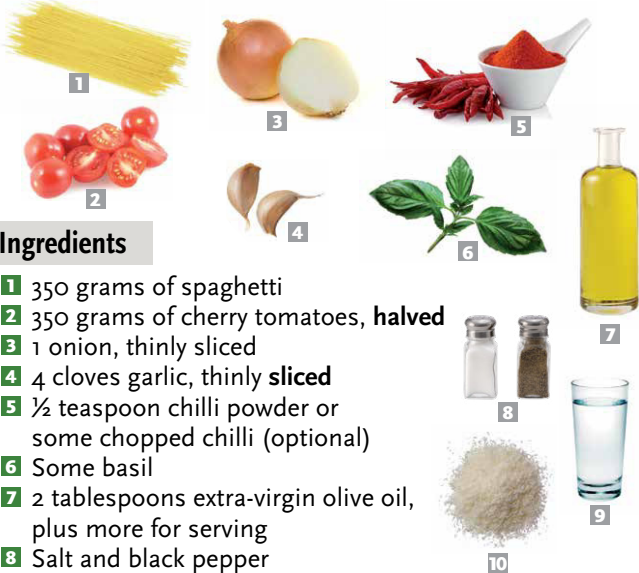
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ONE POT PASTA

Feeling hungry and lazy? Then, learn how to make this very quick and easy pasta dish. Get all the ingredients, throw them into a pan and heat them up!



Ingredients

- 1 350 grams of spaghetti
- 2 350 grams of cherry tomatoes, **halved**
- 3 1 onion, thinly sliced
- 4 4 cloves garlic, thinly **sliced**
- 5 ½ teaspoon chilli powder or some chopped chilli (optional)
- 6 Some basil
- 7 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil, plus more for serving
- 8 Salt and black pepper
- 9 4 ½ cups water
- 10 Freshly **grated** Parmesan cheese

Steps

1. Put the pasta, tomatoes, onion, garlic, chilli (optional), basil, oil, water and two teaspoons of salt and ¼ teaspoon of pepper into a pan.
2. **Bring to a boil** over a high heat. Then, cook the mixture for about 10 minutes, stirring and turning the pasta frequently until the pasta is **al dente** and the water has more or less **evaporated**.
3. **Garnish** with some torn basil leaves.
4. **Drizzle** some more olive oil over the top and put some of the grated Parmesan on it.
5. Serve and eat! 🌟

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video on how to make this simple dish. Search YouTube for “**How to make... One Pan Pasta!**” by Irish chef Donal Skehan.

GLOSSARY

to halve *vb*
to cut in half – into two equal parts

to slice *vb*
to cut into very thin pieces

to grate *vb*
to cut into very small pieces using a grater (a metal object with little sharp holes in it)

to bring to a boil *exp*
to cook in water until the water starts boiling (at 100°C)

al dente *exp Italian*
if you cook pasta until it's “al dente”, you cook it until it's firm (not hard and not soft)

to evaporate *vb*
when water “evaporates”, it changes from a liquid state to a gas

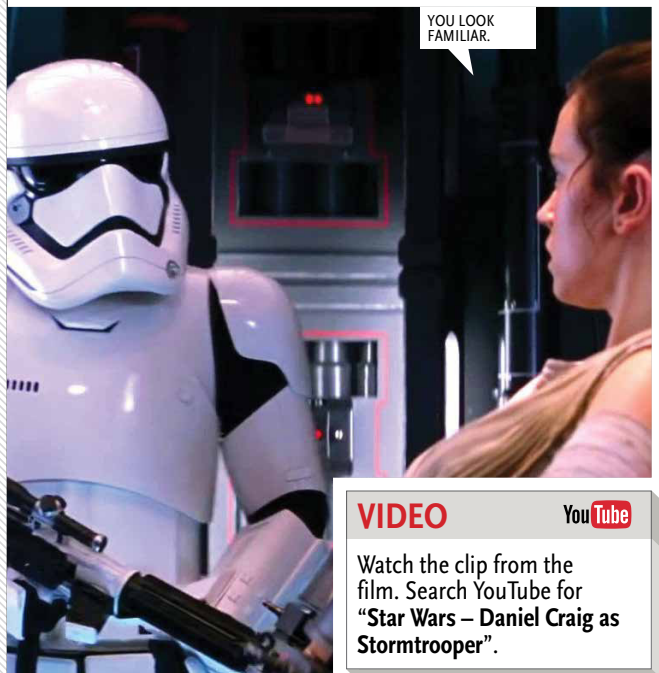
to garnish *vb*
if you “garnish” food with basil (for example), you put a bit of basil on top for decoration

to drizzle *vb*
if you “drizzle” oil on top of food, you put a bit of oil on top of the food

STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS



This 2015 American film is the seventh part in the *Star Wars* series. It stars Harrison Ford, Mark Hamill and Carrie Fisher (among many others). It takes place about 30 years after the destruction of the second Death Star. The **evil** First Order wants to eliminate the New Republic, but the Resistance (backed by the Republic and led by Luke's twin sister, General Leia Organa), is fighting against them. Meanwhile, Rey (played by British actress Daisy Ridley), Finn (a **renegade stormtrooper**) and Poe Dameron are looking for the last remaining Jedi, Luke Skywalker, to get his help. In this scene, Rey, who is a **scavenger**, has been captured. Left alone with a stormtrooper, she tries to use a Jedi mind trick to get free.



VIDEO

YouTube

Watch the clip from the film. Search YouTube for “**Star Wars – Daniel Craig as Stormtrooper**”.

The script

R=Rey G=Guard

- R:** You will **remove** these **restraints**. And leave this **cell**, with the door open.
- G:** What did you say?
- R:** You will **remove** these **restraints**. And leave this **cell**, with the door open.
- G:** I'll **tighten** those **restraints**, **scavenger scum!**
- R:** You will **remove** these **restraints**. And leave this **cell**, with the door open.
- G:** I will **remove** these **restraints**. And leave this **cell**, with the door open. *[He reaches down and opens the restraints, then he turns to leave.]*
- R:** You will **drop** your **weapon**.
- G:** And I'll **drop** my **weapon**. *[He drops his weapon.]* 🌟

GLOSSARY

evil *adj*
bad, wicked

renegade *n*
a “renegade” is someone who leaves an organisation or stops believing something

a stormtrooper *n*
a soldier on the same side as the baddies (Darth Vader, etc.) in the *Star Wars* films

a scavenger *n*
in the *Star Wars* films a “scavenger” is someone who finds old objects and repairs them to sell or use later

to remove *vb*
if you “remove” something (clothing for example), you take it off

a restraint *n*
an object (often around the legs or arms) that holds someone in position so they can't move

a cell *n*
a small room where a prisoner is kept

to tighten *vb*
if you “tighten” something (rope around someone's body, for example), you make it tighter so it fits more closely to that person's body and they can't move

scum *n*
if you refer to someone as “scum”, you're saying they're bad, horrible, etc.

to drop *vb*
if you “drop” something, you let it fall from your hand, etc.

a weapon *n*
something used to kill or hurt someone: a gun, a knife, a bomb, a missile, etc.

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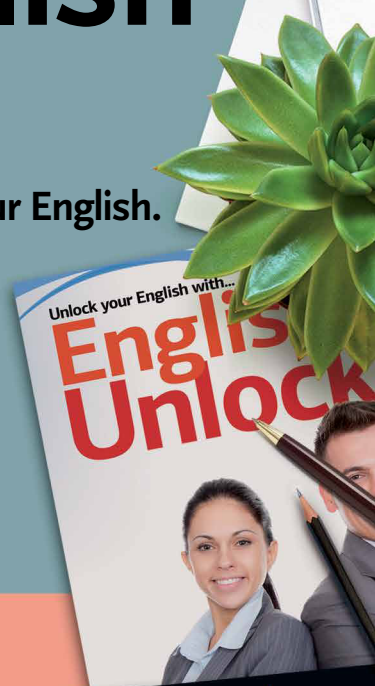
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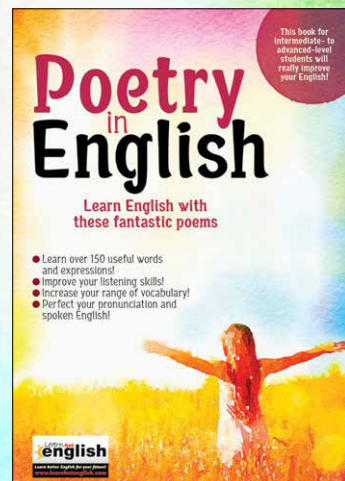
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November

An unusual charity event.

How far would you go for a good cause? Would you donate money?

Run a marathon? Grow a moustache? Movember is a charity that holds an annual, month-long event to promote awareness of prostate cancer. Both the organisation and the event challenge men to think differently about their health in an exciting and creative way.

Back in 1999, a group of Australian males from Adelaide had a charitable idea to improve men's health. There had been a drastic increase in prostate cancer, and they wanted to do something about it. Their idea eventually evolved into Movember, which was launched in 2004.

Since 2004, the Movember Charity Foundation has put on events to raise awareness and funds for men's health issues, such as prostate cancer and depression in Australia and New Zealand. They expanded beyond Australia in 2007, and held events in

Canada, Spain, the United Kingdom, and the United States. So, what does it involve?

Well, Movember participants are called Mo Bros (men) and Mo Sistas (women). The rules for men are simple. They

MOVEMBER MOVEMBER MOVEMBER

must begin 1st November with a clean-shaven face. Then, as the month progresses, Mo Bros have to grow a moustache to be judged at a later date. No goatees or beards are allowed. However, a "tickler" (a small piece of hair under the bottom lip) is acceptable. Mo Sistas contribute by raising money, joining a team and attending the Gala Parté.

The Gala Parté is the ceremony where prizes are awarded. Annual accolades include the Mo Mo (the individual who raised the most money), The Platinum Club (for those who raise more than 1,000 dollars),

and Brushes With Fame (a prize for the best picture of a contestant with a famous celebrity).

The Mo Bros, dressed to match their moustaches, get judged at the Gala Parté. There are different awards for the moustaches,

including Best Moustache in Character, The Lame Mo (an encouragement award for a very little moustache) and the Ultimate Mo (judged solely on the style of grooming). Also, at the Gala Parté, they hold Borat, Tom Selleck and Hulk Hogan celebrity look-alike contests. And finally, the Mo Sistas can pose with their Mo Bro to win Miss Movember and Man of Movember.

Since 2004, Movember has raised millions for charity, and has joined forces with numerous corporate sponsors, called Mo Sponsors. These include Google Chrome and the

airline Qantas.

Movember campaigns for earlier detection of prostate cancer and its intervention. They also finance cancer research. So far, they have countless testimonials of Movember contestants who saved friends and family members by raising awareness.

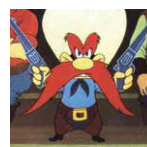
Movember may be an unusual concept, who knew growing a moustache could make such a difference? ✚

SIGNATURE MOUSTACHES



Hercule Poirot:
Fictional Belgian detective in Agatha Christie novels. Known

for being a thin man with an upward-curled moustache. He is perfectly punctual and carries a pocket watch with him wherever he goes.

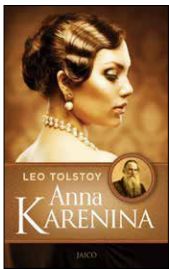


Yosemite Sam:
Introduced in 1945. Yosemite Sam is a Warner

Brothers animated cartoon character in Looney Tunes and the Merrie Melodies. He is known for his hot temper and large amount of facial hair.

11 BOOKS TO IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH!

Reading is a great way to learn a language. Here are 11 books to inspire you to read more... and really improve your English!



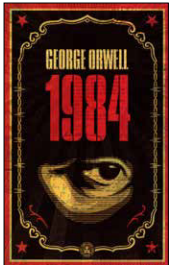
1 *Anna Karenina* (1875), by **Leo Tolstoy**
First lines: "All happy families are alike; each unhappy family is unhappy in its own way."

Anna, a married Russian aristocrat, is tempted to have an **affair** with the wealthy Count Vronsky. She thinks about this carefully before making a decision, and then faces the consequences of her actions. In his famous novel, Tolstoy explores ideas about family, **gender** and **morality**.



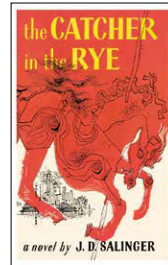
2 *Peter Pan* (1911), by **J.M. Barrie**
First lines: "All children, except one, grow up."

Wendy Darling and her two brothers meet Peter Pan, a boy who never grew up. He takes them to his home in Neverland, where they meet Captain Hook, the Lost Boys and other magical creatures. Peter and the Lost Boys want Wendy to stay in Neverland and become their mother, but Wendy isn't so sure.



3 *Nineteen Eighty-Four* (1949), by **George Orwell**
First lines: "It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen."

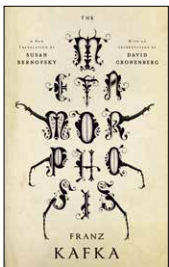
Winston Smith lives in a futuristic **dystopian society**. He's watched over by Big Brother, and could be arrested by the **Thought Police** if he does anything that goes against his country's ruling party. After secretly deciding to live and think for himself, Winston learns that freedom has a price.



4 *The Catcher In The Rye* (1951), by **J.D. Salinger**

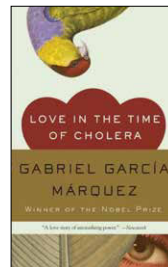
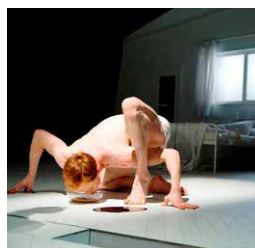
First lines: "If you really want to hear about it, the first thing you'll probably want to know is where I was born, and what my **lousy** childhood was like, and how my parents were occupied and all before they had me, and all that David Copperfield kind of **crap**, but I don't feel like **going into** it, if you want to know the truth."

Holden Caulfield has been expelled from **boarding school**. Before returning home, he spends three days in New York City, getting into trouble and going on dates.



5 *Metamorphosis* (1915), by **Franz Kafka**
First lines: "As Gregor Samsa awoke one morning from uneasy dreams, he found himself transformed in his bed into a monstrous vermin."

Salesman Gregor Samsa wakes up to find that he's an insect-like creature. Horrified by his appearance, his family tries to take care of him. Meanwhile, Gregor sees the effects that his change has on the people around him.



6 *Love in the Time of Cholera* (1985), by **Gabriel Garcia Marquez**

First lines: "It was inevitable: the scent of bitter almonds always reminded him of the fate of **unrequited love**."

Set in the late 1800s and early 1900s, Florentino and Fermina **fall in love** at a young age, but are soon separated by Fermina's father, who **disapproves** of their relationship. Fermina eventually marries a man who can offer her financial security. But even after the marriage, the relationship between Florentino and Fermina continues to play a role in their lives.

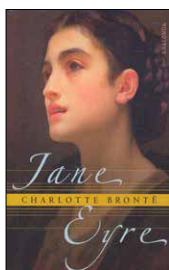


GRADED READERS

Graded readers are also great. They're simplified versions of the books that make it easier for you to understand them. You can find graded readers for many of the books on this page.

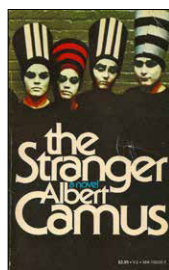
GLOSSARY

- an affair** *n*
a relationship with someone who isn't your husband, wife, partner, etc.
- gender** *n*
a person's "gender" is the fact that they're a man or woman
- morality** *n*
the belief that some behaviour is right and acceptable, and that other types of behaviour are bad and wrong
- to grow up** *phr vb*
to become an adult
- a dystopian society** *n*
an imaginary place in which the conditions are really bad
- The Thought Police** *n*
an organisation that checks what people are thinking
- lousy** *adj*
very bad
- crap** *n informal*
very bad
- to go into** *phr vb*
if you "go into" a topic, you talk about it and give details about it
- a boarding school** *n*
a school where the children sleep
- unrequited love** *n*
if there's "unrequited love", A loves B but B doesn't love A
- to fall in love** *exp*
to start to love someone very much
- to disapprove** *vb*
if you "disapprove" of something, you don't like that thing
- orphaned** *exp*
if a child has been "orphaned", his/her parents have died
- strong-willed** *adj*
someone who is "strong-willed" always tries to get or do what they want
- a governess** *n*
a woman who is employed by a family to live with them and educate their children
- indifferent** *adj*
someone who is "indifferent" has a complete lack of interest in anything
- to move on** *phr vb*
if you "move on" with your life, you forget about the past and focus on the future
- remorse** *n*
a strong feeling of sadness about something that you have done
- short-lived** *adj*
something "short-lived" doesn't happen for a long time
- to struggle** *vb*
if you "struggle" to do something, you try hard to do it as it's very difficult
- a skiff** *n*
a small, light boat for one person
- a marlin** *n*
a large fish that lives in the sea
- to fend off** *phr vb*
if you "fend off" something, you try to stop it from attacking you
- a prejudice** *n*
if you have a "prejudice" against certain people, you dislike them



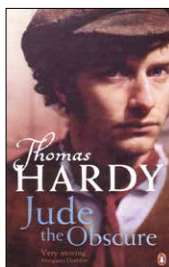
7 Jane Eyre (1847), by Charlotte Brontë
First lines: "There was no possibility of taking a walk that day."

An orphaned but strong-willed woman, Jane, becomes a governess at Thornfield Hall. She gradually begins to fall in love with the master of the house, Mr Rochester. However, she finds out that he's already married. Horrified, she leaves the house, becomes sick and almost dies.



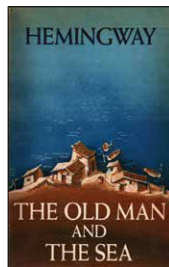
8 The Stranger (1946), by Albert Camus
First lines: "Mother died today. Or maybe, yesterday; I can't be sure."

Despite the recent death of his mother, Mersault is emotionally indifferent and quickly moves on with his life. Even after committing a murder, he feels no remorse. Throughout the novel, he considers the meaninglessness of his own existence and life in general.



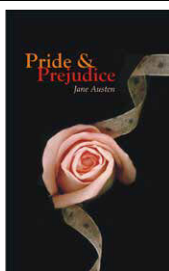
9 Jude the Obscure (1895), by Thomas Hardy
First lines: "The schoolmaster was leaving the village, and everybody seemed sorry."

Jude gets married, but it's short lived. Soon after, he meets his cousin, Sue, and falls in love with her. She marries someone else but eventually comes to realise that she loves Jude. The two characters struggle with relationships, religion and sexuality in this novel set in 19th century England.



10 The Old Man And The Sea (1952), by Ernest Hemingway
First lines: "He was an old man who fished alone in a skiff in the Gulf Stream and he had gone eighty-four days now without taking a fish."

Santiago, an elderly fisherman, has not caught a fish in over two months. He finally catches a large marlin, but is pulled out to sea by the creature. As he continually fends off hungry sharks, he struggles to make it home safely.



11 Pride and Prejudice (1813), by Jane Austen
First lines: "It is a truth universally acknowledged, that a single man in possession of a good fortune, must be in want of a wife."

Mrs Bennet wants her five daughters to marry rich men to ensure the family's future happiness and financial security. A group of wealthy men come to town and begin courting the sisters. Elizabeth Bennet meets the proud Mr. Darcy and begins to question the prejudices she has about the people around her.

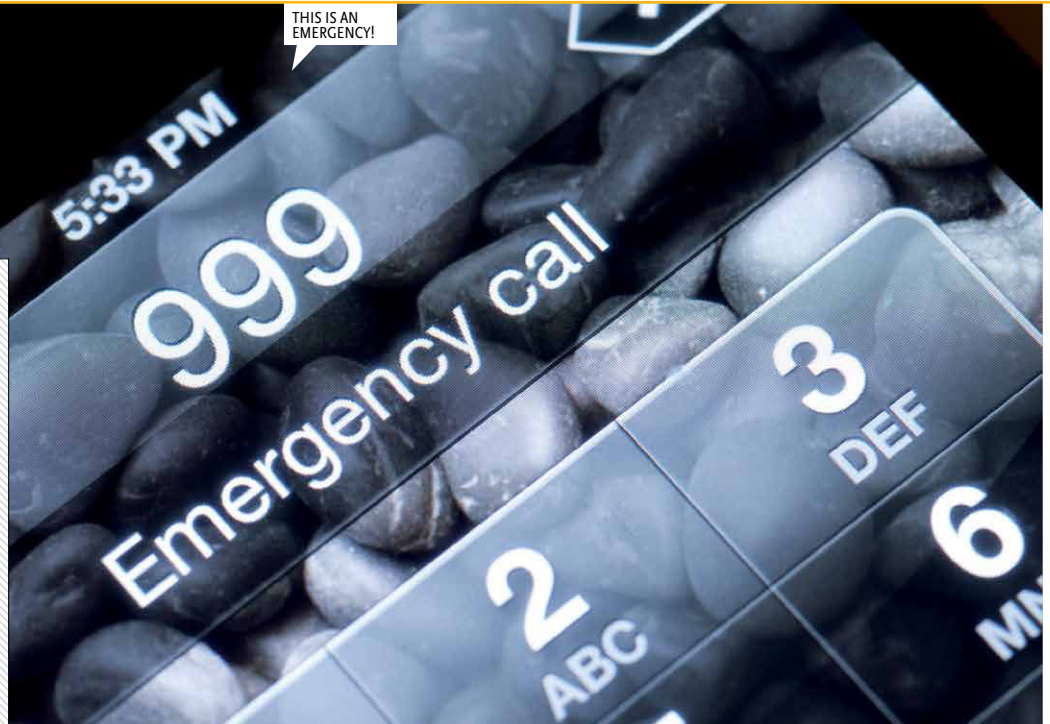
So, which book are you going to read to improve your English?

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Why might someone call the police? What could have happened? Why would someone call the fire brigade? What sort of emergencies do they deal with? Why would someone call for an ambulance? What sort of injuries would they typically deal with? How would you rate the emergency services in your country? What are their strong points? How could things be improved?

TRACK 15: ENGLISHMAN & SCOTSWOMAN

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as FCE, IELTS and TOEFL.



Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

What emergency could someone possibly have in relation to the following things?



2 Reading I

Read the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. What had the elderly man from Bridgeport forgotten?
2. Why was the woman from St Austell so angry?
3. What adjective did the woman from Bude use to describe the seagulls?
4. What did the elderly man from Harlew want to know in relation to a turkey?
5. What did the young man from Essex suspect in relation to the petrol station?
6. What couldn't the elderly lady from Langley find? Why couldn't she find them?
7. In your opinion, what might have happened to the snowman?
8. What was strange about the caller from Spenton's question?

If there's an emergency in the UK, you can dial 999; and within minutes, a police car, an ambulance or a fire engine will be on its way to help you. However, some people don't appear to understand the meaning of the word "emergency" as these real life examples clearly show.

An elderly man from Bridgeport called the emergency services because he'd forgotten the password for his laptop.

An angry mother from St Austell phoned up to ask when police were going to return her son's **confiscated cannabis**.

An elderly man from Portland phoned up to say that he'd run out of toilet paper. He was wondering whether someone could **drop some by**.

A middle-aged lady from Bude phoned up to complain about some aggressive seagulls who had

stolen some food from her garden table.

A young lady from Margrave called to complain that a kitchen **worktop** she'd just bought had **come loose** and needed repairing.

An elderly man from Harlew phoned up one Christmas to ask how long it would take to cook a turkey.

A young man from Essex called 999 to complain that the £5 of **fuel** he'd put in his car hadn't moved the **fuel gauge** from zero. He suspected the petrol station was involved in some kind of fraud.

An elderly lady from Langley phoned up to say she'd lost her glasses and couldn't find the potatoes for lunch.

A middle-aged woman from Sunderland called up to report a missing snowman that she'd built for her kids. Apparently, she'd been in the house for a few hours but when she went outside

again, it was gone.

A furious man from Rubgy phoned up to demand that police come over immediately because there was a dog **doing its business** in his front garden.

And finally, a confused caller from Spenton dialled 999 to ask what the number for the emergency services was.

Some people! ✨

GLOSSARY

confiscate *vb*
if you "confiscate" something from someone, you take it away from them, usually as a form of punishment

cannabis *n*
a type of drug that you smoke. Also known as marijuana

to drop by *phr vb*
if you "drop something by", you take it somewhere and leave it there

a worktop *n*
a flat surface in a kitchen where you can prepare food

to come loose *exp*
if something "comes loose", it isn't fixed in place, starts moving around and can break off

fuel *n*
a substance (such as petrol) used to provide energy in a car

a gauge *n*
a device that measures the quantity of something (fuel in the car, for example) and shows the amount left, etc.

to do its business *exp*
if a dog "does its business", it goes to the toilet

Objective To improve your listening and reading skills.

Think about it Are you good at solving puzzles or riddles? Which ones have you solved before? Have you heard of any riddles? What are they? What are some of the typical riddles from your country? Did you solve them easily? Have you ever invented a riddle? What was it? Do you like mysteries? Have you ever tried to solve a mystery? What are some of your favourite mysteries?

Exams This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as FCE, IELTS and TOEFL.

© TRACK 16: ENGLISHMAN & SCOTSWOMAN



I'LL BE AT THE END OF THE RAINBOW!

CAN YOU SOLVE THESE RIDDLES?

See if you can solve these 10 riddles. Read over them and guess the answer. Then, listen to check.

1 Which animal can jump higher than a building?

2 What is at the end of a rainbow?

3 I'm tall when I'm young and short when I'm old. What am I?

4 Mary's dad has four children: Patsy, Jenny and Sally. So, what's the fourth child's name?

5 What is black when you buy it, red when you use it, and grey when you throw it away?

6 I'm the beginning of everything, the end of time and space, the beginning of every end, and the end of every place. What am I?

7 What tastes better than it smells?

8 I can bring tears to your eyes; resurrect the dead, make you smile, and reverse time. I form in an instant but I last a lifetime. What am I?

9 Two dads and their two sons go fishing together. They each catch one fish to take home with them. They don't lose any fish, but when they arrive home they only have three fish. How can this be?

10 A murderer is condemned to death. He has to choose between three rooms. The first is full of raging fires, the second is full of psycho killers, and the third is full of lions that haven't eaten for three years. Which room is the safest for him? ☺

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Read over the riddles. What do you think the answers are?

2 Reading I

Listen to the article once. Were any of your answers correct?

3 Reading II

Try telling the riddles to a friend. See if he or she can guess the answers. Then, write some riddles of your own, and try them out on a friend.

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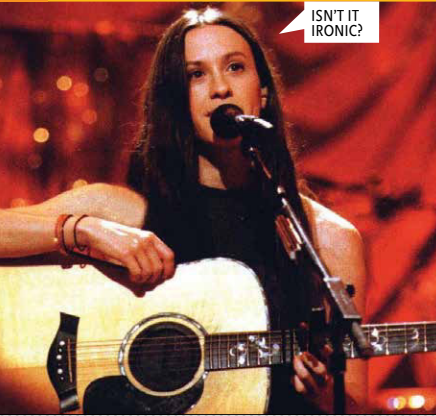


Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it Has anything strange or unusual happened to you lately? What was it? Why was it strange or unusual? How did you resolve it? Have you heard any stories in the news about strange or unusual things happening to people? What happened to them? How was the situation resolved (if it was ever resolved)?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as FCE, IELTS and TOEFL

TRACK 17: ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN



8 IRONIC STORIES!

Life can be strange, in a funny, cruel kind of way. As Alanis Morissette has said in her song *Ironic*: an old man wins the lottery then dies the next day; a **death-row** inmate is **pardoned** two minutes too late; or you get offered a free ride when you've already paid for your ticket. Here are some more examples of life's **ironies**.



Patrick Elridge was a champion rock climber who would often **scale** difficult rock faces without a **safety harness** or rope. Ironically, he died after falling down a flight of stairs.



British businessman Jimi Heselden bought the Segway Inc. company in December 2009. Less than a year later, he died after accidentally riding his own Segway off a 10-metre **cliff**.



Organic foods advocate J.I. Rodale once **boasted** on the *Dick Cavett Show* that he would live to be a hundred, and that he'd never felt better in all his life. Ten minutes later, and still during the interview, he died of a heart attack.

On 22nd November 1963, US President J.F. Kennedy was riding in a limousine through the streets of



Dallas, Texas. He was accompanied by Nellie Connally, the wife of the governor of Texas (John Connally). "Mr President, you can't say that Dallas doesn't love you!" Nellie said, seconds before Kennedy was assassinated.



The Consumer Product Safety Commission once had to recall 80,000 of their own **lapel buttons**. Apparently there was too much **lead** in them, and they had several sharp and dangerous edges.



The screening of the film *Noah* had to be cancelled due to... **flooding**. Noah is a Biblical character who builds an **ark** to save two of each type of animal before the earth is flooded. Cinema-goers at the Vue Cinema in Exeter (England) were evacuated after an **ice machine** broke, which caused extensive flooding.



Bill Hillman is the author of multiple books on how to survive **bull runs** in Spain. They include *Fiesta – how to survive the bulls of Pamplona*, and *Mozos – a decade running*

with the bulls of Spain.

Ironically, in 2014, during the **San Fermin** festival in Pamplona (Spain), he was the only non-Spaniard to get **gored**.



An anti-piracy group was once accused of... piracy. The Business Software Alliance posted an online advert with the text, "Your pot of gold is right here, baby. Report unlicensed software and get paid." Unfortunately, the image they'd used for the pot of gold didn't belong to them, and they were accused of online theft.

How ironic! ✨

GLOSSARY

- death-row** *n* someone on "death-row" is in prison waiting to be killed for his/her crime
- to pardon** *vb* if a prisoner is "pardoned", they're set free, and they aren't punished
- an irony** *n* a situation that involves a contrast, or it's something unusual or strange
- to scale** *vb* to climb
- a safety harness** *n* an object that you fix around your body to stop you from falling
- a cliff** *n* a mountain next to the sea
- to boast** *vb* if someone "boasts" about something good they've done, they talk about it in an annoying way
- a lapel button** *n* a metal object you wear on your "lapel": the two top parts at the front of a jacket that join on to the collar (the part that goes around your neck)
- lead** *n* a soft, grey metal with the chemical formula "pb"
- to flood** *vb* if an area "floods", it becomes covered in water
- an ark** *n* a ship that Noah built to save two examples of every type of animal
- an ice machine** *n* a machine that makes ice for drinks, etc.
- a bull run** *n* a sport that involves running in the street with bulls running behind you
- San Fermin** *n* a festival in Pamplona (Spain) that takes place between 6th and 14th July
- to gore** *vb* if someone is "gored" by an animal, they're injured by its horns (the hard objects that come out of its head at the front)

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

What ironic things could happen to the following people or things? For example: *an expert rock climber could fall off a ladder...*

a rock climber a president

a health food fan a film

a festival expert

an anti-piracy group

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Were any of your ideas mentioned? Which story is the most ironic? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. What was ironic about the death of Patrick Elridge?
2. Why was J.I. Rodale's death so shocking?
3. In what way were Nellie's last words to President Kennedy ironic?
4. Why did the Consumer Product Safety Commission have to recall some of their own products?
5. Why was the screening of the film *Noah* cancelled?
6. What was ironic about Bill Hillman getting gored in the festival in Pamplona?
7. What was unusual about the Business Software Alliance's use of a stolen image?

HORROR WORDS!

Here are some horror words for you to learn.

1 Eerie

Something "eerie" is strange and frightening, and makes you feel nervous.
"I walked down the eerie dark path."



2 Gory

A "gory" situation involves a lot of blood, people dying in a horrible way, etc.
"The film was full of gory death scenes that I couldn't watch."



3 Creepy

Something or someone who is "creepy" makes you feel nervous or frightened.
"There were certain rooms in the mansion that were really creepy at night."



4 Howl

When a wolf "howls", it makes a long, loud sound.
"Somewhere in the forest, a wolf was howling at the moon."



5 Moonlit

Something that is "moonlit" has the light of the moon on it.
"It was a beautiful moonlit night."



6 Nightmare

A very frightening dream.
"All the victims still suffer nightmares 10 years after the incident."



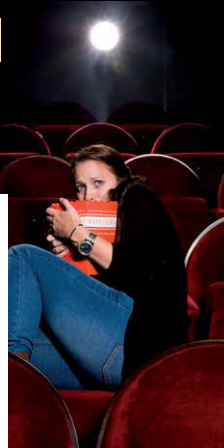
7 Frightened / afraid

If you're "frightened" of something, you're worried about it.
"He was too frightened to tell his family what had happened."



8 Spine-chilling

A "spine-chilling" story or film makes you feel very frightened.
"It was a spine-chilling film that I couldn't bear to watch on my own."



9 Spooky

A place that is "spooky" is frightening.
"The whole house had a spooky atmosphere to it."



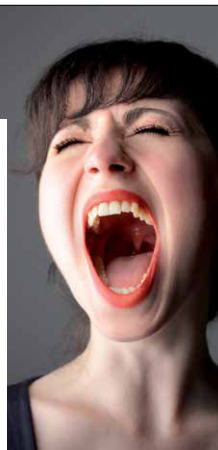
10 Evil

A powerful force that some people believe exists, and which causes wicked and bad things to happen.
"There has always been a conflict between good and evil in her films."



11 Scream

When someone "screams", they make a very loud, high-pitched sound, often because they're frightened or in pain.
"There was a terrible scream from deep inside the forest."



12 Haunted

A "haunted" house is one where ghosts live, apparently.
"We were too frightened to go inside the haunted house."



Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you stayed in a hotel? What was it like? Why were you staying there? How long were you there for? When was the last time you travelled abroad? Where did you go? Where did you stay? How long were you there for? When was the last time you met someone new? Who were they? What did you talk about? What questions did you ask? What questions were you asked?

TRACK 18: ENGLISH ACCENTS

Exams This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as FCE, IELTS and TOEFL.



Note!
Don't read the audio script until you've completed the exercises and activities.

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

What questions could you ask a business person who has come over for a short visit to your country? Think of at least three. For example: *What was the flight like?*

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to two dialogues with people who have just flown in for a meeting. Listen once. Were any of the questions you thought of for the Pre-listening activity mentioned?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

Dialogue I

1. What does Jack say about the hotel where he's staying?
2. Which museum does Kelly recommend Jack should visit?
3. Where does Kelly live?
4. What does Jack say about his childhood?

Dialogue II

5. How long have Mr Chan and Julie been communicating by e-mail?
6. How does Mr Chan describe the flight?
7. Who is Frank Masters?
8. What was the article in *Business Update* magazine about?

Dialogue I

Kelly: Hi, I'm Kelly Briggs – the chief financial officer. Pleased to meet you.
Jack: Pleased to meet you, Ms Briggs. I'm Jack Stone – the marketing manager of Portland Limited.
Kelly: Please, call me Kelly. So, how's the hotel?
Jack: Very nice, thanks. There's a pool and a gym, and wonderful views of the harbour.
Kelly: Yes, I've stayed there a few times myself. So, have you had any time to do any sightseeing?
Jack: Not really, I only got in yesterday afternoon, but it's an incredible city.
Kelly: Yes, it is nice. Make sure you visit the Modern Art Museum. It's fantastic.
Jack: Oh, I will. So, have you been here for long?
Kelly: About six years now.
Jack: Oh, so you must know the city pretty well.
Kelly: Yes, you could say that, but I don't get much of a chance to enjoy it. I'm living out in Nenton, which is about 20 miles out. So, which office are you working in?
Jack: I'm in the Paris branch.
Kelly: Nice. So, is that where you're from?
Jack: Not exactly, I was born in London, then grew up in Marseille, where I went to school. After that I studied in Paris, where I've been working for most of my life.
Kelly: So, you must know Clara Sanchez. She works there in the marketing department in Paris. She's an old friend of ours.
Jack: Oh, yes, I know her. So... [fades out]

Dialogue II

Julie: Mr Chan. It's great to finally meet you.
Mr Chan: Yes, we've been speaking by e-mail for the past 10 years! It's good to finally put a face to a name.
Julie: It certainly is. So, I hope you had a pleasant flight.
Mr Chan: A bit bumpy, but otherwise fine. There were a couple of good films!
Julie: Great! So, are you staying for long?
Mr Chan: No, my flight leaves on Wednesday.
Julie: Oh, I'd just like to introduce you to Frank Masters. He's the sales representative for this region.
Frank: Hello, Mr Chan. Pleased to meet you.
Mr Chan: Pleased to meet you. I saw an interesting article about you in *Business Update* magazine.
Frank: Oh, yes, I'd forgotten about that.
Mr Chan: It was very interesting hearing about how you set up your company all those years ago.
Frank: Oh, yes, it's a long story. So, have you been here before?
Mr Chan: No, it's my first time. I'm very keen to have a look around. It's a wonderful place.
Frank: Yes, there's so much to see. Oh, can I get you a drink?
Mr Chan: Yes, please. I'll have a glass of wine, please.
Frank: I'll just go and get it for you.
Julie: So, tell me... [fades out] ☺

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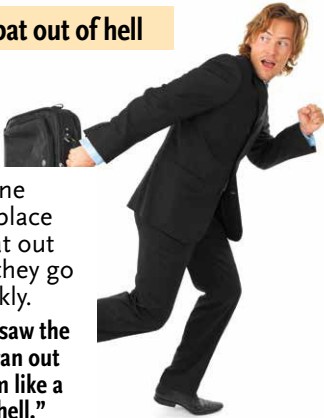
CREEPY IDIOMS

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Here are some creepy idioms for you.

1 Like a bat out of hell

If someone leaves a place "like a bat out of hell", they go very quickly.
"When he saw the ghost, he ran out of the room like a bat out of hell."



2 Send shivers down your spine

If something "sends shivers down your spine", it makes you feel frightened.
"The sound of his screams sent shivers down my spine."



3 Be as pale as a ghost / be as pale as death

If someone is "as pale as a ghost", their face is very white.
"She turned as pale as a ghost when we told her how they'd died."



4 Be scared stiff

If someone is "scared stiff", they're so frightened they can't move.
"He was scared stiff when the supposedly dead man started moaning."



5 Give someone the creeps

If something "gives you the creeps", it makes you feel frightened or nervous.
"That old neighbour of yours gives me the creeps. There's something not quite right about him."



6 Have a skeleton in the closet / cupboard

Someone with a "skeleton in the closet" has an embarrassing secret.
"Our great, great grandfather was sent to prison – that's our family's skeleton in the closet."



7 Shake like a leaf

If someone is "shaking like a leaf", they're trembling (they're making quick, involuntary movements), often because they're very frightened.
"He was shaking like a leaf when he realised we were trapped inside the haunted house."



8 In cold blood

If someone kills another person "in cold blood", they do it deliberately and without emotions, mercy, etc.
"They killed their former friend in cold blood."



9 A night owl

Someone who is a "night owl" is active at night.
"I'm a night owl: I do my best work in the evenings and at night."



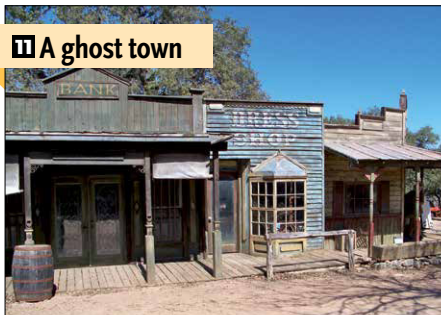
10 Not a cat in hell's chance

If there's "not a cat in hell's chance" of something happening, there's absolutely no possibility that it will ever happen.
"We hadn't a cat in hell's chance of rescuing our possessions from the fire."



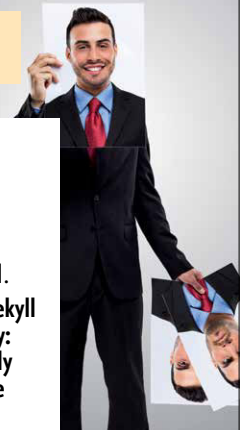
11 A ghost town

A town that has been abandoned and is no longer inhabited.
"All the young people have left our village and it's like a ghost town now."



12 A Jekyll and Hyde personality

Someone with a "Jekyll and Hyde personality" has two sides to their personality: one good and one evil.
"He's got a bit of a Jekyll and Hyde personality: one minute he's really nice, the next minute he's like a monster."



The top five horror films.

SPOOKY FILMS

What's your favourite horror film? Here's our list of the top five horror movies.



5 FRIDAY THE 13TH (1980).

This film is about a series of brutal murders at Camp Crystal Lake, the scene of a tragic accident, years earlier. In 1957, young Jason Voorhees **drowns** because of the **negligence**

of two **youth counsellors**. A year later, there is a double murder in the camp.

In 1980, the camp is re-opened. As the film **progresses**, the counsellors are **picked off** one by one by one. The first to go is Annie (played by Robbi Morgan). On her way to the camp, she enters a **diner**, asking for directions to the camp. The people in the diner are shocked that the camp has been re-opened. Ralph, an old man says that they are "all **doomed**". As Annie **approaches** the camp, the driver of a jeep who **picks her up** murders her with a knife. The driver is unseen. So, who is killing the camp counsellors? You'll have to see the film to find out.



4 HALLOWEEN (1978).

This movie launched Jamie Lee Curtis' career and resulted in a number of **copycat** films. It is also one of the most successful **indie films** ever made.

It's Halloween night, 1978 and psycho killer Michael Myers has escaped from a mental hospital where he has spent 15 years for murdering his sister, Judith. He returns to his hometown to **wreak havoc**, pursued by Dr Loomis (Donald Pleasance). He **stalks** Laurie (Curtis) and commits a series of murders. At first, Laurie can't believe what's happening. But after receiving a phone call from a friend she begins to worry. At one point, she crosses the street to another house where she discovers the bodies of her friends. Will the doctor be able to rescue Laurie in time?





3 BRAINDEAD (1992).

If you want a horror movie to be funny, just add zombies. *Braindead* is a horror comedy with zombies; and it's regarded as one of the bloodiest film ever made. It was directed by

Peter Jackson, who later became successful with his direction of *The Lord of the Rings* (LOTR) trilogy. Jackson actually used some of the same **shooting locations** for *Braindead* in LOTR.

The film is about Sumatran Rat-Monkeys. They're dangerous creatures – a hybrid between a monkey and a rat – that carry the bubonic plague. Their bite transforms law-abiding citizens into crazed, **flesh-eating** zombies. Lionel (Timothy Balme) falls in love with Paquita (Diana Peñalver). Lionel's overbearing mother isn't happy about this. So, she follows them. But while **spying on** the lovers at the zoo, she gets bitten by a rat-monkey. The transformation occurs but loyal son Lionel promises to care of his dear old mummy. But will he be able to stop the other zombies?



2 THE EXORCIST (1973).

The Exorcist is actually based on a true story – a story of the ultimate battle between good and evil. Father Karras (Jason Miller), a priest and psychiatrist,

is called to help a young girl, Regan (Linda Blair). She's showing supernatural and evil powers. Very soon, the priest finds that he's **up against** the Devil himself and battles him for Regan's soul. Father Merrin (Max von Sydow) is called to help as he is an experienced exorcist. Father Karras challenges Satan to enter him to save the little girl. But who is going to win? The film won two Oscars and several sequels and prequels were made. The opening scene was filmed in the Kurdish town of Sinjar, in Iraq.



And the winner of our top-five horror film competition is... [please turn over]

GLOSSARY

- to drown** *vb*
to die in water
- negligence** *n*
incompetence; not taking care
- a youth counsellor** *n*
a young person who looks after children or teens at a summer camp (for example)
- to progress** *vb*
to continue
- to pick off** *phr vb*
to kill one by one
- a diner** *n*
a restaurant
- doomed** *adj*
if you are "doomed", you're going to die
- to approach** *vb*
to go close to something or someone
- to pick someone up** *phr vb*
to take someone in your car in order to take them somewhere
- a copycat** *n*
someone/thing that isn't - it's more or less the same as something else
- an indie (independent) film** *n*
a film made outside the big Hollywood (etc.) studios
- to wreak havoc** *exp*
to destroy; to cause destruction
- to stalk** *vb*
to follow someone with the intention of hurting them
- a shooting location** *n*
a place where part of a movie is filmed
- flesh-eating** *adj*
that eats meat (from humans / animals, etc)
- to spy on** *exp*
to watch someone or something secretly
- to be up against something** *exp*
to be fighting against something

WHERE'S MY MUMMY?

THE 666 OMEN

Our number-one horror film ever.

[warming: spoiler alert]



THE OMEN (1976) is a highly-acclaimed film for many reasons. But it's different from other horror films. It is a mixture between a **thriller** and a horror film. It has a **gripping** storyline and great acting. Starring

Gregory Peck and Lee Remick, it also has an operatic soundtrack which adds to the suspense of the film.

It all starts in Italy. Robert and Katherine Thorn have a **stillborn** son in a hospital in Rome. Thorn (Peck), an American diplomat agrees to **switch** the dead child with another. He wants to spare his wife (Remick) any **grief**. But Robert Thorn soon realises that his adopted child, Damien, is actually **the Antichrist**. There have been several bizarre deaths around Damien. Together with a photographer, Keith (David Warner), Thorn goes back to the hospital in Rome, only to find the hospital has **burned down**. Then, they find the head priest of the hospital, dying and insane in a monastery. He tells them where to find Damien's true mother. In the most memorable scene of

the film, they find the terrible truth in an abandoned **graveyard**. Thorn's real son was murdered (he's buried next to Damien's mother). And Damien's mother was... a **jackal**. Suddenly, Thorn and Keith are attacked by two satanic Rottweillers and escape, but only just.

Next, they travel to Israel to talk to an archaeologist who knows how to kill Damien. The Antichrist has to be **stabbed** with seven ceremonial **daggers** on holy ground, which horrifies Thorn. At this point, Keith is decapitated by a sheet of glass and Thorn returns home with the daggers. In the meantime, Katherine Thorn has been murdered by Damien's evil **nanny**. A **distraught** Thorn arrives wanting to know the truth, once and for all. The archaeologist told Thorn to look for the mark of "**The Beast**" on Damien. Thorn finds it at the back of Damien's head - the satanic number "666". Robert Thorn now knows he must kill the boy and **does battle with** the boy's nanny before he takes Damien to a church to finish him off. Will he succeed and **rid** the world of evil? Or does the Antichrist survive? *The Omen* is a must-see. ✨

GLOSSARY

- a thriller** *n*
a type of film that is full of suspense, excitement and tension
- gripping** *adj*
very exciting
- stillborn** *adj*
born dead
- to switch** *vb*
to change
- grief** *n*
extreme sadness
- the Antichrist** *n*
the son of the Devil
- to burn down** *phr vb*
to destroy a building completely with fire
- a graveyard** *n*
an area (often next to a church) where dead bodies are buried
- a jackal** *n*
a type of wild dog
- to stab** *vb*
to push a knife into
- a dagger** *n*
a large ornamental knife
- a nanny** *n*
a person who cares for children in the parents' house
- distraught** *adj*
very upset
- the Beast** *n*
the Devil
- to do battle with** *exp*
to fight
- to rid** *vb*
to destroy; to kill; to make go away

Objective To improve your advanced listening skills by listening to several speakers chatting in an informal setting.

Think about it How do you get to work, school, college, etc.? What form of transport do you use most often? What are the pros and cons of going by car? What about using public transport? Are there any places that you can walk to from your house? How long does it take you to get there?

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GROUP TALK

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE FORM OF TRANSPORT?

Answers on page 44

1 Listening I

You're going to listen to some people talking about different forms of transport. What are the pros and cons of going by car? Make notes. Then, listen once. Were any of your ideas mentioned by the speakers?

2 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. Why did one of the female speakers have to drive home again after leaving for work?
2. Why does the male speaker say you have to take the car sometimes?
3. What makes the male speaker angry when he's driving?
4. What does one of the female speakers say she likes about the metro / underground?
5. During the road rage incident, what did the other driver take out of the boot? What do you think the male speaker was expecting to see?
6. What did one of the female speakers say she liked about her primary school?

Audio script

Rose: I had to drive in to work yesterday and the traffic was just terrible. And then I left something and I had to go back, and then go back.

Calvin: I hate driving when there's traffic.

Janet: I don't bother with driving. Why don't you guys just take the metro?

Calvin: Well sometimes you do have to get the car when you know you live too far out or you've got to take your kids or... I don't know.

Janet: Yeah, well you never complain about traffic when you take the metro.

Rose: I feel like I always have too much stuff to take places to take the metro. I don't want to lug all of my stuff on the train.

Janet: Okay yeah. You don't want to carry, right? You don't want to carry stuff, yes. Yes, I understand.

Calvin: Yeah, I just get... I'm quite a calm, you know, calm person but when I get in bad traffic and

someone starts beeping you or something like that, it can really make you angry.

Janet: I think people change personalities when they're in a car driving, of course, yes.

Calvin: Or their true personality comes out.

Janet: Yes, I think so. Yes. The bus, of course, is another option. Sure there can be traffic but you can have nicer conditioning. It's not usually full.

Rose: You can read on the bus, as well. You don't have to pay attention.

Janet: Yes. True also on the metro of course. Yeah you can really catch up on your reading.

Calvin: You hear lots about road rage instances, don't you?

Janet: Yes, you do. Yeah, I'm not surprised why.

Calvin: My friend told me he was in the States once and he got into a sort of fight on the road with this guy and the guy stopped his car in front and he got

out and he thought 'Oh no what's gonna go on here?' and he opened the boot and he thought 'Oh no he's going to take out a gun'...

Janet: This is a movie!

Calvin: And he took out a tennis racket.

Janet: Or a baseball bat!

Calvin: No, he took out a tennis racket, but yeah. Luckily nothing happened with it but he was worried for a minute.

Rose: When I was in primary school I lived close enough to walk which was really nice because then we didn't have to bother with any of it.

Janet: Which is not very typical in the States, of course, to walk.

Rose: No, it's not. We never walk anywhere.

Calvin: The ideal would be walk or cycle.

Janet: Sure, sure. Yeah, yeah.

Calvin: That's the idyllic thing, isn't it?

Janet: Cycling. Good, yeah. [fades out] ☺

Top tip: how to listen

The most important thing to remember when listening to a conversation is that you won't understand every word. So, you should only listen out for the key words – the most important words in the conversation: the nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc. Then, you can use your intuition to guess what the people are saying – just as you do in your own language. Knowing the context and topic of the conversation will help with this.

Boy bands

This month we're looking at some boy bands.

Boy bands consist of young men who look good, dance well and sing about love. Here are a few popular boy bands and some of their most famous songs.



One Direction

One Direction (commonly abbreviated as 1D) is an English boy band consisting of Harry Styles, Niall Horan, Louis Tomlinson, Liam Payne and Zayn Malik. They became famous after finishing third in 2010 in the British reality show *The X Factor*. The band decided to **split** after Zayn left the group in March 2015. This song is about a girl who wants to be friends instead of **dating**.

Heart Attack

*Baby you got me sick,
I don't know what I did,
Need to take a break and figure it out, yeah,
Got your voice in my head,
Saying, "let's just be friends",
Can't believe the words came out of your mouth, yeah.*



5 Seconds of Summer

5 Seconds of Summer are a band from Sydney (Australia), who were formed in 2011. The group originally posted videos of their songs on YouTube, but became famous after joining with One Direction on the *Take Me Home* tour in 2013. This song is about a **breakup**, with the singer imagining that his ex-girlfriend is unhappy with her new partner.

Amnesia

*Are you somewhere feeling lonely even though he's right beside you?
When he says those words that hurt you, do you read the ones I wrote you?
Sometimes, I start to wonder, was it just a lie?
If what we had was real, how could you be fine?
'Cause I'm not fine at all.*



The Jonas Brothers

The Jonas Brothers were an American band. They consisted of three brothers from Wyckoff, New Jersey: Paul Kevin Jonas II, Joseph

Adam Jonas, and Nicholas Jerry Jonas. They became famous in the mid-2000s after appearing on a TV show on the Disney Channel. In this song, the boys sing about a girl who is so fantastic that she **takes their breath away**.

Burnin' Up

*I fell (I fell),
So fast (so fast),
Can't hold myself back,
High heels (high heels),
Red dress (red dress),
All by yourself, gotta catch my breath.*



The Backstreet Boys

The Backstreet Boys (BSB) were hugely popular in the 1990s. They formed in Florida in 1993, and consisted of A. J. McLean, Howie Dorough, Nick Carter, Kevin Richardson and Brian Littrell. They broke up for a while and then got back together, releasing a **comeback** album *Never Gone* (2005). This song is about **chasing after** the perfect girl.

I Want it That Way

*You are my fire,
That one desire,
Believe when I say,
I want it that way.*



Take That

Take That is an English boy band. They formed in Manchester in 1990. They originally consisted of Gary Barlow, Howard Donald and Mark Owen, but also featured Jason Orange and Robbie Williams. Internationally, the band have had over 50 number-one singles, and over 30 number-one albums. This song is about a relationship that ended but the singer is looking to get his ex back.

Back For Good

*Unaware but underlined,
I figured out this story (no no),
It wasn't good (no no),
But in the corner of my mind (corner of my mind),
I celebrated glory,
But that was not to be. ☺*

GLOSSARY

- to split** *vb*
if a band "splits", the members separate and leave the band
- to date** *vb*
if you "date" someone, that person is your boy/girlfriend
- to figure out** *phr vb*
if you "figure out" something, you understand it and its meaning
- a tour** *n*
an organised trip that musicians go on, visiting different cities or countries to play concerts there
- a breakup** *n*
if there's a "breakup", two people stop going out or dating
- to take your breath away** *exp*
if someone "takes your breath away", you can't breathe (temporarily) because they're so beautiful, amazing, etc.
- to catch your breath** *exp*
if you "catch your breath", you wait and rest for a moment after you've been very active
- a comeback** *n*
if someone makes a "comeback", they return after a period away
- to chase after** *phr vb*
if you "chase after" someone, you try to have a relationship with them
- an ex** *n*
a girlfriend, boyfriend, wife, husband, etc. you had in the past
- unaware** *adj*
if you're "unaware" of something, you don't know that this thing exists
- underlined** *adj*
if something is "underlined", it has a line under it so it's obvious and you know it's important. It isn't entirely clear what this means in the song, but it's probably saying that although he was unaware of something it was very obvious (because it was "underlined")

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What do you like to do on cold winter days? What makes you feel warm and cosy? How warm and cosy is your house? What could you do to make it warmer and cosier? On a scale of 1 to 10, how happy do you think people are in your country? Do you think it's possible to rate how happy a country (or its people) is? Why? Why not? How happy are the people in your country compared to people in other countries?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as CAE, IELTS and TOEFL.

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Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the list of objects below. What role (if any) do they play in your life?



Candle



Pillow



Rug



Blanket



Slippers



Woolen socks



Fire in a fireplace



Duvet

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once and find out how the things from the Pre-reading task feature as a part of hygge (a Danish way of life). Were any of your ideas similar to the ones related to hygge?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions without referring back to the text.

1. Why are candles important to hygge?
2. How does the writer suggest you could create a cosy spot in your living room?
3. What does the writer suggest you offer guests to eat?
4. What could you do to relax, hygge style?
5. What hygge activities could you do with friends in the house?
6. What are some typical outdoor hygge activities?



BRING A LITTLE "HYGGE" INTO YOUR LIFE!

According to the 2016 World Happiness Report, the Danes are the happiest people on the planet. They even have a Happiness Research Institute whose CEO is Meik Wiking*. So, how do they do it? Apparently, it's down to one little Danish word: "hygge"!

Hygge [pronounced "hoo-ga"] is difficult to define. However, it could be summed up as a feeling of wellbeing and cosiness. As Louisa Thomsen Brits (the author of *The Book of Hygge*) has said, "It's a feeling of belonging and warmth – a moment of comfort and contentment." So, what exactly does hygge involve?

1 Candles

Candles can help bring some hygge to your home. They produce a soft, warm light – an important part of hygge. Other ways to create a cosy atmosphere are to have more than one source of light for the room: floor lamps and table lamps work well for that.

2 Comfort

Hygge is all about feeling comfortable. So, create cosy little spots in your living room with soft pillows, fur rugs and warm blankets. Oh, and don't forget to slip on a pair of comfy slippers or thick woolen socks!

3 Food

Food is an important part of hygge. Always keep a few bottles of wine in stock and lots of snacks in case your friends pop around. And don't worry about creating something elaborate. A simple wooden breadboard with some cheese, olives, fresh bread and butter would be fine.

4 Relax

Hygge is all about relaxing. Slip into a hot bath with some lighted candles in the bathroom, curl up on the sofa with a cup of hot chocolate and your favourite book, or snuggle up in bed with some soft cushions, a fluffy duvet and snugly blankets.

5 Friends

Hygge is best enjoyed with friends. Invite loved ones around for coffee by the fireplace, a nice simple dinner, or some mulled wine. Or, get them to help you in the kitchen as you bake a cake or prepare some delicious food for dinner.

6 Outside

Hygge isn't just about staying inside. You can get some hygge outside too. So, put on some warm clothes and go for a winter walk, or go for a stroll to a nearby pub, or arrange a night walk ending with hot chocolate and blankets to wrap up in.

Hygge is all about relaxing, unwinding and enjoying the moment. It's about creating a warm atmosphere so you can enjoy the good things in life with the people you love most. So, light a candle, make some delicious hot chocolate and invite your friends over for a bit of hygge! ❄️

*MEIK WIKING



Meik Wiking is the author of the book *The Little Book of Hygge – the Danish way to live well*. He's also CEO of the Happiness Research Institute in Copenhagen. In this book he'll help you be more hygge by showing you how to pick the right lighting, plan a dinner party and create an emergency hygge kit.

GLOSSARY

a Dane *n*
someone from the country Denmark
cosiness *n*
the state of being warm and comfortable. It comes from the word "cosy"
contentment *n*
a feeling of happiness and satisfaction
in stock *exp*
if you've got food "in stock", you've got it in the kitchen, in a cupboard, etc.
to pop around *phr vb*
if you "pop around" to someone's house, you go to their house for a short visit
to slip into *exp*
if you "slip into" a bath, you go into it with a smooth, fast movement
to curl up *phr vb*
if you "curl up", you move your body into a rounded shape
fluffy *adj*
very soft
snugly *adj*
warm and comfortable
mulled wine *n*
a type of wine with sugar and spices
a stroll *n*
a walk
to wrap up *phr vb*
if you "wrap up" in something, you put that thing around you, often to keep warm

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you heard any jokes lately? What were they? Are you good at remembering jokes? What are some of your favourites? Do you know anyone who is good at telling jokes? What makes a good joke teller? How good are you at telling jokes? What are some of your top tips for telling jokes? Have you ever heard any jokes from other countries? What did you think of them? What do people in your country typically joke about?

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WERE THE ANCIENT ROMANS FUNNY?

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the paragraph titles. These are typical topics for Ancient Roman jokes. What do you think they joked about in relation to these themes? Make notes.

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity. Which joke is the best? What do you think of them in general?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. What did the sex-mad wife mean when she said there wasn't a crumb in the house?
2. What sort of humour would you describe the "death" joke as?
3. In what way is the professor in the "slave" joke absent-minded?
4. How does the fortune teller manage to get out of his predicament?
5. In what way is the Abderrite being stupid?
6. In what way is the professor in the baldness joke being absent-minded?

The Ancient Romans were famous for their armies, aqueducts, laws and roads, among many other things. But did they have a sense of humour? Historian Mary Beard explores this question in her latest book, *Laughter in Ancient Rome*.

Much of the content for her book comes from the world's first joke book: *Philogelos (The Laughter Lover)*. This book was written around the 4th or 5th century A.D., so it's over 1,500 years old! The collection of over 250 jokes is written in Greek; and many of them are based around **recurring** themes. Would you find these Ancient Roman jokes funny?

Sex

A young man says to his sex-mad wife, "What shall we do, darling? Eat or have sex?" And she replies, "You choose. But there isn't a **crumb** in the house."

Death

A man buys a slave, who dies shortly afterwards. Angry, he complains to the seller, who says, "Well, he didn't die when I owned him."

Identity

A man says to a friend, "I was told that you were dead." And the friend replies, "Well, you can see I'm still alive." But the first man **disputes** this and says, "Well, the person who told me you were dead is much more **reliable** than you."

Slaves

An **absent-minded** professor is asked by a friend to bring back two 15-year-old slaves from his trip abroad. "Fine," he says, "But if I can't find two 15-year-olds, I'll bring you one 30-year-old."

Fortune tellers

A man is just back from a trip abroad. He goes to see a **fortune teller** and asks about his family. The fortune teller says, "Everyone is fine, especially your father." When the man says that his father has been dead for 10 years, the fortune teller says, "You have no idea who your real father is."

Abderrites [Many jokes are at the expense of people from the city of Abdera.]

A man from Abdera sees a **eunuch** chatting with a woman and asks a friend if she's the eunuch's wife. When the friend says that

a eunuch can't have a wife, the Abderrite says, "Oh, so it's his daughter then."

Baldness

A **barber**, a bald man and an absent-minded professor take a journey together. They have to camp overnight, so decide to take it in turns watching the luggage. When it's the barber's turn, he gets bored, so he amuses himself by shaving the professor's head. When the professor is woken up for his **shift**, he feels his head, and says, "That barber's stupid! He's woken up the bald man instead of me."

Ha, ha, ha! ✨

GLOSSARY

recurring *adj*
a "recurring" theme happens more than once
a crumb *n*
a very small piece of bread
to dispute *vb*
if you "dispute" something, you say that it isn't correct or true
reliable *adj*
a "reliable" person always does what they say they'll do, and they're honest and truthful, etc.
absent-minded *adj*
an "absent-minded" person forgets things or loses things
a fortune teller *n*
a person who can tell you what will happen in the future
a eunuch *n*
a man with no testicles (so he can't have babies, for example)
a barber *n*
a man who cuts hair (usually men's hair)
a shift *n*
a period of time when you work. For example, the morning shift = from 9am to 2pm, etc.

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you heard about any medical advances lately? What were they? How has medicine changed over the years? What advances do you think there will be in the future? What will medicine be like in 10 or 20 years? What are some of the challenges faced by medical practitioners? What effects could this have on the health system? What is the health system in your country like? What are the good and bad things about it? How could it be improved?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as CAE, IELTS and TOEFL.

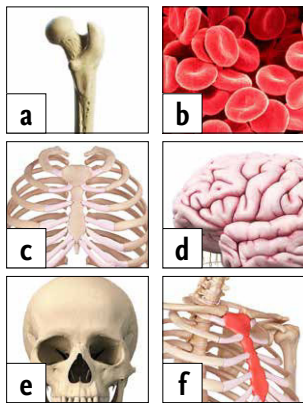
TRACK 23: US MAN & US WOMAN

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Match the words (1 to 6) to the pictures (a-f).

- Brain
- Rib cage
- Sternum
- Bone
- Blood cell
- Skull



2 Reading I

In what way do you think the things from the Pre-reading task could be related to medical advances? Make notes. Then, read the article once to compare your ideas. Which advance is the most interesting or spectacular. In what way?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

- Why did they need to print the rib cage and sternum?
- What happens to the T-cells that are removed?
- How effective was this treatment on terminally ill patients?
- Where are the leads from the neurostimulator placed?
- How effective is the RNS System?
- Who asks the question: Participant A or B? How does he/she do this?
- How does the other participant answer the question?
- How does the question asker know if the answer is "yes"?



by Ben Nicoll

FOUR AMAZING MEDICAL ADVANCES!

Printed body parts. Brain-to-brain communication. A cure for leukaemia. Medicine is advancing at a rapid pace. Here are four interesting developments from recent years.

1 Body parts

3D printing is nothing new. But its uses in the medical field are growing rapidly. According to *Medical Daily*, doctors and engineers at the Australia-based Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) successfully printed a **titanium** rib cage and sternum for a patient who lost both to cancer. But 3D printers aren't only being used for bones – medical scientists have even been able to print things like ears and noses.

2 Leukaemia

There's been an exciting new discovery in the treatment of **leukaemia**. A revolutionary treatment involves removing a patient's T-Cells, a type of blood cell involved in the immune system, reprogramming them to fight cancer, then returning those same cells into the **bloodstream** to perform their duty. According to CBS News, the treatment miraculously saw over 90% of a group of 35 **terminally ill** patients **go into remission**; and doctors and patients alike hope it may be a long-term solution to several types of leukaemia.

3 Seizures

The RNS System by NeuroPace can stop **seizures**. And this new device is really helping people who suffer from **epilepsy**. A small neurostimulator is placed on the skull, under the **scalp**. It has leads coming off it that are connected directly to areas of the brain that cause seizures. The tiny neurostimulator monitors brainwaves, detects any unusual activity and responds in real time, preventing seizures before they start. It has resulted in a median 60% seizure reduction in patients by the third year of use. In some cases, patients may go as long as an entire year without an episode. One man, who'd suffered frequent seizures since he was 13, wrote, "I simply don't feel my seizures" after getting the RNS System.

4 Brains

Researchers at the University of Washington recently conducted some complex "brain-to-brain" experiments. One of these was based on a question-and-answer game. Participant A (the responder) wears a cap connected to an electroencephalography machine that records electrical brain activity. Participant A is shown an object (a dog, for example) on a computer screen. Meanwhile, Participant B (the inquirer) sees a list of possible objects and

associated questions. With the click of a mouse, B sends a question ("Is it a dog?") for example). Participant A then answers "yes" or "no" by focusing on one of two flashing **LED lights** attached to the monitor, which flash at different frequencies. A "no" or "yes" answer both send a signal to Participant B via the Internet. These signals then activate a magnetic coil positioned behind Participant B's head. But only a "yes" answer generates a response intense enough to stimulate the **visual cortex** and cause B to see a flash of light known as a "phosphene". This tells Participant B the answer is yes.

Incredible! ✨

GLOSSARY

- titanium** ⁿ
a light strong white metal
- leukaemia** ⁿ
a disease of the blood in which the body produces too many white blood cells
- the bloodstream** ⁿ
the blood that flows around your body
- terminally ill** ^{exp}
if someone is "terminally ill", they're about to die
- to go into remission** ^{exp}
if someone with a serious disease "goes into remission", the disease has been controlled, they aren't as ill as they were, and they seem to be all right
- a seizure** ⁿ
if someone has a "seizure", they have a sudden violent attack of an illness, especially one that affects their heart or brain
- epilepsy** ⁿ
a brain condition which causes a person to suddenly lose consciousness and sometimes to have a fit (like a seizure)
- a scalp** ⁿ
the skin under the hair on your head
- an LED light** ⁿ
a light-emitting diode (LED) is a light that is emitted when activated
- the visual cortex** ⁿ
the part of the cerebral cortex of the brain that receives and processes impulses from the optic nerves

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you had to do any negotiating? What were you negotiating for? Have you ever asked for a salary increase? What did you ask for? How did you justify it? How did it go? Have you ever negotiated the reduction in the cost of something? What was it? How did you do it? How big a reduction was it? What are your top tips for negotiating? What other top tips have you read about from professional negotiators?

TRACK 24: ENGLISH ACCENTS

Exams This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as CAE, IELTS and TOEFL.



Note!

Don't read the audio script until you've completed the exercises and activities.

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

Imagine you're negotiating your salary. What could you say to justify getting a higher salary? Think of as many ideas as you can. For example: *I've been offered another job with a 20% higher salary.*

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to four proposals in which people are negotiating better conditions. Listen once. Were any of the ideas you thought of for the Pre-listening task mentioned?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

Proposal I

1. How much is the speaker currently earning?
2. How much is she being offered? How much does she need to make?

Proposal II

3. What sort of reduction is he asking for in the price of paper?
4. What reduction does he want for maintenance costs for the printers?

Proposal III

5. How much more has she been offered by another company?
6. What did that other offer include?

Proposal IV

7. What is the speaker willing to offer?
8. What does he want in return?

Proposal I

Salary negotiations

Before I can accept your offer, we do need to discuss compensation. As you know, I'm currently living in Marston, making €75,000. While the salary of €88,000 you're offering is more than what I make now, the cost of living in London is much higher. According to my research, housing in London is 45% more expensive, utilities are 22% more, and travel is about 12% more. I'd have to make at least €95,000 to maintain my standard of living. I'd really like to work here, but I'll need you to look at the salary again and come back with a slightly higher offer.

Proposal II

The printing company

Given the current financial situation, and bearing in mind the improvements and investments to the business that we've made, we'd like to ask for a 20% reduction in the amount we're paying for paper, and a 40% reduction in the maintenance costs for the printers. We'd also need the technician to come within 24 hours of us placing a call for assistance. And we'd want all replacement parts free of charge. In exchange, we'd be willing to extend the contract a further three years.

Proposal III

The job offer

HomeAppliance is my first choice, but I've received another offer which is about €7,000 more than you're offering, including longer holidays, medical insurance, flexitime, bonuses and overtime payments. I'd happily accept your offer if you could go some way towards matching this. So, as I see it there are two options. Either there's an improvement in the benefits package, or the salary is increased. I'm confident that I can make a valuable contribution to your company, and I hope we can come to a mutual agreement. However, I'm also keen to make sure I get the best deal possible.

Proposal IV

The publishing company

So, we've been thinking carefully about this, and this is what we're willing to offer. We're prepared to grant you unlimited publishing rights for the books in your country. And we're also willing to give you the digital rights to the books so you can sell and market them online, but only within your region. In exchange, we'd want 10% royalties, and the rights to place a one-page ad in your monthly publication for the duration of the agreement. ☆

How to make a proposal

Complete the sentences (1 to 8) with the words from below.

wolves behind hands brother corridor frog ghosts forest

1 Believe in

If you "believe in" something or somebody, you think they exist.

"I'm not sure whether I believe in _____, but I think I saw one once."



2 Freak out

If someone "freaks out", they get frightened, angry or upset.

"She freaked out when she saw the vampire in the _____."



3 Look out

If you tell someone to "look out", you're telling them about a possible danger.

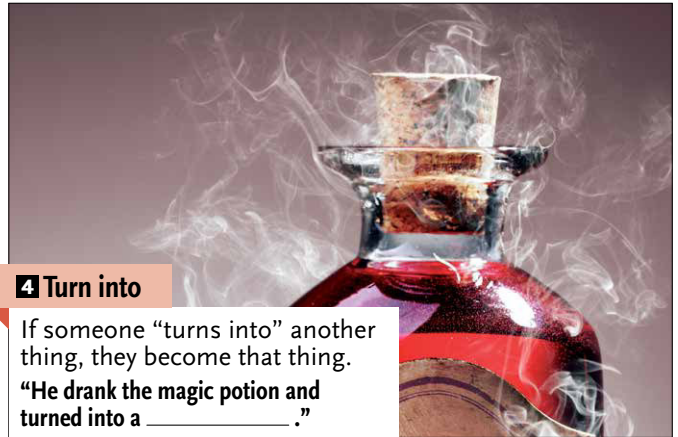
"Look out! There's a werewolf _____ you!"



4 Turn into

If someone "turns into" another thing, they become that thing.

"He drank the magic potion and turned into a _____."



5 Wind up

If you "wind someone up", you tell them something that isn't true in order to play a joke on them.

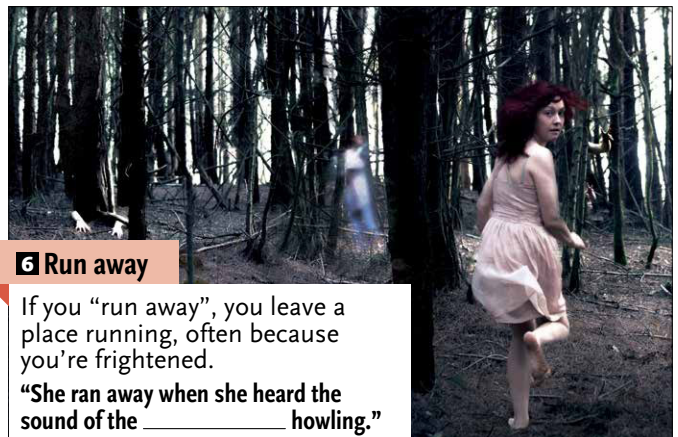
"We wound up his younger _____ by telling him that there was a ghost in the cellar."



6 Run away

If you "run away", you leave a place running, often because you're frightened.

"She ran away when she heard the sound of the _____ howling."



7 Jump out

If you "jump out" on someone, you suddenly appear in front of them, often in order to frighten them.

"We jumped out on him as he was walking along the dark _____."



8 Huddle up

If you "huddle up", you move closer to other people, often because you're cold or frightened.

"We were terrified in the haunted house so we held _____ and huddled up together."



NOVEMBER

Celebrate the month with us in our series on anniversaries. This month: November.



1st November 1800

John Adams, the President

of the United States, moves to the Executive Mansion at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington. The building is later renamed the White House.



4th November 1979

Iranian revolutionaries

storm the American Embassy in Tehran, taking 90 hostages. This marks the beginning of the year-long Iranian Hostage Crisis.



7th November 1907

Jesús García drives a **blazing** train

full of dynamite out of the town of Nacozari in Mexico. The train eventually explodes six kilometres away. Twelve people (García included) die, but his actions save the 5,000 people of the town. The town is now called Nacozari de García in his honour.



10th November 2007

The King of Spain

tells Venezuelan president Hugo Chavez to “shut up”. Spanish-Venezuelan relations hit an **all-time low**. The king later **storms out** after another argument with Nicaraguan premier Daniel Ortega.



12th November 1973

Crazy killer Charlie Manson's

82nd birthday. Manson has been in jail since 1969. I wonder what he's doing for his birthday?



17th November 1973

The Watergate Scandal

continues in America. **Under-fire** president Richard Nixon famously declares, “I am not a **crook**”.



17th November 1558

Henry VIII's daughter

Elizabeth becomes queen upon the death of her sister Mary. The famous Elizabethan era begins.



20th November

Universal Children's Day,

an international event organised by **UNICEF**.



22nd November 1922

English archaeologist Howard

Carter opens the tomb of Tutankhamen. Many of the people involved die shortly afterwards, starting a rumour of an ancient **curse**.



22nd November 1963

John F Kennedy, the

US president is assassinated. The event becomes **the mother of all** conspiracies.



25th November 1783

The final British troops leave the

newly-formed United States after the revolutionary war.



27th November 1999

Helen Clark becomes

the first elected female Prime Minister of New Zealand.



27th November 2006

The Québécois, the French-

speaking people of Quebec, Canada, are recognised by the national government as a nation within the Canadian state. ❖

GLOSSARY

blazing *adj*
burning; on fire
an all-time low *exp*
at its worst state or level
to storm out *phr vb*
to leave an event angrily
under-fire *adj*
in the process of being attacked
crook *n*
a criminal, a dishonest person
UNICEF *abbr*
The United Nations Children's Fund - a global charity that helps children
a curse *n*
a supernatural force that can cause bad things to happen
the mother of all *exp*
this expression is used to say that something is extreme. For example, “the mother of all” battles would be the worst or deadliest battle possible

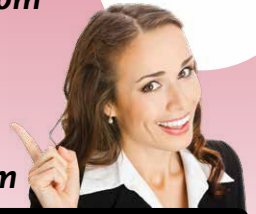
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POKÉMON (PAGE 5)

Reading II

1. The US-Canadian border;
2. Indonesia; 3. Virginia; 4. an Orthodox church; 5. Michigan;
6. Slovakia

FITNESS (PAGE 6)

Reading II

1. Air Shorts; 2. the Treadmill Bike; 3. Prancercise; 4. the Hawaii Chair; 5. the Treadmill Bike;
6. Weight Loss Sunglasses;
7. Prancercise; 8. Air Shorts

MYSTERY (PAGE 7)

Pre-reading

1b 2a 3d 4e 5g 6f 7c

Reading II

1. the Fen Tiger; 2. an off-duty police officer; 3. eleven; 4. around 100 kilos; 5. Mary Chipperfield;
6. a wildlife park

GRAMMAR BOOSTER (PAGE 8)

1. placed; 2. goes; 3. fixed;
4. covered; 5. seen; 6. wanted;
7. installed; 8. expect

PRACTICAL ENGLISH

(PAGES 10-11)

Exercise

Speaker B is being sarcastic in the following mini-dialogues:
2, 4, 5, 8, 10, 12, 13

LISTENING (PAGE 12)

Listening I

The invitations are for a surprise party and a dinner party

Listening II

1. On Wednesday.
2. At 7pm.
3. At 8:30.
4. It's number 8.
5. It's on Friday.
6. Paul
7. Frank's
8. 623 817 922

UNUSUAL SERVICES (PAGE 14)

Reading II

1. £5 a night; 2. in Japan; 3. a bus;
4. about €100; 5. babysitting, housekeeping and pet care;
6. housewarming, weddings and funerals

IG NOBELS (PAGE 15)

Reading II

1. rats; 2. liars; 3. a mirror;

4. Volkswagen; 5. a deer, a fox and a bird; 6. because he almost got into a fight

DISASTROUS DATES (PAGE 16)

Reading II

1. three; 2. £40; 3. about an hour;
4. his ex-girlfriends' houses;
5. annoying; 6. some hair dye

LISTENING (PAGE 17)

Listening II

1. He got there about half an hour ago.
2. He had a coffee in the café.
3. She didn't watch any of them because she slept most of the way.
4. That it was all right – nothing special.
5. The advertising department.
6. For a day or two.
7. Parking bay 57.
8. At about 6:30.

TRAVEL ENGLISH (PAGE 18)

1. player; 2. penalty; 3. game;
4. fight; 5. penalty box; 6. wild;
7. hot dogs; 8. ice cream;
9. period

EMERGENCY 999 (PAGE 26)

Reading II

1. The password for his laptop.
2. She wanted police to return her son's confiscated cannabis.
3. She described them as "aggressive".
4. He wanted to know how long it would take to cook.
5. He thought they might be involved in some kind of fraud.
6. She couldn't find her potatoes because she'd lost her glasses.
7. Possible answer: it could have melted.
8. He was calling the emergency services to ask for their number, which he obviously knew because he'd just dialled it.

RIDDLES (PAGE 27)

Reading I

1. All animals can jump higher than a building – buildings can't jump.
2. The letter "w"
3. A pencil
4. Mary
5. Charcoal
6. The letter "e"

7. Your tongue

8. A memory

9. There are just three people: a grandfather (who is also a dad), his son (who is a son and also a dad), and his grandson (who is also a son).
10. The third room – lions that haven't eaten for three years will be dead.

IRONIC STORIES (PAGE 28)

Reading II

1. He was an expert climber, but he died falling down a flight of stairs.
2. Because he'd just been saying how he'd never felt better, and how he'd live to be a 100.
3. Because she was saying how much the people of Dallas loved him.
4. Because they had too much lead in them, and they had sharp, dangerous edges.
5. Because an ice machine broke, which caused flooding.
6. Because he'd written several books on how not to get bored.
7. They were an anti-piracy group but they'd used an image that didn't belong to them.

LISTENING (PAGE 30)

Listening II

1. There's a pool and a gym and wonderful views of the harbour.
2. She recommends he should visit the Modern Art Museum.
3. She lives in Nenton, which is about 20 miles out.
4. He says that he was born in London, then grew up in Marseille, where he went to school.
5. For the past 10 years.
6. He says it was a bit bumpy but otherwise fine.
7. He's the sales representative for the region.
8. It was about a company Frank set up many years ago.

GROUP TALK (PAGE 35)

Listening I

On the plus side, they say it's good when you've got lots of things to carry or children to take somewhere, or if you live far away from the place you want to go to. On the negative side,

they mention traffic, road rage and the fact that you have to concentrate.

Listening II

1. Because she'd left something at home.
2. He says you have to take it if you live too far away from somewhere or you need to take the kids.
3. If the traffic is bad and someone starts beeping him.
4. The fact that you can catch up on your reading.
5. The other driver took out a tennis racket. He was probably expecting to see a gun or another type of weapon.
6. She liked it because she lived close enough to walk there.

DANISH LIVING (PAGE 37)

Reading II

1. Because they produce a soft warm light and create a cosy atmosphere.
2. By using some soft pillows, fur rugs and warm blankets.
3. The writer suggests offering them a breadboard with some cheese, olives, fresh bread and butter.
4. Have a hot bath, curl up on the sofa or snuggle up in bed.
5. Have a coffee by the fireplace, enjoy a simple dinner or some mulled wine, or get them to help you in the kitchen.
6. Going for a winter walk, walking to the pub, or going on a night walk that ends with some hot chocolate and blankets to wrap up in.

ROMAN JOKES (PAGE 38)

Reading II

1. She meant there was no food in the house, so they'd have to have sex.
2. It's fairly absurd humour, similar in style to Monty Python.
3. He thinks a 30-year-old is the same as two 15-year-olds.
4. When the man says that his father is dead, the fortune teller quickly tells him that this man isn't his real father.
5. Eunuchs can't have children, so the woman can't be the eunuch's daughter.
6. He can't recognise his own

head – as he's now bald, he thinks he's touching the bald man's head.

MEDICAL ADVANCES (PAGE 39)

Pre-reading

1d 2c 3f 4a 5b 6e

Reading II

1. Because a patient had lost them to cancer.
2. They are reprogrammed then returned to the bloodstream.
3. Over 90% of terminally ill patients went into remission.
4. They are placed in areas of the brain that cause seizures.
5. It has resulted in a median 60% seizure reduction in patients by the third year of use.
6. Participant B asks the question by clicking on a list of possible questions.
7. Participant A answers the question by focusing on one of two different LED lights.
8. If it's a yes answer, Participant B can see a flash of light known as a "phosphene".

LISTENING (PAGE 40)

Listening II

1. €75,000.
2. €88,000 / €95,000
3. A 20% reduction
4. A 40% reduction
5. About €7,000 more
6. It included longer holidays, medical insurance, flexitime, bonuses and overtime payments
7. Unlimited publishing rights for the books in your country, as well as the digital rights to the books within their region.
8. He wants 10% royalties, and the rights to place a one-page ad in their monthly publication for the duration of the agreement.

PHRASAL VERBS (PAGE 41)

1. ghosts
2. forest
3. behind;
4. frog
5. brother
6. wolves
7. corridor
8. hands

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The Beach

A: I say, I say, I say, what's the best day to go to the beach?

B: I don't know. What is the best day to go to the beach?

A: *Sunday*, of course!

The cheese

A man is in a restaurant and orders some cheese and biscuits. A few minutes later, the waiter brings a **bread board** with a selection of cheeses and biscuits. But the customer says, "I'm sorry but I asked for cheese *without* any holes." And the waiter responds, "Well, then, eat the cheese and leave the holes!"

The taxi driver

A passenger in a taxi **taps** the driver on the shoulder to ask him something. All of a sudden, the driver screams, loses control of the **cab**, nearly hits a bus, drives up onto the **kerb** and stops just a few inches from a shop window. For a few moments everything is silent in the cab, then the driver says, "Please, don't ever do that again. You **scared the living daylight out of me.**"

The passenger, who is also frightened, **apologises** and says she didn't realise that a tap on the shoulder could frighten someone so much.

Then the driver replies,

"No, I'm sorry, it's really not your fault at all. It's just that today is my first day driving a cab. For the last 25 years, I've been working for a **funeral parlour**, driving a **hearse.**" *

GLOSSARY

a bread board *n*
a wooden object you can use to cut bread on

to tap *vb*
if you "tap" someone, you hit them gently, often so you can speak to them

a cab *n informal*
a taxi

the kerb (also, curb) *n*
the edge of a pavement (the high part of a road that you can walk on)

to scare the living daylight out of someone *exp*

to frighten someone a lot

to apologise *vb*
to say that you're sorry about something

a funeral parlour *n*
a place where a dead person is prepared to be buried or cremated, and where friends and relatives can pay their last respects

a hearse *n*
a long car that is used to transport a dead person to a funeral

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Affirmative	Negative
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You leave on Saturday.	You don't leave on Saturday.
He leaves on Saturday.	He doesn't leave on Saturday.
She leaves on Saturday.	She doesn't leave on Saturday.
It leaves on Saturday.	It doesn't leave on Saturday.
We leave on Saturday.	We don't leave on Saturday.
They leave on Saturday.	They don't leave on Saturday.

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Matthew's Kindle

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COVER FEATURE

STAY MOTIVATED WITH THESE QUOTES!

Studying a language is never easy. There are times when you'll feel frustrated because you don't seem to be making any progress. But you've got to keep going and remember that language acquisition is a long, slow process with lots of ups and downs. Above all, it's important to have a positive, can-do attitude. These famous quotes should help keep your spirits up. (Complete the quotes with the verbs from below. Then, listen to check your answers.)

try see making returns make use want out do get

"Nothing is impossible, the word itself says 'I'm possible.'"
(Audrey Hepburn, actress, 1929-1992)

"Either I will find a way, or I will die."
(Philip Sidney, soldier, 1554-1586)

"If you can dream it, you can do it."
(Walt Disney, cartoonist, 1901-1966)

"You are never too old to dream another goal or to dream a new dream."
(CS Lewis, novelist and poet, 1898-1963)

"Don't watch the clock; do what it does. Keep going."
(Sam Levenson, author, 1917-1980)

"Always do your best. What you plant now you will harvest later."
(Benjamin Franklin, 1706-1790)

"Ever tried. Ever failed. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better."
(Samuel Beckett, 1906-1989)

"Even the darkest night will rise and the sun will rise."
(Victor Hugo, French writer, 1802-1881)

18:33

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