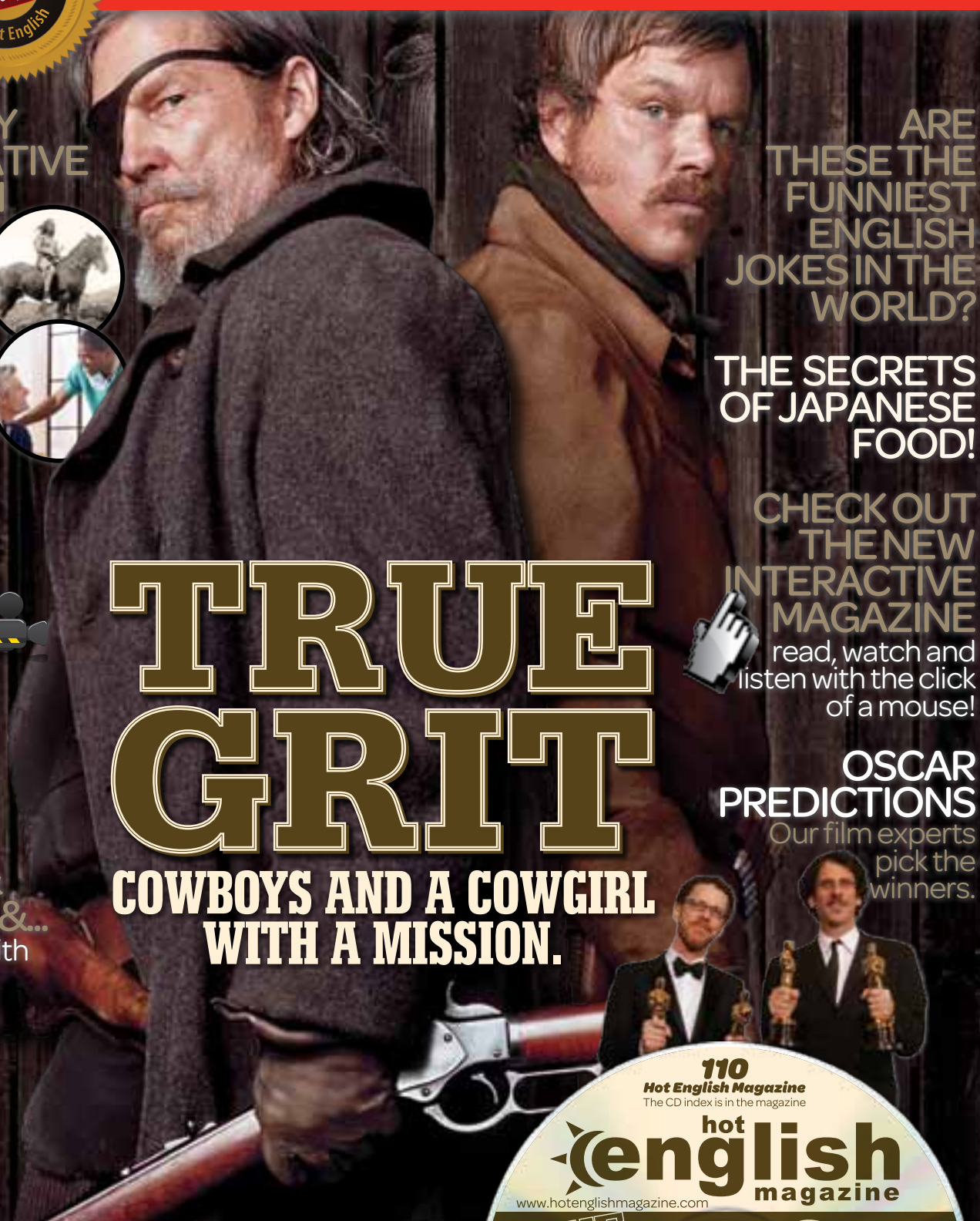


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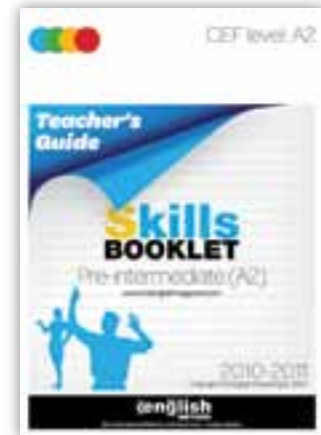


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Hi, and welcome to another issue of Hot English magazine, the fun magazine for learning English.

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And with our new-style videos, it'll make enjoying the magazine even better than before.

Where's the best place to retire if money isn't an issue? What are the secrets to the success of Japanese food? Who's going to win an Oscar? What's the funniest joke in the world? These are just a few of the questions that we'll be trying to answer in this issue of Hot English magazine.

We'll also be looking at a sure-fire Oscar winner, *True Grit*, which stars Matt Damon and Jeff Bridges. And to tie in with that, we've got a great article on Native Americans and the story of one tribe, the Nez Percés. Plus, we've got something on a famous TV psychic with some incredible powers, a great recipe for a delicious curry dish, and a recorded interview with Irish actor Colin Farrell. He'll be telling you all about how he learnt to speak English with a Russian accent for his part in the film *The Way Back*. We went to speak to him when he came to visit Madrid. Hot English gets to meet all the stars!

Anyway, have a great time, good luck with your English language learning, and see you all next month.

Yours,

Andy

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All material in this publication is strictly copyright, and all rights are reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. The views expressed in Hot English Magazine do not necessarily represent the views of Hot English Publishing SL. However, we do think Native Americans were the original eco-warriors, going a week without a shower is excessive, and some of the jokes on page 41 are pretty funny.

READING

Rent or Buy?

To rent or to buy a property. That is the question!

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Match the types of properties (1 to 6) to the pictures (a-f).

- Palace
- House
- Semi-detached house (a house that is joined to another house on one side)
- Block of flats
- Farmhouse
- Flat



2 Reading I

What are the pros and cons of renting or buying a house? Think. Then, read the article to check your ideas.

3 Reading II

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

short free ladder investment up house

- If you're renting, it's fairly simple to move _____.
- Your monthly mortgage payments could go _____ if interest rates rise.
- It's extremely difficult to get on the property _____.
- A home is a very good _____.
- When you pay off the mortgage, you'll have somewhere to live for _____.
- Most rental contracts are for _____ periods of time.

4 Language focus

The Present Continuous

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...If you're renting, it's simple to move..." The writer has used the Present Continuous ("are renting"). Transform the following sentences into the Present Continuous.

- She watches it.
- They rent it.
- We don't live there.
- He doesn't drive it.

5 Discussion

- What are property prices like in your country?
- Is it better to rent or buy in your country? Why?
- If you could buy a house anywhere in your country, where would it be?

What's the best idea – to rent a home or to buy one? We asked two experts for their opinions.



In favour of renting a house

One of the main advantages of renting is that you've got more freedom. Imagine you're living in the north of England and you get a job in the south. If you're renting, it's simple to move. But if you own a property it's a lot more complicated. And then what happens if you're offered a job abroad? Also, when you're renting, there's a fixed amount to pay every month and it can't go up or down. But if you've got a mortgage, the monthly payments could go up if interest rates rise. These days, house prices are just too high. And it's practically impossible to get on the property ladder. In some parts of London, you could pay half a million pounds for a tiny flat. It's ridiculous. In my opinion, there are better things to do with your money than using it to pay off an expensive mortgage. Have fun! Enjoy yourself! Go on interesting holidays! But don't waste it on a house!



In favour of buying a house

Having a home is a great, safe investment. House prices might drop temporarily, but the overall trend is up. Also, anything you spend on the property will be adding to its value. And once the mortgage is paid off, you've got somewhere to live for free when you retire. But there are lots more advantages. When you've got your own house, you can create something that you're really proud of with a nice garden, your own furniture, and your own style of decoration. There are many disadvantages to renting, too. Most contracts are for just six or 12 months, so you don't get much security. Also, there are often problems with rented properties: damp walls, faulty heating systems and dodgy plumbing. And trying to get the landlord or landlady to do something about it can be extremely difficult. But the worst thing about renting has to be the fact that rent money is "lost" money; whereas the money you pay for your mortgage is part of your investment!



GLOSSARY

- to rent** *vb*
if you "rent" a house / flat, you pay an amount every month to live in that house / flat
- to own** *vb*
if you own a house, it's yours
- abroad** *adj*
if you go "abroad", you travel to another country
- a mortgage** *n*
the money you borrow from a bank to buy a house
- interest rates** *n*
the price you pay (expressed as a percentage) for the use of money you borrow from a bank / lender
- to rise** *vb*
if interest rates "rise", they increase / go up
- property ladder** *n*
if you are on the "property ladder", you have already bought a house. If you are at the bottom of the "property ladder", you have a very cheap house
- tiny** *adj*
very small
- a flat** *n*
a home that consists of a few rooms which are usually on one floor of a large building with many other flats
- to pay off** *phr vb*
if you "pay off" your mortgage, you give back all the money you borrowed from the bank
- to waste** *vb*
if you "waste" money, you spend it on something you don't need
- an investment** *n*
an "investment" is something you buy in the hope of making a profit
- to drop** *vb*
if house prices "drop", they go down / decrease
- a trend** *n*
a fashion; a tendency; the things that usually happen
- to retire** *vb*
most people "retire" (stop working) when they're 65
- proud of** *exp*
if you are "proud of" something you have done, you are very happy about it / pleased with it
- damp** *adj*
if a wall is "damp", it is a bit wet
- faulty** *adj*
if something is "faulty", it doesn't work properly
- a heating system** *n*
a system for making your house warm that consists of pipes, boilers and radiators
- dodgy** *adj*
if something is "dodgy", it isn't made or done very well
- plumbing** *n*
a general word that refers to the pipes and water systems in your house
- a landlord / landlady** *n*
a man / woman who owns a house. You pay them to live there

Excuses, Excuses!



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Listen to people discussing
this topic in a mini-video at
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US woman & Englishman

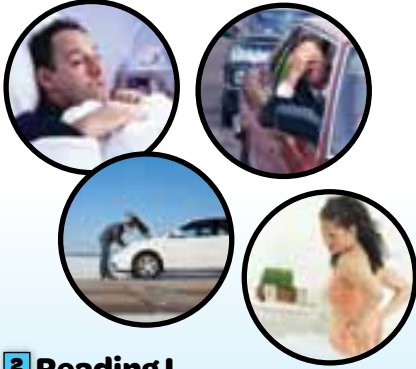


track 3

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Look at the pictures. Why do you think the person can't go to work? Discuss your ideas with a partner.



2 Reading I

Think of three excuses for not going to work. Discuss your ideas. Then, read the article. Are your ideas mentioned?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, make an excuse for each idea (1 to 7).

- Pet dog - *My pet dog is feeling depressed.*
- Car -
- Passport -
- Keys -
- Backache -
- Migraine -
- Accountant -

4 Language focus

Obligation

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...so I've got to stay at home..." The writer has used "have got" to talk about an obligation. Complete the following sentences with your own ideas.

- I've got to get up at _____ tomorrow.
- I've got to finish _____ by the end of the week.
- I've got to send _____ tomorrow.
- I've got to buy _____ this week.

5 Discussion

- Which excuses from this article are common in your country?
- Do you know anyone who's ever used any of these excuses?
- What's the most ridiculous excuse you've ever heard?

Typical excuses for not going to work.

What are some of the typical excuses for not going to work in your country? A recent survey by market research company WorkPower lists the most common ones in the UK. Do you recognise any of them?

"My pet dog is feeling depressed and I need to be with him."

"My kids are sick and they can't go to school. There's no one else to look after them, so I've got to stay at home."

"My car's **broken down** on the side of the road and the **tow truck** is taking forever."

"I've got to **renew** my passport. The **appointment** is for 11 am, but it could **take a while**."

"My neighbour's water pipes have broken and it's **flooded** my living room. I've got to wait for the **plumber** to get here."

"I've got **food poisoning**. I think it was that food we ate at the restaurant we went to for the staff dinner."

"I've got **tummy trouble** and I need to go to the bathroom every five minutes. I could come in, but I won't be able to get much work done."

"My cousin has just **gone into labour** and I'm the only person who lives close enough to get her to the hospital in time!"

"I've locked my keys in the car. I've called the **locksmith**, but they said that they're really busy and it's going to be a while before they get here."

I've caught this stomach virus. The doctor says it's just a 24-hour one, so I should be in tomorrow."

"I've got terrible **backache** and I can't get up off the sofa. The doctor's coming round later today. I'll let you know how I get on."

"I've got an awful **migraine** and I **can't stand** being in the light. Hopefully it won't last too long."

"I was a **witness** to a **hit-and-run accident** and I've got to go to the police station to give a **statement**."

"My accountant has really **messed up** my **tax return** form and I'm being **audited**. I need to spend the day sorting it out."

So, which excuse do you think is the most credible? 🗳️



GLOSSARY

- to break down** *phrvb*
if a car "breaks down", it stops working
- a tow truck** *n*
a vehicle for pulling cars that have stopped working
- to renew** *vb*
if you "renew" something, you get a new, more up-to-date version of it
- an appointment** *n*
a pre-arranged meeting
- to take a while** *exp*
if something "takes a while", it takes a long time to complete
- to flood** *vb*
if your house "floods", water goes in it (often after heavy rain)
- a plumber** *n*
a person who fixes pipes / toilets
- food poisoning** *exp*
an illness caused by eating bad food
- tummy trouble** *exp inform*
if you have "tummy trouble", your stomach hurts
- to go into labour** *exp*
when a pregnant woman "goes into labour", she is ready to give birth
- a locksmith** *n*
a person who makes or replaces locks (holes in doors for keys)
- backache** *n*
if you have "backache", your back hurts
- a migraine** *n*
a very painful headache (a pain in your head)
- can't stand** *exp*
if you "can't stand" something, you really don't like it
- a witness** *n*
a person who sees something (an accident / a crime, etc.)
- a hit-and-run accident** *exp*
a car accident in which a driver crashes then leaves without helping the victim
- a statement** *n*
an official written account of what happened
- to mess up** *phrvb*
if someone "messes something up", they get it wrong / do it badly
- a tax return** *n*
a formal document with information on how much you have earned / what properties you own / how much money you've made from investments, etc. in a year. This information is used to calculate the amount of tax (money paid to the government) you must pay
- to audit** *vb*
if you are "audited", a government inspector checks you are paying enough tax

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Superman (fictional superhero)
"SUPER" IS OFTEN USED BEFORE NOUNS TO SAY THAT SOMETHING IS LARGER, BETTER OR MORE ADVANCED THAN OTHER SIMILAR THINGS.
 "America is a world super power."



Sean Penn (American actor)
A "PEN" IS SOMETHING YOU CAN USE TO WRITE WITH.
 "Have you got a pen on you – I'd like to write a website address down."



Wonderwoman (fictional superhero)
IF YOU "WONDER" ABOUT SOMETHING, YOU THINK ABOUT IT.
 "I wonder what they're doing right now."



Kevin Bacon (American actor)
"BACON" IS SALTED OR SMOKED MEAT FROM PIGS.
 "I had a slice of bacon on my hamburger."



Hulk (fictional comic book character)
WE CAN USE "HULK" TO DESCRIBE SOMETHING THAT IS LARGE AND THREATENING.
 "He's a great hulk of a man – I wouldn't like to get into a fight with him."



Gregory Peck (American actor)
IF A BIRD "PECKS" AT SOMETHING, IT MOVES ITS BEAK (NOSE) FORWARD QUICKLY AND BITES IT.
 "The birds were pecking at the food on the ground."

Little Joke

I say, I say, I say. What can you **hold** without touching it? I don't know. What can you hold without touching it? A conversation!



Clever Response

A young girl at school is being **told off** by the teacher. "You never get anything right," complains the teacher. "What kind of job do you think you'll get when you leave school?" And the child replies, "I want to work on TV as a **weather girl**!"



Police Call

An elderly man is asleep at night when he hears a noise. He looks out of the window and sees two men climbing into his **garage**. **Quick as a flash**, he phones the police. "Are the **burglars** actually in your house?" the police officer asks. "No," the old man replies, "but they're **breaking into** my garage." "Well, all our patrols are **busy** at the moment. **Lock** your doors and we'll be there just as soon as we can."



About 10 minutes later, the police still haven't arrived, so the old man phones again. But he gets the same response. Suddenly, he has an idea. A few minutes later, he calls again, and says, "Hello. I called you a few minutes ago because there were people **stealing** things from my garage. Well, there's no need to worry about it now because I've just **shot** them." Then, he **hangs up**.

Within five minutes, six police cars, a helicopter and 10 police officers all **show up**; and very soon they catch the burglars. As they're leaving, one of the police officers says, "Hey, I thought you said that you'd shot them!"

And the elderly man replies, "And I thought you said there was nobody available!" 🌟

GLOSSARY

- to hold** *vb*
to have something in your hand/s. If you "hold a conversation", you have a conversation (you talk with someone)
- to tell off** *phrvb*
if you "tell someone off", you speak to them angrily about something they have done that you don't like
- a weather girl** *n*
a girl/woman who works on television, giving information about the weather
- a garage** *n*
a place where you can park your car. In some cases, the garage is a small building at the side of a house
- quick as a flash** *exp*
very quickly / fast
- a burglar** *n*
a criminal who goes into people's houses to steal things
- to break into** *phrvb*
if someone "breaks into" a house, they enter the house without permission
- busy** *adj*
if you are "busy", you have lots of things to do
- to lock** *vb*
if a door is "locked", it is closed with a key
- to steal** *vb*
if someone "steals" something, they take that thing without permission
- to shoot** *vb*
to fire a gun
- to hang up** *phrvb*
to put the phone down so the connection with the other phone ends
- to show up** *phrvb*
if you "show up" at a place, you arrive there

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USEFUL VOCABULARY

In the Bathroom

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Match the words

Match the words (1 to 14) to the pictures (a-n).

1. Bath (tub) f
2. Shower
3. Shower curtain
4. Toilet
5. Sink
6. Scales
7. Toilet brush
8. Mirror
9. Toilet paper
10. Bath mat
11. Bidet
12. Bath robe
13. Towels
14. Soap dish



2 Wordsearch

Now find these words in the wordsearch.

bath	tub
shower	curtain
toilet	sink
scales	brush
mirror	paper
mat	bidet
robe	towel
soap	dish

shampoo



3 Guess the word

Think of ways to describe the words above.

See if your partner can guess the word from the clues.

IT'S SOMETHING YOU USE TO LOOK AT YOURSELF.

A MIRROR!



USEFUL VERBS & EXPRESSIONS

In the Bathroom

STEAM UP

IF THE MIRROR "STEAMS UP", WATER VAPOUR GOES ON IT AND IT'S HARD TO SEE YOURSELF.



"THE MIRROR HAS STEAMED UP AND I CAN'T SEE ANYTHING."

RUN OUT OF SOMETHING

IF YOU'VE "RUN OUT OF SOMETHING", YOU DON'T HAVE ANY MORE OF IT.



"WE'VE RUN OUT OF TOILET PAPER. CAN YOU GET SOME MORE, PLEASE?"

TURN THE TAP ON / OFF

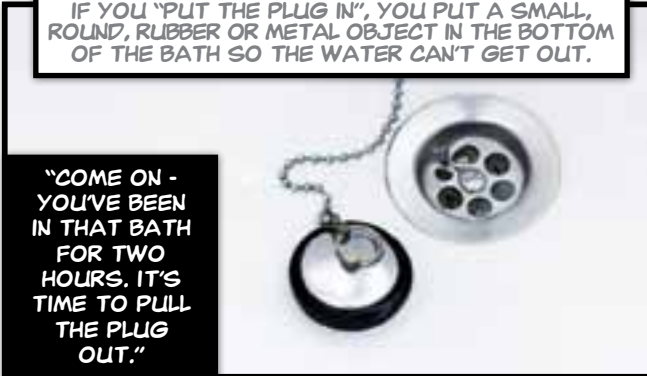
IF YOU "TURN A TAP ON", YOU MOVE A LEVER IN THE BATH OR THE SINK THAT ALLOWS THE WATER TO COME OUT.



"TURN OFF THE TAP - THE BATH'S GOING TO OVERFLOW."

PUT THE PLUG IN / PULL THE PLUG OUT

IF YOU "PUT THE PLUG IN", YOU PUT A SMALL, ROUND, RUBBER OR METAL OBJECT IN THE BOTTOM OF THE BATH SO THE WATER CAN'T GET OUT.



"COME ON - YOU'VE BEEN IN THAT BATH FOR TWO HOURS. IT'S TIME TO PULL THE PLUG OUT."

RUN A BATH

IF YOU "RUN A BATH", YOU TURN ON THE TAP/S SO THE BATH CAN FILL UP WITH WATER.



"I'VE HAD A TERRIBLE DAY. I THINK I'LL RUN A NICE, HOT BATH."

HAVE A SHOWER / BATH

IF YOU "HAVE A SHOWER", YOU CLEAN YOURSELF IN THE SHOWER.



"I'VE BEEN PLAYING FOOTBALL IN THE RAIN AND MUD. I REALLY NEED A SHOWER."

DRY (YOURSELF)

IF YOU "DRY YOURSELF", YOU USE A TOWEL / HAIRDRYER, ETC. TO REMOVE ANY WATER.



"DON'T FORGET TO DRY YOUR HAIR! IT'S COLD OUT THERE."

BLOCK THE TOILET

IF SOMEONE "BLOCKS THE TOILET", THEY PUT SOMETHING IN THE TOILET THAT STOPS IT WORKING PROPERLY, OR PREVENTS WATER GOING IN / OUT.



"I THINK WE NEED TO CALL THE PLUMBER - SOMEONE'S BLOCKED THE TOILET."



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this topic in a mini-video at
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Refer to unit 9 (page 49) of the
Pre-Intermediate Skills Booklet for
more explanations and exercises.



Supermarket Shakeup

How supermarkets are changing Britain. By Patrick Howarth

1 Pre-reading

Where do you buy the following things? The local shop, the supermarket, online shops, other? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

fruit and vegetables milk

DIY supplies the newspaper

meat and fish furniture

beer and wine electrical goods

clothing kitchen goods

garden furniture

home decoration

2 Reading I

What are the pros and cons of supermarkets? Think. Then, read the article once to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again and say what the numbers refer to.

- 1,102
- 30 cents
- 39
- 1,000 kilometres
- £12 million

4 Language focus

Quantifiers

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...but some supermarkets get their meat from abroad..." The writer has used the quantifier *some* with a plural noun ("some supermarkets"). Complete the sentences with *some, any* or *a/an*.

- We don't have _____ food to offer you.
- They've got _____ things they'd like to discuss.
- There's _____ letter for you on the table.
- This is _____ earlier version of it.
- There aren't _____ more copies left.

5 Discussion

- Which supermarket do you shop at?
- Which local stores do you go to? What do you buy there?
- How has your local area changed over the years?

The British love their supermarkets. And there are more and more of them every year. But is this a good thing?

Not necessarily. For a start, many small shops can't compete on price with superstores such as Tesco, Sainsbury's, Waitrose and Marks & Spencer. And they don't have as many products either. As a result, many local businesses have closed. In fact, between 1990 and 1996, 36% of the UK's small shops shut down. And between 1986 and 1997 the number of supermarkets increased from 457 to 1,102.

Supermarkets have a negative effect on local communities in other ways, too. Money spent in independent shops usually stays in the area. However, money spent at supermarkets is often put into the bank accounts of distant shareholders, some of whom don't even pay any tax in the UK!

Supermarkets are also bad for animal welfare. The UK has high standards in this field, but some supermarkets get their meat from abroad. And in many cases, this meat is produced under conditions that would be illegal in the UK. But once they've got the meat, supermarkets put a British flag on the product as the meat is packed there. Dishonest? Not exactly, but it isn't entirely true either!

Supermarkets have even had a negative effect on the British pub. Beer and wine is much cheaper in a supermarket. For example, supermarkets can sell a can of beer for 25p (about 30 cents), but the same beer will cost £2.50 (about €3) in a pub. There are now over 55,000 supermarkets in the UK, but less than 55,000 pubs. A decade ago there were more than 61,000. These days, pubs are closing at the rate of 39 a week!

Supermarkets have a poor environmental record too. Many of them don't store food products themselves as storage space is expensive, so they get food producers to do it for them. This means that supermarket lorries have to make more trips to collect supplies. In turn, this increases the amount of petrol used, which leads to more pollution. In fact, the average item of food from a supermarket travels over 1,000 kilometres: by lorry or plane from the producer to the store, and then by car from the store to the consumer. Supermarkets also use a lot of plastic packaging, which isn't good for the environment either.

So, what can be done to help the "little guys"? Not much really. For one thing, supermarkets have a lot of power. Many political parties receive donations from supermarkets. And supermarkets often use their money to influence decisions. For example, just before the millennium (the year 2000), one supermarket gave the government £12 million to help build the Millennium Dome in London. Later, plans to tax supermarket car parks were dropped.

Supermarkets are good news for shoppers looking for a bargain, but they're definitely bad for local businesses, animals and the environment! ✪



LET'S TALK ABOUT: Driving on the Road

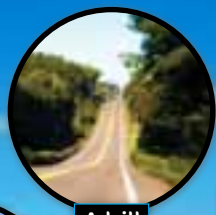
LET'S TALK ABOUT...



The hard shoulder (the side of the road)



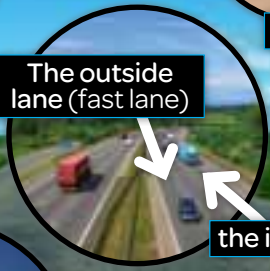
A motorway



A hill



Breakdown service / tow-truck



The outside lane (fast lane)

the inside lane



A driver's licence



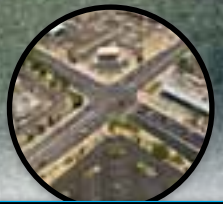
A traffic jam / tailback



A road



A petrol station



A junction (where two roads meet)



A service station



A turning

Telephone call

NIGEL IS CALLING HIS WIFE BECAUSE HIS CAR HAS BROKEN DOWN ON THE MOTORWAY.

Cathy? Hi, yes, it's me. Yes, I know. Look, erm, I've got a slight problem: the car's broken down. I was trying to get to the garden centre. Yes, I know we've been there before. Yes, I had the GPS on, but it kept telling me to turn off at junction 36, but I knew that wasn't right. Yes, yes, I know. Well, I was driving along in the outside lane when the car started losing power. I was going up a hill and the motor just cut out. Yes, yes, I know. OK. Well, I don't think it's anything serious – it's just run out of petrol. Yes, I know I should check it. Look, I need you to call the breakdown service. I haven't got the number here and my phone battery's running out. Yes, I know I took the insurance papers out of the car. No, I haven't got my driver's licence on me either. Yes, I know you're supposed to keep it in the car. They're in the living room – in the cupboard just to the right of the door. Look, hurry up! I haven't got much battery left. Where am I? Well, I'm on the motorway – the M22, westbound. I'm not sure. I passed a service station about two minutes ago. There's a speed camera if that helps. No, I don't know. I'm waiting on the hard shoulder. There's a turning about 300 metres in front of me, but I can't see the traffic sign properly. I think it says Newgate and Shoreham, but I'm not sure. There's a bridge just up ahead. Well, yes, there is a petrol station back there, but

it's about four miles down the road. I can't just walk along the motorway. Look, just call them, will you? Yes, I know it's rush hour. Yes, there is a lot of traffic. Yes, and a tailback. OK. Yes, right. OK, bye. Yes, see you tomorrow. ☺



Useful Expressions

- I've broken down and I'm waiting for the tow-truck.
- I'm waiting on the hard shoulder.
- I'm on the M35.
- There's a 10-km tailback.
- The traffic is moving really slowly.
- I've called the breakdown service.
- My SatNav is telling me to turn left, but I think it's on the right.
- I turned off the motorway at junction 36.
- I'm on the toll road.



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this topic in a mini-video at
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Englishwoman & Englishman



track

7

FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

Making Conversation

IN THIS MONTH'S FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE SECTION, WE'LL BE LOOKING AT HOW TO START, MAINTAIN AND END A CONVERSATION.

Introducing yourself

- I'm Sandra. How do you do?
- Hi, I'm Bob. It's nice to meet you.
- Hi. I don't think I've met you before. I'm Imogen.
- I don't think we've been introduced. I'm Nigel.

Initiating the conversation

- So, do you know anyone here?
- What line of work are you in?
- Where are you from, then?
- Have you been here for long?
- Have you been here before?
- Did you have to travel far?
- Where do you work?
- So, how do you know George?



Keeping the conversation going – questions

- So, where did you go to school?
- How long have you lived here?
- Are you from round here?
- What sort of music are you into?
- What made you want to get into law?
- Are you into any sport?
- What do you get up to at the weekends?
- Have you seen any good films recently?
- So, where did you grow up?
- Where did you get that shirt? It's really nice.
- Have you done much travelling?



Keeping the conversation going – statements

- I saw a great film last night.
- We went to this fantastic restaurant last week.
- I heard this really funny story just today.
- The weather's been crazy, hasn't it?



Ending the conversation

- Is that the time? I've really got to go.
- Thanks for the wonderful chat, but I really must be going.
- You must excuse me but I've got to be at the station in 10 minutes.
- I'm sorry but I've got to go – I've got to get dinner ready.
- Have you got a business card you could give me?
- Do you know where the bathroom is?
- I'm starving. Do you know where the kitchen is?
- Have you met Tony? He works in advertising too.
- Hey, that's Jo over there. Have you met him?
- Do you know whether there's a bank near here?
- I'm terribly sorry but I've got to make this really important call.
- Well, it was lovely talking to you.
- We should meet up again sometime.



Saying goodbye

- See you again soon.
- See you.
- Bye!
- Speak soon!

Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, EMILY AND JOHN ARE AT A PARTY MAKING SMALL TALK.

Emily: Hi, how're you doing?
John: Hi! I'm fine. Er, my name...
Emily: My name... my name's Emily.
John: Hi, I'm John.
Emily: John, nice to meet you [nice to meet you]. Where are you from, John?
John: I'm from London [oh yeah?], actually. How about you? Where are you from?
Emily: I'm from Sheffield.
John: Oh wow. And, er, what... what, do you do?
Emily: I, er, you know, just things.
John: Yeah? Just things.
Emily: Yeah, so, er, what do you do? How long have you been here for?
John: Er, I am a, er, BASE jumper. Professional BASE jumper.
Emily: Oh, what's that?
John: Yeah, I just jump off things. Er, buildings, er, mountains, er...
Emily: Sounds really interesting.
John: It is interesting. It is interesting. You're right, yeah.
Emily: Er, so, you're having a good time?
John: Yeah, I mean, I don't really know anyone but it's, er...
Emily: Yeah, so it's a really, really good party.
John: Yeah, yeah. [so...] Do you know anyone here?

Emily: Er, no. No one. I just kind of gate crashed.
John: Oh, OK.
Emily: Well, you know. So, what kind of music are you into?
John: Just all kinds of music. I like this music now. [yeah] It's... general...yeah.
Emily: Yeah, you like more of a chilled...
John: Yeah, could I have some of this? [He points to a wine bottle.]
Emily: Er, I've actually just finished it.
John: You finished it?
Emily: Yeah.
John: OK. I'll find some more then.
Emily: But, er, I've got to go because, er, I need to go and buy another bottle.
John: OK.
Emily: Right. It was really nice to meet you [nice to meet you to]. Maybe we'll, er, meet up later.
John: Maybe. Bye.
Emily: See you later. Bye. ☺



STOP TRYING TO END THE CONVERSATION!

track 8



Welshman & US woman track 9

DR FINGERS' ERROR CORRECTION CLINIC

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



1 Activity

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Read the sentences, find the errors and correct them. All the sentences should be in the future tense with *will*. Listen to the CD to check your answers.

- She will to give it to me later.
She will give it to me later.
- They don't will like it.
- I will to see her at six.
- We not will be there later.
- I think it rain will this afternoon.
- I am not will see her tomorrow.

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



1 Pre-listening

What's the best thing to do with your money? Put ticks next to the ideas in the list below. Then, discuss your choices with a partner.

- Buy some property.
 - Spend it quickly.
 - Keep it under the bed.
 - Put it in your current account.
 - Put it into a savings account.
 - Get some stocks and shares.
 - Buy a new car.
 - A pension fund.
 - Invest it in a new business.
 - Get a second home.
 - Buy gold.
- Other?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to an interview with an economist. What does the economist suggest investing in?

3 Listening II

Listen again and answer the questions.

- How many points did the pound fall by against the dollar?
- How many cents is the euro down on the yen?
- What does the economist say will replace money?
- What will you be able to buy with glass beads and bottle tops?
- How much will a bar of chocolate cost?
- How much will a flat-screen TV cost?

4 Language focus The future with will

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording *Economy Watch*: "...you'll need some glass beads and bottle tops..." The speaker has used a future tense with "will" ("you'll need"). Complete the sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

- I think I'll have to _____ tomorrow.
- I think I'll go _____ next week.
- I think I'll play _____ at the weekend.
- I think I'll cook _____ for dinner.

5 Discussion

- What would you recommend investing money in these days?
- How would you describe the state of the economy in your country?
- Are there any famous economists in your country? Why are they famous?

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Comida Vegetariana

y algo más

The section that makes grammar easy, interesting and fun.

GRAMMAR FUN



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Must / Should



THIS MONTH, WE'RE LOOKING AT **MUST & SHOULD**, BOTH OF WHICH CAN BE USED FOR GIVING ADVICE.

Must

Must is used for giving strong advice to others or ourselves. It is used to refer to the things that we believe are important to do. **For example:**

- a) You must try to go to bed a bit earlier.
- b) I must stop biting my nails.
- c) We must try to get there on time.
- d) They must make a big effort to hand it in tomorrow.

We use *mustn't* for things we want to stop, prohibit or prevent. **For example:**

- a) You mustn't forget to thank them for the present.
- b) He mustn't go out without his scarf on. It's really cold out there.
- c) We mustn't forget to send those letters before he leaves.
- d) You mustn't leave until you've finished that work.

Should

We use *should* to give advice or a personal recommendation for something. *Should* is similar to *must*, although not so "strong". **For example:**

- a) I think you should do a bit more exercise.
- b) I think we should let them know that we won't be there tonight.
- c) You should eat more fruit and vegetables.
- d) We should call them to tell them that we'll be late.

And we use *shouldn't* for things that we don't want to happen. **For example:**

- a) They shouldn't talk to her like that.
- b) You shouldn't smoke with that cough.
- c) I shouldn't really use this one.
- d) He shouldn't leave without saying goodbye.

So, to summarise, both *must* and *should* can be used for giving advice, the main difference being that *must* implies a stronger personal recommendation.

1 Exercise

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Complete the sentences with the words from below.

speak take stop forget go try give invite

1. We mustn't _____ to let Petra know about the meeting on Saturday morning.
2. We really should _____ Mark to the party, as he invited us to his.
3. I mustn't forget to _____ out some money to pay back Harriet.
4. You really should _____ to the dentist. It's been a few years since you last went, hasn't it?
5. I must _____ eating so much cake – I'm putting on weight.
6. You should think before you _____ – you really upset that guy with the things you said.
7. I haven't phoned my parents for the past six weeks. I must _____ them a call.
8. I must _____ to go to bed early tonight. I haven't slept properly for the past four nights.

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Refer to unit 8 (page 42) of the
Intermediate Skills Booklet for
more explanations and exercises.



Castle Capers!

A travel plan for visiting some of the world's most famous castles.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Point to the following countries on the map. Then, compare your answers with a partner. Do you know of any famous castles in any of these countries?

- France
- England
- Spain
- Wales
- Germany
- Portugal
- Italy
- The Czech Republic
- Romania
- Scotland
- Poland
- Ireland
- Russia



2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which castle or palace sounds the most interesting? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of the castle or place next to each sentence.

1. It's the inspiration for the castle in a Disney film.
2. Henry VIII built parts of it.
3. A real-life "Dracula" lived here.
4. It's mostly a 13th century castle.
5. It was built in about 1250.
6. It was mostly built in the 12th century.
7. It was originally built by William the Conqueror.
8. It dominates a city centre.

4 Language focus

Future Tenses

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...because we'll need more than a day to see everything..." The writer has used a future tense ("we'll need"). Complete the sentence beginnings with your own ideas.









1. I think I'll... tomorrow.
2. I'm meeting... later this afternoon.
3. We're going to play... this weekend.
4. I think we'll probably... this morning.
5. I'm seeing... next week.

5 Discussion

1. Are there any famous castles in your country? What can you see there?
2. What famous monuments are there in your country? What are some of the oldest?
3. Which famous place would you most like to visit in the world? Why?

"Castles & Palaces of Europe" Travel Plan

Here's the provisional travel plan for our "Castles of Europe" tour. We hope you enjoy it. We'll send you the full itinerary next week.

- 
1. Leeds Castle, Maidstone (England)
 Standing in the middle of a lake, Leeds Castle is the perfect castle. You'll see where King Edward I, Edward III, Richard II and Henry V held court. England's most famous king, Henry VIII, built many parts of the castle, including the magnificent Henry VIII Banqueting Hall in 1517.
- 
2. Windsor Castle, Windsor (England)
 This is one of the homes of the British Royal family. At 45,000 sq metres, it's the biggest inhabited castle in the world. It was originally built by William the Conqueror soon after his arrival in England in 1066. We're meeting outside for a special guided tour by a local historian.
- 
3. Carcassonne (France)
 Well, to be honest, this isn't exactly a castle – it's more of a castle city. It was mostly built in the 12th century and was founded by King Louis IX of France. We're planning to spend the night there because we'll need more than a day to see everything.
- 
4. Neuschwanstein Castle, Schwangau (Germany)
 This 19th century palace was built for King Ludwig III of Bavaria, who died before it was finished. Its name (Neuschwanstein) means "New Swan Stone". The castle was supposedly the model for the one in the Disney film *Sleeping Beauty*. This will be the first of two castles that we're visiting in Germany.
- 
5. Castle Frankenstein, Darmstadt (Germany)
 Despite the name, this castle has no connection to the writer Mary Shelley or her novel *Frankenstein*. The original castle was built by Lord Konrad II Reiz von Breuberg in about 1250. Konrad changed his name to Frankenstein in 1253, which is how the link between the name and the castle began. We're going to spend the night in a village right next to the castle.
- 
6. Bran Castle, near Brasov (Romania)
 Bran Castle has become known as Dracula's castle. This is because some historians believe that Vlad Tepes (a real-life ruler who was famous for his cruel punishments) once lived here. Vlad, who is often referred to as the original "Dracula", used the castle in the 13th century. We're going to have a picnic in the castle grounds.
- 
7. Prague Castle, Prague (The Czech Republic)
 Prague Castle dominates the centre of the city. It stands over the River Vltava and is the largest castle complex in the world. It has been home to the Kings of Bohemia, Holy Roman Emperors, and now the President of the Czech Republic. It has been rebuilt and extended many times, so there are many architectural styles to enjoy. We'll spend two nights in Prague as there's so much else to see in this beautiful city.
- 
8. Pewrnstein Castle, Nedvedice (The Czech Republic)
 This is one of the most famous of the many Czech castles. Pernstein is in the village of Nedvedice in South Moravia. The castle is mostly 13th century and is surrounded by spectacular countryside. It has an amazing bridge joining the two parts of the castle and a deep, scary dungeon, that we'll visit while we're there.

READING

Retirement Dream

The best places to live the perfect life.



ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Match the places (1 to 7) to the countries / areas (a-g). Which ones would you like to live in or visit? Why? Discuss your choices with a partner.

- Florida
- New South Wales
- The Côte d'Azur
- Antigua
- The island of Koh Samui
- The Adriatic Coast
- The Canaries [The Canary Islands]



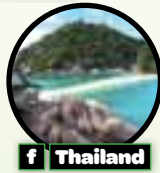
a The Caribbean



b Spain



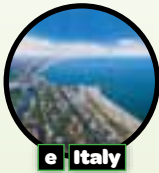
d France



f Thailand



c The USA



e Italy



g Australia

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which place sounds like the best place to live? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a place next to each sentence.

- Property here is cheaper than it is in Tuscany.
- There are lots of beaches to choose from.
- Medical care is expensive.
- The people are really nice.
- The best places to buy are in Lanzarote and Fuerteventura.
- The best place to live is in Victoria or New South Wales.
- The houses in Languedoc are fairly cheap.

4 Language focus Comparatives

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...Medical care in the US is more expensive than in Britain,..." The writer has used a comparative ("more expensive than"). Complete the sentences with the words from below.

taller expensive excited longer

- This piece of string is _____ than the other one.
- She is much _____ than he is.
- We're more _____ about this project than we were about the last one.
- This book is more _____ than the other one, which only cost £2.

5 Discussion

- Where would you live if money wasn't an issue?
- What would you do all day if you were really rich?
- What are the pros and cons of never having to work again (as long as money isn't an issue)?

Where would you go to live if you won the lottery? A recent **survey** lists the top 10 places to live when money is **no longer an issue!** We spoke to a few people who are actually there.

South-West France

"We sold our home in Bristol (England) and went to live in the south-west of France. It's got a warm climate, a wonderfully **lazy lifestyle**, and easy access from Britain. Most **well-off** people head for the Côte d'Azur, but there's better value in Languedoc and Gascony where you can buy **farmhouses** for under £500,000." **Margery Barker.**

Florida

"I **came into some money** and decided to move to Florida. There are some parts that you definitely wouldn't want to live in, but it's an enormous state, with some great places, particularly along the Gulf of Mexico. Medical care in the US is more expensive than in Britain, but the **cost of living** is really low. But best of all, the weather's great. It isn't called the Sunshine State for nothing!" **Jeff Simmonds.**

Le Marche, Italy

"I used my **redundancy package** to buy a place in the Le Marche region of Italy on the Adriatic Coast. It's got everything from snow-capped mountains to sandy beaches and beautiful **vineyards**. Property is far cheaper than in the neighbouring region of Tuscany, too." **Melinda Sampson.**

Australia

"My husband and I retired last year and decided to move to Australia. Getting the visa can be difficult, and you need to provide evidence of a decent **income**, but you won't **regret** it. Look to buy in Victoria or New South Wales. They're the best places, in my opinion." **Mollie Brown.**

Thailand

"My husband and I chose to move to Thailand, which is perfect. There are gorgeous beaches, low **living costs** and really nice people. The island of Koh Samui and the mountain city of Chiang Mai are the best places to live, I think." **Jasmine Brooks.**

Antigua

"When we retired last year, we decided to move to Antigua. It's one of the most **enchanting** islands in the English-speaking Caribbean, and it's half as expensive as Barbados. There are more than 300 beaches to choose from, the people are great and the food is delicious – very **spicy**, too!" **Luke Carmichael.**

The Canary Islands

"The Canaries are perfect for us. They have all the advantages of the mainland in terms of weather, but only a fraction of the **development**. **Steer clear of** the tourist towns, and look for something in Lanzarote and Fuerteventura." **Victoria Smith.**

GLOSSARY

- a survey** *n*
a series of questions asked in order to get opinions or information
- no longer an issue** *exp*
if something is "no longer an issue", it's not a problem any more
- lazy** *adj*
someone who is "lazy" doesn't like to do things – they prefer to sleep / relax, etc.
- lifestyle** *n*
your lifestyle is the way you live
- well-off** *adj*
if you are "well-off", you have lots of money
- a farmhouse** *n*
a house next to a farm (a place where animals are kept / food is grown). The farmer often lives in it
- to come into some money** *exp*
to receive money – often as part of an inheritance (money from relatives after they die)
- cost of living** *exp*
the amount of money you need to pay for basic things: food, accommodation, clothing, etc.
- a redundancy package** *n*
money given to someone when they are made redundant (when they lose their job)
- a vineyard** *n*
a place where grapes are grown to make wine
- an income** *n*
the money that you receive on a regular basis (usually from your job)
- to regret** *vb*
if you "regret" doing something, you wish you hadn't done it
- living costs** *exp*
the amount of money you need to pay for food, clothing, accommodation, etc.
- enchanting** *adj*
if a place is "enchanting", it has a nice, special, magical feel to it
- spicy** *adj*
food with many spices, particularly "hot" ones such as curry
- development** *n*
if there is a lot of "development" in a place, there are many buildings there
- to steer clear of** *exp*
if you "steer clear of something", you don't go to it / you avoid it



Englishwoman & Englishman
track 11

Watch & Learn!
Listen to two people discussing
this topic in a mini-video at
www.hotenglishmagazine.com

READING II British Test

Could you pass the test to live in the UK?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Look at the list below. What are people's attitudes to these things in your country? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

- Family –
In my country, family is very important.
- Driving
- Children
- Queuing
- Punctuality
- The elderly
- Showing your emotions in public

2 Reading I

Do the test, choosing the options (a / b) for the questions (1 to 9).

3 Reading II

Read the article again and decide how a typical person from your country might react / respond. Discuss your ideas with a partner.

4 Language focus

The use of get

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...What time do you get there?..." The writer has used *get* to mean *arrive*. What does *get* mean in the following sentences / questions?

1. Did you get that letter I sent?
2. How much did you get for that work you did?
3. I got home really late last night.

5 Discussion

1. What's your impression of a typical British person?
2. Do you think the stereotype is correct? Why? Why not?
3. Could you write a test for people who want to come to live in your country? What questions would you ask?

Have you ever thought about living in Britain? These days, anyone who wants to **settle** there has to take the "Life in the UK Test". But what's it all about?

The exam covers a **wide range of** topics. There are questions on British politics, pop music, customs, where Father Christmas is from (the North Pole), what the emergency services number is (999), and what to do if you **spill** someone's pint in the pub (you're supposed to buy them another one!). Just recently, ex-Labour MP Phil Woolas proposed including something on the art of **queuing**. "The simple act of **taking your turn** is one of the things that **holds** our country **together**," he announced. So, in the spirit of the new changes, we decided to invent a few questions of our own. See if you can pass the test!

1. Someone **treads** on your foot on the **Underground**. What do you say?

- a) "Ow! Be careful!"
- b) "Sorry!"

2. You're in a **lift** with a stranger. What do you talk about?

- a) My job, my life, my family, my work...
- b) The weather.

3. There's a **queue** for the bus. What do you do when the bus arrives?

- a) I push my way to the front so I can get on the bus.
- b) I wait patiently for my turn.

4. Someone asks, "How are you?" What do you say in response?

- a) I tell them exactly how I'm feeling.
- b) I say, "Not too bad," or, "Fine thanks."

5. Someone has arranged to meet you at 6pm. What time do you get there?

- a) Any time between 6:15 and 6:45.
- b) Five to six.

6. Your elderly parents are no longer able to take care of themselves. What do you do?

- a) I look after them, of course!
- b) I put them in a state-run **retirement home** and visit them once every six months.

7. You've just been given a prize in an **award ceremony**. How do you react?

- a) I jump up and down, and shout "YES!" in a loud and enthusiastic manner.
- b) I quietly thank everyone who helped me.

8. Your son **turns** 18. What do you do?

- a) Nothing – he's only 18.
- b) I **kick him out** of home, convert his room into a study and tell him not to come back till Christmas.

9. You're driving along when a pedestrian steps onto a **zebra crossing** about 75 metres in front of you. What do you do?

- a) I drive towards him **at top speed**, **honk my horn** loudly, and **lean out** of the side window so I can shout at him.
- b) I **slow down** and let him cross.



I HOPE THEY DON'T PUT US IN A RETIREMENT HOME.



WERE SO BRITISH.



GLOSSARY

- to settle** *vb*
if you "settle" somewhere, you decide to live there permanently
- a wide range of** *exp*
if there is a "wide range of" something, there are many different things you can choose from
- to spill** *vb*
if you "spill" a drink, some of the liquid comes out of the container
- to queue** *vb*
to wait in a line of people (with one person in front of the other) in order to be served / attended
- to take your turn** *exp*
to wait until it is time for you to do whatever you are waiting for
- to hold together** *exp*
if something "holds people together", that thing unites people and helps them live together happily
- to tread** *vb*
if you "tread" on something, you put your foot on it
- Underground** *n*
the train system below the streets of London
- a lift** *n*
a device (a machine) that takes people to different floors of a tall building
- a retirement home** *n*
a type of hospital for elderly people
- an award ceremony** *n*
an event during which people are given prizes / awards
- to turn** *vb*
if you "turn 18", you reach the age of 18
- to kick out** *phr vb*
if you "kick someone out" of a place, you order them to leave that place (possibly using force)
- a zebra crossing** *n*
a place on the road with black and white lines where you can cross safely
- at top speed** *exp*
if you drive "at top speed", you drive the car as fast as it will go
- to honk your horn** *exp*
if you "honk your horn" in a car, you push a button in the car that makes a loud noise
- to lean out** *phr vb*
if you "lean out" of the car window, you put your head / body out of the window
- to slow down** *phr vb*
to stop travelling so fast / to travel more slowly

Test analysis
Mostly "a" – Sorry! You haven't passed.
Mostly "b" – Congratulations! You'll fit in perfectly.
Of course, not all British people are like this and it's based on a stereotype! But we think you get the idea.

Photos from the news.

PHOTOMAGIC

CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING TO WRITE IN THE SPEECH BUBBLES?
HAVE A COMPETITION IN CLASS OR AT HOME.

PHOTOMAGIC

Photo 1 It was a Beckham family affair at the BBC Sports Personality of the Year Awards. David collected the Lifetime Achievement Award. Shortly after, Victoria announced that she was pregnant again.



Photo 3 WikiLeaks founder Julian Assange.



Photo 2 Veteran British actor Pete Postlethwaite passed away after a lengthy fight with cancer. He was 64. He was famous for his parts in the films *Inception*, *Brassed off* and *The Town*.



Photo 4 England win their first Ashes (a cricket tournament between England and Australia) victory in Australia since 1986-87.



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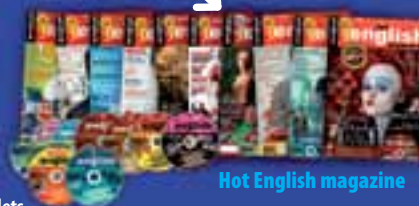
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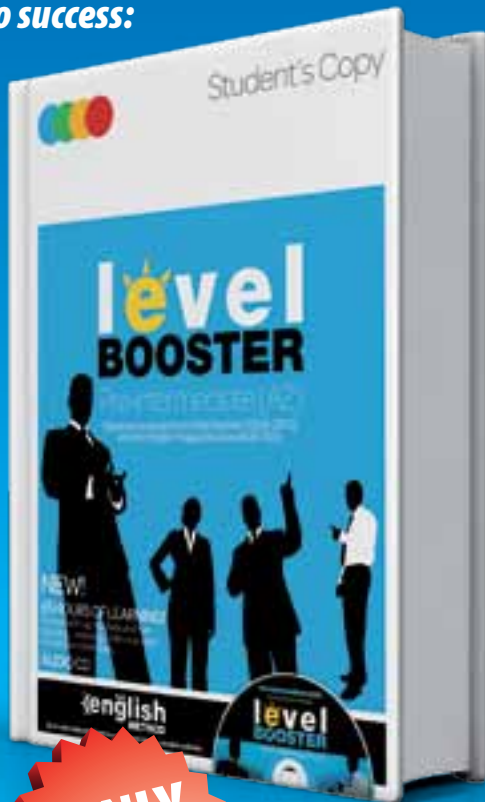
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NOTE: THE MATERIAL IN THIS BOOK HAS BEEN CREATED FROM MATERIAL IN HOT ENGLISH MAGAZINE issue numbers 95 to 103, as well as material from our SKILLS BOOKLETS 2009 TO 2010. The Level Booster books are in black and white.



Skills BOOKLET

Refer to unit 9 (page 49) of the Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING

Bank Bash

The bank manager from hell!

1 Pre-listening

What's the most difficult aspect of buying a house? Read the list below. Then, discuss your ideas with a partner.

- Deciding whether to buy.
- Deciding where to buy.
- Finding the right house.
- Deciding when to buy.
- Getting a survey.
- Making an offer.
- Having your offer accepted.
- Getting a mortgage.
- Getting the right mortgage.
- Making the monthly payments.
- Keeping up with interest rate rises.



ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to a conversation between a customer (who is applying for a mortgage) and a bank manager. Listen once. How would you describe the bank manager?

3 Listening II

Complete the sentences with the words from below. Then, listen again to check your answers.

bank neighbour mortgage charge
washing machine house future busy

1. I think I've got an appointment with you... to talk about a _____?
2. I send the bailiffs to your house and they take away your _____.
3. What's bad for the customer will be good for the _____.
4. Well, I really don't want to bother you. I can see you're _____.
5. We're expecting our third child, so we thought we should buy a bigger _____.
6. So, what makes you think you deserve to become my _____?
7. There'll be a bank processing _____ of 3.875%.
8. If you want the house and a _____ in Waverly Road, I suggest you sign right now.

4 Language focus Modal verbs

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Bank Bash: "...Your children can't go to university because..." The speaker has used a modal verb ("can't"). Complete these sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

1. I can't...
2. I won't be able to... tomorrow.
3. I couldn't... last week.
4. I should really try to...
5. I must make an effort to...

5 Discussion

1. Have you ever discussed something with a bank manager? What?
2. Which bank/s do you use? What do you think of the service they provide?
3. What's the housing market like at the moment in your country?

Who's going to win the most coveted prizes in show business this year?

OSCAR PREDICTIONS



THIS YEAR'S ACADEMY AWARDS IS GOING TO BE A TOUGH COMPETITION. HERE ARE OUR HOT FAVOURITES.

OSCAR PREDICTIONS



BEST ACTOR

There were plenty of worthy performances in 2010. Jeff Bridges could **be in the running** for another Oscar for *True Grit*, which would mean **two in a row** for the actor. British star Colin Firth (who was nominated last year for *A Single Man*) has a chance of winning for his performance in *The King's Speech*. But perhaps youngster James Franco (best known for playing Spider-Man's best friend Harry Osbourne) can steal the prize for *127 Hours*.



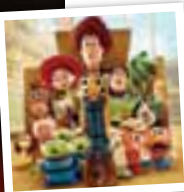
BEST ACTRESS

Natalie Portman has made a fantastic career for herself. From her humble beginnings as a child actor, she's now an Oscar-worthy actress, especially after her performance in last year's *Black Swan*. Another contender could be Keira Knightley, who at only 24 has already had an impressive career, especially with her role in *London Boulevard*, which was exceptional. That said, perhaps Julia Roberts could be up for her second award (she won her first for her role in *Erin Brockovich*) after her **dazzling performance** in *Eat Pray Love*.



BEST FILM

Last year's *The Social Network*, a movie about the rise of popular website Facebook, was a surprise success – but is it good enough to win at the Oscars? The film everyone was talking about last year was *Inception*, the confusing but impressive science-fiction blockbuster; it stands a chance of winning several awards, including Best Special Effects. *The Fighter* (a boxing **biopic** starring Mark Wahlberg and Christian Bale) could be the next *Rocky* (a film which won three Oscars in 1976). Danny Boyle (who won several awards for *Slumdog Millionaire*) could see more success in 2011 with *127 Hours*, the true story of a climber trapped in a canyon.



BEST ANIMATED FILM

There's a clear frontrunner in the Oscar race for Best Animated Film this year: *Toy Story 3*, which received **rave reviews** and was enjoyed by both adults and children alike. Other possible contenders include *Shrek Forever After*, *Despicable Me*, *How to Train Your Dragon* and *Megamind*.



BEST FOREIGN LANGUAGE FILM

Spanish actor Javier Bardem **blew audiences away** in the Mexican masterpiece *Biutiful*, so this one certainly has a good chance. Another strong contender is *Even The Rain* (*También la lluvia*), which stars Gael Garcia Bernal and is Spain's Oscar entry. Thailand's strangely titled *Uncle Boonmee Who Can Recall His Past Lives* won the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival, so could also win the prize. ✨

The Academy Awards is considered the most prestigious film awards ceremony in the world. The event is televised in more than 200 countries. The first ceremony was held on 16th May 1929. Winners of the award receive a small golden statue called an Oscar, which is why the ceremony is more commonly known as the Oscars. It is usually hosted by a high-profile star. Previous hosts include Steve Martin, Billy Crystal and Hugh Jackman.



TRUE GRIT

DIRECTED BY: The Coen brothers
STARRING: Jeff Bridges, Matt Damon, Josh Brolin
PLOT: A young girl recruits **tough** US Marshall Rooster Cogburn to help find the man who killed her father.



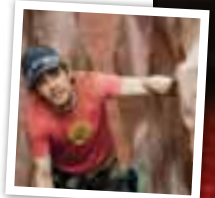
THE KING'S SPEECH

DIRECTED BY: Tom Hooper
STARRING: Colin Firth, Helena Bonham Carter
PLOT: The story of King George VI's rise to power.



127 HOURS

DIRECTED BY: Danny Boyle
STARRING: James Franco
PLOT: Based on a true story. A mountain climber gets his arm trapped under a boulder and uses a video camera to record his survival.



BLACK SWAN

DIRECTED BY: Darren Aronofsky
STARRING: Natalie Portman, Mila Kunis, Vincent Cassel
PLOT: A thriller about a ballerina and her rivalry with her fellow dancers who are in the ballet Swan Lake.



LONDON BOULEVARD
DIRECTED BY: William Monahan
STARRING: Colin Farrell, Keira Knightley, Ray Winstone
PLOT: A former criminal is released from prison and lands himself in more trouble when he gets involved with a vicious gangster.



THE SOCIAL NETWORK
DIRECTED BY: David Fincher
STARRING: Jesse Eisenberg, Andrew Garfield, Justin Timberlake
PLOT: The story of the founder of Facebook, Mark Zuckerberg.



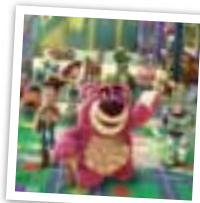
INCEPTION
DIRECTED BY: Christopher Nolan
STARRING: Leonardo DiCaprio, Joseph Gordon-Levitt, Ellen Page
PLOT: A team of experts enter other people's dreams to steal information, but their next mission involves planting an idea in someone's mind.



THE FIGHTER
DIRECTED BY: David O. Russell
STARRING: Mark Wahlberg, Christian Bale
PLOT: The true-life story of Irish boxer Mick Ward.



TOY STORY 3
DIRECTED BY: Lee Unkrich
STARRING: Tom Hanks, Tim Allen, Joan Cusack
PLOT: The toys go on their biggest adventure yet when they end up in a children's playschool after their owner, Andy, goes to college.



SHREK FOREVER AFTER
DIRECTED BY: Mike Mitchell
STARRING: Mike Myers, Cameron Diaz, Eddie Murphy, Antonio Banderas
PLOT: Shrek meets Rumpelstiltskin, who sends the big green monster to a place where he never existed.



DESPICABLE ME
DIRECTED BY: Pierre Coffin, Chris Renaud
STARRING: Steve Carell, Jason Segel, Russell Brand
PLOT: Super villain Gru is planning his greatest evil deed yet – stealing the moon! But when three orphan girls show up, Gru starts to change his evil ways.



HOW TO TRAIN YOUR DRAGON
DIRECTED BY: Dean DeBlois, Chris Sanders
STARRING: Jay Baruchel, Gerard Butler, Christopher Mintz-Plasse
PLOT: A young Viking becomes friends with a dragon, but there is more to training the dragon than he first expected.



MEGAMIND
DIRECTED BY: Tom McGrath
STARRING: Will Ferrell, Brad Pitt, Jonah Hill
PLOT: When superhero Metro Man is defeated, super villain Megamind starts to miss having someone to fight against.



BIUTIFUL
DIRECTED BY: Alejandro González Iñárritu
STARRING: Javier Bardem
PLOT: This is the story of a tragic hero and father of two who has to **come to terms with** his own **impending** death.



EVEN THE RAIN (TAMBIÉN LA LLUVIA)
DIRECTED BY: Icíar Bollain
STARRING: Gael García Bernal, Luís Tosar
PLOT: The story of Christopher Columbus.



UNCLE BOONMEE WHO CAN RECALL HIS PAST LIVES
DIRECTED BY: Apichatpong Weerasethakul
STARRING: Sakda Kaewbuadee, Matthieu Ly
PLOT: On his deathbed, Uncle Boonmee recalls his many past lives. ❖



HI, I'M OSCAR.

GLOSSARY
tough *adj*
 very difficult
to be in the running *exp*
 if you are "in the running" for a prize, people believe that you are going to win it
two in a row *exp*
 two things that happen one after the other (in one year and then again the next year, for example)
a dazzling performance *exp*
 amazing acting by an actor
a biopic *n*
 a historical film about a real person
rave reviews *exp*
 if a film gets "rave reviews", lots of critics really like it and write good reviews about it
to blow audiences away *exp*
 if a film "blows audiences away", the people who go to see it really like it
tough *adj*
 a "tough" person is physically and mentally strong and good at fighting
to come to terms with *exp*
 if you "come to terms with" something, you learn to accept it
impending *adj*
 if something is "impending", it is going to happen soon

Not your average movie star.

MATT DAMON

Matt Damon's latest film (*True Grit*) sees him play a **Texas Ranger** in search of the **villainous** Tom Chaney. But this is just one of many successes.



IT'S TRULY MARVELLOUS.

QUOTES

»On filming the *Ocean's* movies with Brad Pitt...
"People were stepping on our faces trying to get to Brad."



»On working too hard...
"Honestly, if I get a vacation, I'm going to go and sit on my couch in New York because that's the one place I haven't been for a very long time."

»On being famous...
"Now, I feel I have an unspoken deal with the paparazzi: I won't do anything publicly interesting if you agree not to follow me."

»On his big break...
"Right before *The Bourne Identity* came out, I hadn't been offered a movie in a year."

»On seeing a hypnotist to help him stop smoking...
"It's my last chance at giving up."

Matt, 40, is clearly not your average **A-list movie star**. He doesn't like being photographed for magazines and his worldwide fame is of little importance to him. In fact, he claims his life is actually quite ordinary. "If anybody wanted to photograph my life, they'd get bored in a day. Here's Matt at home learning his lines. Here's Matt researching in aisle six of his local library! A few hours of that and they'd go home," he once said.



co-wrote with life-long friend Ben Affleck), *Saving Private Ryan* and the *Ocean's* trilogy. His most **memorable** role has been as super spy Jason Bourne in *The Bourne Identity*, *The Bourne Supremacy* and *The Bourne Ultimatum*, and his upcoming films include science-fiction thriller *The Adjustment Bureau* and *Contagion* (an action movie about a **deadly virus**).

Being a movie star is clearly not his top priority right now. He was obviously thrilled to be offered the part by the Coen brothers, "but I asked them to schedule me so I wouldn't be away from my kids for too long," said family man Matt. "I'd shoot for four days in Texas, and then I'd get off the plane and run home."

MATT DAMON

TRIVIA

»A puppet version of Matt appears as a character in the comedy film *Team America: World Police*.



He's portrayed as a complete idiot who can only say his own name.

»Matt's friends Ben and Casey Affleck are also distant cousins of his.

»Matt is of English, Scottish, Finnish and Swedish ancestry.

»He was offered the role of Harvey Dent / Two-Face in the hugely successful Batman sequel *The Dark Knight*, but **turned it down**.

»Matt was named Sexiest Man Alive in 2007 by *People* magazine.

»The star almost died while losing weight for the role of a drug-addict in the war film *Courage Under Fire*.

But it's not all movies for Matt. He also **devotes** a lot of his time to charity work. The actor co-founded *Water.org* (a charity which helps provide safe drinking water to poor countries) and also supports many others such as *ONE Campaign* and *Feeding America*. He's also a big fan of poker and has played in the World Series of Poker tournament.



But of course, the most important thing in Matt's life is his family. After romances with actresses Minnie Driver and Winona Ryder, Matt settled down with Argentinian Luciana Bozán Barroso. She was working in a bar close to where he was filming the comedy *Stuck On You* when they met. The couple married in December 2005, and now have three children, as well as another daughter from Luciana's first marriage. Matt said being a good dad is "every man's fear, yet his most important job." Sounds like he was "Bourne" to be a father. ✪



Born in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Matt was interested in acting from a young age. He believed his upbringing was too strict, so started **play acting** with friends, taking on different roles. He later went on to study English at Harvard University and was heavily involved in theatre. However, Matt **dropped out** so he could take on a big part in the **biopic** *Geronimo: An American Legend*, even though ultimately the film wasn't successful.



Later, Matt went on to star in a **string of box-office smashes**. These include *Good Will Hunting* (which he



GLOSSARY

- a Texas Ranger** *n*
a member of a police force that operated in the 19th century in the state of Texas. The rangers now form an elite investigative squad within the Texas highway patrol.
- villainous** *adj*
if someone is "villainous", they are evil / very bad
- an A-list movie star** *exp*
a very successful and famous film actor
- to play act** *phr vb*
to play games, acting as if you are other people
- to drop out** *phr vb*
if someone "drops out" of school or university, they leave before the course finishes
- a biopic** *n*
a historical film based on the life of a real person
- a string of** *exp*
if you have a "string of successes", you are successful several times, one after the other
- a box-office smash** *exp*
a very successful film that makes lots of money at cinemas
- memorable** *adj*
if something is "memorable", it is very good and people remember it
- a deadly virus** *n*
a microorganism that can cause disease and kill people
- to devote** *vb*
if you "devote" a lot of your time to doing something, you spend a lot of your time doing that thing
- to turn down** *phr vb*
if you "turn something down", you say "no" to it
- hard** *adj*
if you work "hard", you work a lot, and make a lot of effort
- a big break** *n*
an actor's "big break" is the film that makes them famous or successful
- to give up** *phr vb*
if you "give something up", you stop doing it

The seasoned actor is at the peak of his career.

JEFF BRIDGES

It's been a good few years for Jeff Bridges. He's won an Oscar, he's had some great parts and now he's **landed** the **role of a lifetime** as Rooster Cogburn in *True Grit*.

I'M THE DUDE.

QUOTES

»On acting...
"A large part of acting is just **pretending**."

»On his younger days...
"I had years of partying, and I was kind of surprised and happy I survived it all. Now, being a parent, I look back on it thinking, 'Oh, God, the things you did!'"

»On marriage...
"Marriage is like **working out** at the gym. You work out and it becomes easier and you start to enjoy it."



»On his brother...
"As far as Beau is concerned, we're on the same team, we **root** for each other. If my parts are slightly more attractive, or are perceived that way by others, he's very content."

GLOSSARY

- to land** *vb*
if you "land" a job, you get a job, often unexpectedly
- the role of a lifetime** *exp*
the best part in a film you could ever possibly want
- destined for stardom** *exp*
if an actor is "destined for stardom", they will probably be famous one day
- showbiz** *n*
the world of film / TV / music / theatre
- to come full-circle** *exp*
to go back to where you started after a long time and a lot of changes
- odd** *adj*
strange / not normal / unusual
- to try your hardest** *exp*
to try very much and to make a big effort
- to chill out** *phr vb*
to relax; to rest
- dude** *n inform*
an informal greeting for a young man. "The Dude" is the name of Jeff Bridges' character in *The Big Lebowski*
- a set** *n*
the "set" for a film / play is the furniture and scenery that is on the stage when the film / play is being filmed / performed
- to pretend** *vb*
to act as if something is true even if it isn't
- to work out** *phr vb*
to do exercise (especially in the gym)
- to root for** *phr vb US*
if you "root for" someone or a team, you support them and hope that they win / do well

Jeff is teaming up with the Coen brothers yet again (they worked together on *The Big Lebowski*) for the western *True Grit*, and he couldn't be happier. "It's really terrific to be working with the Coen brothers again," said Jeff. "They're masters. They make it look so easy!"

Tron: Legacy. In the new movie, the filmmakers use digital effects to make Jeff, 61, appear to be a young man. Most people would find it strange, but not Jeff. "It's not that **odd**," he said "I'm used to watching old movies of myself."

Coming from an acting family, Jeff was always **destined for stardom**.

His father (Lloyd Bridges) gave Jeff small parts on his TV programme, *The Lloyd Bridges Show*. "My dad loved **showbiz** and he encouraged all of us to go into it. As a kid, I didn't enjoy having a famous parent. But, looking back, I'm glad I listened to the old man." But it's not just Jeff's dad who was in the acting business, his brother Beau is also an accomplished actor, and even starred alongside him in *The Fabulous Baker Boys*.

Jeff's big break was playing Kevin Flynn in the 1982 science-fiction blockbuster *Tron*. And now it seems his career has **come full-circle** after taking on the same role in the recent sequel

TRIVIA

»Jeff loves photography and often takes photos on the **sets** of his movies. He then makes them into a book and gives them to the cast and crew as a gift.

»Jeff will be the voice of one of the characters in the Disney sequel *Cars 2*.

»Jeff was considered for the part of action hero Rambo before Sylvester Stallone got it.

»He's good friends with actors Tommy Lee Jones, Nick Nolte and Kurt Russell.

»He loves to play the guitar and used this talent for his Oscar-winning role in *Crazy Heart*.

»Jeff was once a coast guard.

»Jeff regularly starred opposite his father Lloyd Bridges, but they never played father and son.



A talented bunch take on a classic.



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TRUE GRIT

What's the best way to guarantee winning an Oscar for your film? Simple! Round up as much talent as you possibly can... which is precisely what they've done for the western remake *True Grit*.



on an adventure filled with danger and action. Sounds great!

But it isn't only Academy Award winners who **make up** the **cast** and **crew**. Young Steinfeld is a relative **newcomer**. She was given the role after a website advertised an **audition**. She said, "I actually auditioned with Jeff. It was amazing! If I didn't get the part, I would still have been **thrilled** just to meet those

WE'RE LOOKING FOR AN OSCAR.

The original film *True Grit* was a huge **box-office success**. It was released in 1969 and starred John Wayne, who won an Oscar for his role.



However, the new film will be more closely based on the original novel by Charles Portis, according to director Ethan Coen. Ethan, who made the film with his brother Joel, said, "The book is entirely from the point of view of the 14-year-old girl, Mattie Ross. I think the book is much funnier than the original movie. It also ends differently."



The film tells the story of Mattie (Hailee Steinfeld). She **sets off on a quest** to find her father's killer: Tom Chaney (played by Oscar nominee Josh Brolin). She asks US marshal Rooster Cogburn (played by Oscar winner Jeff Bridges) to help her on her mission. And they join forces with Texas ranger LaBeouf (played by Oscar winner Matt Damon), who wants Chaney for his own reasons. Together, they go off

guys." Steinfeld beat 15,000 other girls who desperately wanted to be in the film. She added, "I feel so honoured and so **blessed** to be in such an amazing film."

But if making *True Grit* was a daunting experience for young Steinfeld, how did Bridges feel about trying to **fill** John Wayne's **shoes**? "I admire John Wayne; I think he was a wonderful actor, but I'm not going to reference him, really. I'm just going to do it like in the book" Damon is also confident the new film **has a life of its own**. He said, "It's just a brilliant **adaptation**. They change stuff to make a two-hour film out of it, but retain so much of the dialogue from the book. It's a really special **script**."



So it seems all the pieces are in place to make *True Grit* a **huge** success. Yee-haw! 🌵



THE COEN BROTHERS

Oscars: four, for *Fargo* and *No Country for Old Men*, plus seven further nominations.

Notable films: *The Big Lebowski*, *O Brother, Where Art Thou?*, *Burn After Reading*.



JEFF BRIDGES

Oscars: one, for *Crazy Heart*, plus four further

nominations.

Notable films: *The Big Lebowski*, *Tron*, *Blown Away*.



MATT DAMON

Oscars: one, for co-writing *Good Will Hunting* with Ben Affleck, plus two further nominations.

Notable films: *The Bourne trilogy*, *The Talented Mr Ripley*, *Saving Private Ryan*



JOSH BROLIN

Oscars: one nomination for *Milk*.

Notable films: *W.*, *No Country for Old Men*,

Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps.



FUN FACTS

» Matt Damon based his character on actor Tommy Lee Jones, but claims LaBeouf is more of a "windbag".



» Barbra Streisand presented John Wayne with his Oscar for the original movie. She's also Josh Brolin's stepmother.



» Both John Wayne and Jeff Bridges have similar nicknames: The Duke (Wayne) and The Dude (Bridges).



GLOSSARY

a box-office success *exp*
a film that makes a lot of money at cinemas

to set off on a quest *exp*
to begin an adventure / a journey / a trip in order to find someone / something

to make up *phrvb*
to form; if A and B "make up" C, A and B form C

cast *n*
the actors in a film, play or TV show

crew *n*
the lighting technicians / sound engineers / set designers, etc. who help make a film, play or TV show

a newcomer *n*
someone who is new to something and who doesn't have much experience

an audition *n*
an interview for an acting role in a film / play / TV show, etc.

thrilled *adj*
if you are "thrilled", you are very happy and excited about something

blessed *adj*
if you feel "blessed", you think you are very lucky

to fill someone's shoes *exp*
to do the job that someone did before

to have a life of its own *exp*
to be different / new / original / not connected to any previous version

an adaptation *n*
a version of a film / play / TV show / book in a different format. For example, a film version of a book

a script *n*
the words / text that form the dialogue for a film

huge *adj*
very big

a windbag *n inform*
someone who talks a lot but who isn't very interesting

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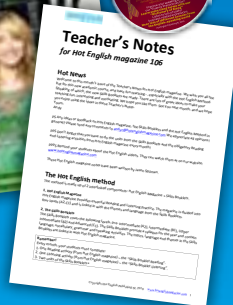
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→ **Page 43**



“I have heard that you intend to settle us on a reservation near the mountains. I don’t want to settle. I love to roam over the prairies. There I feel free and happy, but when we settle down we grow pale and die.” Satanta, Chief of the Kiowas.

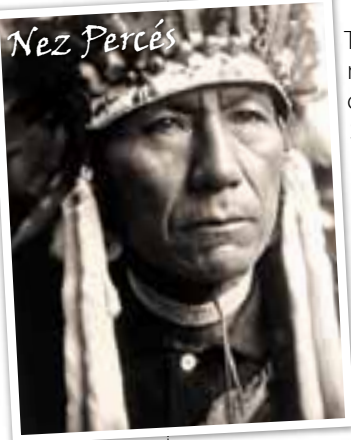
Native Americans



The Sioux. The Apaches. The Mohicans. They’re all famous Native American Indian tribes that you’ve probably heard of. But what about the Catawbas, the Cheraws, the Miamis and the Senecas?

They’re gone now. Gone forever, forgotten in a thousand burned villages, **flattened** forests and devastated **valleys**. When the **West** was “won” in the 18th and 19th centuries, hundreds of tribes disappeared. The story of the Nez Percés tribe is typical of most.

The Nez Percés lived in the Pacific Northwest region of what are now the states of Washington, Oregon, Montana and Idaho. It was a green country of **winding** waters, wide **meadows** and mountain forests. One of the tribe’s earliest contacts with white people came in 1805 during the “Lewis and Clark expedition”. This was one of the first journeys by Americans from the Atlantic coast to the Pacific coast and back again. The expedition team was **headed** by US army soldiers Meriwether Lewis and William Clark. The aim was to claim the rights of “discovery” to the Pacific Northwest and Oregon territory. In September 1805, Lewis and Clark came off the **Rockies** on their westward journey. They were **half-famished** and extremely sick, and were **cared for** by the Nez Percés. But unknown to the Indians, this was the beginning of the end for them.



Soon after this, more white men started coming to the area. In 1855, the governor of the Washington Territory, Isaac Stevens, invited the Nez Percés to a peace council in 1855. There were many whites, he told them, and many more would come, and he wanted the land marked out so that the Indians and whites could live in peace. But the chief of the tribe at that time, Old Joseph, **refused to sign** anything.

Things were quiet for a while after that, but not for long. In 1871, Old Joseph died and the chieftainship was passed onto Young Joseph. Shortly after, commissioners arrived and told the Indians they had to move to the Lapwai reservation. “Do you not want schools?” the white men asked. “Do you not want churches?” “No, we don’t want churches,” the Indians replied. “They will teach us to **quarrel** about God. We do not want to learn that. We may quarrel with men sometimes about things on this earth, but we never quarrel about God.”

Then, gold was discovered in nearby mountains. As a result, many more white men arrived. They stole the Indians’ horses and cattle and **branded** them so the Indians couldn’t claim them back. Finally, in 1877, the government sent General Howard to clear all the Nez Percés from the area. He told the Nez Percés they had 30 days to leave. The Indians **begged for**



GLOSSARY
to settle *vb*
 if you "settle" somewhere, you start to live there
to roam *vb*
 if you "roam" in an area, you travel there with no particular objective
a prairie *n*
 a term used to describe the wide open, flat land in North America
flattened *adj*
 if an area has been "flattened", all the trees have been cut down
a valley *n*
 a low place between two hills, often with a river running through it
the West *n*
 the region in the United States that is west of the Mississippi River
winding *adj*
 if a river is "winding", it isn't straight (it goes in different directions)
a meadow *n*
 a field (a flat piece of land with grass) often close to water
to head *vb*
 if you "head" a group of people, you are the leader/boss
the Rockies *n*
 (The Rocky Mountains) a range of mountains in western North America
half-famished *adj*
 if someone is "half-famished", they are dying because they are very hungry
to care for *phr vb*
 to look after; to help
to refuse *vb*
 if you "refuse" to do something, you say that you won't do it
to sign *vb*
 to write your name on an official document
to quarrel *vb*
 to argue / fight
to brand *vb*
 to use a hot piece of metal to mark an animal with a symbol / number
to beg *vb*
 to ask for something in a desperate way
to gather *vb*
 if you "gather" things, you put them all in one place
adamant *adj*
 if someone is "adamant" about something, they are determined not to change their mind about it
to accept your fate *exp*
 if you "accept your fate", you accept things as they are and you don't try to fight against them, even though they may be bad for you
a game of cat and mouse *exp*
 a situation in which A is chasing B, and B is trying to escape from A
cunning *adj*
 very clever / intelligent
in pursuit of *exp*
 if you are "in pursuit" of somebody, you are trying to catch them
to shake off *phr vb*
 if you "shake off" someone who is chasing you, you escape from them
a scout *n*
 someone who looks for the position of an enemy
to manoeuvre *vb*
 to move things (or people) about in an area in a skilful / intelligent way
to ambush *vb*
 to attack enemy soldiers by surprise, often by hiding in an area
swampy *adj*
 a wet area of land with lots of mud (soil and water)
to live out your life *exp*
 if you "live out your life" in one place, you live there until you die
a broken heart *exp*
 if someone has a "broken heart", they are very sad about something
to cope with *phr vb*
 if you "cope with" something, you manage to deal with it
a Federal reservation *n*
 an area of land where Native Americans live – it is managed by the government
to hold out against *phr vb*
 if you "hold out against" something, you manage to fight it for a period of time even though it is superior to you
overwhelming odds *exp*
 if you are fighting against "overwhelming odds", the opposition is much bigger / stronger than you
survival *n*
 the act of staying alive

Native Americans



Today, there are more than half a million Native Americans in the United States. They are still trying to **cope with** adjustment to "civilization". Some live on the more than 300 **Federal reservations** (with a total of 52,017,551 acres held in trust by the federal government), while others live in cities (about 60,000 of whom are in the Los Angeles Long Beach area of California). Indians everywhere represented heroic and romantic figures, who **held out against overwhelming odds** through their skill and courage. They lived in harmony with nature, taking what they needed, and only killing animals for food or clothing, never knowingly destroying their precious resources. These days, with serious concerns about the destruction of the environment, their lifestyle could serve as a model for our own **survival**.

Nez Percé

The name Nez Percé comes from the French word for "pierced nose". However, this is an inaccurate description of the tribe as they never



practised nose piercing. The current Nez Percé lands

consist of a reservation in northern Idaho. The total area is 3,095 km², and the reservation's population at the 2000 census was 17,959 residents.

Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee



For more information on the story of the west from the Indian's point of view, read the fascinating book *Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee* by Dee Brown.

more time to **gather** all their horses and cattle, but Howard was **adamant**.

Young Joseph was in a difficult position. Most of the tribe seemed to **accept their fate** and agreed to go to the reservation. But others wanted to try to make it to Canada. Over the next few months these Indians played a **game of cat and mouse** with the soldiers, fighting a **cunning** retreat. About 2,000 soldiers were **in pursuit of** them, but the Indians managed to **shake off** the **scouts**, **manoeuvre** expertly and even **ambush** the troops. On 17th June, the Indians drew Howard's soldiers into a trap at White Bird Canyon. They killed a third of them. But by then this band of Nez



Chief Joseph & General Howard

Percés had just 250 warriors and about 450 non-combatants, including women and children. So, after fighting 13 battles and

going more than 2,500 km, Chief Joseph made his famous quote, "Hear me, my chiefs, I am tired. My heart is sick and sad. From where the sun now stands, I will fight no more forever."

Chief Joseph surrendered to units of the US Cavalry on 5th October 1877 near Chinook, in what is now Montana. As punishment, these members of the tribe were taken to Fort Leavenworth (Kansas), where they were confined as prisoners of war. Almost a hundred died of malaria on the **swampy** land that was their new home. They remained there till 1885, by which time there were only 287 left. Many of these Indians were too young to remember their previous life of freedom, or too old and sick to threaten the mighty power of the US.



Chief Joseph

Eventually, Chief Joseph and 150 others were taken to the Colville Reservation in Washington, where they **lived out their lives**. When Joseph died on 21st September 1904, the agency doctor reported the cause of death as "a **broken heart**".



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US woman track 13

READING

Mind Control

Do some people have the power to control our minds?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Which magic tricks are the most impressive? Discuss your ideas with a partner. Can you think of any others? How are they performed?

- Sawing someone in half.
- Pulling rabbits out of hats.
- Hypnotising someone.
- Card tricks.
- Reading someone's mind.
- Guessing lottery numbers.

2 Reading I

This article is about mentalist Derren Brown and his TV shows. Read the article once. Which trick is the most impressive? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write a short summary of the tricks performed by Brown.

4 Language focus

Prepositions + The Gerund

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...He did this by placing six balls facing away from the camera..." The writer has used a preposition followed by a gerund ("by placing"). Complete the sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1. She left without _____ (say) goodbye.
2. They had a coffee before _____ (have) lunch.
3. He sent the e-mail after _____ (check) it carefully.
4. We opened the door by _____ (push) it very hard.

5 Discussion

1. What's the most amazing trick you've ever seen?
2. Have you ever predicted something correctly? What? When?
3. Do you know how to do any magic tricks? What are they?



LOOK INTO MY EYES.

Is it possible to hypnotise people? Can someone's mind be controlled through **subliminal messaging** techniques? Do some people really have supernatural powers? British **mentalist** and **illusionist** Derren Brown has performed some amazing stunts on TV.

One of Brown's **TV specials** was called *The Heist*. As part of this, he invited a group of business people to a **seminar** to learn some of his techniques. However, throughout the programme, he used mind control tricks to **condition** them into believing that they should rob a security guard. He also used the power of **suggestion** to convince them that it was possible. Eventually, on the day of the robbery, Brown put them **in the right state of mind** to commit the robbery, and three of the four participants actually robbed the security guard (who was an actor). Luckily, they weren't sent to prison as it was all part of an experiment.

Another show was *How to Win the Lottery*. For this, Brown predicted the lottery numbers live on air. He did this by placing six balls facing away from the camera next to a television showing a **live broadcast** of the **lottery draw**. After the results were announced, he turned the balls round to reveal the winning numbers. How did he do it? Wouldn't you like to know!



LOOK WHAT I CAN DO!



Hero at 30,000 feet was one of the most spectacular shows. The star of this programme was 23-year-old Matt Galley. Brown chose Matt because he was a fairly average type of person. In the show, Matt was hypnotised several times and ideas were **planted in his head**.

Later, he was placed in **terrifying** situations, which included being the victim of an armed robbery, touching a live crocodile, illicitly entering a policeman's home, and being **strapped** to a **track** while a train **hurtled** towards him.

For the final act, Matt (who is terrified of flying) was invited to **jet over to** the States to appear on Brown's TV show. During the flight, the cabin crew announced that the pilot was ill and unable to **land** the plane. Incredibly, Matt volunteered to help. However, before he could get into the **cockpit**, Brown appeared from behind a curtain and put Matt into a **hypnotic trance**. While Matt was unconscious, the plane was landed by the real pilot. Later, Matt was woken up in a **flight simulator**, still thinking he was on the original plane. Then, with the help of an air traffic controller, Matt managed to land the plane. Matt finally emerged from the cockpit to **thunderous applause** from friends and family, as well as the actors who helped **stage** many of the experiences.

So, how amazing is that? ☺

Videos

Go here to read more about The Heist: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Heist_\(Derren_Brown_special\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Heist_(Derren_Brown_special))



YouTube Click here to watch a trailer for *Hero at 30,000ft* <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vtrfFnHHZCw>



GLOSSARY

- subliminal messaging** *exp* secret messages that are transmitted without the person realising it
- a mentalist** *n* someone who can use their mind to do amazing tricks (predicting things, etc.)
- an illusionist** *n* someone who does amazing magic tricks: making things disappear, etc.
- a TV special** *n* a TV show that is made for a particular purpose
- a seminar** *n* a class at a college or university with a teacher and a small group of students
- to condition** *vb* if you "condition" someone, you change the way they behave / think
- suggestion** *n* the act of influencing people and "feeding" them with ideas
- in the right state of mind** *exp* mentally prepared to do something
- a live broadcast** *n* a TV or radio show that is shown to people at the same time as it is recorded
- a lottery draw** *n* an event where numbers are chosen as part of a lottery game. People with these numbers win money / prizes
- to plant ideas in someone's head** *exp* to put ideas in people's heads without them realising
- terrifying** *adj* very frightening
- to strap** *vb* if someone is "strapped" to something, they are tied to that thing with rope
- a track** *n* the long metal rails that a train travels on
- to hurtle** *vb* to go very fast
- to jet over to** *exp* to fly to by plane
- to land** *vb* when a plane "lands", it comes to the ground in a controlled manner
- a cockpit** *n* the place in an aeroplane where the pilot sits and flies the plane
- a hypnotic trance** *exp* if you are in a "hypnotic trance", you're being controlled by a hypnotist
- a flight simulator** *n* a machine for teaching people how to fly aeroplanes and become pilots
- a thunderous applause** *exp* a loud noise produced by lots of people clapping (hitting their hands together) at the same time
- to stage** *vb* if a situation is "staged", it is managed and controlled by someone

READING II

Musical Trends

How do you listen to music?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Match the songs (1 to 8) to the groups, singers or artists (a-h).

- Back for Good
- Mercy
- No Bravery
- I Wanna Hold your Hand
- Boom Boom Pow
- Back in Black
- Pour some Sugar on Me
- Tik Tok



a Duffy



b The Beatles



c Take That



d AC/DC



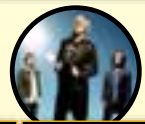
e Black Eyed Peas



f James Blunt



g Ke\$ha



h Def Leppard

2 Reading I

For many years, The Beatles' music wasn't on iTunes. Why do you think this was the case? Discuss your ideas with a partner. Then, read the article to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer these questions.

- What do Apple Corps and Apple both have?
- When did their legal fight come to an end?
- How did Steve Jobs and Paul McCartney feel about it?
- How well have the digital versions of The Beatles' songs been selling?
- Are digital music sales in the UK greater than the sale of CDs?
- What do some groups dislike about iTunes?

4 Language focus

Expressions with the verb to come



Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...the legal fight came to an end in 2007,..." The writer has used an expression with the verb "to come" ("to come to an end"). Complete the sentences with the correct prepositions.

- They came _____ with a really good idea.
- The door handle came _____ in my hand.
- She lost consciousness, but came _____ a few seconds later.
- The attacker came _____ us with a knife.

5 Discussion

- How do you listen to music? With a CD player? On the internet? Etc.
- What are the pros and cons of listening to music on an MP3 player?
- Where do you get your music from?

Digital downloads are the big thing in music. And the iTunes Music Store has just about every band, singer and group imaginable, including Take That, Duffy, James Blunt, Ke\$ha and The Black Eyed Peas. So, why did it take so long for the world's number-one band (The Beatles) to appear on the world's number-one music download site (iTunes)?



It was all down to a **copyright issue**. Both the Beatles' company (Apple Corps) and the iTunes company (Apple) have the same "apple" **trademark**, and both claimed the rights to it. After a series of court cases, the legal fight came to an end in 2007, but it took a further three years for the band's music to be made available online. The exact reason for this added **delay** are not clear, but there are rumours that it **had something to do with** a problem with record company EMI, who owned the copyright to a portion of The Beatles' music.

Anyway, they're all friends now. "We love The Beatles and are honoured and **thrilled** to welcome them to iTunes," said Apple boss Steve Jobs. Former Beatle Paul McCartney was equally pleased. "It's fantastic to see the songs we originally released **on vinyl** receive as much love in the digital world as they did the first time around." And drummer Ringo Starr had this to say, "I'm particularly **glad** that I'm no longer asked when The Beatles are coming to iTunes."

Unfortunately, sales haven't been as good as expected. Many thought The Beatles would **storm the charts** the moment they launched their **back catalogue** for digital download, but they didn't even make it to the top 10. The fact is, the majority of music sales are still in the classic CD format (only 30% of sales in the UK were digital in 2010). However, experts believe that within 10 years, all music will be sold online. And with the rise of the iPhone (and now the iPad) CD sales are **set to fall** even more.

Meanwhile, there are still a few musicians and groups who **refuse** to go on the iTunes site. They include AC/DC, Kid Rock, Garth Brooks, Bob Seger, Def Leppard and Tool. Many don't like the way that iTunes sells individual **tracks** rather than encouraging people to buy entire albums. AC/DC **front man** Brian Johnson said, "Maybe I'm just being old-fashioned, but this iTunes... it's going to kill music if they're not careful." But with digital downloads slowly overtaking CD sales, how much longer can they **hold out**? ☺

GLOSSARY

- copyright** *n* if you have the "copyright" to a book / piece of music, etc. you have the legal rights to it and people must ask your permission to copy it
- an issue** *n* a problem
- a trademark** *n* the name or logo of a company
- a delay** *n* if there is a "delay", something takes longer than expected / planned
- to have something to do with** *exp* if A "has something to do with" B, A and B are related / connected
- thrilled** *adj* very happy and excited
- on vinyl** *n* the old format for listening to music on records (round, black discs)
- glad** *adj* pleased; happy
- to storm the charts** *exp* if a group or musician "storms the charts", they are very popular and sell many records
- a back catalogue** *n* all the music a musician / group have produced in the past
- set to fall** *exp* if sales are "set to fall", they will probably decrease
- to refuse** *vb* to say that you won't do something
- a track** *n* a song
- a front man** *n* the singer in a band
- to hold out** *exp* if you "hold out", you don't do something until you absolutely need to



DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC

Expression misconceptions

A LOOK AT SOME COMMON PHRASES WHICH ARE BASED ON FALSE IDEAS.



"He's got the memory of a goldfish."

This expression is used to say that someone has a very poor memory. It's based on the idea that goldfish have a memory of only three seconds. But scientists have actually trained goldfish to navigate mazes. So, they aren't so forgetful after all!



"I'm as blind as a bat without my glasses."

People who can't see very well are often compared to bats. However, bats aren't actually blind. Most species use echolocation to help them fly around at night, but they also have eyes and are capable of sight.



"Lightning never strikes twice!"

This well-known saying means that something unusual can't happen twice in a row. But there's no reason why lightning can't strike the same place twice. In fact, lightning strikes the Empire State Building in New York City around 100 times a year!



"Stop watching so much TV! You'll get square eyes!"

Of course, no one believes your eyes will actually go square from watching too much TV, but many people tell young children not to sit too close to the television because they believe it's bad for their eyes. However, there's no evidence to suggest that watching TV causes poor vision.



"Starve a fever, feed a cold!"

People often use this expression, and it's commonly believed to be true. However, the truth is, eating has no bad effects on the body when you're sick. In fact, the reverse is probably true as food gives us energy. So, if you eat, you'll be stronger and better able to cope with the illness.



"He's just burying his head in the sand."

This expression is used to refer to someone who is hiding from their problems. It comes from the myth that ostriches hide their heads in the sand when they're in danger. They do put their heads in the sand, but not for the reason stated above: they often dig holes in the ground to protect their eggs from predators.



"If he finds out what you've done, it'll be like a red rag to a bull."

People use this expression to say that something will make someone very angry. However, bulls are colour blind, so the cloth could be yellow with pink polka dots for all they care. Apparently, it's the fast movement of the material that makes them charge.



Sponsorship Slog

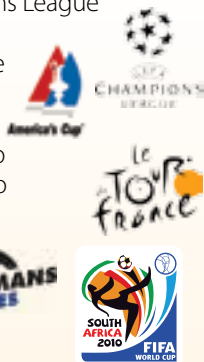
Who's playing? United or Sharp? The role of sponsorship in sport.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

What sports are associated with the following competitions / contests / tournaments?

1. The Champions League
2. America's Cup
3. Tour de France
4. Wimbledon
5. Le Mans
6. The Ryder Cup
7. The World Cup



2 Reading I

What are some of the pros and cons for companies who sponsor teams or events? Think and discuss with a partner. Then, read the article to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then say which person / sport / sports team / event, etc the following companies have sponsored.

1. BMW
2. Heineken
3. Sharp Electronics
4. Discovery Channel
5. Vodafone
6. Deutsche Telekom

4 Language focus

The Future Perfect & The Future Continuous

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...Will they have lost credibility if..." The writer has used the Future Perfect ("will they have lost"). Complete the following sentence beginnings with your own ideas. Use the Future Continuous and Future Perfect.

1. By the end of next week, I will have...
2. This time next week, I'll be...
3. By this time next year, I will have...
4. In four weeks' time, I'll be...

5 Discussion

1. Which companies sponsor famous teams in your country?
2. What do you think of sports sponsorship? Do you think it's good for the sponsoring companies?
3. What famous sports events are there in your country?

Since the early 1980s, sponsorship has become a major part of sport. But how effective is it?



There were some big changes to football shirts in the early 1980s. Instead of shirts telling you the name of the team, they gave you the name of a company. At times, it wasn't clear if the team playing was Manchester United or Sharp Electronics. However, fans soon got used to the new look shirts... until they changed again: first to Vodafone, then to American Insurance company AIG, and then to American re-insurance company Aon. It's hard to keep track sometimes.

So, why has sports sponsorship become so popular? Both sides see clear advantages. Most large companies are keen to link their brand to a well-known sporting personality or phenomenon because they believe raising their image in this way will increase sales. And the large sums they offer to do so is a big incentive for the other side. For example, AIG paid £55.6 million to have their name on Manchester United's shirts in the hope that it would bring in business. There's a lot of money involved in sports sponsorship, and many predict that the sums will be rising over the coming years.

However, football is far from the only sport to receive such generous amounts. The internationally famous German sports shoe company Puma sponsors sportsmen and women in every type of sport imaginable, including cricket, golf, rugby, athletics, Australian football, sailing, motor sports and, of course, football. The company spends millions a year promoting its brand this way. And so do rivals Adidas, Nike, and Reebok.

But problems can arise. For example, what happens if they

sponsor an unsuccessful player or team? Will they be looking stupid at the end of the season if their team has lost?

Will they have lost credibility if the person they backed fails miserably? BMW sponsored the sailing team BMW Oracle (ORCL) at the America's Cup in Valencia in 2007, but their boat was eliminated before the competition even started. The German press reported that the result may have cost the company up to \$200 million. But BMW didn't give up. They returned to Valencia again in 2010 and this time won the competition. That shows determination.

And what happens if they sponsor a team or player who gets into trouble? Deutsche Telekom were major sponsors of cycling but found themselves in an awkward situation when a number of their former riders failed drugs tests. As a result of this scandal, many companies have moved away from sponsoring cycling, including top team sponsors Discovery Channel, who were Lance Armstrong's sponsors during his glory years on the Tour de France.

Many now sponsor events rather than the people. Dutch beer giant Heineken sponsors the UEFA Champions League. Around four billion people will have watched a Champions League game by the time the referee's whistle

blows to end the tournament. And all of those spectators will have seen lots of Heineken ads and the beer's name and logo everywhere. Of course it doesn't matter to Heineken which team wins because they know that *they* will!

But the really important question is, does sponsorship work? Will you be buying a Heineken after the game

just because you've seen the logo? And what if Manchester United are playing? Will you be re-insuring your life with Aon as a result? There's clearly more research to be done. ✨





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QUIRKY NEWS & CORNY CRIMINALS

quirky news

US woman
track 16

Spider Explosion

Taking insect fear to extremes.

A man suffered serious burns after an unfortunate incident with an insect. Nigel Masters, 28, attempted to kill a spider with an **aerosol can** in the bathroom of his home in Clacton, England. Terrified of insects, he emptied the contents of the spray can over the area where he believed the spider was hiding. Wanting to check that he had actually exterminated the **creature**, Masters went to switch on the light. However, a **faulty bulb** meant that he couldn't see anything, so he lit his **cigarette lighter** to get a closer look. Bad idea! As soon as the **flame** came into contact with the gas, there was a **huge** explosion. Masters was **blown off his feet** and the room was **engulfed** in smoke. A **dazed** Masters was eventually taken to hospital with **minor injuries**. "After all that, I'm not even sure whether I killed the spider. I think it's time to deal with my fear of insects," he said. ☺



GLOSSARY

- an aerosol can** *n*
a metal, pressurised container that has liquid in it that you can spray
- a creature** *n*
an animal
- faulty** *adj*
if something is "faulty", it doesn't work properly
- a bulb** *n*
a glass ball which can light a room when connected to the electricity
- a cigarette lighter** *n*
a device (a small machine) for producing a flame to light a cigarette
- a flame** *n*
a hot bright stream of burning gas
- huge** *adj*
very big
- to be blown off your feet** *exp*
if someone is "blown off their feet", the force of an explosion makes them fall to the ground
- to engulf** *vb*
if a room is "engulfed" in smoke, the room is filled with smoke
- dazed** *adj*
if a person is "dazed", they are confused and dizzy (their head feels like it is turning round and round)
- minor injuries** *exp*
if someone has "minor injuries", they have little cuts on their body that aren't very serious
- to come up with** *exp*
to think of
- decoy** *adj*
something that is used to attract someone's attention in order to trick them
- a GPS device** *n*
a device (a small machine) that uses satellites to give you information about where something is. "GPS" stands for Global Positioning System
- to track** *vb*
to follow a signal or trail in order to find something
- a pilot scheme** *n*
a trial version of an idea to see if it works
- to drop** *vb*
to become less; to decrease
- a lock up** *n*
a safe place where things are kept
- an incentive** *n*
a good reason to do something
- entrapment** *n*
the practice of using unfair or illegal methods in order to trap / arrest someone
- to lure** *vb*
to trick someone by offering them something that they like to make them go to an area, often in order to catch them
- to take something one step further** *exp*
to take something to the next level, often by improving it
- to disguise** *vb*
if you "disguise" something, you make it look like another thing, often in order to trick someone
- a granny** *n*
an elderly / old lady
- to mug** *vb*
to steal from someone in the street using violence
- to spring into action** *exp*
if someone "springs into action", they suddenly start to act very quickly / decisively
- in hiding** *exp*
if someone is "in hiding", they are in a place where no one can find them
- a street robbery** *n*
a crime in which a thief takes something from someone in the street, often using violence or the threat of violence
- to quieten things down** *exp*
to calm a situation and make it safer or less noisy

Corny Criminals

Decoy Detail

Englishman
track 17

An innovative but controversial way to catch criminals.

What's the best way to deal with bike theft? The British police think they've **come up with** the ideal solution: **decoy** bikes. These special bicycles are fitted with hidden **GPS devices** and are left in areas where there have been robberies. Then, when one is stolen, police can **track** it and arrest the person who's taken it.

Pilot schemes seem to show that the decoy bikes (also known as "tracker bikes" or "bait bikes") actually reduce crime. Bike thefts **dropped** by 45% at Cambridge rail station when British Transport Police tested the method. And in London, rates fell by around a third in another trial. "The advantage of using bait bikes is that it enables you to track the stolen bike back to the **lock up**. And then you can get the gangs, rather than just arresting the individual bike thief," said Ben Jones of the Green Party.



But some people are against the tactic. Critics argue that the decoy bikes act as an open **incentive** to commit crime, especially for drug addicts. "In many countries, this practice would be classified as **entrapment**, and would be considered illegal – the courts would view this as **luring** people into crime," said Linda Oliver, who works for a drug intervention service.

Meanwhile, the Dutch police have **taken** the concept **one step further**. Amsterdam police regularly **disguise** officers as "decoy **grannies**" and walk in areas where attacks have occurred. Then, when they're **mugged**, they **spring into action**, with other officers often **in hiding** close by. "If we receive reports of **street robberies** in a certain area, we send out the granny. That soon **quietens things down**," said a spokesperson. ☺

Diplomacy Dig

The delicate art of diplomacy... or not.



1 Pre-listening

How diplomatic are you? What would you do or say in the following situations? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

- Someone treads on your foot in the street.
- Someone pulls out in front of you as you're driving along.
- A neighbour leaves some rubbish bags outside your house / flat.
- Someone parks in your parking space at work.
- A colleague borrows your stapler without asking first.
- Someone takes your seat at a restaurant.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to an interview with someone who is applying for a job with the Foreign Office. What questions do you think the interviewer is going to ask? Think. Then, listen once to compare your ideas.

3 Listening II

Complete the sentences with any words of your choice. Then, listen again to check your answers.

1. ...although I don't usually get directly involved in recruitment, I thought I'd _____ on this occasion.
2. Now, as you know the Foreign Office is responsible for ensuring that Britain's interests abroad _____.
3. We need people who can analyse situations and make decisions. But not _____!
4. Now let us imagine a situation. You are at a reception at the British Embassy in Vienna and you meet the German Ambassador. How would you _____?
5. Imagine the country of Utopia has threatened to stop selling oil to the United Kingdom. What would your _____?
6. Forgive me for saying so, but don't you think your reaction to _____ might have been somewhat hasty?

4 Language focus Linking words

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Diplomacy Dig: "...although I don't usually get directly involved in recruitment, I thought..." The speaker has used a linking word ("although"). Complete the sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

1. Although I like him, I don't really...
2. It's good. However, I don't think...
3. Despite doing very well in the first round...
4. In spite of their initial poor performance, they managed to...

5 Discussion

1. Have there been any incidents involving your country and another country recently? What?
2. What are your country's relations like with neighbouring nations?
3. When was the last time there was a diplomatic incident involving your country?



Easy Curry!

LOOKING FOR SOMETHING TO SPICE UP YOUR LIFE? TRY THIS DELICIOUS AND SIMPLE CHICKPEA AND ONION CURRY RECIPE.

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons of curry powder.
- 1 jar of chickpeas.
- 1 tin of coconut milk.
- Half a slice of lemon.
- Chopped coriander.
- 5 medium-sized potatoes (peeled).
- 1 large onion.
- 3 cloves of garlic (chopped).
- A pinch of dried mixed herbs.
- 2 tablespoons of olive oil.
- 1 teaspoon of brown sugar.
- White rice.
- Salt and pepper.



GLOSSARY

- a jar** *n*
a glass container for food
- a chickpea** *n*
a small, round, white legume (pea or bean) that you can eat
- a slice of** *exp*
a thin piece of
- chopped** *adj*
cut into very small pieces
- coriander** *n*
an aromatic green herb used in curries
- peeled** *adj*
with the skin removed
- a clove of garlic** *n*
one of the sections of the garlic bulb
- a cube** *n*
a small square of something
- to sauté** *vb*
to cook quickly in hot oil
- to parboil** *vb*
to cook in very hot water (100°C) for a short period of time, taking it out before it is fully cooked
- to drain** *vb*
to remove the liquid from
- to sprinkle** *vb*
if you "sprinkle" food on top of a dish, you put an amount of that food over the top of that dish
- to stir in** *exp*
if you "stir in" food, you add it slowly whilst moving it around or mixing it in
- a pinch of** *exp*
a small amount of food that you can hold between two fingers

Preparation

1. Cut the potatoes into **cubes** and put them in a pan of boiling water. Slice the onion into thin pieces and **sauté** with the chopped garlic in olive oil. When the potatoes are **parboiled**, **drain** them and add them to the onions and garlic in the pan. **Sprinkle** some salt, pepper and mixed herbs over them.
2. When the potatoes are soft, **stir in** the curry powder and sugar. Drain the chickpeas, and add them to the pan. Squeeze the juice from the lemon into the pan, too. Finally, add the coconut milk. Leave to simmer for around 10 minutes.
3. When it's ready, add a generous **pinch of** chopped coriander and serve over white rice. ✨

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DICTIONARY OF SLANG

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Situation	Formal	Normal	Informal
A colleague has just found out that you took his stapler without permission. He isn't happy about it.	He is most displeased at the situation.	He isn't happy.	He's not a happy bunny. / He's not a happy camper.
A stranger challenges you to a chess tournament. You tell him that you could beat him easily.	I am confident that my mental ability is sufficient to defeat you.	I'd win easily.	I could have you any day.
You bought a diamond necklace, but a friend tells you that it's a fake.	You have been deceived into believing that it was genuine.	They tricked you.	You've been had. / You've been ripped off.
A friend earns a lot of money.	He earns a substantially large amount of money from his current occupation.	He earns a huge amount of money.	He earns a hell of a lot of money.
You had a bad travelling experience.	We had a most awful time during our journey.	We had a really bad time.	We had a hell of a time.
A friend has had a terrible week at work and is tired of everything.	I have feelings of anger and indifference with regards to my profession.	I'm fed up of this job.	I've had it up to here with this job.



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Accents in films

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

One very difficult part of learning English is understanding different accents. But imagine having to learn how to speak in a different accent for a film! We chatted to Irish actor Colin Farrell to see how he coped with learning a Russian accent in the film *The Way Back*.

Colin (who plays Valka in the film) had to learn how to speak English in a Russian accent. To do this, he used an accent coach and spent a lot of time listening to Russian. He also studied Russian poetry. There are many key characteristics to a Russian accent. For example, Russians often use a "v" sound instead of the "w" sound. So, instead of saying "what", they may say "vat". Also, articles such as "a", "an" and "the" are often omitted as they aren't so common in Russian. The Russian accent also has fewer tone and pitch changes, so it isn't as "sing-songy" as English (it is often spoken more as a monotone).

Other actors who have spoken with a Russian accent in films include Mickey Rourke (who played villain Ivan Vanko in *Iron Man 2*), Nicole Kidman (in her role as a mail order bride in *Birthday Girl*), and Rosanna Arquette (in *The Whole Nine Yards*).



Of course, not all actors are good at imitating accents. American actor Dick Van Dyke was famous for his terrible impersonation of a London Cockney in the film *Mary Poppins*. Keanu Reeves' British accent wasn't that great in *Dracula* or *Much Ado About Nothing*, and Sean Connery's Irish accent in *The Untouchables* failed to convince audiences and critics.

Now sit back and listen to Colin Farrell talking about how he managed to learn to speak English with a Russian accent. Please note, this is a recording of spontaneous, unscripted, unstructured chat and as such it contains features of spoken English such as non-standard language. 🗣️

You Tube Watch this interview with American actor Mickey Rourke in which he explains how he perfected his Russian accent. <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kyW8L7oAUDg>



ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Work Rules

Keeping a tight rein on the workforce.

1 Pre-listening

What are some of the rules, regulations and policies that cover the following areas in your company? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

- stationery food personal calls use of the toilet
- smoking e-mails internet use company secrets
- instant messenger programs security theft
- health and safety

Other?

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to someone who is giving a talk to staff at an engineering company. What is he angry about?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, make a note of what the man says about the following things:

1. The stationery cupboard
2. The staff canteen
3. Cleaning products
4. His suggestions to management
5. The new security measures

4 Language focus Perfect Tenses

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Work Rules: "... Now, I've been carrying out an inventory..." The speaker has used the Present Perfect Continuous ("have been carrying out"). Complete the following sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

1. I've been trying to...
2. I've just been given...
3. I'll have finished... by next week.
4. I haven't quite managed to... yet.

5 Discussion

1. What rules and regulations are there in your company?
2. What are the rules regarding smoking breaks?
3. Are there ever any seminars or presentations for the workforce in your company? What are they about?

BOAT & SAILING IDIOMS

THIS MONTH WE'RE LOOKING AT SOME "BOAT" & "SAILING" IDIOMS.



Be in the same boat (as someone)
 TO BE IN THE SAME SITUATION AS SOMEONE; TO HAVE THE SAME PROBLEMS AS SOMEONE.
Sam: Could you lend me a bit of money to get the bus?
Jessica: Sorry, mate. I'm in the same boat – I haven't got a penny.



Rock the boat
 TO DO OR SAY SOMETHING THAT CAUSES PROBLEMS; TO UPSET PEOPLE BY DOING OR SAYING SOMETHING.
 "I hate to rock the boat, but I really think we need to cut back on our monthly expenses."



Push the boat out
 TO SPEND A LOT OF MONEY, ESPECIALLY IN ORDER TO CELEBRATE A SPECIAL EVENT.
 "We had a piece of really good news, so we pushed the boat out and got the most expensive bottles of Champagne we could find."



Miss the boat
 TO BE TOO LATE FOR SOMETHING.
 I sent off my application at the last minute. I hope I didn't miss the boat.



Sail through something
 TO DO SOMETHING EASILY.
 "She sailed through her exams."



Take / knock the wind out of someone's sails
 TO MAKE SOMEONE FEEL LESS CONFIDENT / ANGRY / AGGRESSIVE, ETC.
 "I was really angry with her, but seeing those lovely chocolates that she'd bought for me really took the wind out of my sails."



Sail close to the wind
 TO TAKE RISKS; TO DO SOMETHING THAT IS DANGEROUS. TO DO SOMETHING THAT COULD BE CONSIDERED ILLEGAL. "They seemed to think it was all perfectly legal, but I think we were sailing a bit too close to the wind."



Car Fun

The Mini: the story of an icon.

For over fifty years, the Mini has been the world's favourite small car and it's still selling well. In fact, it's the best-selling British car of all time with over five million models sold! But what does the future hold for the car?

The Mini is particularly associated with Britain in the 1960s. Owning one was very much a fashion statement, and many celebrities had custom-made models.

Beatles stars John Lennon, Ringo Starr and George Harrison all had one.

Harrison's psychedelic Mini (which he kept and maintained for many years) appears in the group's film *Magical Mystery Tour*. Minis also appeared in

the 1969 film *The Italian Job* starring Michael Caine, in which a gang of gold bullion thieves use Minis to escape through Milan's narrow streets. More recently

Minis have appeared in *The Bourne Identity* and *Lara Craft: Tombr Raider*. Oh, and Mr Bean drives one.

However, although the Mini was a great success, it made little money. The Ford Motor Company once took a Mini to pieces and reported that it didn't believe that BMC could be making a profit. On the contrary, Ford claimed that BMC must be losing £30 on each car sold! BMC certainly had financial problems. In the 1960s, it merged with Jaguar and then Leyland to become British Leyland, which in turn was bought by the Rover Group. Rover had no more success and was bought by BMW. The German company kept the Mini going for a few years but the last Mini was finally produced on 4th October 2000. In total 5,387,862 Minis had been made. It should have been the end of an era... but it wasn't! In 2001, BMW announced the launch of the BMW MINI (spelt with capitals in order to differentiate it from the older version). The new car is quite a bit bigger than the old Mini: it's 58

cms longer, 50 cms wider, and 7 cms higher. But like its predecessor, it's also very popular. A million had been made by 2007 and there's no sign of demand slowing down. Hopefully, the new MINI is here to stay. ✨



ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Match the cars (1 to 8) to the pictures (a-h).

1. Mini
2. Jaguar
3. Rolls Royce
4. Volkswagen Beetle
5. Ford Mustang
6. Ferrari
7. BMW
8. Mercedes



2 Reading I

What do you know about the Mini? Think of three things you'd like to know. Then, read the article and see if you can find the answers to your questions.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, say what these numbers, dates, etc. refer to.

1. 1950s
2. 1959
3. 3 x 1.2 x 1.2 metres
4. 1969
5. £30
6. 2001



4 Language focus Modal verbs

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...one that could fit in a box measuring 3 x 1.2 x 1.2 metres..." The writer has used a modal verb ("could"). Complete the sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

1. This couldn't possibly be...
2. I can't quite believe that you'd ever want to...
3. I shouldn't imagine that you'd ever need to...
4. I could never get used to the fact that...

5 Discussion

1. What's your favourite make of car? Why?
2. Are there any famous makes of car from your country?
3. What cars were popular in your country in the past?

The original Mini was designed in the 1950s by Sir Alec Issigonis, a Greek-British car designer. At the time, Issigonis was working for the British Motor Corporation (BMC) when he was asked to design three different cars: a large comfortable car; a medium-sized family car; and a small one for cities. At first, Issigonis concentrated on the two bigger models, but when petrol became scarce following the Suez Crisis of 1957, Issigonis began to develop the smallest model. The car was launched in 1959 and had two names: the Morris Minor Mini, and the Austin Seven. However, as the car became popular, the two names were dropped and the car became simply, the Mini.

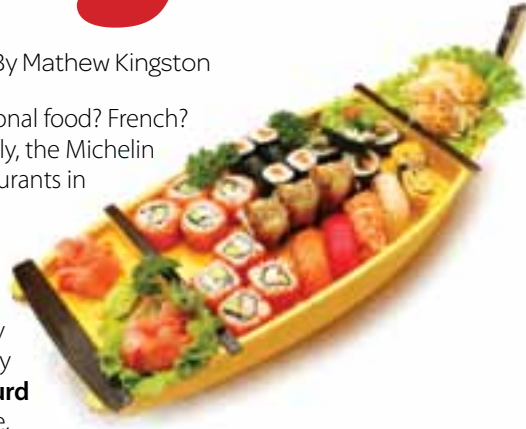
The Mini was different from anything produced before. Issigonis' boss at BMC (Leonard Lord) had given precise instructions on the type of car he wanted: one that could fit in a box measuring 3 x 1.2 x 1.2 metres. A very small car! Issigonis' idea was to make the car with a front wheel drive engine, which meant that the maximum amount of space could be used for passengers and luggage. In fact, everything was done to save space. For example, windows slid side to side rather than up and down, which meant that passengers could put things in door pockets.

Initially the cars were produced at Longbridge and Cowley car plants in the UK. However, soon factories in Australia, Spain, Belgium, Chile, Italy, Portugal, South Africa, Uganda, Venezuela, and Yugoslavia were rolling them out. There have been many different models over the years too, including the Mini Clubman and the Mini Cooper, which won the Monte Carlo Rally three times in the mid-sixties.

READING I

Culinary Delights

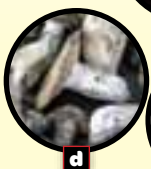
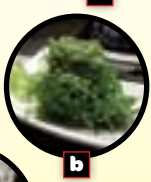
Japanese food makes its mark on the world. By Mathew Kingston



1 Pre-reading

Match the food (1 to 8) to the pictures (a-g). Which of these items have you eaten?

1. Soup
2. Tuna (fish)
3. Flour
4. Mushrooms
5. Soya bean / soy bean (US)
6. Seaweed
7. Noodles
8. Bamboo shoots



2 Reading I

What are some of the health benefits of some of the types of food mentioned in the Pre-reading activity? Think. Then, read the article to check your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Make notes on the following areas of Japanese food.

1. The ingredients
2. Presentation
3. Unique dishes
4. Rituals and traditions.

4 Language focus

Passive infinitives

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "... Fish, in particular, should be served as soon as possible..." The writer has used a passive infinitive with a modal verb ("should be served"). Complete the following sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

1. This plant should be watered...
2. That e-mail should be sent...
3. The sheets should be changed...
4. My salary should be paid...

5 Discussion

1. Have you ever tried Japanese food? What did you think of it?
2. What other Asian food have you tried?
3. What's your favourite type of international food? Why?

What's your favourite type of international food? French? Indian? Italian? Mexican? Just recently, the Michelin Guide 2010 gave more stars to restaurants in Tokyo than in any other city... including Paris. So, what's so special about Japanese food?

First of all, it's healthy. There are lots of fresh vegetables. And the **portions** are usually fairly small (excessive eating is not encouraged). Soy products and tofu (which is made from the **curd** of **soya bean milk**), help reduce heart disease, **cholesterol** and high blood pressure. Tofu is also a great source of **protein**. And buckwheat flour, which is used to make Japanese noodles, is good for the digestive system.

There's lots of fish, too, which is a good source of protein. And there's seaweed, which has a long list of minerals, including sodium, magnesium, potassium and phosphorus. Seaweed is also one of the richest plant sources on earth of both vitamin C and calcium, and the high **soluble-fibre** content means it can lower cholesterol.

The ingredients in Japanese food are often **seasonal**, too, so, they're always fresh. In spring, you'll find bamboo shoots, tuna and herring; in early summer, **bonito**; autumn brings chestnuts and matsutake mushrooms. Freshness is seen as the key to healthy eating. Fish, in particular, should be served as soon as possible – preferably, the day it's caught.

Presentation is also an important part of Japanese cuisine. Much attention goes into the appearance of the food. For example, a **chef** will think about colour, texture and even weight of food when combining different ingredients in a harmonious whole. Contrasting flavours create a sense of balance, too.

Japanese food has many unique dishes. "Sushi" refers to the bite-sized rolls of cold, cooked rice that have been **dressed** with vinegar and **topped with** raw fish. Sliced raw fish by itself is called "sashimi". Puffer fish (known in Japan as "fugu" – "river pig") is notorious for the deadly toxins of its internal organs. The chef cuts the fish in such a way that a little poison is released into the fish. This gives the fish a distinctive flavour. However, great skill is required as one **wrong move** could release too much poison, contaminating the meat and **sending** the diners to an **early grave**.

Finally, there's a lot of ritual surrounding Japanese food. For example, it's fine to eat sushi with your fingers, but for sashimi you need to use chopsticks. You can **slurp** ramen noodles, but you can't do this with soup. When drinking "sake" (fortified rice wine), you should keep an eye on your companions' drinks. If the glasses are low, **top them up**, but don't **pour** for yourself – wait for someone else to do it.

"Let little seem like much, as long as it's fresh and beautiful," goes the popular proverb. Japanese food is a mixture of contemporary and traditional cuisine. It's healthy, well-presented, aesthetically-pleasing and very tasty. So, as they say in Japan before a meal, "Itadakimasu!" ["I shall take!"] ☆

GLOSSARY

- a portion** *n*
an amount of food that is served to someone
- curd** *n*
a thick substance that is formed from milk or other liquids
- soya bean milk** *n*
the light-coloured liquid from a soya bean (a small bean from a plant)
- cholesterol** *n*
a substance that exists in the fat, tissues and blood. Too much of it is bad for you
- protein** *n*
a substance found in food and drink such as meat, eggs, milk, etc. It helps you grow and be healthy
- soluble fibre** *n*
a type of fibre found in food that helps lower cholesterol
- seasonal** *adj*
if food is "seasonal", it is only available at a certain time of year
- bonito** *n*
a fish that is similar to a tuna (fish) but smaller
- a chef** *n*
a person whose job is to prepare food in a restaurant
- to dress** *vb*
if you "dress" food, you put oil / vinegar / salt / pepper, etc. on it to make it taste better
- topped with** *exp*
if food is "topped with" something (such as cheese, etc.), it has that thing on top
- wrong move** *exp*
if you make a "wrong move", you do something incorrectly
- send someone to an early grave** *exp*
if you "send someone to an early grave", you kill them
- to slurp** *vb*
to make a loud noise whilst eating or drinking something
- to top up** *phr vb*
to add more of a drink to someone's glass so that it is full
- to pour** *vb*
to put liquid from a container into a glass / other container, etc.

Funniest Jokes

Are these the best jokes of all time?



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this topic in a mini-video at
www.hotenglishmagazine.com



Englishman & US woman

track 24

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

What makes you laugh?
Circle the things in the list below.
Then, discuss your ideas with a partner.

- jokes
- books
- comics
- films
- comedians
- stories
- TV series
- videos
- TV shows
- pictures
- stickers
- people
- magazines
- anecdotes
- sketches
- cartoons
- posters

Other?

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which joke is the funniest for you?

3 Reading II

Read the article again and see if you can find the "humour" in each joke.

4 Language focus Idiomatic expressions

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...Slept like a log..." The writer has used an idiomatic expression ("to sleep like a log"), which means to sleep very deeply. What do the following expressions mean?

1. Eat like a horse
2. Eat like a pig
3. Work like a dog
4. Eat like a bird
5. Watch someone like a hawk

5 Discussion

1. What's your favourite joke of all time?
2. Do you like telling jokes? Why? Why not?
3. Who are some of your favourite comedians? Why do you like them?

What's the best joke you've ever heard? Researchers think they've come up with a list of the best jokes in English. Here are a few of them. See if you can find the "humour" in each one.

- A sandwich walks into a bar. The barman says, "Sorry we don't serve food in here."
- I tried water polo, but my horse drowned.
- Went to the **corner shop** – bought four corners.
- My mother-in-law fell down a **wishing well**. I was amazed, I never knew they worked.
- I went to buy some **camouflage trousers** the other day but I couldn't find any.
- A priest, a rabbi and a vicar walk into a bar. The barman says, "Is this some kind of joke?"
- I said to the gym instructor, "Can you teach me to **do the splits**?" He said, "How flexible are you?" I said, "I can't make Tuesdays."
- I'll tell you what I love doing more than anything: trying to pack myself in a small suitcase. I can **hardly contain myself**.
- Went to the **paper shop** – it had blown away.
- I said to this train driver "I want to go to Paris." He said "**Eurostar**?" I said, "I've been on **telly** but I'm no Dean Martin."
- I **backed a horse** last week at **ten to one**. It came in at a quarter past four.
- Four fonts walk into a bar and the barman says, "Oi! Get out! We don't want your **type** in here."
- The other day I sent my girlfriend a huge pile of snow. I rang her up. I said, "Did you **get my drift**?"
- **Slept like a log** last night... woke up in the fireplace.
- A **jump-lead** walks into a bar. The barman says "I'll serve you, but **don't start** anything."
- I was having dinner with Garry Kasparov and there was a **check tablecloth**. It took him two hours to pass me the salt.
- My therapist says I have a preoccupation with vengeance. We'll see about that.
- When Susan's boyfriend proposed marriage to her she said, "I love the simple things in life, but I don't want one of them for my husband?"
- There's two fish in a **tank**, and one says to the other, "How do you drive this thing?"
- I saw this **bloke chatting up** a cheetah; I thought, "He's trying to **pull a fast one**."
- I went to the doctors the other day and I said, "Have you got anything for **wind**?" So, he gave me a kite.
- Two aerials meet on a roof, fall in love, get married. The ceremony was rubbish – but the **reception** was brilliant. ☆



GLOSSARY

- a corner shop** *n*
two meanings: a) a small shop on the corner of a street; b) a shop that sells corners (although they don't really exist!)
- a wishing well** *n*
a hole in the ground for extracting water. People often throw money into them and make a wish in the hope something good will happen to them
- camouflage trousers** *n*
trousers worn by soldiers. They are often green or brown so people can't see them very well
- to do the splits** *exp*
the act of sitting with your legs apart and at right angles to your body
- hardly contain yourself** *exp*
if you can "hardly contain yourself", you can't stop yourself from laughing. Also, if you "contain" something, you put it in a container
- a paper shop** *n*
two meanings: a) a shop that sells newspapers and magazines; b) a shop made of paper
- Eurostar** *n*
a train company that connects France and Belgium to England. The pronunciation of the word sounds a bit like "you're a star?"
- a telly** *n inform*
a television
- to back a horse** *exp*
if you "back a horse", you bet money on that horse in a race
- ten to one** *exp*
two meanings: a) the odds you get when gambling; for every pound you spend, you get ten if you win; b) a time of day: 12.50
- type** *n*
two meanings: a) a category or kind of something; b) a style of writing on a word processor
- get my drift** *exp*
two meanings: a) do you understand me?; b) a "drift" is a large pile of snow in one place, often caused by wind
- to sleep like a log** *exp*
to sleep very well and profoundly. Literally, a "log" is a piece of wood
- a jump-lead** *n*
an electrical cable used to make a car battery start when connected to another car battery
- don't start** *exp*
don't cause trouble!
- a check tablecloth** *n*
a covering for a table with lots of coloured squares on it
- a tank** *n*
two meanings: a) a large glass container for fish to live in; b) a military vehicle with a long powerful gun
- a bloke** *n inform*
a man
- to chat up** *phr vb*
to talk to someone in the hope of starting a relationship with them
- to pull a fast one** *exp*
two meanings: a) to do something clever in order to trick someone; b) if you "pull" someone, you start a relationship with them that night
- wind** *n*
two meanings: a) gas that accumulates in the stomach; b) fast-moving air in the atmosphere
- reception** *n*
two meanings: a) a party after a wedding; b) if the "reception" of a TV or radio broadcast is good, the picture / image / sound is very good

PHRASAL VERB THEMES

Health & Sickness

HERE ARE SOME TYPICAL PHRASAL VERBS THAT YOU CAN USE TO TALK ABOUT HEALTH AND SICKNESS. COMPLETE THE SENTENCES (1 TO 8) WITH THE WORDS FROM BELOW.

fish after work infection nasty measles to bed blood

Clear up

IF SOMEONE'S ILLNESS "CLEARS UP", IT GOES AWAY / DISAPPEARS.



1

"I had a minor _____ last week, but it's cleared up now."

Pass out

IF SOMEONE "PASSES OUT", THEY LOSE CONSCIOUSNESS / FAINT.



2

"He passed out at the sight of all the _____."

Come around / round / to

IF YOU "COME ROUND", YOU REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS.

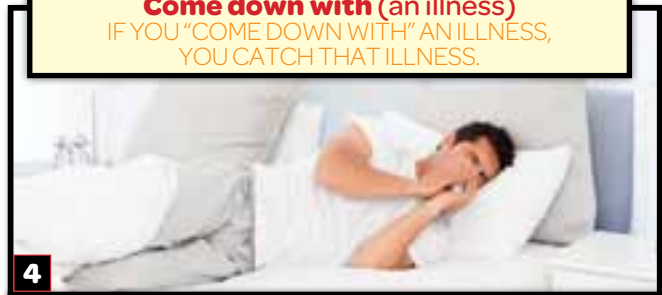


3

"He came round two minutes _____ fainting."

Come down with (an illness)

IF YOU "COME DOWN WITH" AN ILLNESS, YOU CATCH THAT ILLNESS.



4

"I don't think I can play tonight. I've come down with a _____ cold."

Come out in (spots / a rash)

IF YOU "COME OUT IN" SPOTS, THOSE SPOTS APPEAR ON YOUR BODY.



5

"He's come out in spots. I think he's got _____."

Bring something up

IF SOMEONE "BRINGS UP" FOOD, THEY VOMIT (EXPEL LIQUID / FOOD FROM THE MOUTH).



6

"I think the _____ was off because she brought it up later that night."

Throw up

IF SOMEONE "THROWS UP", THEY VOMIT.



7

"I think he had too much to drink as he threw up shortly after going _____."

Get over (an illness)

TO RECOVER FROM AN ILLNESS.



8

"As soon as I get over this flu, I'll go back to _____."



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TAPESCRIPTS & BAR CHATS

Economy Watch (track 9) Radical solutions for the economy.

Garside: Good evening and welcome to *Economy Watch*, your weekly guide to what's happening in the world of interest rates, pension funds and stock portfolios. I'm joined this week by Professor Sigismund Jarvis from the University of Scunthorpe, where he's the Tesco superstore professor of applied economics. Good evening Professor Jarvis.

Jarvis: Good evening.

Garside: So, professor, it's been another difficult week for the economy. As the world recession deepens, the financial crisis is only getting worse, it seems.

Jarvis: No, no. Not at all. Everything's fine. I firmly believe that the world economy will be strong and healthy again before...

Garside: ...the end of next year?

Jarvis: No! No! No! Before... lunchtime tomorrow.

Garside: Lunchtime tomorrow! But Professor, only yesterday, the pound fell by five points against the dollar. The euro is six cents down on the yen, and the strongest European currency is the Albanian Lek.

Jarvis: All this is true, but I predict that better days are just around the corner.

Garside: So, what advice can you give to the small investor? Investing in gold is usually advisable in times of hardship. Could we see a return to the gold standard? After all, it's the perfect form of currency: it has high value in relation to its volume and weight, it's rare, it's durable, it's easy to transport. It'll provide stability and will help keep inflation down.

Jarvis: No, no, no. I believe that the current form of currency – money – will be replaced by... sheep. If you have any spare cash, spend it on sheep. Sheep are the future. Buy sheep!

Garside: Sheep?

Jarvis: Absolutely. People will soon be buying everything using sheep. Money is a thing of the past. Very soon, all currencies will be replaced by sheep.

Garside: Do you really think that we'll be spending "sheep" rather than pounds?

Jarvis: Oh, please. Of course not.

Garside: Oh good. So what exactly do you think is happening?

Jarvis: Well, you won't be able to buy a loaf of bread with a sheep. If you want to do that, you'll need some glass beads and bottle tops.

Garside: Glass beads and bottle tops?

Jarvis: And a good supply of lambs, if at all possible.

Garside: Glass beads, bottle tops and lambs?

Jarvis: Of course. Look, just imagine you want to buy a loaf of bread. If you paid with a sheep, it'd be like trying to pay with a £500 note.

Garside: I'm sorry, I don't understand.

Jarvis: It's simple. Sheep are good for big purchases, but for smaller items, we need glass beads, bottle tops and lambs. I imagine a loaf of bread will cost about three bottle tops. A bar of chocolate will cost you two bottle tops and six glass beads. An iPod

will cost you a lamb, and if you want a decent flat screen TV, you'll need a couple of sheep and a chicken.

Garside: I'm sorry, professor, but you seem to be predicting the end of the cash economy. How can that be possible?

Jarvis: It's perfectly possible. Currencies are going up and down randomly. We can't trust them. However, we can trust a sheep. A sheep is a reliable investment. A sheep is always a sheep.

Garside: Your analysis seems ridiculous.

Jarvis: Not at all. Look, there's a crisis in the money supply. No one has any money. I haven't got any money. I haven't been paid since I lost my job at the university. However, I do have sheep... lots of them.

Garside: Well, thank you, Professor. I'm afraid we've run out of time. Let's move on, quickly, to our analysis of the fall of the Celtic Tiger and the rise of the Chinese Dragon.

Jarvis: I can sell you a sheep, you know. I've got lots. I've bought a sheep farm.

Bank Bash (track 12) The bank manager from hell!

Mr H: Oh, good morning. My name's Harrison, Bernard Harrison. I think I've got an appointment with you... to talk about a mortgage?

Mrs S: Oh, yes. Please have a seat. I'll be with you in a moment.

Mr H: Thank you very much.

Mrs S: Bad debts, Mr Harrison.

Mr H: Really?

Mrs S: Yes, bad debts... My favourite kind.

Mr H: Well... yes, erm, OK.

Mrs S: I don't know why people do it, Mr Harrison, I really don't. People come into my office day after day... just like you today, Mr Harrison... and they borrow money that they can't repay. And what happens? And what happens, Mr Harrison?

Mr H: Oh... erm, I don't know.

Mrs S: Let me tell you... I send the bailiffs to your house and they take away your washing machine, your flat screen TV and your DVD player. They drive away in your car. I sell your house and take all the money. Your children can't go to university because there's no money. Lives are ruined, Mr Harrison, because of bad debts. Still there is always a silver lining.

Mr H: There is?

Mrs S: Oh yes. What's bad for the customer will be good for the bank. And what's good for the bank will be good for me. I get a bigger bonus. My husband gets a bigger car, my children get a laptop each, and I can buy a bigger calculator! Now how may I help you?

Mr H: Well, I really don't want to bother you. I can see you're busy. I could come back another day.

Mrs S: I think you said something about... a mortgage.

Mr H: Well, yes. We're expecting our third child, so we thought we should buy a bigger house. We're going to need more room.

Mrs S: Really?

Mr H: We've seen a very nice house in Waverly Road.

Mrs S: Did you say Waverly Road, Mr Harrison?

Mr H: Er, yes. Do you know it?

Mrs S: I live in Waverly Road, Mr Harrison. So, what makes you think you deserve to become my neighbour?

Mr H: Well, I've just received a small pay rise at work and so my wife and I were thinking... .

Mrs S: Let me see what your monthly income is. So, you think being... an assistant account manager at... Crotherford's Biscuits entitles you to move into my street, do you, Mr Harrison?

Mr H: Well, we were hoping...

Mrs S: Yes?

Mr H: We were hoping you might give us a mortgage.

Mrs S: Right. Let's get this crystal clear, Harrison... Opening a mortgage will cost you 2.5% of the capital sum, plus VAT at 18%. There'll be a bank processing charge of 3.875%, interest on the mortgage will be calculated at the Euribor plus five or six percent depending on how I feel. You will have to take out life insurance, house insurance, car insurance, and pet insurance with the bank at rates of interest to be decided by me. Should you fail to make a single payment, all your possessions will immediately become property of my bank. Understand? Good. Sign here!

Mr H: Well, I really ought to discuss this with my wife.

Mrs S: This offer is only available here and now. Should you return to the bank at a future date, you'll be charged a penalty fee of £15,000 for wasting my time. It's all here in black and white. If you want the house and a future in Waverly Road, I suggest you sign right now.

Mr H: Oh, right OK. Thank you very much. Goodbye.

Mrs S: Goodbye. Hello, Gordon, it's Glenda here. Tell Ronnie he can order the new PlayStation he wants. We've just come into a bit of money.

Diplomacy Dig (track 18) The delicate art of diplomacy... or not.

Sir H: Ah, come in, come in, please take a seat.

Amy: Thank you very much. I'd just like to say... .

Sir H: ... My name is Sir Henry Fitzwarren and for the duration of this interview you may address me as Sir Henry.

Amy: Oh, yes. Of course, Sir Henry.

Sir H: Excellent. Now, as you're aware, I am the Permanent Secretary here at the Foreign Office, and although I don't usually get directly involved in recruitment, I thought I'd make an exception on this occasion.

Amy: Of course. Thank you, Sir Henry.

Sir H: Excellent. Now, as you know the Foreign Office is responsible for ensuring that Britain's interests abroad are protected. Doing so frequently requires a great deal of diplomacy. The purpose of this interview is for me to see whether you have the qualities required to represent your country as a member of the diplomatic corps.

Amy: Of course, Sir Henry.

Sir H: Very well. Now the qualities we are looking for are numerous, but

chief amongst them is a keen and incisive mind – one that has an understanding of the world and this country's role in it. We need people who can analyse situations and make decisions. But not hasty decisions! Rather considered decisions, ones that have taken every possible outcome into account. Do you feel you have these qualities?

Amy: Well, I took Geography A Level at school, Sir Henry.

Sir H: And failed, I see.

Amy: Unfortunately, yes, Sir Henry.

Sir H: No matter. Now let us imagine a situation. You are at a reception at the British Embassy in Vienna and you meet the German Ambassador. How would you address him?

Amy: Oh, that's easy. I'd say, "Hello there, Brains."

Sir H: I'm sorry?

Amy: I was at school with the German Ambassador to Austria. We always called him "Brains". It was his nickname. Very clever chap, he was.

Sir H: Of course. Very well, another situation. Imagine the country of Utopia has threatened to stop selling oil to the United Kingdom. What would your reaction be?

Amy: I'd immediately declare war. I'd send the Royal navy to blockade all Utopian ports in the Baltic Sea and put the Royal Air Force on red alert to begin bombing Utopian cities.

Sir H: I see. So, do you feel that your actions would relieve tensions between our two countries?

Amy: Oh... I see what you mean. Well, I'd obviously keep the Russians informed about the diplomatic crisis. And I'd warn them that they'd get a pretty hot reception from us if they tried interfering.

Sir H: Erm, why the Russians?

Amy: Well, Utopia shares a border with Russia, doesn't it? It's one of those Baltic States.

Sir H: Well. Actually, Utopia is an imaginary country. I was using it as an example.

Amy: Oh, right. I didn't realise. I'm sorry.

Sir H: Forgive me for saying so, but don't you think your reaction to the Utopian crisis might have been somewhat hasty?

Amy: In what way, Sir Henry?

Sir H: Well, I believe that you would have been directly responsible for the outbreak of the Third World War.

Amy: And is that a bad thing, Sir Henry?

Sir H: It's certainly not very diplomatic.

Amy: Of course, Sir Henry. I have to say this whole diplomacy business is a bit more complicated than I imagined. I thought I'd be dealing with real places. I wasn't expecting to be working in imaginary countries. Are there many imaginary embassies?

Sir H: Yes, well, let's not worry too much about that. I'm confident that you'll fit in here very well. We'll see you on Monday.

Amy: Oh, excellent. Thank you, Sir Henry.

Sir H: Now, now. The interview is over, we can drop the formalities.

Amy: Oh, right ho, uncle. By the way, mother asked me to ask you if you'd be coming to stay this weekend. She says that...

ANSWERS

Accent Alert (track 21) Accents in Films

"I think the first day, we did a camera test. The accent for me, the dialect work [was very difficult], [but] there was a wonderful lady in Los Angeles who helped me out for about three weeks before we went to Bulgaria. We worked on Russian and we read Pushkin and we read the script and we listened to Russian men, er, reading poetry, er, on tape. And that was really an incredible conduit into the character for me. There was something so beautiful and so earthen and so... maybe I'm projecting, but seemed, er, knowledgeable of hardship in speaking with a Russian accent as it felt in my mouth and I found that just using those sounds and getting my mouth around Russian language dialectically, that I changed my physical shape, my form, the way I sat, my facial expressions, instantly so language was like never before... [dialect accent]... like never before was an incredible way into this character. And then we got to Sofia. We all got together and we had two weeks of, you know, sitting around and talking and asking questions and reading materials and looking at photographs and, er, we had a great guy by the name of Cyril who shared some of his incredible wealth of knowledge as regards to survivalism and techniques. Cyril went on very long and extreme walks himself, and so that was an amazing time. But I think it was the day there was a camera test which was about a week before we started shooting. We all got into costume to see how everything looked and that was the first time, I was saying to Peter the other day, where he started to, kind of... Peter started to have a jest in full earnest and talked to us as characters, as prisoners that very day and that was the day that I myself felt it, kind of, kicked in. But you never know, when you walk away at the end of a film sometimes you're still not sure."



Work Rules (track 22) Keeping a tight rein on the workforce.

Thank you, security. You can lock the doors now. Everyone's inside. Very well, let's start. My name's Borrowdale. Norman Borrowdale, and I'm the new Head of Human Resources here at Newcombe & Franks Engineering. Good morning. Now, I'm not the kind of man who beats around the bush, so let's get one thing clear right from the start. Things are going to change at Newcombe and Franks Engineering.

Now, I've been carrying out an inventory. And what I've discovered has profoundly shocked me. For it has become increasingly clear that some, possibly many, of you have been financing yourselves through wide-scale theft. Theft of company property. Property that does not belong to YOU! Now, I can see what you're thinking. "Every office experiences some petty theft. What's the big deal?"

Well, let me tell you what the big deal is. In my opinion, no theft is petty. No level of theft is acceptable. There is only one level: zero tolerance. And zero tolerance is what will be tolerated from now on. Now, just let me tell you what I've discovered, which amounts to a veritable crime wave. A widespread, systematic, organised crime wave.

Last year this company bought 345,000 paper clips. No fewer than 47 were unaccounted for at the end of the year. 47! And biros. Your employers purchased 23,000 biros last year. 23 are now missing. I've also been unable to locate the whereabouts of 33 drawing pins, two staplers, half a packet of Blu-tak and a hole punch.

But the epidemic doesn't stop at the stationery cupboard. Oh, no. The staff canteen has been stripped bare. Catering staff were unable to explain the following discrepancies: a jar of coffee, three plastic spoons, a tomato ketchup dispenser, two bags of salt, and five packets of chocolate biscuits. I should inform you that a member of the cooking staff is currently helping the police with their enquiries.

And finally, it saddens me to report that cleaning staff have not satisfactorily explained how we managed to use 27,000 toilet rolls last year. Either there has been an unacceptable level of lavatory use or someone, or quite possibly a gang, are preying on the company's toiletry supplies.

So, what are we to do? What are we to do? We'll I've suggested to management that we search all employees' homes in an effort to locate the missing property. However, I'm sad to report that the managing directors have decided not to take my advice since they worried that such action could adversely affect staff morale and lower motivation. I don't agree, but for now I am tied by the extreme kindness of my immediate superiors. However, let me warn any complacent criminals amongst you. My time will come. I'm watching you and I shall catch you.

When you leave this room, you'll discover that a number of security regulations have been put into place. An electronic scanner has been fitted to the stationery cupboard. This requires a thumb print to activate it and thereby open the cupboard door. The scanner will recognise only one thumb print and that thumb print is mine. Closed circuit TV cameras have been installed in all toilets and I shall be reviewing the tapes every evening. I have had a digital keypad fitted to the fridge in the staff canteen. And I, and I alone, know the key code, so anyone wanting tomato ketchup will have to ask me and I shall be on guard. Oh, and the key code has 19 digits, so don't think you have any hope of guessing it. Very well. Time to return to your desks. And remember I shall be watching you.

Rent or Buy (page 4)

- 1 Pre-reading
1d 2e 3f 4a 5c 6b
- 3 Reading II
1. house;
2. up;
3. ladder;
4. investment;
5. free;
6. short
- 4 Language focus
1. She is watching it.
2. They are renting it.
3. We aren't living there.
4. He isn't driving it.

Excuses, Excuses (Page 5)

- 3 Reading II (wording will vary)
- Pet dog – My pet dog is feeling depressed.
 - Car – My car's broken down.
 - Passport – I've got to renew my passport.
 - Keys – I've locked my keys in the car.
 - Backache – I've got terrible backache.
 - Migraine – I've got an awful migraine.
 - Accountant – My accountant has messed up my tax return form.

Useful vocabulary (Page 8)

- 1f 2m 3k 4e 5l 6g 7a 8n
9h 10b 11d 12i 13j 14c

Supermarket Shake-up (Page 10)

- 3 Reading II
- The number of supermarkets in the UK in 1997.
 - The price of a can of beer in a supermarket.
 - The number of pubs that close every week.
 - The average distance an item of food from a supermarket travels.
 - The amount one supermarket gave to help build the Millennium Dome.
- 4 Language focus
1. any;
2. some;
3. a;
4. an;
5. any

Error Correction (Page 13)

- She will give it to me later.
- They won't like it.
- I will see her at six.
- We won't be there later.
- I think it will rain this afternoon.
- I won't see her tomorrow.

Economy Watch (Page 13)

- 3 Listening II
- Five;
 - Six;
 - Sheep;
 - A loaf of bread;
 - Two bottle tops and six glass beads;
 - A couple of sheep and a chicken

Grammar Fun (Page 14)

1. forget;
2. invite;
3. take;
4. go;
5. stop;
6. speak;
7. give;
8. try

Castle Capers (Page 15)

- 3 Reading I
- Neuschwanstein Castle;
 - Leeds Castle;
 - Bran Castle;
 - Pewnstein Castle;
 - Castle Frankenstein;
 - Carcassonne;
 - Windsor Castle;
 - Prague Castle

Retirement Dream (Page 16)

- 1 Pre-reading
1c 2g 3d 4a 5f 6e 7b
- 3 Reading II
- Italy;
 - Antigua;
 - Florida;
 - Thailand;
 - The Canary Islands;
 - Australia;
 - South-West France
- 4 Language focus
1. longer;
2. taller;
3. excited;
4. expensive

British Test (Page 17)

- 4 Language focus
- To receive;
 - To earn;
 - To arrive

Bank Bash (Page 19)

- 3 Listening II
- mortgage;
 - washing machine;
 - bank;
 - busy;
 - house;
 - neighbour;
 - charge;
 - future

Mind Control (Page 28)

- 4 Language focus
- saying;
 - having;
 - checking;
 - pushing

Musical Trends (Page 29)

- 1 Pre-reading
1c 2a 3f 4b 5e 6d 7h 8g
- 3 Reading II
- The same apple trademark.
 - In 2007.
 - They were both very pleased.
 - Not as well as expected.
 - No.
 - The fact that individual tracks are sold, as opposed to entire albums.
- 4 Language focus
1. up;
2. off;
3. to;
4. at

Sponsorship Slog (page 31)

- 1 Pre-reading
- football;
 - sailing;
 - cycling;
 - tennis;
 - car racing;
 - golf;
 - football
- 3 Reading II
- The America's Cup;
 - The Champions League;
 - Manchester United;
 - Lance Armstrong;
 - Manchester United;
 - Cycling

Diplomacy Dig (Page 33)

- 3 Listening II
- make an exception;
 - are protected;
 - hasty decisions;
 - address him;
 - reaction be;
 - the Utopian crisis

Work Rules (page 37)

- 3 Listening II
- 47 clips, 23 biros, 33 drawing pins, two staplers, half a packet of Blu-tak and a hole punch are missing.
 - A jar of coffee, three plastic spoons, a tomato ketchup dispenser, two bags of salt, and five packets of chocolate biscuits are unaccounted for.
 - 27,000 rolls of toilet paper were used last year.
 - He suggested searching all employees' homes.
 - Electronic scanners in the stationery cupboard, closed circuit TV cameras in all toilets and a digital keypad fitted to the fridge.

Car Fun (Page 39)

- 1 Pre-reading
1e 2f 3d 4c 5g 6h 7a 8b
- 3 Reading II
- When the Mini was designed.
 - When the Mini was launched.
 - The Mini's measurements.
 - The year the film The Italian Job was released.
 - How much the Ford Motor Company thought that BMC must be losing on each car sold.
 - The year when the new MINI was launched.

Culinary Delights (page 40)

- 1 Pre-reading
1a 2g 3e 4d 5f 6b 7h 8c
- 2 Reading I
- Soya products and tofu help reduce heart disease, cholesterol and high blood pressure. Tofu is also a good source of protein.
 - Buckwheat flour is good for the digestive system.
 - Fish is a good source of protein.
 - Seaweed has a long list of minerals, and it's one of the richest sources of vitamin C and calcium. It can also lower cholesterol.
- 3 Reading II
- They're always fresh.
 - It's an important part of Japanese cuisine.
 - They mention sushi, sashimi and "fugu".
 - There's a lot of ritual surrounding Japanese food.

Funniest Jokes (page 41)

- 4 Language focus
- Eat like a horse = to eat a lot.
 - Eat like a pig = to eat in a messy / disgusting manner.
 - Work like a dog = to work very hard.
 - Eat like a bird = to eat very little.
 - Watch someone like a hawk = to watch someone very carefully.

Phrasal verbs (page 42)

- infection;
- blood;
- after;
- nasty;
- measles;
- fish;
- to bed;
- work

Actors brave the elements in the name of drama.

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THE WAY BACK



WHAT **SACRIFICES** WOULD YOU MAKE FOR YOUR JOB? WOULD YOU WORK WEEKENDS? GIVE UP YOUR LUNCH BREAK? HOW ABOUT GETTING **HYPOTHERMIA**? THAT'S WHAT ACTORS COLIN FARRELL, ED HARRIS AND JIM STURGESS FACED WHILE FILMING THE NEW DRAMA *THE WAY BACK*.

The film is based on the true story of Slavomir Rawicz, who was arrested, tortured and then shipped off to a Siberian prison camp. His book (*The Long Walk*) tells the story of his escape and how he travelled across the desert to reach India with a group of fellow prisoners. The film version is called *The Way Back*. It's directed by Peter Weir and stars Colin Farrell (as Valka, a Russian prisoner), Ed Harris (as Mr Smith, an American prisoner) and Jim Sturgess (as Janusz, a Polish prisoner).



filming was still pretty **tough**. "During the shoot there were a few **tests of endurance**," said Jim Sturgess. "We had to **survive** a day of **food poisoning** whilst being **stuck** out in the middle of the desert. I also ended up getting hypothermia after being in freezing water! I went into **spasms** and there were five people with **hairdryers** drying me off"

Sounds like a **nightmare**! "But... you know, it wasn't that difficult. It was difficult in a good way. In other words, the more difficult it was, the more enjoyable it was on a certain level because you felt like you were being closer to the truth of what you were trying to **portray**," said Ed Harris.

These guys must really love their jobs! 🌟

GLOSSARY

a sacrifice *n*
the "sacrifices" you make are the things you do (or stop doing) for the benefit of others / a project / job, etc.

hypothermia *n*
a medical condition caused by extreme cold

tough *adj*
difficult; hard

a test of endurance *exp*
a situation that is extremely difficult both mentally and physically

to survive *vb*
if you "survive" a bad experience, you don't die

food poisoning *n*
a medical condition caused by eating food that is old / bad / rotten

stuck *adj*
if you are "stuck" somewhere, you cannot leave that place

spasms *n*
quick, irregular, uncontrollable movements of the body

a hairdryer *n*
a device (a small machine) that blows hot air so you can dry something (such as wet hair)

a nightmare *n*
a terrible situation

to portray *vb*
if an actor "portrays" a character, they act as if they were that character

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Yoko Ono

Work Humour

Electric cars

Weird Weddings

Flash Mobs

Internet Addiction

Walking Wonder

60-minute CD

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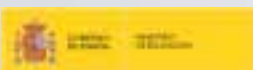
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