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EDITOR'S INTRO

How you learn English with *Learn Hot English* magazine

WHY ARE YOU LEARNING ENGLISH? TO GET A BETTER JOB, TO PASS AN OFFICIAL ENGLISH EXAM, TO TRAVEL, OR JUST TO COMMUNICATE IN ENGLISH? LEARN HOT ENGLISH MAGAZINE HELPS WITH ALL THIS.

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Hi, and welcome to another issue of *Learn Hot English* – the fun magazine for learning English. This month, we're looking at body language in meetings. Did you know that over 90% of the messages we communicate is through our body and voice? And only about 7% comes from the words we use. So, understanding the meaning of body language is really important. In this month's lesson, you'll learn how to understand what people are saying in meetings by analysing their body language. Listen to our audio files on this and really improve your listening and communication skills. Of course, that's not all, and we'll also be looking at Vancouver, naughty neighbours, musicals, mid-life crises, the French English accent 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

PS Remember to sign up for our newsletter so you can receive lots of FREE language lessons, and find out what we're doing. Just visit our website (www.learnhotenglish.com) and enter your name and e-mail address in the box on the right-hand side of the page.

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Hollywood Stars

Do Hollywood stars guarantee a film's success?

1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

Match the films (1 to 6) to the actors who star in them (a-f).

1. *Bewitched*
2. *The Adventures of Pluto Nash*
3. *The Island*
4. *A Christmas Carol*
5. *Cold Mountain*
6. *The Last Samurai*

- a. Ewan McGregor
- b. Jim Carrey
- c. Tom Cruise
- d. Jude Law
- e. Eddie Murphy
- f. Nicole Kidman



2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your answers.

3 Reading II

Read the article again and choose the correct answers.

1. Tom Cruise announced that he wasn't starring in *Cold Mountain* in **2001 / 2002**.
2. *Bewitched* only made about **\$62 / \$85** million.
3. *The Adventures of Pluto Nash* cost **\$100 / \$8.9** million to make.
4. *The Island* had a budget of **\$35 / \$126** million.
5. *The Blair Witch Project* made more than **\$500,000 / \$248,639,099**.
6. *A Christmas Carol* cost more than **\$30 / \$170** million.

4 Language focus The Past Simple

Look at this extract from the article, "...but only made about \$62 million at the American box office." The writer has used a Past Tense verb ("made"). Transform these Present Simple sentences into the Past Simple.

1. They film the scenes in a studio.
2. She acts in a lot of films.
3. They release the film.
4. They make films about the Russian Revolution.
5. We take pictures of the actors.

5 Discussion

1. Have you seen any of the films mentioned? What did you think of them?
2. What's the best low-budget film you've ever seen? Why did you like it?



Big stars. Big money. Big films? What's the formula for success when it comes to films? No one is sure. Is it the stars? Maybe. Or maybe not.

There are certainly benefits to using a star in a film. It makes the film easier to market. Stars also help sell more tickets and **drive** DVD sales, which are a big part of studio **revenue**. For example, the **announcement** in 2002 that Tom Cruise wasn't going to star in the film *Cold Mountain* **reduced** the movie's

expected revenue by \$10 million. Then, later, the announcement that he was **in talks** to play a **leading role** in the film *The Last Samurai* increased the film's expected revenue by \$28 million.

However, a star does not guarantee success. *Bewitched* (starring Nicole Kidman) cost an estimated \$85 million but only made about \$62 million at the American **box office**. *Waterworld* (1995) had Kevin Costner in it and cost \$175 million to make but only **grossed** \$88 million at the US box office. *The Adventures of Pluto Nash* (2002) starred Eddie Murphy and cost \$100 million to make, but only **earned** about \$8.9 million worldwide. *The Island* (2005) had a production budget of \$126 million and had stars Ewan McGregor and Scarlett Johansson in it, but only made about \$35 million. And Jim Carrey's *A Christmas Carol* took just \$30 million after costs of more than \$170 million.

And there are plenty of examples of films without stars that have made a lot of money.

ET: The Extra-Terrestrial and the original *Star Wars* series didn't need stars to make them **successful**. Many **low-budget films** with unknown actors also make a lot of money. *The Blair Witch Project* had a **budget** of about \$500,000, but made more than \$248,639,099 worldwide. The comedy *The Hangover* had a little-known cast but made \$459 million at global box office. The adolescent vampire romance *Twilight* took \$186 million in the US despite starring unknown English actor Robert Pattinson. Then there was *Slumdog Millionaire* which has no stars in it at all but which made a lot of money and won a few Oscars as well.

In the end, if it's a bad film with a good star, it **won't make much difference**. "Movies with stars are successful not because of the star, but because the star chooses projects that people **tend to like**," said Arthur S. De Vany, a professor of economics at the University of California. And as Sidney Sheinberg, the former president of MCA Universal, has said, "The simple fact is that if you pay a star a great deal of money for a film that people don't want to see, then it won't work." ✨

GLOSSARY

- to drive** *vb*
if something "drives" sales, it causes sales to increase
- revenue** *n*
money that is produced
- an announcement** *n*
something that is said in public or to the media
- to reduce** *vb*
to decrease
- in talks** *exp*
if someone is "in talks", they are discussing something
- a leading role** *n*
the main part in a film
- the box office** *n*
the money made at "the box office" represents all the money made from people going to the cinema
- to gross** *vb*
to make an amount of money before tax
- to earn** *vb*
to make an amount of money
- successful** *adj*
if something is "successful", everyone likes it and it makes a lot of money
- a low-budget film** *n*
a film that is produced with very little money
- a budget** *n*
the amount of money you have to do/produce something
- won't make much difference** *exp*
won't affect anything
- tend to** *exp*
if something "tends to" happen, it usually happens

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STORY TIME

Jokes, anecdotes and stories as told by native English speakers.

Annoying Dog

A guest is eating in a hotel restaurant. All of a sudden, he notices a dog. It's sitting close by and **staring** at him. The man tries to **ignore** it but can't. Eventually, the man calls over the waiter, "Excuse me, but why is that dog staring at me?"

And the waiter replies, "It's because you're eating from his favourite plate."



Bathroom Visit

A man goes to a restaurant and orders a **bowl** of soup. But when the soup arrives, the man realises that he needs to go to the bathroom. So, just to make sure that nobody touches his soup while he's away, he writes on a **napkin**, "I SPAT IN THE SOUP!"

But when he gets back, he finds another message on the napkin, "ME, TOO!"

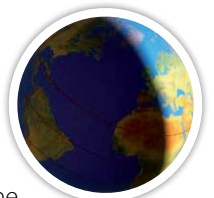


Clever Clogs

A teacher is giving a science class and talking about the Earth and its movement around the Sun. "What's the axis of the Earth?" the teacher asks. And a student answers, "It's an imaginary line which passes from one pole to the other, and on which the earth revolves." "Very good," the teacher replies. "Now, could you **hang** your clothes on that **line**?"

"Yes, sir," the student replies. Surprised, the teacher responds, "Oh, really? What sort of **clothes**, if you don't mind me asking?"

And the student replies, "Imaginary clothes, sir." 🌟

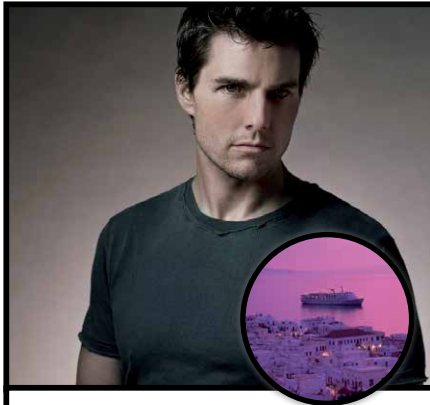


GLOSSARY

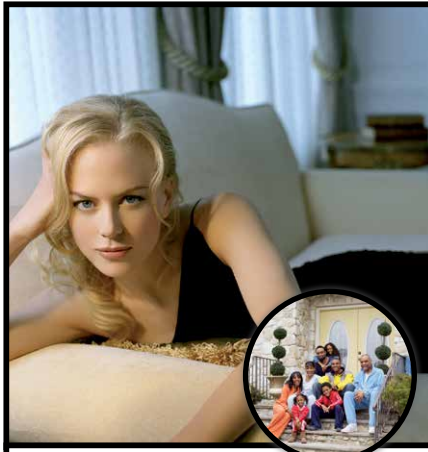
- to stare** *vb*
to look at someone constantly and for a period of time
- to ignore** *vb*
if you "ignore" someone, you don't pay attention to them
- a bowl** *n*
a plate that is deep – often used for soup or cereal
- a napkin** *n*
a piece of cloth you use to clean yourself whilst eating
- to spit** *vb*
to force liquid out of your mouth
- to hang** *vb*
if you "hang" wet clothes on a line, you put them on the line so they can dry
- a line** *n*
a piece of string/rope, etc. that is used for putting wet clothes on

THE NAME GAME

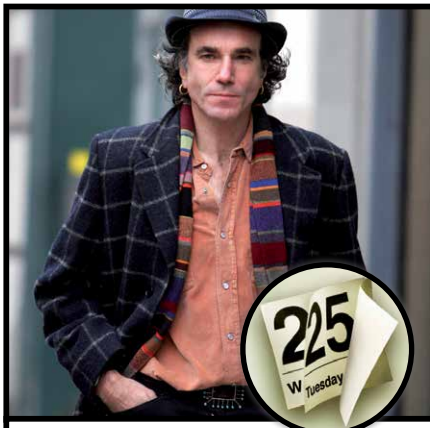
THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR SERIES ON FAMOUS NAMES WITH MEANING. MORE NEXT MONTH.



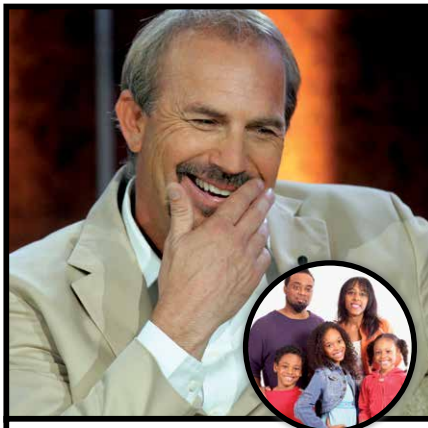
Tom Cruise (American actor)
A "CRUISE" IS A HOLIDAY IN WHICH YOU TRAVEL ON A BIG SHIP OR BOAT AND VISIT A NUMBER OF PLACES.
"We went on a cruise through the Mediterranean. It was wonderful."



Nicole Kidman (Australian actress)
A "KID" IS AN INFORMAL WORD FOR A CHILD.
"How many kids have you got?"



Daniel Day-Lewis (British/Irish actor)
THERE ARE SEVEN "DAYS" IN A WEEK.
"What day is it today? It's Wednesday, isn't it?"



Kevin Costner (American actor)
THE "COST" OF SOMETHING IS THE AMOUNT YOU HAVE TO PAY FOR IT.
"This pen cost me four pounds."



Whitney Houston (American singer)
"WHIT" IS AN OLD-FASHIONED WORD THAT IS USED FOR EMPHASIS.
"It matters not one whit to him." = "He doesn't care at all."



Hugh Jackman (Australian actor)
A "JACK" IS A DEVICE FOR LIFTING A HEAVY OBJECT OFF THE GROUND, FOR EXAMPLE, A CAR.
"She used the jack to lift the car off the ground so she could change the wheel."

Political Protest

POLITICIANS
IN THE LINE
OF FIRE.

In 2008, an Iraqi journalist threw a shoe at ex-president George W. Bush during a press conference. It seems that throwing things at politicians is becoming an international phenomenon.



SHOE
ATTACK!



What do political protesters do in your country? March? Write letters? Sing songs? In Britain, it's traditional to throw things at politicians. The objective isn't to hurt them but to humiliate them. Here are a few of the latest examples.

- In February 1998, Danbert Nobacon, from the band *Chumbawumba*, threw a bucket of ice-cold water over John Prescott (the then Deputy Prime Minister) at the Brit Awards ceremony. The attack was in protest at Labour's treatment of **striking dockers** in Liverpool.



bucket of ice-cold water over John Prescott (the then Deputy Prime Minister) at the Brit Awards ceremony. The attack was in protest at Labour's treatment of **striking dockers** in Liverpool.

- In February 2000, An environmental activist at the National Farmers' Union annual conference in London **squashed** a chocolate **éclair** into Agriculture Minister Nick Brown's face.



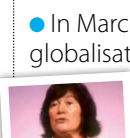
- In April 2000, a pro-asylum protester threw a **custard pie** at Ann Widdecombe (the **shadow Home Secretary**) during a **book-signing** in Oxford.



- In January 2001, British Prime Minister Tony Blair was hit on the back by a tomato in Bristol. The



tomato was thrown by a student who was protesting against British sanctions on Iraq.



- In March 2001, an anti-globalisation protester threw a custard pie at Clare Short (the International Development Secretary) during a public meeting at the University of Bangor in Wales.



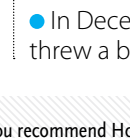
- In May 2001, Mr Prescott was attacked once again. This time Craig Evans, a farm worker, threw an egg at him during a general election campaign event in



North Wales. In response, Mr Prescott **punched** Mr Evans in the face.



- In April 2004, Mr Prescott had another two eggs thrown at his car by **pro-hunting campaigners**.



- In May 2004, purple **flour bombs** were thrown at Mr Blair by protesters from the campaign group **Fathers 4 Justice** in the Commons.

- In December 2004, protesters threw a bucket of **slurry** over



Robert Kilroy-Silk, a television presenter and **MEP**.



- In February 2006, Ruth Kelly, the Education Secretary, was **pelted** with eggs by a Fathers 4 Justice protester.



- In October 2008, Phil Woolas, the Immigration Minister, received a custard pie in the face from a pro-migration campaigner during a debate at Manchester University.



- In February 2009, Wen Jiabao, the Chinese Premier, had a shoe thrown at him by a German postgraduate student during a speech at Cambridge University. The student was protesting at China's human rights record.



- In March 2009, a protester threw custard and green paint over Nigel Mandelson as a protest against the construction of a third runway at Heathrow airport.

Currently, politicians are waiting to see what 2010 has **in store for** them. *

GLOSSARY

to strike *vb*
if workers "strike", they stop working as a form of protest

a docker *n*
a person who works in a dock (a harbour) loading and off-loading things from ships

to squash *vb*
if you "squash" something, you apply pressure to it and make it flat

an éclair *n*
a long, thin cake filled with cream and chocolate on the top

a custard pie *n*
a cake filled with custard (a sweet yellow sauce made from milk and eggs)

shadow *adj*
a "shadow" minister is a minister from the opposition party. This person is not in the government.

the Home Secretary *n*
the minister in the UK who is in charge of the police, immigration, counter terrorism, etc.

a book-signing *n*
if a famous person is doing a "book-signing", they are putting their name on copies of their book for the public

to punch *vb*
to hit with a closed hand
pro-hunting campaigners *n*
people who are in favour of fox hunting (chasing and killing foxes for sport)

a flour bomb *n*
a bag filled with flour (a white powder used for cooking)

Fathers 4 Justice *n*
a group that fights for the rights of fathers to visit their children in cases of divorce/separation

slurry *n*
a mixture of mud, animal waste, dirt, etc.

an MEP *abbr*
a Member of the European Parliament

to pelt *vb*
if someone is "pelted" with eggs, many eggs are thrown at them

in store for *exp*
the things that are "in store for" you, are the things that may happen to you

USEFUL VOCABULARY AT THE OFFICE

THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR SECTION ON USEFUL VOCABULARY.
THIS MONTH: AT THE OFFICE. ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

1 Match the words

Match the words below to the pictures.

1. A desk
2. A computer
3. A printer
4. A photocopier
5. A swivel chair
6. A telephone
7. A fax machine
8. A book shelf
9. A filing cabinet
10. A bin / a wastepaper bin / a trash can (US English)



2 Wordsearch

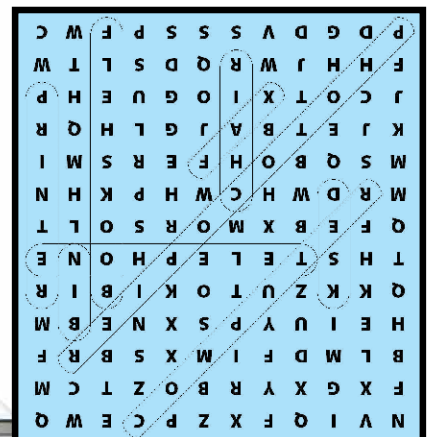
Now find these words in the wordsearch.

- | | |
|-----------|-------------|
| computer | desk |
| telephone | photocopier |
| bin | bookshelf |
| chair | fax |
| printer | |



3 Guess the word

Think of ways to describe the words above. See if your partner can guess the word from the clues.



AT THE OFFICE USEFUL VERBS & EXPRESSIONS

THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR SECTION ON USEFUL VERBS AND EXPRESSIONS.
THIS MONTH: AT THE OFFICE.

TURN ON/OFF A COMPUTER
TO PRESS A SWITCH SO A COMPUTER
COMES ON.



MAKE A COPY / PHOTOCOPY
TO MAKE A COPY OF A DOCUMENT BY USING
THE PHOTOCOPIER.



PRINT OUT A DOCUMENT
TO USE THE PRINTER TO CREATE A COPY OF A
DOCUMENT



RECYCLE PAPER
TO PUT PAPER IN A SPECIAL CONTAINER FOR
MATERIAL THAT WILL BE RECYCLED.



SEND A FAX / AN E-MAIL
TO SEND SOMEONE A DOCUMENT BY FAX OR
E-MAIL.



FILE A DOCUMENT
TO PUT A DOCUMENT IN A FILING CABINET /
DESK, ETC.



MAKE A PHONE CALL
TO USE THE PHONE OR A MOBILE TO SPEAK
TO SOMEONE.



HAVE A BREAK
TO STOP WORKING SO YOU CAN REST FOR
A WHILE.



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ONLY!
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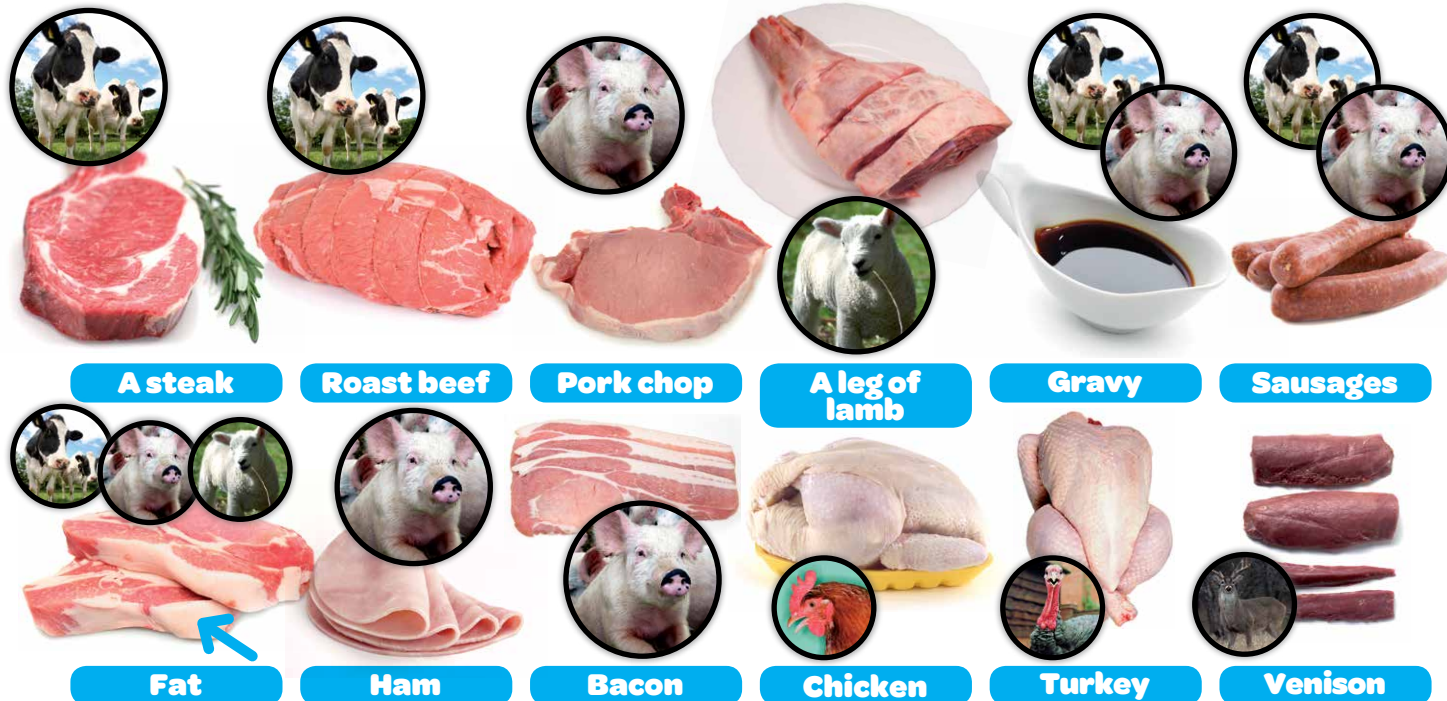
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LET'S TALK ABOUT: *Meat*



Useful Expressions

What you say

- I'll have a rare steak, please. (not cooked very much)
- I'll have a medium rare steak, please. (cooked a bit more)
- I'll have a medium steak, please. (cooked a bit)
- I'd like my steak well done, please. (cooked a lot)
- I don't eat pork.
- Is there any gravy to go with this?



What you hear

- How would you like your steak?
- Would you like any apple sauce with the pork?
- Would you like white meat or brown?
- Would you like the breast or a leg?
- Anything else? *

Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, TIPHANY IS AT SAM'S HOUSE.



Tiphany: I've put a roast in the oven. Would you like to stay for dinner?

Sam: Oh, yes, please. What is it?

Tiphany: Roast beef.

Sam: Oh, my favourite. What have you got to go with it?

Tiphany: Roast potatoes, broccoli, Brussels sprouts and gravy.

Sam: Delicious. Who else is coming?

Tiphany: Mark and Jenny.

Sam: I thought Jenny was vegetarian.

Tiphany: Yes, she is. I've also done a special vegetarian meat loaf for her – it's made with lentils. It's quite nice really.

Sam: Oh, I'd like to try some of that too.

Tiphany: Of course. Now, we need another bottle of wine. Could you pop out and get one, please?

Sam: Sure. Red or white?

Tiphany: Red, I think. Oh, and get a baguette too, please.

Sam: OK. See you in a minute.

Tiphany: Bye. *

FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

The Telephone



Asking to speak with someone

- Is Mrs Smith there, please?
- Can I talk to Mrs Jones, please?
- May I speak with Mr Green, please?
- I'd like to speak to Mrs Smith, please.
- Is John around? (informal)
- Is Bob in? (informal)

Enquiries regarding the caller

- Which company are you calling from?
- Who's calling, please?
- Who would you like to speak to?
- Can I have your name, please?
- Which department did you want to connect to?
- Can I ask who's calling?

Getting some details

- May I ask what it's about?
- What's it in connection with?
- Where are you calling from?
- Can I ask what it's regarding, please?

Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, PAULINE IS PHONING UP ABOUT AN APPOINTMENT SHE HAS LATER.

Receptionist: Graves Office Supplies, how may I help you?
Pauline: Oh, hi. Could I speak to Ms Hargreaves, please?
Receptionist: May I ask who's calling, please?
Pauline: Oh, yes, it's Pauline Spane.
Receptionist: OK. And which company are you calling from?
Pauline: Summers International.
Receptionist: Ms Hargreaves is out at lunch at the moment. What was it regarding?
Pauline: Well, I've got a 3pm appointment with her, but I won't be able to make it.
Receptionist: OK. I'll see that she gets the message. Thank you for calling Graves Office Supplies. Have a nice day.
Pauline: You too. Bye.
Receptionist: Bye. ☺

The horror film of the decade.



PARANORMAL ACTIVITY



It cost about €7,000 to make. It took only seven days to shoot. And the director was just 26 years old at the time. *Paranormal Activity* was a surprise **hit**. And just recently, it's been described as one of the most frightening movies ever.

The film is directed by a 26-year-old, Oren Peli. The film is about a young couple: Micah (Micah Sloat) and his girlfriend Katie (Katie Featherston). They decide to **move in together**. Soon after, they begin to experience strange things: there are unusual noises, lights **go on and off** and doors **slam** in the middle of the night. What's **going on**? Katie soon **reveals** that this isn't the first time she's been **haunted** by ghosts. When she was 8, a figure appeared at her family's home. Later, that house mysteriously **burned to the ground**.



The young couple decide to investigate. Micah buys a video-camera and some sound recording equipment. They also consult a psychic. The psychic tells them that they're dealing with a **malevolent demon** who wants Katie's **soul**. He also tells Katie and Micah that they need to bring in a "demonologist". What's going to happen?

Reactions to the movie were mixed. Some say it's the most frightening film they've ever seen. And there have been reports of people screaming in cinemas, running out and not being able to sleep at night afterwards. Others weren't so enthusiastic. "Nothing happens," said one **disappointed** cinema goer. "The only **scary** bit was the last 30 seconds," said another. Our advice: if you live alone in a big, **creaky** house and you're easily-frightened... avoid this film at all costs! ☆

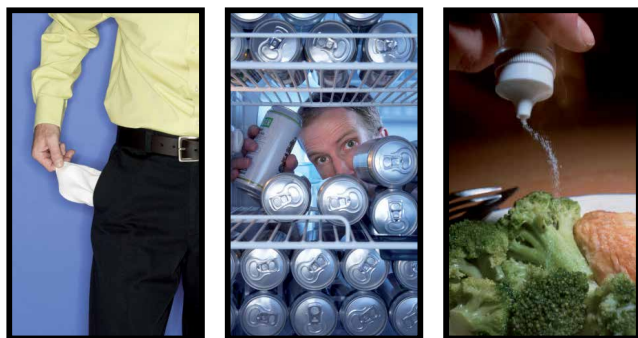
GLOSSARY

- a hit** *n* a successful film/song
- to move in together** *exp* if two people "move in together, they start living in the same house
- to go on and off** *exp* if a light "goes on and off", it switches on and off automatically
- to slam** *vb* if you "slam" a door, you close it with a lot of force
- to go on** *exp* to happen
- to reveal** *vb* to explain something that was previously a secret/unknown
- to haunt** *vb* if a ghost "haunts" a house, it goes to that house and does things there
- to burn to the ground** *exp* to completely destroy with fire
- malevolent** *adj* evil; bad
- a demon** *n* a bad, evil spirit
- a soul** *n* a person's spirit
- disappointed** *adj* not happy with the results because they aren't what you expected
- scary** *adj* frightening
- creaky** *adj* if a house is "creaky", it makes noises



DR FINGERS' ERROR CORRECTION CLINIC

IN THIS SECTION, DR FINGERS IDENTIFIES AND CORRECTS TYPICAL ERRORS.



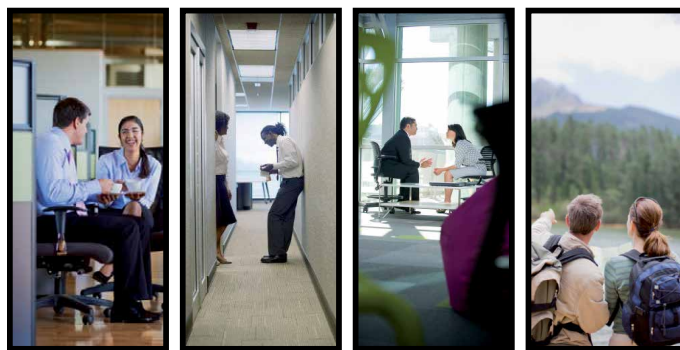
1 Activity

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

Read the sentences, find the errors and correct the sentences. Then listen to the CD to check your answers. Good luck!

- I haven't got many money.
I haven't got much/any money.
- Do you have much chairs?
- There isn't many sugar.
- How many pasta is there?
- How much bottles of beer are there in the fridge?
- There isn't many salt in this food.

LISTENING



Small Talk

Making conversation with strangers.

1 Pre-listening

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

Read the instructions and make questions.

- Ask someone how they are.
- Ask someone if they want to come to a café.
- Ask someone if they would like a coffee.
- Ask someone if they are going to the next talk.
- Ask someone if they would like to go on an excursion.

2 Listening I

You are going to listen to various people in social English contexts. Listen once to check your answers from the Pre-listening activity.

3 Listening II

Read the sentences and choose the correct words. Then, listen again to check your answers.

- I think we spoke by **e-mail / telephone**.
- We're going for **lunch / a coffee**.
- Hey, do you know where the **cloakroom / bathroom** is?
- I've been carrying this **coat / jacket** around all day.
- I'm working in **Vancouver / Seattle** at the moment.
- Are you going to the next **conference / talk**?
- I did go to the museum of **modern art / natural history...**
- I'm actually free on **Friday / Saturday**.

4 Language focus Social English – Responding to suggestions/questions

In one of the conversations, a speaker says, "Good idea" in response to a suggestion. Match the suggestions/questions (1 to 5) to the responses (a-e).

- So, how are things going?
- Do you want to come?
- So, is this your first time at the conference?
- Can I get you a coffee?
- Are you Italian?

- Yes, that would be great.
- Great, thanks.
- Not exactly, I'm half-Italian and half-German.
- Yes, please. White, no sugar, please.
- No, I was here last year.

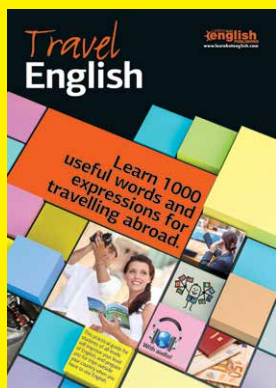


5 Discussion

- Where would you suggest going for a coffee right now?
- Where would you suggest going for lunch near where you work?
- Which places would you suggest visiting in your city?

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The section that makes grammar easy, interesting, and fun.



GRAMMAR FUN

THIS MONTH, WE'RE LOOKING AT THE PRESENT PERFECT WITH "YET" AND "ALREADY".



We form the Present Perfect with "have/has" and a past participle. For example:

- a) Jeff has painted a picture.
- b) Beth has eaten.
- c) Sam has bought the food.

We can add "already" to confirm that something has actually happened. We place "already" before the participle. For example:

- a) Jeff has already painted the picture.
- b) Beth has already eaten.
- c) Sam has already bought the food.

We can use "yet" in questions. We often use "yet" to ask whether something has happened or not. For example:

- A:** Has Jeff painted the picture yet?
B: Yes, he has.

- A:** Has Beth eaten yet?
B: Yes, she has.

- A:** Has Sam bought the food yet?
B: Yes, he has.

We can also use "yet" in negatives. We use "yet" in negatives for emphasis when we say that something hasn't happened. For example:

- a) She hasn't sent the e-mail yet.
- b) He hasn't cleaned the rooms yet.
- c) They haven't written the reports yet.

1 Exercise

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

Look at Petra's "To do" list and answer the questions. Use "already" or "not yet" and full sentences.

To do

- paint picture ✓
- write the report X
- buy new software program X
- clean the studio ✓
- order more pens ✓
- send the images by e-mail X



1. Has she painted the picture yet?
2. Has she written the report yet?
3. Has she bought the new software program yet?
4. Has she cleaned the studio yet?
5. Has she ordered more pens yet?
6. Has she sent the images by e-mail yet?



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Sport Time

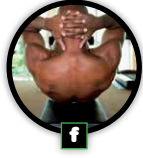
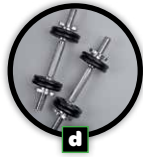
E-mail correspondence between two friends.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

1 Pre-reading

Match the sports-related words (1 to 8) to the pictures (a-h).

1. Football
2. Tennis
3. Jogging
4. Golf
5. Weights
6. A gym
7. A bench
8. Cycling



2 Reading I

What would you do to encourage a friend to do more exercise? Think. Then, read the e-mails once to check your ideas. Were any of your ideas similar to the ones in the e-mails?

3 Reading II

Read the e-mails again and answer the questions.

1. What does Bob do when he gets home from work?
2. What did Bob use the football for?
3. What does Pete take Bob out for a game of?
4. What happened to Bob's tennis racket?
5. Why did they have to stop jogging?
6. What did Bob use the bench as?

1

From: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
To: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
Date: 21st March 12.27

Hi Pete

Can you help me? It's about Bob. He's become so lazy. He won't do anything except watch TV. He comes home everyday from work and sits in front of the TV drinking beer and watching football. He's getting fat. He never does any exercise anymore. You're his best friend, can't you think of something?
 Jane.

6

From: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
To: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
Date: 24th March 12.17

Hi Jane

Erm... the thing is Bob and I didn't actually play tennis yesterday. Bob lost his racket so we went to the pub and watched Arsenal play Juventus in the Champions League. We're going to watch Man Utd versus Inter Milan tonight. Do you want to come?
 Pete

2

From: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
To: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
Date: 21st March 14.56

Hi Jane

Bob has always been a big Chelsea fan. You could buy him a Chelsea shirt and a football, so he can go out and play.
 Pete

7

From: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
To: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
Date: 24th March 13.33

Hi Pete

No I do NOT want to go to the pub. Neither does Bob. He should do some exercise. We're going for a run. I've told him that we can jog along the river, it'll be beautiful.
 Jane

3

From: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
To: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
Date: 23rd March 17.48

Hi Pete

I bought him the shirt and he loved it. He said he might get another one! He wore it last night while he watched Chelsea play Liverpool on TV. He used the football as a foot rest. More ideas please!
 Jane

8

From: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
To: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
Date: 25th March 09.36

How was the run?
 Pete

9

From: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
To: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
Date: 25th March 10.52

A complete disaster. We walked to the end of the road to warm up and then it started raining. So, we had to go into the pub to keep dry. The football was on TV, so we stayed there. I've decided that I should buy a home gym with weights and a bench.
 Jane

4

From: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
To: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
Date: 23rd March 18.36

Hi Jane

OK. I'll take Bob out tomorrow for a game of tennis. I'll soon get him fit.
 Pete

10

From: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
To: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
Date: 26th March 22.19

Great idea. Let me know what happens.
 Pete

5

From: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
To: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
Date: 24th March 10.29

Hi Pete

Bob said he had a great time last night and that you're going out again tonight. Brilliant! He'll soon lose weight playing tennis.
 Jane

11

From: Jane [jane1988@hotmail.com]
To: Pete Driver [pdriver77@gmail.com]
Date: 26th March 20.43

The home gym is a disaster. Bob uses the bench as a bed and has put the TV on top of the weights. He fell asleep in front of a boxing match on TV last night. I give up.
 Jane

Neighbours from Hell

Home Sweet Home? Not with a noisy neighbour. By Sam Gordon



1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

Look at the following list of things. In what ways could they cause friction between neighbours?

a song exercise a model aeroplane

a dog a cat glass food oil nails

a CCTV camera rubbish headlights

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. How many people had to move house last year because of their neighbours?
2. Which song was one neighbour playing at top volume every day?
3. What complaints do neighbours have about cats and dogs?
4. What complaints do neighbours have about rubbish?
5. Why was the retired businesswoman described as an "expert in mental torture"?
6. What happened to one family in Holland?

4 Language focus

Verbs as nouns

Look at this extract from the article, "Leaving rubbish outside or near other people's properties is something that angers many..." In this example, the writer has created a noun from a verb ("to leave" = "leaving"). Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. Having to get up really early in the morning is...
2. Leaving the house without your keys is...
3. Getting to work late is...
4. Having to deal with traffic when you're late is...
5. Eating too much for lunch is...

5 Discussion

1. What is the worst thing your neighbours could do to you?
2. If you had a really annoying neighbour, what would you do about it?
3. Have you ever thought about doing something nasty to a neighbour? What?

LAST MONTH WE LOOKED AT SOME CELEBRITY NEIGHBOURS FROM HELL. THIS MONTH WE'RE LOOKING AT SOME NON-CELEBRITY (BUT EQUALLY NASTY) NEIGHBOURS FROM HELL.



The English newspaper *The Daily Mail* estimates that half a million people in the UK **moved house** last year because of their neighbours. The survey also revealed some of the typical problems we have with our neighbours. One in ten of those who responded said that noise from next door had **kept** them **awake** all night at least once. One neighbour played Whitney Houston's "I will always love you" at top volume day after day. Another did **naked** exercises in his back garden every day. And another repeatedly flew a model airplane into neighbouring gardens.

A number of complaints involved pets. Neighbours' dogs and cats **doing their business** in other people's gardens is a big one. **Barking** dogs and **meowing** cats is another typical complaint, as are vicious, aggressive dogs. Rubbish is another

area of conflict. Leaving rubbish outside or near other people's properties is something that angers many, as is leaving your rubbish in the corridor in apartment blocks. Smelly rubbish is also a cause for concern, with many complaining about **rotting food**, or finding food **strewn all over** the street because a rubbish bag wasn't **tied up** properly.

One couple in Leeds, England were victims of a year-long campaign of intimidation by their neighbour. "She **dumped** oil on our **lawn**, she directed a CCTV camera onto our front door, she put **nails** and glass under the **wheels** of our car and **beamed** headlights into our windows at all hours of the night. The **mastermind** behind this? A 57 year-old, retired businesswoman described by a judge as "an expert in mental torture".

Sadly, it's often the victims who are punished by being forced to move away. It's still very difficult to take legal action against inconsiderate neighbours except in extreme circumstance. However, the situation is beginning to change. Ex-Labour minister Frank Field has called for noisy neighbours to be evicted and housed in steel **container homes** on the **outskirts** of towns and cities. Sound crazy? Actually he got the idea from a similar scheme in Holland. It was introduced after a "reality-TV" programme that followed the Tokkies – a real-life "family from hell". People were so appalled at their behaviour that there was a **national outcry**. The government used the container proposal after the success of a trial in Kampen in Eastern Holland. Now the "Tokkies" and others like them have officially been **"given the can"**. ☹️

GLOSSARY

- to move house** *exp*
to change house and to go to live in another house
- to keep someone awake** *exp*
to do something that prevents someone from sleeping
- naked** *adj*
with no clothes on
- to do their business** *exp*
to go to the toilet
- to bark** *vb*
when a dog "barks", it makes a sound from its mouth
- to meow** *vb*
when a cat "meows", it makes a sound from its mouth
- rotting food** *n*
food that is very old and starting to smell / go bad, etc.
- strewn all over a place** *exp*
if things are "strewn all over the place", they are all over that area
- to tie up** *exp*
if you "tie something up", you close it with a piece of string
- to dump** *vb*
if you "dump" something in a place, you put it there in a casual manner and without care
- a lawn** *n*
an area of grass that is very flat, neat and tidy
- a nail** *n*
a thin piece of metal. Nails are often used to hold pieces of wood together
- a wheel** *n*
a round object that turns around on a vehicle. Most cars have four
- to beam** *vb*
if a light "beams", it shines brightly
- a mastermind** *n*
the person who has created something; the inventor of something
- a container home** *n*
a pre-fabricated home
- the outskirts** *n*
the areas outside a city; the suburbs
- a national outcry** *n*
if there is a "national outcry" about something, many people in a country are angry about it
- to give someone the can** *exp*
a play on words: 1) to tell someone to leave their job; 2) to send someone to prison (the can)

HOW TO UNDERSTAND BODY LANGUAGE IN MEETINGS!

Body language* is important in meetings. It can help you understand what other people are really saying; and it can help you transmit the right messages. In this lesson, you will learn 10 top tips for understanding body language in meetings.

Answers on page 77

Part I

Match the body language descriptions (1 to g) to the pictures (a-i). Write the letters below.

- Folded arms or crossed arms** = with your arms across your chest. This can **imply disagreement, displeasure** or distance. **f**
- Palms up** = with your palms facing upwards to show you're open and ready to listen. Palms down communicates **firmness** and **decisiveness**.
- Drum your fingers** = to create a rhythm with your fingers, often because you're bored or nervous.
- Slouch** = to sit in a very relaxed position in a chair, with your body far back in the chair.
- Fiddle** = if you "fiddle" with something (such as a pen, your hair, etc.) you use your fingers to play with it or move it about.
- Lean in** = to move your body forwards and towards another person to show you're interested and listening. The opposite (to lean back) communicates anger, displeasure, a lack of interest, etc.
- Nod your head** = to move your head up and down as a way of saying yes or to show agreement. The opposite is to shake your head (to move it from side to side as a way of saying no or to show disagreement).
- Fidget** = to move about a lot, which shows that you're bored, nervous, uncomfortable, etc.
- Maintain eye contact** = to look at the person who is speaking, or the person you're talking to. Not doing this, or looking away could communicate disinterest, boredom, disagreement, etc.



*BODY LANGUAGE

Body language is a non-verbal form of communication. It involves communicating what you're feeling or thinking through your body. Different types of body language include **movement** (changes to the position of your eyes, hands, legs, etc.), **facial expressions** (happiness, sadness, fear, disgust, etc.), **posture** (how you stand or sit) and **gestures** (the movement of your hands). Some experts include the pitch, intonation, volume and tone of your voice.

BODY LANGUAGE IN MEETINGS!

You can understand a lot about people by studying their body language. Learn the meanings behind these typical examples of body language in meetings, and use the information to your advantage!

Answers on page 47

1 Pre-reading

Look at the paragraph titles and pictures. What do you think the writer is going to say about the topic of each paragraph? Make notes.

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, complete the sentences with the words from below.

honest interested listen
confident boredom 80%
confidence firmness

1. A firm handshake a sign of _____.
2. Crossed arms could communicate that we aren't willing to _____.
3. A blank look could show that you aren't _____.
4. Try to maintain eye contact between 70% and _____ of the time.
5. Try to speak with a _____ voice.
6. Palms down is a sign of authority and _____.
7. Drumming your fingers is a sign of _____.
8. Mirroring can make you appear more persuasive and _____.

1 WALKING IN!



The way you walk into the meeting room can say a lot about your attitude. To give a positive impression, walk upright with your shoulders back. Also, smile and make eye contact with everyone there.

2 GREETINGS



When **greeting** other people, smile, look them in the eye and introduce yourself in a confident manner. Also, remember that in many countries (the UK, the USA, Australia, Canada, etc.), a **firm** handshake is seen as a sign of confidence and **trust**; and a **limp** handshake could make you appear weak, **submissive** or disinterested.

3 SITTING



Be aware of the way you sit in meetings. Crossed arms could communicate that you're closed and not willing to listen. Slouching will make you look like you aren't interested. For a more positive impression, lean forward.

4 FACIAL EXPRESSIONS



A positive look on your face will show that you're interested; a **blank look** will do the opposite.

5 EYE CONTACT



Maintain eye contact with other people in the meeting room when you're talking, and do the same with the person who is speaking to show that you're interested. In general, for a positive attitude, you should maintain eye contact between 70 and 80% of the time.

6 VOICE



When you speak, do so with a confident voice that's loud enough for everyone to hear. And try to say something in the meeting as soon as possible – the longer you leave it, the harder it is to speak up.

7 PALMS



To appear decisive when you're speaking, keep your palms down. This is also a sign of authority and firmness. To appear more open and friendly, keep your palms turned up.

8 ATTENTION



Watch how other people are sitting to gauge their interest. People often show that they're ready to leave by moving to the edge of their chair, or by leaning forward with their hands on their knees.

9 HANDS



Avoid fidgeting as it's distracting; and try not to fiddle with anything. If you're sitting down, try to keep your feet, hands and legs under control to appear calm and confident. Also, avoid drumming your fingers as it's a sign of boredom, discomfort or nervousness. And try to resist the temptation to text, check e-mails or surf the internet. Instead, bring a pen and paper and take notes to show that you're interested and following what's going on.

10 MIRRORING (MIMICKING)



Use **mirroring** techniques to create a good atmosphere. Mirroring involves copying what other people are doing: the way they're sitting, the way they're standing, the position of their arms or hands, their **gestures** and the way they speak (the **tone**, speed, volume and **pitch** of their voice, as well as the type of language they use). Research has shown that subconsciously we think people who mirror us are more **persuasive** and honest than those who don't. So, if the person you're talking to is leaning forward, you should do the same; or if they're speaking slowly and clearly, you should try to copy this. If you notice the other person is mirroring the way you sit, move or talk, it could mean that they trust and like you.

THE 7-38-55 RULE

Remember the 7-38-55 rule, invented by psychologist Albert Mehrabian, for first impressions:

- 7% of the message we communicate is from our words.
- 38% comes from our tone of voice.
- 55% is transmitted through our body language.

This means that 93% of the message we transmit on first impressions is through our body language and tone of voice. So, in order to build trust and confidence, you need to work on your body language and tone of voice!

GLOSSARY

to imply *vb*
if you "imply" that something is true, you say that it's true, but in an indirect way

disagreement *n*
if there's "disagreement", you don't accept what another person says

displeasure *n*
if you feel "displeasure" you feel angry about something

firmness *n*
if someone is showing "firmness", they won't change their opinions or ideas

decisiveness *n*
if someone is showing "decisiveness", they make decisions quickly and confidently

to greet *vb*
when you "greet" someone, you say hello to them

firm *adj*
if your handshake is "firm", it is strong

trust *n*
if there's a feeling of "trust" between two people, each person believes that the other person is honest, and they both feel safe

limp *adj*
if someone's handshake is "limp", it is weak

submissive *adj*
someone who is "submissive" does what other people say

a blank look *exp*
someone with a "blank look" on their face shows no emotion

mirroring *n*
if A is "mirroring" B, A is copying what B is doing

a gesture *n*
a movement you make with your hands as a way of saying something

tone *n*
the tone of your voice shows what you're thinking or feeling: anger, happiness, etc.

pitch *n*
the pitch of your voice is how high or low it is

persuasive *adj*
someone who is "persuasive" is good at making people do things

Communication is complex. But an understanding of body language can make it easier!



How to... learn English effectively

THIS MONTH WE'RE LOOKING AT HOW TO LEARN ENGLISH EFFECTIVELY.

Language learning is easy. In fact, there's a formula for it. It goes like this: Input + Practice = Learning.

Firstly, let's look at "input". This is basically language that you listen to, read, and "consume" as a learner. You can find language in books, newspaper articles, DVDs, songs and a thousand other places. Input is the most important aspect of language learning. Just look at it like this: if you never heard or read anything in the target language (English), you would never learn anything. That's really obvious. But a lot of people forget that and focus too much on things that aren't that important. Remember, babies and young children learnt their first language by being exposed to a LOT of "input" without making any conscious effort to learn – it's as simple as that.

So, where are you going to get your "input" from? Once again, it's simple. You need to read and listen to English... a lot. Listening is the most effective method as you absorb language (words, expressions, examples of language structures, etc.) subconsciously. Plus, listening gives you examples of how to speak and pronounce the language.

Reading is also important as you also absorb a lot of language, plus you get to physically see how all the language fits

together. So, if you want to learn effectively, you need to read and listen a lot. In fact, the more you read and listen, the faster you'll learn.

Of course, you have to choose your reading and listening material carefully. You'll need to get some listening material for your level. But you should also listen to native-speaker level material as this will help you develop an "ear" for the language – an ability to understand native-level speech and conversations. As for reading, you can read graded articles or books, but you should also try to read native-level texts. Choose things that you're really interested in for extra motivation. For example, if you are interested in the news, then read an online newspaper; or if you are keen on jazz, find a jazz magazine; or if you're passionate about sailing, get some content related to that topic. You'll be so interested in the subject, that you won't even realise that you're reading in English!

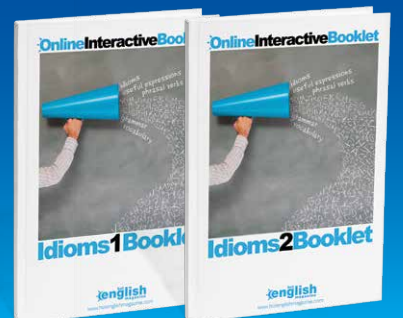
Once you are getting lots of input, you also need to practise using the language. You can practise speaking with colleagues or your teacher, or even yourself. So, in order to learn effectively, you need to ensure you are getting lots of language input, and you need to practise using the language. It really is as simple as that. Good luck! 🍀

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PHOTOMAGIC

PHOTOS OF THE MONTH FROM THE NEWS
Can you think of anything to write in the speech bubbles?
Have a competition in class or at home..

Photo 1 World's tallest and shortest men meet for Guinness World Records Day.



Photo 2 The North Korea and South Korea Olympic teams enter together under the Korean Unification Flag during the Parade of Athletes at the Opening Ceremony of the PyeongChang 2018 Winter Olympic Games



Photo 3 Punxsutawney Phil is held up by his handler for the crowd to see during the ceremonies for Groundhog day on 2nd February 2018 in Punxsutawney, Pennsylvania.



LISTENING



Politics on a grand scale.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

1 Pre-listening

Look at the words below. Are they areas of concern in your town/city? Use the words to write 6 sentences about issues in your town/city.

- parks
- trees
- shops
- hospitals
- transport
- schools
- buses
- trains
- roads
- police
- pubs
- restaurants
- crime
- bicycle lanes
- rubbish collection

*We need more hospitals.
We need more transport links between the village and the train station.
There aren't enough police officers to deal with all the crime.*

2 Listening I

You are going to hear an interview with a candidate from the Very Very Green Party. Which issues from the Pre-listening activity are mentioned?

3 Listening II

Read the questions below. Then, listen again and choose the correct answers.

1. What do they want to give everyone in the town?
a. A tree. b. A television.
2. Who writes all Camilla's speeches?
a. A speech writer. b. Rupert.
3. Who's going to pay for the trees?
a. The government. b. The political party.
4. Who are the owners of the Garden Centre shop?
a. They are. b. The interviewer.
5. Are there any other garden centres in town?
a. Yes, there are. b. No, there aren't.
6. Why did Camilla want to get into politics? So she could...
a. ...get rich. b. ...be on television.

4 Language focus Reported Speech

Look at this extract from the listening, "She said it would be a free tree for you from me."

The speaker has used Reported Speech to report what someone has said. Transform the following sentences into Reported Speech. Remember, "will" often becomes "would" in Reported Speech.

1. "We'll do it later." = They said that they...
2. "I'll be there at six." = She said that she...
3. "They'll finish it on Thursday." = He said that they...
4. "I'll send it in an hour." = She said that she...
5. "They'll put it in the kitchen." = He said that they...

5 Discussion

1. What are the main political parties in your country?
2. Which green parties are there in your country? What are they in favour of?
3. Have there been any recent cases of political corruption? What were they about?

SINGIN' & DANCIN'

HERE ARE SOME OF THE TOP MUSICALS OF RECENT TIMES.



THE SOUND OF MUSIC

The Sound of Music is a musical with music by Richard Rodgers and lyrics by

Oscar Hammerstein. Many of the songs have become famous, including "Edelweiss", "Climb Ev'ry Mountain" and "Do-Re-Mi". The musical *The Sound of Music* first opened on Broadway on 16th November 1959. The production received the Tony Award for best musical, and is based on a book by Howard Lindsay and Russel Crouse. The 1965 film version starred Julie Andrews. The story is about the Trapp family and is set in the beautiful countryside of Salzburg, in Austria. Maria (Julie Andrews) is studying to become a **nun**, but is sent to be the **governess** of the Trapp family. She's in charge of the seven children of a naval commander, Captain von Trapp, who doesn't like music.



EVERYONE SAYS I LOVE YOU

Everyone Says I Love You is a 1996 musical film written and directed by Woody Allen. The film features many stars including Julia Roberts, Alan Alda, Edward Norton, Drew Barrymore, Tim Roth, Goldie Hawn and Natalie Portman. It's set in New York, Venice and Paris. The interesting thing about this film is that actors who are not known for their singing ability actually sing the songs. The film received good reviews, and Chicago Sun-Times critic Roger Ebert called it simply "the best". The film focuses on the love lives of several characters, including Holden and Skylar, and Joe (Woody Allen), who flees to Venice where he meets Von (Julia Roberts).



OLIVER!

Oliver! is a musical adaptation of the Charles Dickens

novel *Oliver Twist*. The 1968 film version was a big hit, and since then there have been several other theatre productions of the musical. The story is about a young **orphan** Oliver. He travels to London where he meets a gang of **pickpockets**, who become his new family. Some of the most memorable songs include "Food Glorious Food", "Consider Yourself", "You've got to Pick a Pocket or Two" and the **heart-rending** "Where is Love?".



MY FAIR LADY

The musical *My Fair Lady* is based on the George Bernard Shaw play *Pygmalion*.

This 1964 film won eight Academy Awards, including Best Picture, Best Actor, and Best Director, and stars Audrey Hepburn. The film is about Henry Higgins (a phonetics professor) and his attempts to teach a Cockney flower-girl (Eliza Doolittle) to be a "lady". Some of the most memorable songs include "Wouldn't it be Lovely [sic]" and "Get me to the Church on Time".



MOULIN ROUGE

Moulin Rouge (2001) is a musical film starring Nicole Kidman and

Ewan McGregor. It won two Oscars. The story is about a young British poet, Christian (McGregor), who falls in love with the star of the **cabaret club** Satine (Kidman). The musical is set in The Moulin Rouge (translated as "The Red Windmill" in French), a cabaret club which was built in 1889.



WHO WANTS THE PLEASURE OF THE NEXT DANCE?

DANCIN'



MAMMA MIA!

Mamma Mia! (2008) is a **jukebox musical**. The

film stars Meryl Streep and Pierce Brosnan and is set on a Greek island. Sophie is a **bride-to-be** trying to find her real father. She discovers that there are three men who could be her dad, so she invites all three to her wedding without telling her mum. Sophie thinks that when she meets the men she'll instantly know who her real father is, but it isn't so easy. *Mamma Mia!* features lots of great Abba songs sung by the actors including "Dancing Queen", "Super Trouper", "The Winner Takes it All" and "Thank you for the Music".



THE LION KING

Monkeys, elephants, pelicans and lions

all singing and dancing along to great songs. This musical is based on the successful 1994 film of the same name. Simba is **exiled** after being accused of killing his father, thus allowing the evil Scar to take over the kingdom. **Heart-warming** and hilarious, the show has been a big hit in London. Some of the most memorable songs include "I Just Can't Wait to be King" and "The Circle of Life".



CHITTY CHITTY BANG BANG

Chitty Chitty Bang Bang is a stage

musical based on the 1968 film of the same name. The songs are by the Sherman brothers, and the story is based on a book by Ian Fleming (*Chitty Chitty Bang Bang: The Magical Car*). The film starred Dick Van Dyke as Caratacus Potts, and Sally Ann Howes as Truly Scrumptious. It was a big hit and features one of the **scariest** characters in cinema history: the child catcher. Some of the most memorable songs include "Chitty Chitty Bang Bang", "Truly Scrumptious" and "You Two".



NINE

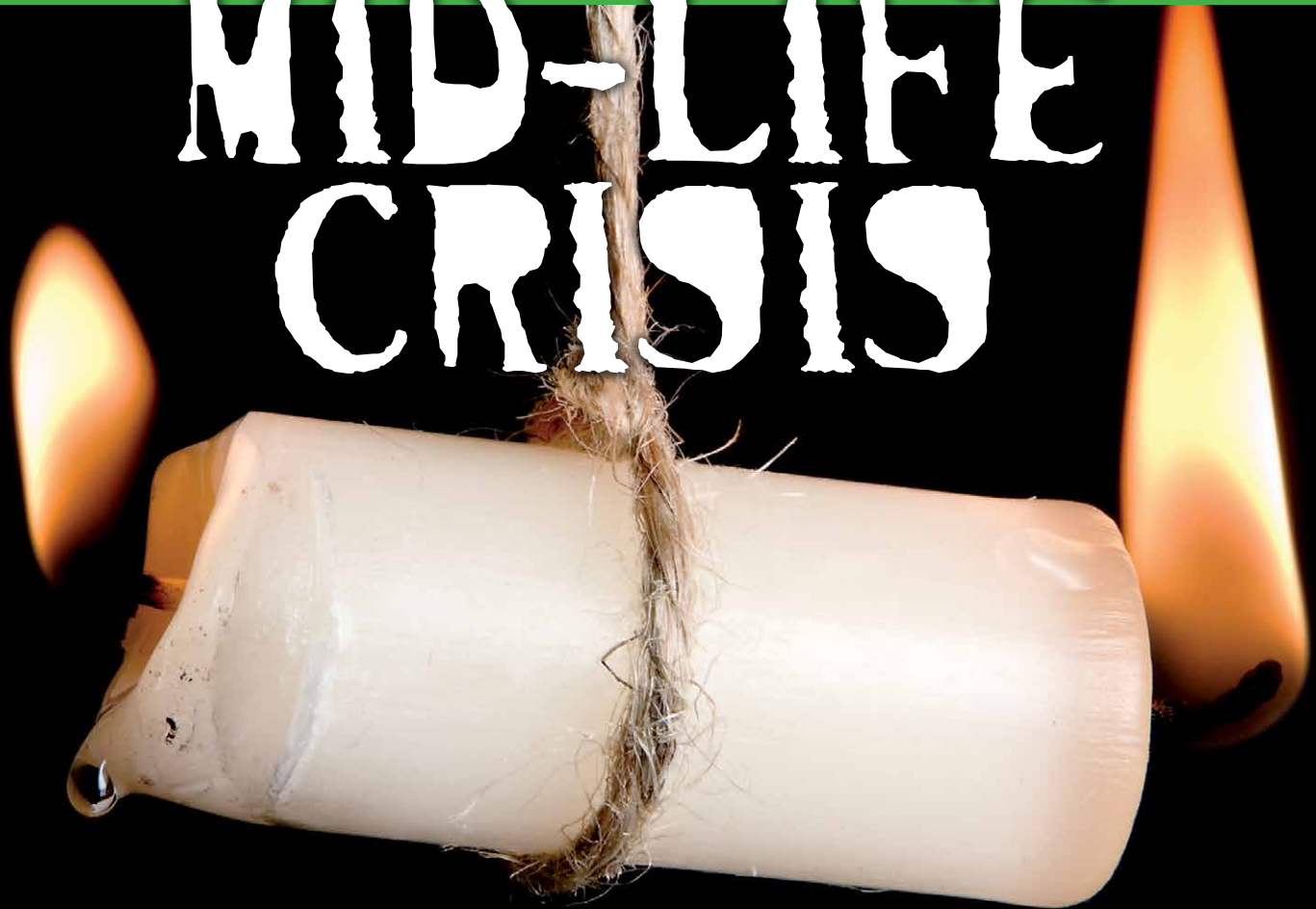
Nine is an adaptation of Federico Fellini's autobiographical film 81/2 (pronounced "otto e mezzo" in Italian). Film director Guido Contini is facing his fortieth birthday and a **mid-life crisis** which is blocking his creative impulses. The original Broadway production (starring Raul Julia) opened in 1982 and **ran for** 729 performances. The musical won five Tony Awards, including best musical, and has enjoyed a number of revivals. A later version starred Daniel Day-Lewis and Penelope Cruz.



GLOSSARY

- a nun** *n*
a member of a female religious community
- a governess** *n*
a woman who is employed by a family to take care of the children
- an orphan** *n*
a child whose parents are dead
- a pickpocket** *n*
a thief who steals things from people's pockets
- heart-rending** *adj*
that makes you feel very sad
- a cabaret club** *n*
a club where you can see singing, dancing and comedy acts
- a jukebox musical** *n*
a musical film that features popular songs
- a bride-to-be** *n*
a woman who is going to get married
- to exile** *vb*
if someone is "exiled", they are forced to leave their country and go and live somewhere else
- heart-warming** *adj*
something that is "heart-warming", makes you feel happy and good
- scary** *adj*
frightening
- a mid-life crisis** *n*
a period of life around 40 when people feel the need for change, or suffer a form of depression
- to run for** *exp*
if a film/play, etc. "runs for" X time, it lasts for that time

MID-LIFE CRISIS



DO YOU KNOW ANY MIDDLE-AGED PEOPLE WHO ARE STARTING TO ACT STRANGELY? HAVE THEY JUST BOUGHT A NEW SPORTS CAR? ARE THEY LOOKING FOR A CHANGE IN THEIR LIVES? ARE THEY DESPERATELY TRYING TO **GET INTO SHAPE**? THEY MAY BE GOING THROUGH A **MID-LIFE CRISIS**. THIS IS A TOPIC THAT HOLLYWOOD HAS DEALT WITH IN A NUMBER OF FILMS. BUT FIRST, WHAT EXACTLY IS A MID-LIFE CRISIS?

A mid-life crisis is a period in life (usually in a man's life) between the ages of 35-55. It's a time when people feel that their youth is over and old age is **approaching**. It's a time when people ask themselves questions such as, "Where am I going? What am I doing? What have I done?" It can lead to sudden and big changes. Some of the symptoms of a mid-life crisis are the following. A desire to...

- ... **quit** a good job.
- ...investigate new religions, churches or philosophies.
- ...change habits.
- ...run away from everything.
- ...get into physical shape.
- ...buy a fast car, particularly a sports car.
- ...do more sport, particularly ones that involve fast movement (running, cycling, dancing, sky diving, etc).
- ...explore new musical tastes.
- ...learn how to play an instrument.
- ...draw, paint or write books and poetry.
- ...buy new and unusual clothes.
- ...change their hair (**dye** it, **shave** it off, etc.)
- ...**hang out with** people from a younger generation.
- ...restart things which they dropped 20 years earlier.

MID-LIFE QUOTES

HERE ARE SOME QUOTES TO HELP YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT.



"Around mid-life everyone goes maniac a little bit."
Tom Berenger



"Here comes 40! I'm feeling my age and I've ordered the Ferrari. I'm going to get the **whole** mid-life crisis **package**."
Keanu Reeves



"It's the fear that you're past your best. It's the fear that the stuff you've done in the past is your best work."
Robbie Coltrane

"Mid-life, a time to simplify your life

and enjoy living!" **Catherine Pulsifer**



"Mid-life is a time to listen deeply to your heart."
Carl Jung

"Middle age is the awkward period when Father Time catches up with Mother Nature."
Harold Coffin



"The hardest years in life are those between ten and seventy."
Helen Hayes



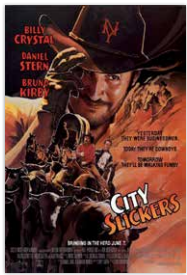
"Mid-life is a time to do what you want to do!"
Catherine Pulsifer

"We don't understand life any better at forty than at twenty, but we know it and admit it."
Jules Renard



FILMS ABOUT THE MID-LIFE CRISIS

THERE HAVE BEEN MANY FILMS INVOLVING A MIDLIFE CRISIS. HERE ARE A FEW OF THEM.



CITY SLICKERS

City Slickers (1991) is a story about Mitch, a middle-aged radio ad salesman. He and his friends Ed and Phil are going through a mid-life crisis. They decide the best thing would be to go on a two-week holiday in the Wild West **driving cattle**. During their

time out west, they have a lot of adventures, and learn about the meaning of life.

Movie quote: Curly (Jack Palance): You all come up here at about the same age with the same problems. You spend about fifty weeks a year getting **knots in your rope**, and you think two weeks up here will **untie** them for you.



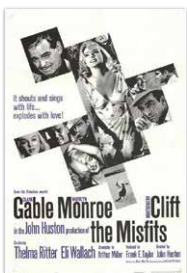
GROUNDHOG DAY

Groundhog Day (1993) is a comedy starring Bill Murray and Andie MacDowell. Middle-aged, **egocentric** weatherman Phil Connors (Bill Murray) is trapped on the same day: 2nd February. Every time he wakes up, it's 2nd February again. He's confused

at first, but then starts to **take advantage of** the situation: he seduces women, steals money and has a lot of fun. But eventually, he starts to change for the better.

Movie quote: Rita (Andie MacDowell): I like to see a man of advancing years **throwing caution to the wind**. It's inspiring in a way.

Phil: My years are not advancing as fast as you might think.



THE MISFITS

The Misfits (1961) starred Clark Gable and Marilyn Monroe. Monroe plays a depressed divorcee who meets Gable, an ageing ex-cowboy. They soon develop a friendship. **Movie quote:** Roslyn (Monroe): How does anyone "just live"?

Gay (Gable): Well, you start by going to sleep. You get up when you feel like it. You scratch yourself. You fry yourself some eggs. You see what kind of a day it is; throw stones at a can, **whistle**.



THE BRIDGES OF MADISON COUNTY

The Bridges of Madison County stars Meryl Streep as Francesca, an Italian woman who has become a Midwest housewife. One day, she meets and falls in love with a photographer (played by Clint Eastwood), who

has come to Madison County to take photos for a

magazine. **Movie quote:**

Robert (Eastwood): Things change. They always do, it's one of the things of nature. Most people are afraid of change, but if you look at it as something you can always count on, then it can be a comfort.



HANNAH AND HER SISTERS

Hannah and her Sisters (1986) is a Woody Allen film starring Michael Caine, Mia Farrow and Max von Sydow. The film takes place over a 12-month period, and shows the changes that take place in the lives of three sisters.

Caine plays the part of a man who falls in love with his wife's sister. **Movie quote:**

Krishna Leader: What makes you interested in becoming a Hare Krishna?

Mickey (Allen): Well, I'm not saying that I want to join or anything, but I know you guys believe in **reincarnation**, you know, so it interests me.



AMERICAN BEAUTY

The ultimate mid-life crisis film is *American Beauty* (1999). It stars Kevin Spacey as Lester Burnham, a man who is bored at work and unloved at home. He develops an **infatuation** with his daughter's friend. **Movie quote:** Carolyn (Benning): Erm, whose

car is that out front?

Lester: Mine. 1970 Pontiac Firebird. The car I've always wanted and now I have it. I rule!



NINE

The musical *Nine* starred Daniel Day-Lewis, Penelope Cruz and Nicole Kidman. Daniel Day-Lewis plays the part of director Guido Contini who is facing a mid-life crisis. As a result of his crisis, he has created a complicated life for himself involving his wife (Marion Cotillard), his mistress (Penélope Cruz) and his film star **muse** (Nicole Kidman).



GLOSSARY

- to get into shape** *exp*
to do exercise so you are fit, slim and strong
- a mid-life crisis** *n*
a period of life around the age of 40 during which people change and may suffer from depression
- to approach** *vb*
if something is "approaching", it is getting closer
- to quit** *vb*
if you "quit" a job, you leave that job
- to dye** *vb*
if you "dye" your hair, you change the colour of your hair
- to shave off** *exp*
if you "shave off" your hair, you cut it all off
- to hang out with** *exp*
to spend time with
- the whole package** *n*
all the things that are part of something – in this case, everything that is associated with a mid-life crisis
- to drive cattle** *exp*
when cowboys "drive cattle" (cows), they take the cattle from one place to another, often travelling many miles
- a knot in your rope** *exp*
in this case, the "rope" is a metaphor for your life, and the "knots" are the problems in your life
- to untie** *vb*
if you "untie" something that is tied to another thing, you remove the string or rope that holds it together
- egocentric** *adj*
someone who is "egocentric" only thinks about him/herself
- to take advantage of** *exp*
to use for your own benefit
- to throw caution to the wind** *exp*
to stop being careful or cautious
- to whistle** *vb*
to sing by blowing air out of your mouth between your lips or teeth
- reincarnation** *n*
someone who believes in "reincarnation" believes in life after death
- an infatuation** *n*
if A has an infatuation for B, A is in love with B
- a muse** *n*
a person (usually a woman) who gives another person inspiration and creative ideas

One of the world's most talented actors.
By Steph Gallear



FULL-NAME: Daniel Michael Blake Day-Lewis
HEIGHT: 1.87 metres.
BORN: 29th April, 1957 in London, England.

DANIEL DAY-LEWIS

HE'S WON AN OSCAR TWICE FOR BEST ACTOR IN THE FILMS *THERE WILL BE BLOOD* (2007) AND *MY LEFT FOOT* (1989). AND HE'S BEEN IN SOME OF THE BEST FILMS IN THE HISTORY OF CINEMA, INCLUDING *GANGS OF NEW YORK* (2002), *IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER* (1993) AND *THE LAST OF THE MOHICANS* (1992). DANIEL DAY-LEWIS IS ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST RESPECTED ACTORS.

DANIEL DAY-LEWIS & PENELOPE CRUZ



Daniel Day-Lewis is most famous for the way he prepares for his roles. For example, while filming *Gangs of New York* (2002) he would often talk with a New York accent, and he practised **sharpening** his

knives at lunch. He also **refused** to change his old coat for a warmer one when he got sick because "the warmer coat didn't exist in the 19th century". Eventually, doctors had to force him to take antibiotics. In preparation for *The Last of the Mohicans* (1992), Lewis built a canoe, learned to **track** and **skin** animals, and took his **flintlock rifle** everywhere he went, including to a Christmas dinner. While he's in the middle of filming, Lewis also likes to be in isolation. During the shooting of the film *The Ballad of Jack and Rose* (2005), Lewis even **lived apart** from his wife Rebecca Miller while she was directing him. Lewis is a real **method actor**.

Lewis is famous for being one of the most selective actors in the film industry. In fact, he's starred in very few films, sometimes with years between roles. Lewis **made his film debut** in *Sunday Bloody Sunday* (1971), but didn't appear on screen again until 1982 when he played the role of Colin, a south African **street thug** in the film *Gandhi*. During those 10 years off screen, Lewis acted on stage with the Bristol Old Vic and Royal Shakespeare companies. Daniel Day-Lewis has won three Oscars for Best Actor for the movies *My Left Foot*, *There Will be Blood*, and *Lincoln*.



DANIEL DAY-LEWIS TRIVIA

He has both British and Irish citizenship.

He is **ranked** number 25 in *Empire* (UK) magazine's "The Top 100 Movie Stars of All Time" list (October 1997).

He was offered the role of Aragorn (Strider) in Peter Jackson's *The Lord of the Rings* film trilogy several times, but repeatedly **turned it down**.

His dad was Cecil Day-Lewis (Poet Laureate of England), and his maternal grandfather was Sir Michael Balcon, an important figure in the history of British cinema, and head of the famous Ealing Studios. His older sister, Tamasin Day-Lewis, is a documentary filmmaker.

Lewis was educated at Sevenoaks School (in Kent), which he hated.

He is married to Rebecca Miller and is the son-in-law of American playwright Arthur Miller.

He **got to know** his future wife Rebecca Miller while working on the film version of Arthur Miller's play *The Crucible*.

He has three sons: Gabriel-Kane Day-Lewis (born on 9 April 1995), Ronan Cal Day-Lewis (born on 14 June 1998) and Cashel Blake Day-Lewis (born in May 2002).



He was the first of three consecutive British actors to win the Oscar for Best Actor in a leading role, Jeremy Irons being next and Anthony Hopkins the third. Lewis is also the first non-American actor to win two Academy Awards for Best Actor.

DANIEL DAY-LEWIS QUOTES

"If I weren't allowed this **outlet** [acting], there wouldn't be a place for me in society."

"Everybody has to know for themselves what they're capable of."

"I find it easier to work when it's quiet."

"I hate wasting people's time."

"Many years ago, I really didn't know where the next work was coming from."

"I don't know what impression you might have of the way I live. I live in a quiet place. I do not live as a **hermit**, though other people would prefer it if I did."

"I see a lot of movies. I love films as a spectator, and that's never obscured by the part of me that does the work myself. I just love going to the movies."

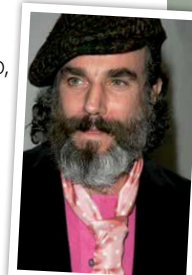
"I think some actors **thrive on** working at a much greater pace than I do."

"I was a **savage** for so many years of my life... I was mostly consciously **getting into trouble** and drunk."

"I would wish for any one of my colleagues to have the experience of working with Martin Scorsese once in their lifetime."

"Making a film, **setting it up** and getting it **cast** and getting it together, is not an easy thing."

"I do have dual citizenship, but I think of England as my country. I **miss** London very much, but I couldn't live there because there came a time when I needed to be private and was forced to be public by the press. I couldn't deal with that."



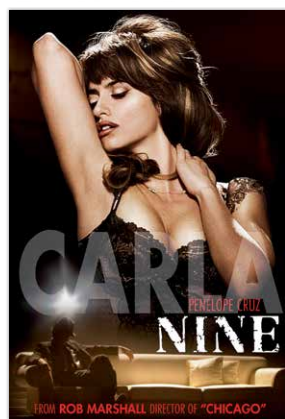
The Spanish enchantress.



FULL-NAME: Penélope Cruz Sánchez
MOTHER: Encarna, hairdresser and manager.
FATHER: Eduardo, car mechanic.
STAR SIGN: Taurus. **BORN:** 24th April 1974
PLACE: Madrid, Spain **HEIGHT:** 168 cm.
FAVOURITE ACTRESS: Spanish actress Victoria Abril.

PENELOPE CRUZ

SHE'S A STAR IN HER OWN COUNTRY AS WELL AS ALL OVER THE WORLD. SHE'S BEEN NOMINATED FOR NUMEROUS AWARDS, AND SHE'S WON AN OSCAR FOR BEST SUPPORTING ACTRESS. ONE OF HER LATEST FILMS IS THE MUSICAL FILM *NINE*, WITH FELLOW-ACTOR DANIEL DAY-LEWIS.



Penelope Cruz made her movie debut in the film *El Laberinto Griego* (1993 - *The Greek Labyrinth*). Later, she appeared briefly in the Timothy Dalton thriller *Framed* (1992). Her third film was the

Oscar-winning *Belle Epoque* (1992), in which she played one of four sisters. The film won several Goyas (the Spanish equivalent of the Oscars).

Her **big break** came when Spanish director Pedro Almodóvar offered her a part in the film *Carne Trémula* (*Live Flesh* - 1997). That same year, she was the lead actress in the drama *Abre Los Ojos* (1997), which earned eight Goyas. In 1998, Cruz won a Best Actress Goya for the comedy *La Niña de tus Ojos* (1998).

Her first big international hit was Almodóvar's *Todo Sobre mi Madre* (*All about my Mother* - 1999), in which she played the part of a **nun**. As a result of the success of the film, Cruz found herself in demand on both sides of the Atlantic. Her next big project was *Woman on Top* (2000), an American comedy. Later, she starred with Johnny Depp in the drug-trafficking drama *Blow* (2001) and with Matt Damon in Billy Bob Thornton's *All the Pretty Horses* (2000).

Her big moment came in 2009 when she won an Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her role in the Woody Allen film *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*.



PENELOPE CRUZ TRIVIA

She went out with Tom Cruise between 2001 and 2004.

She dated American actor Matthew McConaughey in 2005-2006.

Her sister Mónica Cruz is now a TV star in Spain. She has starred as a young dancer in the series *Un Paso Adelante*.

Penelope learned Italian because she wanted a part in the film *Non ti Muovere* (2004).

She is the second Spanish performer to be nominated for an Oscar. The first was Javier Bardem for his role in *No Country for Old Men* (2007).

Penelope is the only person to win an Oscar (for her part in *Vicky Cristina Barcelona*) and appear in two Oscar-winning Best Foreign Language Films: *Todo sobre mi Madre* (1999), and *Belle Epoque* (1992).

PENELOPE CRUZ QUOTES

"My ambition is to be happy."

"The most important lesson I've learned in this business is how to say no. I have said no to a lot of temptations, and I am **glad** I did."

"The most difficult thing in the world is to start a career known only for your **looks**, and then to try to become a serious actress. No one will take you seriously once you are known as the pretty woman."

"I'm strong and **opinionated**. Those qualities have brought me a lot of problems since I was a little girl in school, saying 'I don't agree' and fighting with the children. It's part of my curiosity for life."

"There's so much more I want to do. I refuse to get to 50 and wait at home for the phone to ring. In Spain, actresses work until they are old. That's my plan."

"I love the Italian culture, it's a beautiful culture. I love the language, the Italian people, their music, their attitudes...I just love it! Sometimes I think I'm an Italian trapped in a Spanish woman's body."

"[On acting] In terms of the work, it always seems like it's a first date. I mean, every time I go to the movie set and start a project, I feel the same feeling - the **butterflies in your stomach**, not having control over it - because acting is like that. That's the beauty of it. You can always keep learning. There's always more."



GLOSSARY

- to sharpen** *vb*
if you "sharpen" a knife or sword, you make that thing sharper so it can cut more easily
- to refuse** *vb*
to say that you won't do something
- to track** *vb*
to try to find by following a trail or other signs
- to skin** *vb*
to take off the skin of an animal
- a flintlock rifle** *n*
a type of old gun. It is fired by pressing a trigger which causes a spark to light some gunpowder
- to live apart** *phr vb*
if two people "live apart", they live in separate places
- a method actor** *n*
an actor who tries to recreate the thoughts and emotions of a character
- to make your film debut** *exp*
to star in a film for the first time
- a street thug** *n*
a violent person who attacks others
- to rank** *vb*
if something is "ranked" first in a list, it is on top of that list
- to turn down** *phr vb*
to say that you don't want to do something
- to get to know** *exp*
to meet
- an outlet** *n*
a means of expressing an emotion
- a hermit** *n*
a person who lives away from people and society
- to thrive on** *phr vb*
to enjoy something very much
- a savage** *n*
a wild, uncontrollable person
- to get into trouble** *exp*
to do bad (sometimes illegal) things that cause you to have problems with the authorities/police, etc.
- to set up** *phr vb*
to establish; to start
- to cast** *vb*
if you "cast" a film, you choose the actors for it
- to miss** *vb*
if you "miss" a place, you are sad because you aren't there
- a big break** *n*
a big opportunity to be famous
- a nun** *n*
a member of a female religious community
- glad** *adj*
pleased; happy
- looks** *n*
the way you look; your physical appearance
- opinionated** *adj*
with many strong opinions
- to have butterflies in your stomach** *exp*
to be nervous. The "butterflies" are used as a way of describing the feeling you have in your stomach

If perfection were a city, its name would be Vancouver. By Luisa Lora



VANCOUVER

VANCOUVER

VANCOUVER IS FREQUENTLY IN THE NEWS... FOR GOOD REASONS. JUST RECENTLY, VANCOUVER, MELBOURNE AND VIENNA WERE NAMED THE WORLD'S MOST **LIVEABLE CITIES**. AT THE TOP OF THE LIST WAS VANCOUVER. IN FACT, THE SURVEY, BY THE LONDON-BASED ECONOMIST INTELLIGENCE UNIT (EIU), DESCRIBED VANCOUVER AS "ALMOST PERFECT". SO, WHAT'S VANCOUVER GOT TO OFFER?



Vancouver has something for everyone. There are beaches, parks and a **vibrant** downtown area. It's got a spectacular skyline where night time views of its downtown high-rise apartments are breathtaking. Vancouver is truly a **stunning** city that's well worth visiting.

Vancouver is great if you like sport. It's right on the Pacific Coast and can offer a range of water sports. English Bay

is a great place for summer beach-goers. It's in the West End of the city's **downtown area**, and in the summer you can sunbathe, go swimming or have a barbecue on the beach.

If sand isn't your thing, head over to Stanley Park. It's known as the "Crown Jewel of Vancouver", and is one of the largest parks in North America, with over 8 million visitors a year. You can skate through it, cycle through it or take the

tram through it as you enjoy the beautiful views of the gardens and the ocean. The Vancouver Seawall is another city attraction. It's a stone wall that was built around the perimeter of Stanley Park to stop erosion. It's got a pedestrian, bicycle and roller-blading pathway which has been extended far outside the parameters of Stanley Park. It has become one of the most popular **features** of the park.

Vancouver has a lot to offer skiers and snowboarders, too. Located about 20 minutes away from Stanley Park, the North Shore Mountains have three ski areas: Cypress Mountain, Grouse Mountain, and Mount Seymour. In the summer, you can go hiking in

this area, or mountain-biking along some of the world-renowned **trails**. And while you're up there, see if you can **spot** any bears.

The Capilano Suspension Bridge is another great tourist attraction. Built in 1889, the bridge **stretches** 137 metres **across** The Capilano River. It is



70 metres high, so it isn't for the **faint-hearted**. You can go on guided nature tours of the park where the bridge is, or enjoy a day out with a picnic.

If you need a break from all the exercise, you can take a walk along Robson Street for a less extreme sport: shopping. It's one of the most popular shopping streets in the city,





VANCOUVER FAST FACTS

Vancouver is located on the Pacific west coast of Canada in the Province of British Columbia.

Vancouver has the most temperate climate in the country with winter temperatures of around 8°C and summer ones of around 24°C.

Native Americans **settled** in the region around 500 B.C.

In 1792, British naval captain George Vancouver explored the area. The city was incorporated into Canada in 1886 – the same year the Canada-wide railroad was completed. The city is named after Captain Vancouver.



Vancouver has an area population of about 2 million people. Vancouver City itself has a population of about 565,000 and is Canada's 3rd largest city (after Toronto and Montreal).

Some Famous "Vancouverites" include James Doohan (Scotty on the TV series Star Trek), Pamela Anderson, Michael J Fox and Sarah McLachlan (a singer).

Errol Flynn, the **swashbuckling** actor of the 1930s, died in an apartment in Vancouver in the 1960s. There's a rumour that he **stashed away** a fortune somewhere in Vancouver, but it's never been found.



Vancouver's motto is: "By sea, land and air we prosper."

and has everything from clothing and shoe **stores**, to



restaurants, five-star hotels and gift shops.

After a long day of skiing and shopping, why not end the night with a delicious meal? Dining in Vancouver is worth the trip alone. There are restaurants from all over the world. Seafood is also popular because of the city's coastal location. One of the most popular seafood restaurants



in Vancouver is "The Sandbar Restaurant". It's located in a city hotspot (under the Granville Street Bridge), and it offers fresh local salmon, crab, prawns and much, much more.

If fun beaches, great shopping, and fine dining aren't enough to get you to Vancouver, maybe the Olympics will **do the trick**. Vancouver will be **hosting** the 2010 Winter Olympics in



BEAM ME UP!

February. Some of the events that you can expect to see include cross-country skiing, figure skating, snowboarding and ice hockey. With all that Vancouver has to offer, it's no wonder they were chosen to host the 2010 Winter Olympics. Why not come and experience Vancouver for yourself? ✨

GLOSSARY

- a liveable city** *n* a city that is nice, fun, good to live in
- vibrant** *adj* exciting
- stunning** *adj* very beautiful
- the downtown area** *n* the area in the centre of a town/city
- a tram** *n* a form of public transport vehicle that is powered by electricity from overhead lines, and which travels along rails on the street
- a feature** *n* a special thing about a place
- a trail** *n* a path in the mountains/hills for you to walk on/along
- to spot** *vb* to see/notice
- to stretch across** *exp* if A "stretches across B", it goes over B
- faint-hearted** *adj* someone who is "faint-hearted", isn't very confident and is afraid of heights
- a store** *n US* a shop
- to do the trick** *exp* to be the perfect solution for something
- to host** *vb* if a country "hosts" an event, it organises that event
- to settle** *vb* if people "settle" in an area, they start living in that area
- swashbuckling** *adj* brave, courageous and daring
- to stash away** *exp* to put in a place secretly

Mobile Madness

The invention we love to hate.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

1 Pre-reading

Look at following mobile phone situations. Rank them in order according to how bad they are ("1" is the worst thing that could happen).

- Your mobile phone goes off during...
- ... a theatre play.
 - ... a film.
 - ... an intimate conversation.
 - ... a dinner with friends.
 - ... a football match.
 - ... a job interview.
 - ... a conversation with your boss.
 - ... a one-minute silence to honour a recently deceased person.
 - ... a wedding ceremony.
 - ... a train journey.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which mobile phone situation do you think is the most embarrassing?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, complete the information with your own words.

1. Mobile phones have a tendency to...
2. When a spectator's phone went off during a recent play, Hugh Jackman...
3. In Missouri, a mobile phone interrupted...
4. Overheard mobile conversations are...
5. In one experiment...
6. Some phone companies are developing mobile phones...

4 Language focus The Future Passive

Look at this extract from the article, "...SoHo phones will not be sold..." In this example, the writer has used a future passive tense ("will be" + a past participle). Transform these sentences to the Future Passive.

1. They will finish it tonight.
2. She will send it later.
3. They will fix it tomorrow.
4. We will test it this afternoon.
5. They won't make the call later today.

5 Discussion

1. Has your phone ever gone off at an inopportune moment? What happened?
2. What are the best/worst things about mobile phones?
3. Have you got any mobile phone anecdotes? What are they?

Mobile phones. We've all got one, but they can be annoying at times. In fact, in a recent survey, 30% of US citizens named the mobile phone as *the* most annoying invention... even more than alarm clocks!

One of the main problems is that mobile phones **have a tendency** to ring at the wrong moment. Important meetings, romantic meals, trips to the cinema – no matter where we are, we can be sure that a phone will ring when we least expect it... and when we least want it to. One spectator's mobile started ringing during a performance of the play *A Steady Rain* in New York's Broadway. To this man's horror, actors Hugh Jackman and Daniel Craig (who were acting in the play) stopped their **performance**. "You wanna get that?" Jackman asked the spectator, referring to the call. "If you wanna get it, **grab** it. **I don't care**. Grab it. We can wait. Just grab it!" he added while the **mortified** spectator tried to switch the phone off.

But this is quite a common occurrence. In Missouri, a mobile phone interrupted a church wedding. "The music had just started to play and my father began walking me down the aisle," said the **bride**, Karen Emerson. "All of a sudden, the song 'Girls Just Wanna Have Fun' goes off on my mobile phone (it's my ringtone). Everyone looks at me and I realise the one thing I've forgotten to do is to turn my mobile off."

Overheard mobile conversations are also top of the "annoying things about mobile phones" list. Psychologists at the University of York in England conducted an experiment: one group of people got on a train and started having a loud conversation; another group started talking at a normal volume into their **cell phones**. Although some train passengers said the loud conversations were annoying, many more people thought the person talking into his mobile phone was worse. "The problem seems to be that people pay more attention when they only hear half a conversation, and that can be really annoying," said US academic Jakob Nielson.

Some phone companies are trying to help resolve these situations. Researchers at the Ideo industrial design company have created the SoHo1 phone. It gives callers a small electric shock when they speak too loudly. Graham Pullin of Ideo says their SoHo phones will not be sold, but he hopes they will get designers talking. "Much is made of 'user-centric' design," he says, "but the people surrounding the user need to be considered too."

Meanwhile, the number of mobile phone **users** grows every day. In Britain, there are already 121 phones for every 100 people, according to a recent survey; while in the USA, 1 billion text messages are sent every day. In 2005, there were about 2 billion cell phones in the world; **researchers** say there could be 3.3 billion by 2010. Now that's a lot of interrupted theatre productions. ☹



GLOSSARY

- have a tendency to** *exp*
if something "has a tendency to" happen, it usually happens
- a performance** *n*
if an actor/actress gives a "performance", he/she acts in front of an audience
- to grab** *vb*
to take quickly and suddenly
- I don't care** *exp*
it isn't important to me
- mortified** *adj*
very embarrassed and ashamed
- a bride** *n*
a woman who is going to get married in a wedding
- a cell phone** *n US*
a mobile phone
- a user** *n*
someone who uses something
- a researcher** *n*
someone who investigates things (often scientific things)

Let's be



friends

(if we aren't already!)

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DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC

problems

HERE ARE SOME MORE USEFUL AND INTERESTING EXPRESSIONS FOR YOU TO LEARN. THIS MONTH: MORE "PROBLEMS".



A cloud on the horizon

A PROBLEM THAT YOU EXPECT TO HAPPEN IN THE FUTURE.

"Things seem to be going well for us. The only cloud on the horizon is the economy, which experts say will get worse over the course of the year."



Set the alarm bells ringing

IF SOMETHING "SETS ALARM BELLS RINGING", IT STARTS TO WORRY YOU.

"Seeing how he reacted under stress really set our alarm bells ringing – he probably isn't the best person for the job."



Be in the eye of the storm

BE AT THE CENTRE OF A BAD SITUATION.

"The war broke out while they were on holiday there – they were right in the eye of the storm."



Cut your own throat

TO DO SOMETHING BECAUSE YOU ARE ANGRY EVEN THOUGH THAT THING MIGHT BE BAD FOR YOU.

"He won't accept the money out of pride – he's just cutting his own throat."



Be banging your head against a brick wall

BE TRYING TO DO SOMETHING THAT JUST WON'T HAPPEN.

"Trying to get him to do any work around here is like banging your head against a brick wall – he just won't get out of bed."



Have a lot on your plate

TO HAVE A LOT OF WORK OR MANY PROBLEMS.

"I've got enough on my plate without having to deal with all of your problems too."



Against all the odds

TO MANAGE TO ACHIEVE SOMETHING EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE CONFRONTED BY MANY PROBLEMS AND THE SITUATION SEEMED TO BE HOPELESS.

"They were a 3rd-division team playing against a first-division team full of international players. It seemed to be hopeless, but they managed to succeed against all the odds, winning 4-0."

QUIRKY NEWS & CORNY CRIMINALS

quirky news

Lottery Win

Lottery winners cause problems.

What would you do if you won the lottery? The entire police force of a town in Hungary won more than £10 million in the lottery... and then decided to **quit their jobs**. This has left police chiefs in the area with a bit of a problem, and since it happened they've been desperately calling in **replacements** until more full-time officers can be **recruited**.

In another lottery-related incident, a woman in Ohio **sparked** a riot in a clothing shop. "I've won the lottery!" she shouted. "I'll pay for all your **purchases!**" she added as excited shoppers **scrambled** to get as much as they could. By the time the police arrived, the situation was chaotic with more than 500 people inside the shop and

another 1,000 **queuing up** outside. Police later discovered that it was all a **hoax** and arrested the woman, who had no money on her. ☘



Riddles

CAN YOU SOLVE THESE?



- 1 What is at the centre of gravity?
- 2 What has two hands, a round face and always runs but stays in one place?
- 3 Where does success come before work? ☘

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

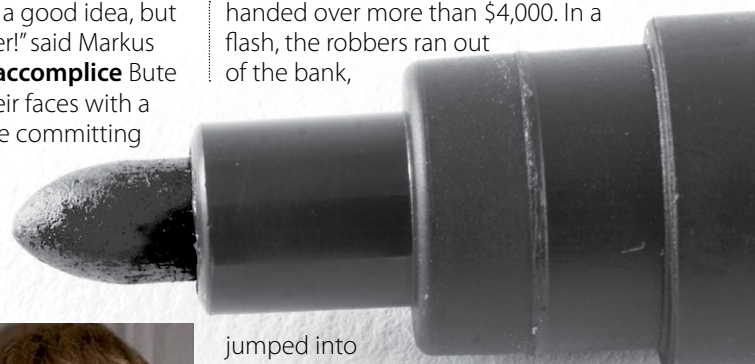
Corny Criminals

Face Masks

Suspects provide police with easy identification.

"At the time, we thought it was a good idea, but **looking back**, it wasn't so clever!" said Markus Germaine, who, together with **accomplice** Bute Roadmaster, drew masks on their faces with a **permanent marker pen** before committing a bank robbery. With their improvised face masks on, Germaine (25) and Roadmaster (27) walked into a bank and demanded the money. Staff

handed over more than \$4,000. In a flash, the robbers ran out of the bank,



jumped into a car and **sped off**. But a bank teller got a description of the vehicle and informed the police. Police later arrested the pair. "It wasn't hard to recognise them," said officer Bates, who made the arrest. "When we stopped them, they were desperately trying to clean off the pen markings, but they'd used a permanent marker and that's really **hard to get off**." Both suspects were charged with attempted robbery. ☘

GLOSSARY

- to quit a job** *exp*
to leave a job
- a replacement** *n*
a substitute; someone who starts doing the job that another person was doing
- to recruit** *vb*
to find someone to fill a position in a company
- to spark** *vb*
to cause to happen
- a purchase** *n*
something that you have bought in a shop
- to scramble** *vb*
to move very quickly in all directions
- to queue up** *phr vb*
to form a line in a shop as you wait to be served
- a hoax** *n*
a trick; something that isn't true
- to look back** *phr vb*
to think about the things that happened in the past
- an accomplice** *n*
someone who helps another person commit a crime
- a permanent marker pen** *n*
a pen with ink that you cannot remove with water
- to speed off** *phr vb*
to leave a place in a car that is being driven quickly
- hard** *adj*
difficult
- to get off** *phr vb*
if you "get" a mark or stain "off", you eliminate/remove that mark or stain

HERE'S ANOTHER CLASSIC BUT SIMPLE DISH FROM OUR RESIDENT FRENCH COOKS, TIPHAINÉ AND PAULINE.

Coq au vin



Ingredients

- Chicken cut into 8 pieces
- 1/2 bottle red wine
- 150 g bacon (cubed)
- 250 g mushrooms
- A dozen white pickled onions
- 2-3 cloves of garlic, chopped
- 2 carrots (peeled and cut)
- Sunflower oil
- Butter
- 2 stalks of thyme and 1 bay leaf (attach a piece of thread to it so you can take it out)
- Parsley
- Salt and pepper



Preparation

- A day before, clean and cut up the chicken into 8 pieces. Pour the half-bottle of red wine over the chicken. Add the pickled onions, carrot pieces and herbs and spices. Cover and put in the refrigerator.
- The next day, remove and drain the chicken and the vegetables. Keep the liquid for later.
- Brown the chicken with some oil in a frying pan. Add the garlic and vegetables and cook for a few minutes.
- Put the chicken and the vegetables in a pan. Pour the liquid with the wine over the mixture and add salt and pepper. Bring to the boil.
- Cover and cook in the oven for two hours.
- In a frying pan, fry the bacon, onion and mushrooms for ten minutes.
- Add the bacon, onion and mushrooms to the pot and stir for 2 to 3 minutes. Add more salt and pepper if necessary.
- Eat with rice or potatoes. Enjoy your "coq au vin". ✪



Business Ideas

Business inventors try to sell their ideas.

1 Pre-listening

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

Look at the words below. Can you think of any business ideas or inventions related to the topics?

- Pets** **Education** **Cooking** **Electronics**
Communication **Sport** **Entertainment**

2 Listening I

You are going to listen to an extract from a business programme in which entrepreneurs pitch their ideas to a business expert. Listen once. Which topics from the Pre-listening activity are mentioned?

3 Listening II

Listen again and answer the questions.

1. What's Norman's first machine for?
2. What does it consist of?
3. Why is there no need for this invention?
4. How much does he want for this invention?
5. What does the next guest suggest opening?
6. What is Norman's next invention? What is it similar to?
7. What explanation does he give for the name "Sony"?
8. How much does he want for this invention?

4 Language focus Future Tenses

Look at this extract from the listening, "It's going to be the future of cooking." The speaker has used a future tense ("going to be"). Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

1. Next week, I'm going to try to...
2. This weekend, I'll be in...
3. By next month, I will have...
4. This time next week I'll be enjoying...
5. Next year, we're going to...

5 Discussion

1. What's the cleverest idea you've ever had?
2. Have there been any new inventions in your country recently? What?
3. Have you ever had an idea for a new product? What?

DICTIONARY OF SLANG

HERE WE'VE GOT SOME EXAMPLES OF HOW TO SAY THINGS IN DIFFERENT SITUATIONS.

Situation	Formal	Relaxed	Informal
It is very cold.	The climatic conditions are glacial.	It's freezing. 	It's brass monkeys out there.
You are angry and fed up.	I am discontented with the current situation.	I'm fed up.	I'm browned off.
A friend has no clothes on.	He is bereft of any noticeable garment.	He's naked; He's nude. 	He's in the buff; He's in the clothes God gave him.
A friend's child didn't go to school.	She committed an act of irresponsibility by evading her duty to attend school.	She didn't go to school.	She skived off; She bunked off.
A friend is in prison.	He is detained in a penal establishment.	He's in prison. 	He's in the can; He's in the slammer; He's doing time; He's in the joint; He's in the nick.
You are about to leave a place. You tell your friends.	I would like to announce my imminent departure.	I'm leaving.	I'm outta here. 

CHAT-UP LINES / PICK-UP LINES

(US English)

LET'S SEE IF YOU GET LUCKY.

- 1 I may not be the best-looking guy here, but hey, I'm the only one talking to you!
- 2 There's a gap in your life! Do you mind if I fill it?
- 3 I hope you know CPR because you take my breath away.
- 4 Is there an airport around here because my heart is taking off.
- 5 I didn't believe in angels until I met you! ✨



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WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN 1999? WHERE WERE YOU? HOW OLD WERE YOU? WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER? JOIN US ON A LITTLE TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE TO 1999.

Monthly trivia 1999

January

- The euro is established.

February

- Hugo Chavez becomes President of Venezuela.

March

- Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic join **NATO**.
- NATO launches **air strikes** against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia. This marks the first time NATO has attacked a sovereign country.

April

- Two Libyans suspected of **bringing down** Pan Am flight 103 in 1988 are **handed over** to Scottish authorities for a **trial** in the Netherlands.
- The United Nations suspends **sanctions** against Libya.
- Two Colorado teenagers (Eric Harris and Dylan Klebold), **open fire** on their teachers and classmates, killing 12 students and 1 teacher, and then themselves.

May

- *SpongeBob SquarePants* **makes its debut** on Nickelodeon (TV Channel).
- Elections are held in Scotland and Wales for the new Scottish Parliament and National

Assembly for Wales.

- *Star Wars Episode 1: The Phantom Menace* is released in cinemas. It becomes the highest grossing *Star Wars* film.
- Cathy O'Dowd, a South African mountaineer, becomes the first woman to climb to the summit of Mount Everest from both the north and south sides.

June

- Napster, a revolutionary music downloading service, is launched.
- NATO suspends its air strikes after Slobodan Milosevic agrees to **withdraw** Serbian forces from Kosovo.
- NATO-led United Nations peacekeeping forces (KFOR) enter the province of Kosovo in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

August

- Hundreds of Chechen guerrillas invade the Russian republic of Dagestan, **triggering** a short war.
- In Belgrade, tens of thousands of Serbs **rally** to demand the **resignation** of Yugoslav President Slobodan Milosevic.

September

- The Pacific islands of Kiribati, Nauru and Tonga join the United Nations.

October

- The world population reaches 6 billion people, as the six billionth person is born in Sarajevo – the capital of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

November

- Mikhail Gorbachev proposes the UN create an International Men's Day, which is now commemorated every year.

November

- Every digit in this date is an odd number: "19/11/1999". This will not happen again until the year 3111.
- The ExxonMobil Corporation merger is completed, forming the largest company in the world.

December

- After **rowing** for 81 days and 5,486 km, Tori Murden becomes the first woman to cross the Atlantic Ocean by rowboat alone. She reaches Guadeloupe from the Canary Islands.
- Sovereignty of Macau is transferred from the Portuguese Republic to the People's Republic of China after 422 years of Portuguese rule.
- Boris Yeltsin resigns as President of Russia, leaving Prime Minister Vladimir Putin as the acting President. ♂

Films of 1999

- *American Beauty*
- *The Blair Witch Project*
- *Dogma*
- *Eyes Wide Shut*
- *Fight Club*
- *The Matrix*
- *The Sixth Sense*
- *Sleepy Hollow*
- *Star Wars: Episode I: The Phantom Menace*
- *The Virgin Suicides*

Albums of 1999

- "13" Blur
- "Midnite Vultures" Beck
- "When the Pawn" Fiona Apple
- "Superglass" Supergrass
- "The Slim Shady LP" Eminem
- "Surrender" The Chemical Brothers
- "2001" Dr Dre
- "Play" Moby
- "No. 4" Stone Temple Pilots
- "The Battle of Los Angeles" Rage Against the Machine
- "The Soft Bulletin" The Flaming Lips

Sports Trivia

- The Denver Broncos beat the Atlanta Falcons 34-19 to win the XXXIII American Super Bowl.
- Manchester United wins the UEFA Champions League at the Nou Camp Stadium, Barcelona, beating Bayern Munich in two last-minute goals to win 2-1.

GLOSSARY

- NATO** *abbr*
North Atlantic Treaty Organisation – a military alliance that is comprised of European and North American countries
- an air strike** *n*
an attack on an area by aeroplanes
- to bring down** *exp*
if terrorists "bring down" an aeroplane, they cause the plane to crash
- to hand over** *exp*
if country A "hands over" suspects to country B, they give those suspects to country B
- a trial** *n*
a legal process to decide if someone is innocent or guilty
- sanctions** *n*
actions to restrict trade with a country that has broken international law
- to open fire** *exp*
to start shooting
- to make its debut** *exp*
if a programme "makes its debut", it appears on television for the first time
- to withdraw** *vb*
if soldiers "withdraw" from an area, they leave that area
- to trigger** *vb*
to cause; to make happen
- to rally** *vb*
if people "rally", they hold a large protest meeting
- a resignation** *n*
if there is a "resignation", a leader leaves his/her post
- to row** *vb*
to move the oars (long pieces of wood) in a rowboat in order to make the boat move through the water

ACCENT ALERT



OUR MONTHLY LOOK AT ENGLISH ACCENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD IN BOTH ENGLISH-SPEAKING AND NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES. THIS MONTH: THE FRENCH ENGLISH ACCENT.

French speaking countries

France is the main French-speaking country in the world. It lies between Germany, Italy, Spain and Great Britain. The capital is Paris (about 11.2 million), and the population of France is about 64 million people. French is spoken all over France, but some regions of France have their own language, such as Brittany where they also speak Breton. French is also spoken in Québec (Canada), Belgium, Switzerland, several African countries (Congo, Cameroon, Madagascar, Senegal, etc.), Luxembourg, Monaco, some Caribbean countries (Haiti, Martinique, etc.) and a number of Islands in the Pacific Ocean (French Polynesia, New Caledonia, etc.).

Famous for

France is famous for its beautiful countryside, its cheese, its wine, its foie-gras, its champagne and its croissants and baguettes.

Famous people from France

Audrey Tautou (actress), Edith Piaf (singer), Carla Bruni (First Lady), Paul Gauguin (painter), Brigitte Bardot (actress), Antoine de Saint Exupéry (writer), Charles

de Gaulle (politician), Napoleon (political leader), Astérix (cartoon character).

Special features of French English

When French speak English they have difficulty pronouncing the "th" sound. Words such as "these" and "with" are difficult for them.

They also have difficulties pronouncing the "r" sound, and often omit the "h" sound. So, they might say, "e lps me" instead of "He helps me".

There are often difficulties with word order as the French place adjectives after nouns. So, they may say, "a car red", instead of the standard English, "a red car".

The French often make the mistake of saying "I have hungry" instead of "I am hungry" because they use the verb "to have" with "hungry, thirsty", etc. They do the same with ages as they use the verb "to have" in these cases too, often mistakenly saying, "I have 32 years old" instead of the standard, "I am 32 years old".

Listen & Learn

Now sit back and listen to Tiphaine talking in an authentic French English accent. ✨

LISTENING



ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

1 Pre-listening

How much do you know about the infamous 19th-century killer Jack the Ripper. See if you can tell the story with the words below.

1888 Victorian London fog violent police
 frightening murderer 5 victims 5 murders
 71 days close to each other suspects fear
 the East End of London newspapers mystery
 the public never identified

2 Listening I

You are going to listen to someone who is talking about the Jack the Ripper murders. Listen once and check your ideas from the Pre-listening activity.

3 Listening II

Answer the questions below. Then, listen again and check your answers.

1. What were some parts of London like at the time of the murders?
2. What facts does the crime reporter mention about the murders? Give two facts.
3. Why did Jack the Ripper become so notorious and feared?
4. What was really mysterious about the murders?
5. Why can't John Druiitt have been the murderer?
6. Why can't Walter Sickert be considered a suspect?
7. What proof is there that Prince Albert Victor can't have been the murderer?
8. Why is James Kelly the most likely suspect?

4 Language focus Past Perfect Modals

Look at this extract from the listening, "...so it can't have been him either." In this example, the speaker has used a Past Perfect Modal verb construction. Complete these sentences with your own ideas.

1. I should have... last night.
2. I must have... but I can't remember very well.
3. I can't have... although I'm not exactly sure.
4. I could have had... but I didn't.
5. I shouldn't have... last week.

5 Discussion

1. Who do you think might have been responsible for the murders?
2. How do you think the murderer got away with it?
3. Are there any famous murder mysteries from the 19th century in your country? What are they about?

WAY IDIOMS

THIS MONTH, WE ARE LOOKING AT SOME "WAY" IDIOMS.

WAY IDIOMS



Be in a bad way

TO BE ILL, UNHAPPY OR IN A BAD PHYSICAL OR MENTAL STATE.

"He was in a pretty bad way after four months of working on an extremely stressful project."



Be laughing all the way to the bank

IF SOMEONE IS "LAUGHING ALL THE WAY TO THE BANK", THEY'RE EXTREMELY HAPPY BECAUSE THEY'VE MADE A LOT OF MONEY VERY EASILY.

"If they pay us everything we asked for, we'll be laughing all the way to the bank."



Get your own way

TO SUCCEED IN PERSUADING OTHER PEOPLE TO LET YOU DO WHAT YOU WANT.

"At first, he was reluctant to do the work, but Marion kept on at him until he finally caved in. She's extremely insistent, and in the end she usually gets her own way."



Go back a long way

IF TWO PEOPLE "GO BACK A LONG WAY", THEY'VE KNOWN ONE ANOTHER FOR A LONG TIME.

"Janine and I were at school together. We go back a long way."



Rub someone up the wrong way

TO ANNOY SOMEONE WITHOUT REALLY INTENDING TO.

"It's not really his fault but he always manages to rub me up the wrong way. He's just so annoying."



Go about something the wrong way

TO DO SOMETHING IN A WAY THAT ISN'T GOOD OR EFFECTIVE.

"We paid them the money before they'd finished the work. Then, they left without completing the job. We went about things the wrong way."

You Can't Read That!

Why some people want to stop you choosing what to read.

1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 47

Match the authors (1 to 8) to the books (a-h).

1. Ernest Hemmingway
2. Roald Dahl
3. JK Rowling
4. George Orwell
5. John Steinbeck
6. JD Salinger
7. Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell
8. Philip Pullman



2 Reading I

Why do you think some people try to ban books such as the ones in the Pre-reading activity? Think. Then, read the article once to check your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. Who are the majority of would-be censors?
2. What type of books often get targeted by these censors?
3. What was wrong with the Harry Potter books?
4. What is the book about penguins based on?
5. What's Philip Pullman's latest distinction?
6. How has Pullman responded to this news?

4 Language focus Expressions with "have" + a past participle

Look at this extract from the article, "...once tried to have the children's book *Daddy's Roommate* removed from the town library..." In this example, the writer has used the Causative "have". We often use this construction when we contract/pay someone to do something for us. Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

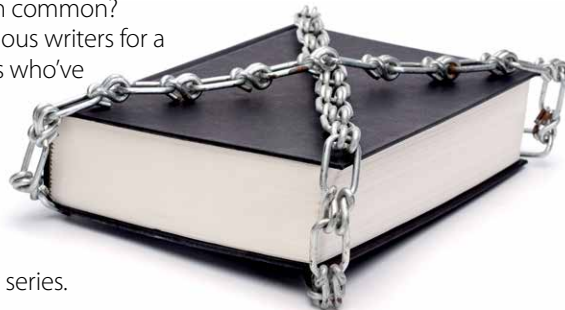
1. They had the flowers delivered to...
2. We had the car repaired by...
3. They had the packages sent to...
4. She had the food prepared by...
5. He had the money paid to...

5 Discussion

1. Have any books been banned in your country? Which ones?
2. What sort of books should be banned?
3. What forms of censorship exist in the world?

What do Ernest Hemmingway, Roald Dahl and JK Rowling have in common?

They're world-famous writers for a start, but they're also writers who've had their books removed from libraries or **banned** at one time or another. Read on and find out about the books that some people just don't want you to read. This is the first of a two-part series.



No books are officially banned in the United States. However, specific **titles** are frequently **challenged** in school curriculums and public libraries. Many **would-be censors** are parents concerned about what their children are reading at school and in local libraries. They are mostly members of religious groups. The most common complaint is against books with explicit sexual content or offensive language. However, Sarah Palin (Republican vice-presidential candidate during the 2009 US elections) once tried to have the children's book *Daddy's Roommate* removed from the town library while she was mayor of the town of Wasilla, Alaska. It's a story about a boy whose divorced father lives with his male partner.

Many famous books have been the target of **citizen censors**. Favourites include *1984* (by George Orwell), *The Catcher in the Rye* (by JD Salinger), *James and the Giant Peach* (by Roald Dahl), *The Color Purple* (by Alice Walker), *For Whom the Bell Tolls* (by Ernest Hemmingway), *The Grapes of Wrath* (by John Steinbeck), and, more recently, the *Harry Potter* books (by JK Rowling) because of the use of magic and **witchcraft**. The most banned book in the United States is a children's story by Justin Richardson and Peter Parnell called *And Tango Makes Three*. It is based on a true story about two male penguins who **raised** a baby penguin in New York's Central Park Zoo. The book won several awards, but it also attracted a lot of complaints from parents, religious organisations and library users. They say the book is not suitable for children.

Philip Pullman is another writer whose books have been challenged. A successful novelist and children's writer, Pullman has a **CBE**, a Carnegie Medal and several honorary professorships. However, just recently, he **notched up** a new distinction: he is **ranked** second in the top 10 books that people have tried to ban across America. Pullman's fantasy trilogy, *His Dark Materials*, consists of the books *Northern Lights* (also known as *The Golden Compass* – 1995), *The Subtle Knife* (1997) and *The Amber Spyglass* (2000). Several schools across America have received requests from parents to remove the books. One challenge at a school in Winchester, Kentucky was made **on the grounds that** the book's main character drinks wine with her meals. Another school in Oshkosh, Wisconsin pulled the trilogy because of its "anti-Christian message". Pullman said that he was "very glad to be back in the top 10 banned books". But he added, "Of course it's a worry when anybody **takes it upon themselves** to dictate what people should or should not read."

More next month. ✨

GLOSSARY

- to ban** *vb*
to prohibit
- a title** *n*
a book
- to challenge** *vb*
if a book is "challenged", someone questions whether it is suitable
- would-be** *adj*
a "would-be" X is someone who is trying to be X
- a censor** *n*
someone who tries to ban/prohibit things
- a citizen censor** *n*
an ordinary member of the public who wants to ban something
- witchcraft** *n*
the use of magical powers, especially evil ones
- to raise** *vb*
if parents "raise" a child, they educate and care for that child
- a CBE** *abbr*
a Commander of the British Empire – an award given to someone for special services to Britain
- to notch up** *phr vb*
if you "notch something up" (such as a score or total), you achieve/get that score
- to rank** *vb*
if you "rank" second in a list, you are in the second position in that list
- on the grounds that** *exp*
because
- to take it upon yourself to do something** *exp*
to decide to do something without asking permission

PHRASAL VERB THEMES

The News

HERE ARE SOME TYPICAL PHRASAL VERBS THAT YOU CAN FIND IN NEWS ARTICLES. MORE NEXT MONTH.

Break away

IF PEOPLE "BREAK AWAY" FROM AN ORGANISATION, THEY STOP BEING PART OF THAT ORGANISATION.



"Two members of the Freedom Party broke away to form the Liberated Party."

Bring about

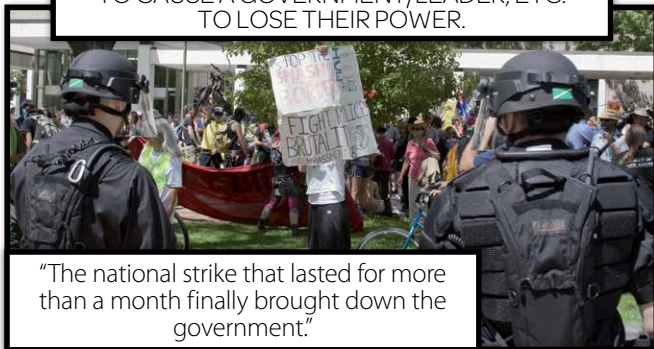
TO CAUSE SOMETHING TO HAPPEN.



"The new administration hopes to bring about a peaceful settlement to the conflict."

Bring down

TO CAUSE A GOVERNMENT/LEADER, ETC. TO LOSE THEIR POWER.



"The national strike that lasted for more than a month finally brought down the government."

Bring in

IF THE GOVERNMENT BRINGS IN A NEW LAW, THEY INTRODUCE THAT LAW.



"The government intend to bring in legislation to reduce the size of bank bonuses."

Bring off

IF YOU "BRING OFF" SOMETHING DIFFICULT, YOU MANAGE TO DO IT SUCCESSFULLY.



"It was a bold move, but he brought it off perfectly."

Burn down

IF SOMETHING "BURNS DOWN", IT CATCHES FIRE AND BURNS UNTIL IT IS COMPLETELY DESTROYED.



"A burning match caused the fire which burnt down the old church."

Buy up

TO BUY LARGE QUANTITIES OF SOMETHING (OFTEN BUYING EVERYTHING THAT IS AVAILABLE).



"People have been buying up stocks of tinned food in anticipation of food shortages."

Call for action

TO DEMAND THAT ACTION BE TAKEN.



"The Democrats are calling for an immediate cease-fire."

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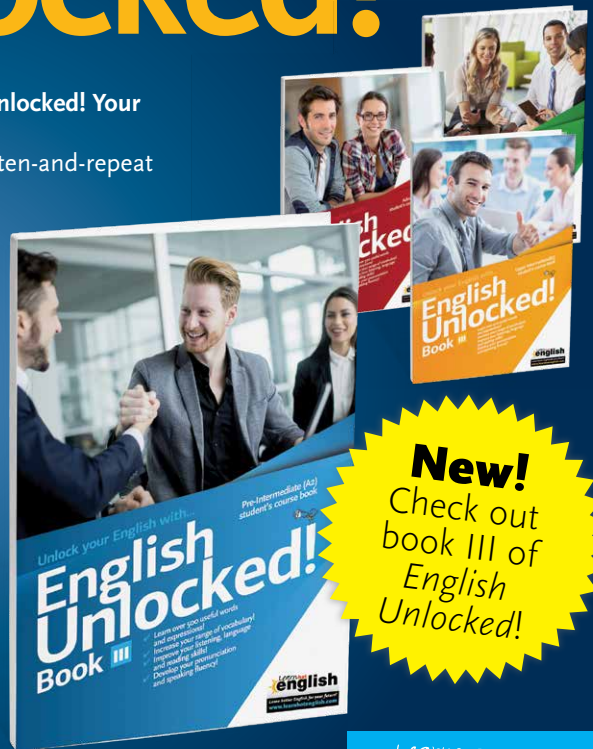
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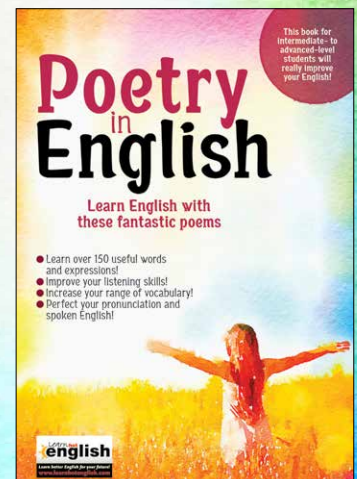
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SMALL TALK  **TRACK 06** 
Making conversation with strangers.

1 The Coffee

Betty: Hey, I met you at that conference last year, didn't I?
Simon: That's right. You're Betty Snape, aren't you?
Betty: Yes, and you were...?
Simon: Simon Fenster. I think we spoke by e-mail too.
Betty: Oh, yes. So, how are things going?
Simon: Great, thanks.
Betty: We're going for a coffee just down the road – there's a nice café. Do you want to come?
Simon: Yes, that would be great. I'll just go and get my coat.
Betty: OK. We'll meet you just outside the entrance in about five minutes.
Simon: Great. See you there.
Betty: Bye.

2 The Cloakroom

Macy: Hi, I'm Macy Stone. Pleased to meet you.
Steve: Hi, I'm Steve Barker. Pleased to meet you too.
Macy: So, is this your first time at the conference?
Steve: No, I was here last year.
Macy: Oh, me too. Hey, do you know where the cloakroom is?
Steve: Yes, I think it's just down the stairs on the left.
Macy: Oh, great. I've been carrying this coat around all day and it's so hot here. I'll be back in a minute.
Steve: Can I get you a coffee?
Macy: Yes, please. White, no sugar, please.
Steve: See you in a minute.

3 Nationality

Simon: Good talk, wasn't it?
Barbara: Oh, yes, I'm a big fan. I saw him at last year's sales conference – fascinating. I'm Barbara Tivelli, by the way.
Simon: Simon Jones. Are you Italian?
Barbara: Half-Italian and half-German, but I was brought up in the States.
Simon: Interesting.
Barbara: You're English, I guess.
Simon: Yes, that's it, but I'm working in Seattle at the moment. Great place.
Barbara: Yes, as long as you don't mind the rain.
Simon: It just reminds me of sunny old England.
Barbara: Very funny. Are you going to the next talk?
Simon: Yes, shall we go and get a seat?
Barbara: Good idea.

4 Sightseeing

Gordon: So, have you had a chance to do much sightseeing?
Regis: No, not much. I'm tied up at the conference all day.
Gordon: The museums are fantastic.
Regis: Yes, I've heard. I did go to the museum of modern art on my first afternoon here, but I've just been too busy since then.
Gordon: Oh, that's my favourite. You should try to visit the castle before you go. It's beautiful.
Regis: Yes, I will.
Gordon: Hey, there's an excursion on Saturday morning to an old Roman amphitheatre. Would you like to come along?
Regis: Yes, that would be great. I'm actually free on Saturday – it's my day off!
Gordon: OK. I'll bring in the details later this afternoon. Apparently, it's really interesting.
Regis: Great.

THE ELECTION  **TRACK 09** 
Politics on a grand scale.

Interviewer: Well, we've spoken to the three main parties, so tonight it's the turn of the independent candidates. Standing for the Very Very Green Party is local housewife

and business woman Camilla Pongleton-Jones. Good evening Mrs Pongleton-Jones. Oh, call me Camilla, Nigel, darling. We're not formal at the Very Very Green Party. Oh, and this is my agent Rupert Pongleton-Jones. He's also my husband
Rupert: Turn Really Really Green today!
Camilla: It's Very Very Green, darling. The name of my party is Very Very Green.
Rupert: Whoops! Sorry.
Camilla: Now, Nigel, darling. What did you want to ask me?
Interviewer: Yes, well it's about your policy to give everyone in the town a tree.
Camilla: Oh yes. My free tree initiative.
Rupert: A free tree for you from me.
Interviewer: Pardon?
Rupert: A free tree for you from me. That's what Camilla said at our meeting last week. She said it would be a free tree for you from me. Rather poetic.
Camilla: Rupert writes all my speeches. He's simply marvellous at them.
Interviewer: Could you explain the policy for us Camilla?
Camilla: Well, we're going to buy lots of trees and give one each to everyone who lives here.
Interviewer: Why?
Camilla: It's green, darling. Trees are green, aren't they?
Rupert: They're really, really green, in fact.
Camilla: Very, very green, darling. Do try to remember.
Rupert: Sorry.
Interviewer: But why do you need more trees here in Little Wiffingham? There are thousands of trees here already. There's a big forest and three parks in the town. Why don't you spend money on a hospital, for example, or a new school?
Camilla: But trees are green, Nigel. Don't you understand, it's really quite simple?
Interviewer: Erm, so who's going to pay for the trees?
Camilla: The government, of course. The government will give me some tax money and I'll buy the trees. It's terribly simple, darling.
Interviewer: A local newspaper claimed yesterday that you were going to buy the trees from the Green Garden Centre in Little Wiffingham.
Camilla: Yes, that's right.
Interviewer: Who are the owners of the Green Garden Centre, Mrs Pongleton-Jones?
Camilla: Why, we are, darling. Everyone knows that. It's one of our many local businesses.
Interviewer: So you are going to spend government money buying trees from your own business?
Rupert: Yes. Is there a problem?
Interviewer: Are there any other garden centres in the town?
Camilla: Two or three maybe.
Rupert: Five, I think, darling.
Interviewer: So why are you buying trees from your garden centre?
Camilla: Because we have the Green Garden Centre. We're the Very Very Green Party. The trees are green. It's obvious.
Interviewer: But is it ethical, Mrs Pongleton-Jones?
Camilla: This interview is over.
[To Rupert] What a stupid question! I can't believe he asked if it was ethical. I told you he was stupid.
Rupert: Now, now, don't get upset. Let's go home and make a nice fire. I cut down the apple tree yesterday so we've got lots of wood to burn.
Camilla: Oh, well done darling.
Rupert: I told you you wouldn't like politics.
Camilla: But I really wanted to be on television. Everyone else is.

BUSINESS IDEAS  **TRACK 15** 
Business inventors try to sell their ideas.

Presenter: Good evening everyone and welcome to Business Challenge, the show where entrepreneurs pitch their ideas to our business expert Cynthia White. Our first guess is Mr Norman Bream from Harlesden, London. Good morning, Mr Bream.
Norman: Hello.
Presenter: So, what are you going to show us?
Norman: This is what I call my "quiet, talking-to-people-who-are-far-away machine".
Presenter: I see. Any questions, Cynthia?
Cynthia: What's it for?
Norman: It stops people shouting.
Cynthia: I beg your pardon?
Norman: Well, if you want to talk to someone who isn't anywhere close to you, you have to shout. With my invention, you won't have to do that anymore.
Cynthia: You mean it's like a telephone?
Norman: Let me show you. You need two tins – Coke tins or beer tins are fine – and you tie them together with a piece of string. Then, you can talk to someone. This is the future of modern communications. In ten years time, everyone will have seven or eight of these cans.
Cynthia: But we've got mobile phones. There's no need for this.
Norman: Oh, come on. I just need about £500,000 to get started.
Presenter: Mr Bream, I'm terribly sorry, but your time is up. Next up is Mrs Tracey Hopkins. Welcome, Mrs Hopkins. Could you tell us about your idea?
Tracey: Well, I'm gonna sell stuff.
Presenter: Hmm, commerce. Cynthia, perhaps you could ask Tracey some questions.
Cynthia: Good evening, Tracey. Well, what do you want to sell?
Tracey: I dunno. Stuff people wanna buy, I suppose.
Cynthia: Hmm, market forces. Very good, Tracey. Do you have any ideas, Tracey?
Tracey: No. I thought you were going to tell me.
Cynthia: Well, what do you like buying, Tracey? That would be a good place to start.
Tracey: I like buying spiders.
Cynthia: Spiders?
Tracey: Yeah, you know like tarantulas. I've got 37 spiders at home.
Cynthia: I see. Well, I'm not sure a spider shop would be a very successful business, Tracey.
Tracey: I know. I opened a spider shop last year but I didn't sell any. That's why I've got 37 spiders at home. Perhaps I should open a snake shop. I'd really like an anaconda.
Presenter: Well, thank you for that interesting presentation, Tracey, but your time is up. Next tonight, we've got Mr Norman... erm, Norman... Bream. What? Him again?
Norman: Meet, The Miracle Quick Cook. It's going to be the future of cooking. You open the door at the front and put the cold food inside. Then you move this dial and press this button and in one minute your dinner is cooked.
Cynthia: It's a microwave, Mr Bream.
Norman: (playing stupid) A micro what?
Cynthia: It's a microwave oven, Mr Bream.
Norman: No, no, I made it at home. I invented it. It's going to revolutionise cooking.
Cynthia: You didn't make it. Sony made it. It says Sony on the front, Mr Bream.
Norman: Of course it does. That's my wife's name. Sony Bream. I named it after my wife.
Presenter: Mr Bream, I'm sorry but your time is up.
Norman: I only need £300,000. I'll pay it back.
Presenter: Security! I'm very sorry about this, ladies and gentlemen. This is extremely embarrassing.

AUDIO SCRIPTS

Hopefully our next presentation will be better. And it is Mr Norman... Norman... Bream... Oh no! Not him again!

Norman: Oh please let me tell you about my last invention. It's great.

Presenter: Well, we don't have any more contestants. So... Can someone take this guy off! Ladies and gentlemen, I do apologise for this interruption, we'll get back to you just as soon as security manage to remove Mr Bream from the studios.

Norman: (Shouting in the background) Please! Please! I just need about £30,000 to start things off then I'll be able to market this product and sell it. Please! Please! (fades out)

ACCENT ALERT TRACK 18

The French English Accent

Hi, I'm Tiphaine, I'm French, and I'm a second-year in PA course. I'm studying foreign languages, law, economics and office administration. In France, English is compulsory at school, and a French graduate has at least 7 years of English by the time you leave.

Many French people have difficulties pronouncing the "r" sound in English as it's different from the "r" sound in French. For example, for us it is difficult to say words such as "red, really" and "right".

Another sound that is difficult for us is if the "th" sound. Words such as "these, those" and "though" are really hard and some people pronounce them with the "z" sound, saying "zese, zose" and "zough".

French people also have problems with the "h" sound and forget to use it when it's necessary. We often say words without the "h" sound, such as "arry, uge, 'ot, 'ave" and "ere", which should be "Harry, huge, hot, have" and "here".

It is also difficult to say words such as "sorry" and "thank you", which often sound like "zorry" and "zank you", which are characteristic of our accent.

Now, here's a little story for you. Three years ago, during the summer holidays, I was with my best friends in France at home. On the evening, we decided to go to the park. But five minutes later, it started to rain. On the way back, we saw a man. He seemed to be coming out of my friend's house. He said, "Hi, girls". At the time, I thought my friend knew the man. But when he left, she said to me "I think he had my bag".

When we got to the house, the door was open, and we could see that the bag was missing, as well as her

camera and her video camera. Straight away, we called her mum and the police.

The police and her mum arrived a bit later. We were in shock. The police took us to the police station to write up a report. Later, we went at home after a long, tiring and emotional day. What had started as a beautiful day on the holidays ended up being one full of intense emotions and surprises. But now we look back on it and laugh. It was an unforgettable day which reinforced our friendship even more.

MYSTERY TIMES TRACK 19

Mystery Time

A look at the mystery of the Jack the Ripper killings.

Presenter: Good evening and welcome to World of Mystery. This week, we're talking to crime reporter Mike Garston about the Jack the Ripper case. Mike, can you give us a quick outline of the case?

Mike: Certainly. The time is 1888. The scene, Victorian London, which was, of course a very different place to modern-day London. Many parts of the city were extremely poor and would have been dirty, overcrowded and dark, since there was not much street lighting at the time. In addition, London was a very polluted city. A thick brown fog hung over the city a lot of the time. Much of the city was probably pretty frightening and violent, and nowhere more so than Whitechapel, a working-class area in the East End of London. Well, between 31st August and 9 November five women were brutally murdered in Whitechapel. All the murders took place geographically close to each other. The five victims, in order, were Polly Nichols, Annie Chapman, Catherine Eddowes and Liz Stride (who were both killed on 30th September), and finally Mary Jane Kelly. That's five murders in 71 days. You can imagine the outcry in the newspapers and the fear in the streets of the East End. Then, unaccountably, the strangest thing of all happened - the murders stopped as suddenly as they had begun.

Presenter: Now presumably the police were investigating the murders.

Mike: Of course, the police were searching for the murderer after the first victim Polly Nichols was found on 31st August. But the Ripper

managed to kill another four times even though the streets of London were full of policemen. That's one of the reasons that Jack the Ripper became so notorious and feared. The police couldn't stop him killing.

Presenter: Yet, the murders did stop.

Mike: Yes, that's the big mystery. Some experts believe that the murders stopped because the murderer had completed, if you see what I mean.

Presenter: Could you explain more fully perhaps?

Mike: Well, some writers believe that the five victims could have been connected - they may have been friends, for example. The hypothesis is that the killer wanted to kill these five women and no one else. So when he had killed the fifth victim, he stopped. It's as simple as that.

Presenter: Now we all know that the case was never solved but presumably there were suspects.

Mike: Oh, yes. Over the years there have been lots of suspects. A lawyer called Montague John Druitt was a suspect, mainly because he was found dead soon after the murders stopped. But he was not in London on 1st September and so probably could not have killed in London on 31st August. Another popular suspect was the artist Walter Sickert. But Sickert was in France at the time of the murders, so it can't have been him either. My favourite suspect is Prince Albert Victor, the eldest son of Prince Edward, and grandson of Queen Victoria. He was a suspect for a long time, but papers now show that the Prince was not in London at the time so it can't have been him. Perhaps the best suspect is a man called James Kelly. He was a convicted murderer who escaped from prison just before the murders began, so he could have done them. He later went to America and a number of Ripper-like killings occurred in the States after his arrival and in places that he had visited.

Presenter: I see. And how do we know this?

Mike: Twenty years later Kelly returned voluntarily to prison. He never confessed to being Jack the Ripper but he did give an account of his life after his escape and the places and the dates seem to fit.

Presenter: Well, that's all we've got time for today. Next week, we'll be looking at the mystery surrounding the sinking of the Bratwurst.

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HOLLYWOOD STARS (PAGE 4)**1 Pre-reading**

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

3 Reading II

- 2002; 2. \$62; 3. \$100; 4. \$126;
- \$248,639,099; 6. \$170

4 Language focus

- They filmed the scenes in a studio.
- She acted in a lot of films.
- They released the film.
- They made films about the Russian Revolution.
- We took pictures of the actors.

VOCABULARY (PAGE 8)

1g 2e 3f 4h 5d 6i 7a 8j 9b 10c

ERROR CORRECTION (PAGE 13)

- I haven't got much/any money.
- Do you have many/any chairs?
- There isn't much/any sugar.
- How much pasta is there?
- How many bottles of beer are there in the fridge?
- There isn't much/any salt in this food.

SMALL TALK (PAGE 13)**1 Pre-reading**

- How are you?
- Do you want to come to a café with us? / Would you like to come to a café with us?
- Would you like a coffee? / Do you want a coffee?
- Are you going to the next talk?
- Would you like to go on an excursion?

3 Listening II

- e-mail; 2. a coffee; 3. cloakroom; 4. coat; 5. Seattle; 6. talk; 7. modern art; 8. Saturday

4 Language focus

1b 2a 3e 4d 5c

GRAMMAR FUN (PAGE 14)

- Yes, she has already painted the picture.
- No, she hasn't written the report yet.
- No, she hasn't bought the new software program yet.

- Yes, she has already cleaned the studio.
- Yes, she has already ordered more pens.
- No, she hasn't sent the images by e-mail yet.

SPORT TIME (PAGE 15)**1 Pre-reading**

1h 2a 3b 4c 5d 6e 7f 8g

2 Reading I

- He sits in front of the TV drinking beer and watching football; 2. A foot rest; 3. Tennis; 4. He lost it; 5. Because it was raining; 6. a bed

4 Language focus

- We might go out tomorrow night.
- You could spend the night at my house.
- They may not like it.
- She can leave it here.
- You should not smoke in here.

NEIGHBOURS FROM HELL (PAGE 16)**3 Reading II**

- Half a million.
- "I will always love you".
- About them doing their business in other people's gardens and barking and meowing.
- About it being left outside or near other people's properties, or being left in the corridor, or being smelly, or being strewn all over the street.
- Because she conducted a year-long campaign of intimidation against her neighbours.
- They were housed in a steel container home.

HOW TO UNDERSTAND BODY LANGUAGE IN MEETINGS! (PAGE 17)

1f 2d 3g 4a 5h 6c 7e 8i 9b

BODY LANGUAGE IN MEETINGS! (PAGE 18)**3 Reading II**

- confidence; 2. listen; 3. interested; 4. 80%;
- confident; 6. firmness; 7. boredom;
- honest

THE ELECTION (PAGE 21)**3 Listening II**

1a 2b 3a 4a 5a 6b

4 Language focus

- They said that they would do it later.
- She said that she would be there at six.
- He said that they would finish it on Thursday.
- She said that she would send it in an hour.
- He said that they would put it in the kitchen.

MOBILE MADNESS (PAGE 30)**3 Reading II** (answers will vary)

- Mobile phones have a tendency to ring at the wrong moment.
- When a spectator's phone went off during a recent play, Hugh Jackman and Daniel Craig stopped their performance.
- In Missouri, a mobile phone interrupted a church wedding.
- Overheard mobile conversations are top of the list of annoying things about mobile phones.
- In one experiment they compared people's reactions to a group who were talking loudly and someone who was having a mobile phone conversation.
- Some phone companies are developing mobile phones that give callers a small electric shock when they speak too loudly.

4 Language focus

- It will be finished tonight.
- It will be sent later.
- It will be fixed tomorrow.
- It will be tested this afternoon.
- The call will not be made later today.

RIDDLES (PAGE 34)

- The letter "v"! 2. A clock!
- In a dictionary!

BUSINESS IDEAS (PAGE 35)**3 Listening II**

- Talking to someone who isn't close to you.

- Two tins and a piece of string.
- Because we've already got telephones / mobile phones.
- About £500,000 to get started.
- A snake shop.
- The Miracle Quick Cook – it's similar to a microwave oven.
- He says it's his wife's name.
- £300,000.

MYSTERY TIME (PAGE 39)**3 Listening II** (answers will vary)

- Poor, dirty, overcrowded and dark.
- They took place in 1888 in Whitechapel between 31st August and 9th November. Five women were murdered over a period of 71 days. The murders stopped suddenly.
- Because he managed to kill even though the streets were full of policemen.
- They stopped all of a sudden.
- He wasn't in London on 1st September – the day following the first murder.
- Because he was in France at the time.
- Papers showing that he wasn't in London at the time.
- Because the places he went to and the times he was there seem to coincide with the murder locations and dates.

YOU CAN'T READ THAT! (PAGE 41)**1 Pre-reading**

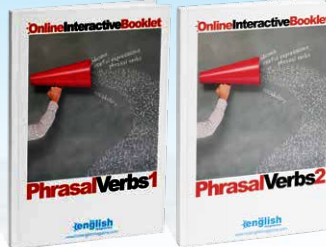
1f 2d 3a 4c 5b 6h 7g 8e

3 Reading II (answers may vary)

- Parents who are members of religious groups.
- Books with explicit sexual content or offensive language.
- They dealt with the use of magic and witchcraft.
- A true story about two male penguins in New York's Central Park Zoo.
- He is at the top of a list of authors whose books people have tried to ban across America.
- Pleased, but worried at the same time.

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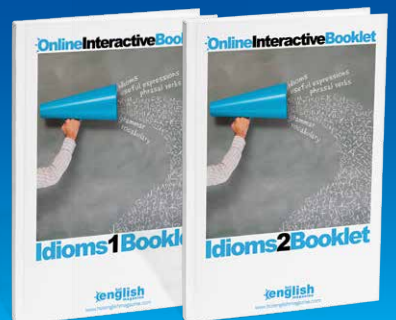
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WORD OF THE MONTH

SIMILE



THIS MONTH'S WORD OF THE MONTH IS... "METAPHOR".

Look at the following sentences. What type of language is it?

- Life is a journey.
- Anger is a fire.

These are metaphors. A metaphor is a way of describing something by comparing it to another thing. This "other thing" has the qualities that you want to express. For example, if you want to describe the functions of a brain, you could say, "The brain is a computer." Or, if you want to say that someone is very shy, you could say, "He's a mouse."

A metaphor can help us understand the world around us. It can conjure up images that create meaning and sense for us. For example:

- It's a jungle out there. (The city is wild and dangerous.)
- Her eyes are jewels. (Her eyes are beautiful and bright.)

A metaphor can also help us understand new ideas. They act as a bridge between something new and something we are familiar with. For example:

- The surface of the moon is a snowy garden.
- The bottom of the ocean is a dark cave. Metaphors are often used in advertising. For example:

- Life is a journey. Travel it well. (United Airlines)
- Life is a journey. Enjoy the ride. (Nissan)
- Life is a journey. Travel light. (Hugo Boss perfume)

Some metaphors are difficult to identify – the speech is based on an unstated but understood metaphor. For example:

- The president has been under fire for his veto of the bill. (metaphor: politics is war.)
- The crowd began to simmer down. (metaphor: the crowd is a boiling pot)
- Relations between the two countries have thawed recently. (metaphor: bad relations are ice)
- They were trying to run before they could walk. (metaphor: newcomers to business are like babies)

We often use the expression "metaphorically speaking" as a reminder that we are using figurative speech, especially when it isn't clear. For example:

- I'll be eating them for lunch, metaphorically speaking, of course.
- Metaphorically speaking, we're heading for a crash.

So, why don't you try to use a metaphor next time you need to explain something complicated? 🍷

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