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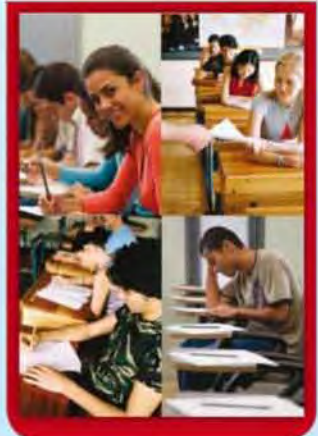
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EDITOR'S INTRO

How you learn English with Hot English magazine

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Hi, everybody, and welcome to another issue of Learn Hot English magazine!

This month, one of our main themes is Halloween, which is celebrated on 31st October. Read and listen to some Halloween jokes, and learn about the origins of this world-famous festival.

Plus, find out about another famous autumn tradition that the British celebrate on 5th November: Guy Fawkes night.

Another theme this month is Australia. We've got a great article on a fantastic place to visit: Queensland (Australia); and an interview with someone who's actually been there! Still on our Australian theme, we'll be showing you how to host an Australian barbecue, and we've got an article on crocodile hunter Steve Irwin.

Of course, that's not all! We're also looking at some crime words, the present perfect versus the past simple, phrasal verbs with the verb *to take*, "fish" idioms, "fighting" noises, great moments in American history, and comedian Sacha Baron Cohen – the creator of Bruno, Borat and Ali G!

Have fun, learn lots of English and see you all next month,

Andy

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Halloween



Jokes

Look at these Halloween jokes. Match each beginning (1-11) with each ending (A-K). Then, listen to the CD to see if you were correct.

Answers on page 24

Questions

1. What kind of key should you always take to a haunted house?
2. What kind of streets do zombies like?
3. What was the witch's favourite subject in school?
4. What did the pharaoh say when he got lost?
5. Why didn't the ghost go to the party?
6. What does a vampire fear most?
7. What do you call a monster **chasing** a train full of people?
8. Why do witches use **brooms** to fly?
9. What's it like to be kissed by a vampire?
10. What does a ghost have for dessert?
11. What do monsters call human beings?

Responses

- A: I want my mummy.
- B: I – scream.
- C: A "skeleton" key.
- D: Because he had no "body" to go with.
- E: Because **vacuum cleaners** are too heavy.
- F: Tooth decay.
- G: Spell-ing.
- H: Breakfast, lunch and dinner.
- I: It's a **pain in the neck**.
- J: **Dead ends**.
- K: Hungry.



GLOSSARY

to chase *vb*
to run behind someone in order to catch them

a broom *n*
a kind of brush with a long handle used for sweeping the floor (cleaning the dust from the floor)

a vacuum cleaner *n*
an electrical object used for cleaning the floor or a carpet

a pain in the neck *exp*
an annoying/irritating thing

a dead end *n*
a street that ends and doesn't lead to another street

Creepy Words

Write a word below each picture. Choose from the words at the right. We've done the first one for you. Then, listen to the CD for the answers. Answers also on page 24



Haunted house
cemetery
rat
coffin
vampire
werewolf
Mummy
candle
grave stone
snake
broomstick
skeleton
owl 1
Jack O' Lantern
black cat
owl 2
witch
bat
pumpkin
ghost
spider

Trivia



Here are some interesting things about that **spooky, scary** festival Halloween (31st of October). Will you be celebrating?

Halloween is celebrated on the last day of October (the 31st). To celebrate, people often dress up as witches, ghosts and devils, or famous people such as Superman and Spiderman.

One popular Halloween activity is "trick-or-treating". Children **dress up** in their costumes then go to people's houses. They knock on the door and say "trick or treat?" This means, give us a treat (usually some sweets), or we'll **play a trick** on you. Most people give the sweets.



American teenagers often celebrate Halloween with a costume party. They may also watch horror movies, listen to music, or tell each other ghost stories. Visiting **haunted houses** is also a popular activity.



One of the most important Halloween symbols is the "Jack O'Lantern". This is a **pumpkin** that has been cut to form a face. A candle is often placed inside it and people put the lantern in front windows so others can see it.

Another popular Halloween game is a "**scavenger hunt**". This is a team game that is played outside. Each team is given a list of things to collect (such as a large vegetable, a part of a car, a bicycle, a basketball, etc.). The first team to collect all the things is the winner. It's often played at night with torches.

One popular Halloween game is "apple bobbing". This consists of putting some apples in a large **basin of water**. The objective is to use your teeth to take one of the apples out of the basin.



The most common Halloween food is the "toffee apple" (also known as the "candy apple"). This is basically an apple that has been covered in **sticky sugar syrup**.

The festival of Halloween has Celtic origins and is more than 2000 years old. For the ancient Celts (people from Britain, Ireland and northern Europe), October 31st was seen as the last day of the bright half of the year, and the start of winter. They associated this period with death, and believed that this was a night when the dead **roamed** the living world. The Celts often wore **masks** and costumes to **avoid being recognised** as humans.

They also left **gifts** and treats to help **pacify** the evil spirits. This custom later evolved into "trick-or-treating" (see previous entry). Halloween was known as "All-hallow-even", and can also be spelt "Hallowe'en".

The first of November is an important date in the Christian calendar and is known as "All Saints Day". It was a day to convert pagans to Christianity. The Catholic church also honours its saints on this day. The night before was known as "All Hallows Eve".



Anoka, Minnesota (in America) is known as the "Halloween Capital of the World". They celebrate Halloween with a **huge parade**. New York City also has a big Halloween celebration. It attracts over 2 million, as well as 4 million television viewers. In America, it's typical to dress up as a famous person, very often a politician. George Bush and Bin Laden face masks have recently been very popular.

One superstition says that seeing a spider on Halloween is a sign that the spirit of a loved one is watching over you. Another says that if the **flame of a candle flickers**



and then turns blue, there's a spirit in the room. **Crows** are also seen as bad omens on Halloween, and if you hear them **caw**, it means that death is near. ☹️



GLOSSARY

- spooky** *adj*
frightening
- scary** *adj*
frightening
- to dress up** *phr vb*
to put on clothes so you look different
- to play a trick on someone** *exp*
to do something "bad" to someone as part of a joke
- a haunted house** *n*
a house with ghosts/evil spirits in it
- a pumpkin** *n*
a large, round orange vegetable
- a scavenger** *n*
someone who collects things by looking amongst rubbish/unwanted things
- a basin of water** *n*
a large and deep bowl filled with water
- sticky** *adj*
that can attach itself easily to other things
- sugar syrup** *n*
a sweet liquid made by cooking sugar
- to roam** *vb*
to go from place to place with no particular purpose
- a mask** *n*
an object you wear over your face in order to disguise yourself
- to avoid being recognised** *exp*
to do something so others don't know who you are
- a gift** *n*
a present
- to pacify** *vb*
to calm someone who is angry
- huge** *adj*
very, very big
- a parade** *n*
a procession of people or vehicles that are part of a celebration
- a flame** *n*
a long, bright part of a fire
- a candle** *n*
a wax stick you burn to produce light
- to flicker** *vb*
if a flame "flickers", it shines unsteadily, moving from side to side
- a crow** *n*
a large black bird
- to caw** *vb*
the noise a crow makes

Basic English

This month: the mobile phone.

Useful Expressions

Listen and repeat these useful expressions.



- Send me a text message when you get to the airport.
- Have you got a charger for a Siemens?
- Could you send me the photo?

Things you say

- What's your mobile phone number?
- What kind of mobile phone do you have?
- What features does your mobile phone have?
- My mobile phone number is X.
- Have you heard my new ringtone?
- I left you a message last night.
- There seems to be a problem with my phone.
- I got the **engaged tone**.
- I couldn't **get through**.
- You had it **switched off**.
- There wasn't any **coverage**.
- Call me later.
- I'll put your number in my address book.
- I'll be on my cell phone.
- Text me later today.



Speaking

Now use these expressions to practise asking about a mobile phone.

GLOSSARY

an engaged tone *n*
the sound a phone makes when you call someone but the phone is being used

to get through *exp*
to manage to connect with another phone

to switch off *phr vb*
to press a button so the phone is not activated

coverage *n*
if you have "coverage", your phone will connect to the main phone system



A handsfree phone



A charger



A ringtone



A mobile phone ("cell phone" in US English)



A cable

An SMS (Short Message Service) / a text message

An end-call button

A screen

An answer button

Sim cards



An address book



A PIN number



A phone card

GRAFFITI

Here are some more examples of British toilet graffiti.

DO YOU HAVE A DRINK PROBLEM?

YES, I CAN'T AFFORD IT.

YESTERDAY I COULDN'T SPELL ENGINEER. NOW I AM ONE.

I NEVER USED TO BE ABLE TO FINISH ANYTHING BUT NOW I...

IN THE BEGINNING WAS THE WORD. AND THE WORD WAS "AARDVARK".

MARGARET BAILEY IS INNOS... INNOSS... INOSEN... GUILTY.

DUE TO INDUSTRIAL ACTION THIS TOILET WILL BE CLOSED ALL DAY ON MONDAY. PLEASE DO ALL YOU CAN TODAY.

GLOSSARY

I can't afford it *exp*
I don't have enough money for it
to spell *vb*
to write a word correctly
an aardvark *n*
an African animal that eats ants (small black or red insects). It is also one of the first words that appears in a dictionary, after "a"
guilty *adj*
not innocent
industrial action *n*
if workers take "industrial action", they stop working as a form of protest

Little Jokes

Match each joke beginning (1 to 6) with its corresponding ending (A-F). Then, listen to check your answers (on page 24).



- 1. Patient:** Doctor, doctor, I'm going to die in 51 seconds.
- 2. Patient:** Doctor, doctor, everyone keeps ignoring me.
- 3. Patient:** Doctor, doctor, I think I'm a **needle**.
- 4. Patient:** Doctor, doctor, I keep thinking I'm a bridge. **Doctor:** What's come over you?
- 5. Patient:** Doctor, doctor, I feel like a **pack of cards**.
- 6. Patient:** Doctor, doctor, I feel like some **curtains**.

ENDINGS

A: Doctor: I see your point.

B: Doctor: I'll deal with you later.

C. Patient: Three cars and a bus.

D: Doctor: Pull yourself together.

E: Doctor: Next, please.

F: Doctor: Don't worry. I'll be with you in a minute.

GLOSSARY

a needle *n*
a thin, sharp piece of metal used for sewing (making or mending clothes)
what's come over you? *exp*
two meanings: a) what has happened to you? b) what vehicles have driven over you?
a pack of cards *n*
a set of cards used for playing a game
curtains *n*
pieces of material that hang in front of a window
I see your point *exp*
I understand what you are saying. Literally, the "point" of a needle is the sharp end
to deal with someone *exp*
to attend to a person who has come for a consultation. Also, if you "deal" cards, you mix the cards and give some to each player in a game
pull yourself together *exp*
two meanings: a) stop being silly b) close yourself (imagining that you are a set of curtains)

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IDIOMS THIS MONTH: SPEAKING AND TALKING

The images will help you associate the expression with its meaning.



Put in a good word for someone

To say good things about someone.
"She put in a good word for me and I got the job."



Not be on speaking terms with someone

To refuse to speak to someone.
"Mary and Jim haven't been on speaking terms since their argument last week."



Set / start tongues wagging

To do something that makes people talk or gossip a lot about it.
"Someone saw Brian and Brenda having an intimate dinner in a restaurant last night. They're both married so that should start tongues wagging."



Talk out of the back of your head. Be talking through your hat

To say stupid things.
"That's ridiculous! You're just talking out of the back of your head."



Actions speak louder than words

What you do is more important than what you say.
"She's made all sorts of promises about improvements, but as we all know, actions speak louder than words. It's about time she actually did something."



Speak with a plum in your mouth

If someone speaks with a plum in their mouth, they speak in an upper-class accent from the higher end of society.
"The new conservative candidate likes to think he is a man of the people, but he went to **Eton** and speaks with a **plum** in his mouth."



Speak / talk of the devil

Something you say when the person you are talking about actually arrives and you are not expecting them.
"Apparently, Mark has told his boss that he's leaving next month. Oh, look, here's Mark. Speak of the devil!"



Speak/talk the same language

If two people speak the same language, they have similar beliefs and opinions, and express themselves in similar ways.
"There's no point trying to organise a meeting between the sales team and the designers. They just don't speak the same language."

GLOSSARY

Eton ⁽¹⁾
an exclusive school in England where many of the richest / most influential people in British society send their children

a plum ⁽¹⁾
a purple, round fruit with a flat, pointed stone

FUNNY PRODUCT LABELS

Our mini-series on funny signs from English-speaking countries. Here's another part in our series on funny **product labels**. Some companies seem to think **we're lacking in the brain department**.



1 On a bottled drink: "Twist top off with hands. Throw top away. Do not put top in mouth." But it's the best part!



3 Manual for a computer mouse: "Not to be used as a **weapon**." What? Not even against cats?

2 On a box for a **hammer**: "May be dangerous if **swallowed**." Well, **that's just as well** because it was quite hard getting it in my mouth anyway.

4 On the packaging for a rifle: "Warning: **Misuse** may cause injury or death." Oh, and I was thinking of giving the gun to my three-year-old as a toy.



7 On the packaging for a **car jack**: "For **lifting** purposes only." Oh, and I thought it would be perfect for decorating the living room.



6 On a box of **fireworks**: "Do not put fireworks in mouth." But that's my special party trick.

5 On a standard photo-sized, inflatable **picture frame**: "Not to be used as a personal **flotation device**." But it's perfect for my pet mouse.



8 On the **wrapper** of a bar of chocolate: "Remove plastic before eating." Really?



GLOSSARY

- a product label** *n* a piece of paper on a product with information about that product
- we're lacking in the brain department** *exp* we are stupid - we have no brain (the organ in your head you use for thinking)
- to twist a top off** *exp* to take off a top by turning it
- a hammer** *n* a tool with a piece of metal and a wooden/rubber handle that is used for hitting things (often nails)
- to swallow** *vb* to take food from your mouth to your stomach
- that's just as well** *exp* that's good/fortunate/lucky
- a weapon** *n* a gun/knife/rocket, etc
- misuse** *n* not using something in an appropriate way
- a picture frame** *n* a container for a photo/picture so that photo/picture can be displayed
- a flotation device** *n* an inflatable object you use to float in the water
- fireworks** *n* devices containing chemicals that burn and explode with lots of noise and colour. Often used at celebrations
- a car jack** *n* a portable device for lifting the car so you can change the tyres
- to lift** *vt* to put into a higher position
- a wrapper** *n* the paper/plastic around a chocolate bar or other food product
- to be due** *exp* if something is "due" at a certain date, it will happen on that date
- a due-date** *n* a date when something must happen

9 On a credit card statement: "Payment is **due** by the **due-date**." And when's that due-date due?



10 A warning label for a washing machine: "Not for small children." But it's the best way of cleaning them.



Dictionary of slang

Here we've got some examples of how to say things in different situations.

 Situation	 Formal	 Relaxed	 Informal
You would like to talk with someone.	Could we converse at a later date?	Could we talk later?	Could we have a chat later?
Someone told the police that you were keeping a pet lion illegally in your house.	He informed the local constabulary of my illegal activities.	He told the police what I was doing.	He snitched on me; he ratted on me.
You're describing a car that is very old and about to break down .	It is extremely old.	It's a bit old.	It's on its last legs; it's clapped out.
A friend is going to have an operation next week.	He is going to undergo some medical surgery next week.	He's going to have an operation next week.	He's going under the knife next week.
You proposed organising an office party. You want to know if permission has been granted.	I was wondering if the higher authorities had approved of my plan.	Did they agree to it?	Is it a goer?
You crashed a friend's car. Now, your friend is very angry with you.	She is going to be extremely angry with me.	She's going to kill me.	I'm dead meat; I'm dead; I'm a goner.



GLOSSARY

Please note that some of the words in this glossary box are literal translations of parts of idiomatic expressions.

- a pet lion** *n*
a lion you keep in your house
- to break down** *phr v*
to stop working
- to wonder** *v*
to ask yourself

ALI G

THE WORLD OF ALI G, BORAT AND BRUNO

All about Britain's most talked-about comedian: **Sasha Baron Cohen**.
By Rob Julian

If you haven't heard of Ali G, Bruno or Borat, then where have you been for the last few years? These three giants of TV comedy are the creation of British comedian Sasha Baron Cohen. Cohen is now the star of a TV series and two major films, one of which was recently **premiered**. Let's meet Cohen's three fantastic comedy creations.

Ali G

A gangsta rapper and interviewer from Staines (England).

"ALO, IN DIS
ARTICL YOU IS GOIN'
TO BE LEARNIN' 'BOUT ME,
ALI G. SO PUT ON YOU
READIN' GLASSIZ, AN'
PAY ATTENTION.
RESPEC!"



Ali G is the **host** of his own TV show *The Ali G Show*. He is famous for his **parody** of "gangsta" culture, and has developed his own street vocabulary and style of



speech. He has also had many interviews with famous people, including the Beckhams and US secretary of State James Baker. Ali G's interview technique is simple: he **pretends** to be stupid. The subjects believe Ali G is a real

character, and they become **the butt of the joke**. Here are a few examples.

Interview with the Bishop of Horsham

- Ali:** Jesus. Does he really have a **beard**?
- Bishop:** Not necessarily.
- Ali:** Is he a man or a woman?
- Bishop:** He's neither a man nor woman.
- Ali:** Wot? You mean he's a **ladyman**?
- Bishop:** Er...
- Ali:** But wot has God ever done?
- Bishop:** He made the world.
- Ali:** Wot? He made the world?
- Bishop:** Yes.
- Ali:** Did he?
- Bishop:** I can only tell you what I believe.
- Ali:** So you is saying that God made the world? And since then he's just **chilled**?

Interview with Sir Alex Ferguson of Manchester United

- Ali:** OK 'den so 'ow good is dee Manchester United?
- Sir Alex:** Well, we are champions of Europe.
- Ali:** Yeah, but what about America. Dey is best, no? Cos dey is der best at everyfin'.
- Sir Alex:** I presume you mean the USA. Well, they have improved greatly but I would still say we are some **way in front of them**.
- Ali:** So would you win dee world cup 'den?
- Sir Alex:** Well, of course not. To compete in that we would have to be a nation, a country.
- Ali:** So why don't you 'ave a war and get dee independence. Den you could play.

Interview with US Republican Pat Buchanan

In this interview Ali G deliberately used the acronym **BLT** (a **bacon lettuce and tomato sandwich**) instead of **WMD** (weapons of mass destruction).

- Ali:** Does you think that Saddam ever was able to make these weapons of mass destruction or whatever, or as they is called, **BLTs**?
- Buchanan:** The... was Saddam able to make them?
- Ali:** Could he make **BLTs**?
- Buchanan:** Yes. At one time, he was using **BLTs** on the Kurds in the north. If he had anthrax... if he had **mustard gas**...
- Ali:** Whatever he put in them.
- Buchanan:** No, no, no. If he had mustard gas, no...
- Ali:** Let's say he didn't have **mustard** and the **BLTs** just was **plain**. Would you have been able to go in there then?
- Buchanan:** No. ☺



Name: Ali G
Lives:

Me **nan's** house in Staines (west side)
Hobbies: **spliffs**, watchin' telly wiv me Julie, listenin' to drum n' bass.

Occupation: Like wot I said before, innit?

Education: Heduation is very important, like, how would Einstein have knowed how to invent the wheel and the internet if he never had an heducation?

GLOSSARY

- to premiere** *vb*
to show a film for the first time
- a host** *n*
the person who interviews guests on a television programme
- a parody** *n* *inform*
a comic imitation of something
- a gangsta** *n* *inform*
a member of a gang (often an Afro-Caribbean or Afro-American gang)
- to pretend** *vb*
to act as if something is true even though it isn't
- the butt of a joke** *exp*
the victim of a joke
- a beard** *n*
hair grown around the lower part of the face
- a ladyman** *n* *inform*
a man who has had an operation to become a woman
- to chill** *vb* *inform*
to relax
- way in front of them** *exp*
much better than them
- mustard gas** *n*
a type of gas that kills humans
- mustard** *n*
a yellow sauce often used with hamburgers
- plain** *adj*
with no sauce or condiments
- nan** *n* *inform*
grandmother
- a spliff** *n* *inform*
a cigarette with marijuana in it

READER WARNING
Text produced by Borat is not always standard English

BORAT

An interviewer from Kazakhstan.

"JAGSHEMASH! I AM WELCOME YOU TO MY INFORMATION. FOR YOU TO ME KNOW AND FOR ME TO SHARE HOBBY FOR KNOWING OF AMERICAN LADIES FOR SEXY TIME! AND FOR UNDERSTANDING OF GLORIOUS NATION OF KAZAKHSTAN!"



Name: Borat Sagdiyev
Birthplace: Kuzcek, near Almaty, 3 mile north of fence to Jewtown, Kazakhstan
Hobbies: Trampoline. Table tennis. Disco dance. Shoot dog. Looking on picture of America things example swimming pools. Sex. Speak on telephone: I have make over eighty conversation calls. I also like to start fires.
Occupation: TV reporter. Kazakhstan's sixth most-famous man. Gypsy Catcher. Ice maker. Computer maintenance (the one who paint it and remove dead birds from its pipes)
Education: Degree from Astana University in English and plague research. Made three new plagues. One was release in Uzbekistan and kill over 50 thousands goat.

The Reporter

Borat, Kazakhstan's fictional TV reporter first appeared on the Ali G show. Cohen says that



the Borat character was based on a real person he met in southern

Russia, "... I can't remember his name – he was a doctor. The moment I met him, I was totally crying with laughter. He was an **hysterically funny** guy, although not intentionally."

Borat is very **enthusiastic** about everything from the West, but has a poor understanding of western **manners**. He makes a lot of **inappropriate references** to sex and farming. He also has a terrible **dress sense** and is not very good at sports. All of these qualities make Borat a **hilarious** character. His mixed-up English is also a big part of his **comic appeal**.

An Ambassador

Borat is much more energetic than Ali G and he has a **childlike interest** in everything



unusual. Borat is particularly interested in US culture. He sees the US as a kind

of paradise. He is frequently surprised by the customs and culture he finds when travelling or interviewing people. He also loves to be an "ambassador" for Kazakhstan, although much of what he says about Kazakhstan is not true. Borat says in Kazakhstan women walk three steps behind men ("it used to be 10 steps, my country is advancing"). He also loves giving speeches and singing patriotic songs. He once visited the Oklahoma City Traffic Commission and attended a meeting. In the

meeting, which was broadcast live on local TV, he thanked them for letting him join the meeting and then asked to give a "short" speech which lasted 17 minutes.

Trouble

Borat has been in trouble with the



Kazakhstan government. In November 2005, following Borat's hosting of the MTV Europe Music Awards in Lisbon, the Kazakh Foreign Ministry complained about the character and his false representation of Kazakhstan. Foreign

Ministry spokesman Yerzhan Ashykbayev told a news conference, "We view Mr Cohen's behaviour at the MTV Europe Music Awards as **utterly unacceptable**, being a **concoction of bad taste** and **ill manners**, which is completely **incompatible with** the ethics and civilized behaviour of Kazakhstan's people." He later added, "We reserve the right to any legal action to prevent new **pranks** of the kind." The next week, the Kazakh government inserted a four-page advertisement in *The New York Times*. It advertised the nation's democratic status, good education system and the power and influence enjoyed by women. However, the daughter of the Kazakh president defends Cohen. She said, "We should not be afraid of humour and we shouldn't try to control everything, I think."

"I AM AGREE WITH DAUGHTER KAZAKH PRESIDENT. SHE FOXY LADY AND STRONG FOR FARMING WORK TOO!"



GLOSSARY

- hysterically funny** exp very, very funny
- enthusiastic** adj with a lot of interest and excitement for something
- manners** n if you have "good manners", you behave well in social occasions
- inappropriate references** exp talking about and mentioning things that are considered taboo
- dress sense** n if you have good "dress sense", you wear appropriate or stylish clothing
- hilarious** adj very funny
- comic appeal** n if someone has "comic appeal", they are funny
- a childlike interest** exp a very enthusiastic, simple and innocent interest in things
- utterly unacceptable** exp not acceptable under any circumstances
- a concoction of** n a mixture of
- bad taste** n if a joke is in "bad taste", it is offensive to someone
- ill manners** n behaviour that is socially unacceptable
- incompatible with** exp inconsistent with
- a prank** n a joke that is designed to make someone appear to be stupid

READER WARNING

Text produced by Bruno is not always standard English.

BRUNO

A gay interviewer from Austria.

"VASSUP? HELLO ALL OF YOU BEAUTIFUL PEOPLES UND VELKOMMEN ALIS DER FUNKYZEIT WORLD OF ME, BRUNO, UND MY FANS, UND ALLES DER LEADING DESIGNER KRAFT FASHION CELEBRITIES AND INTERVIEWS WITH BEAUTIFUL LADIES UND MANNEN MIT GORGEOUS BODIES MIT LONG SCHFONSHENSCHTOOKEN! WOW!"



Name: Bruno
Lives: Austria und New York
Hobbies: FashionDesignKraft und celebrities watching. Body toning mit Johnson baby oil und funky parties. Ach yeah!
Occupation: Hot celebrity interview making. Also I am muse/lover of designer Chrysler.

The Man

Bruno is an Austrian fashion and celebrity reporter. Like Ali G and Borat, he first appeared on *The Ali G Show* and he travels the world to interview his subjects. Bruno is **crazy about** style. Bruno is also gay, but he doesn't tell this to the people he interviews. Instead, he makes lots of



outrageous comments that **leave no doubt** that he is gay. This, and Bruno's Austrian/English accent is what makes him so funny. For example, in one scene, Bruno goes to Alabama, which he describes as "the gayest place in America" (in fact it's very conservative). At an American Football game, Bruno dances with the cheerleaders and is verbally abused by the crowd. He later interviews one of the players, Shaud Williams. Bruno wants to date other members of the team. But he doesn't know if he is allowed to date them before the end of the football season. Williams becomes quite angry with Bruno's "gay" questions.

Dancing

On another occasion, Bruno takes dancing lessons at a **barn dance** in Georgia. He is attracted to Jim, his instructor. While dancing with different partners, Bruno asks about Jim, saying, "I'm not going to look, but is he looking at me right now?" He attempts to make Jim jealous, and when dancing in a group, Bruno tries to dance with him. Jim **avoids** Bruno. Bruno finally **confronts** Jim and asks him to make his last night in town "special". Jim walks away without responding. In another segment of the show, Bruno is at a gun show in Arkansas, interviewing a man called Daniel. Bruno asks increasingly **loaded questions**, beginning with, "What's your biggest gun?" Daniel is polite and plays along, but eventually clarifies, "... I'm not gay". Bruno asks why he's denying it. Daniel says, "If you call me gay one more time, **I'm fixing to knock every tooth outta your head**, you understand what I'm saying? Cause I told you that I'm not gay." Daniel can see Bruno **pondering** where to take it from this point forward. "One more time, I said, so be careful what you say. Be real careful what you say," Daniel adds. The credits end. ☺



GLOSSARY

crazy about *exp*
if you are "crazy about" something, you really like that thing

outrageous *adj*
shocking

to leave no doubt *exp*
to make it very clear and obvious

a barn dance *n*
a dance with cowboy music, often held in a barn (a large building for animals on a farm)

to avoid *v* if you "avoid" someone, you try not to go near that person

to confront *v*
if you "confront" someone, you demand an explanation from him

a loaded question *n*
a question that is designed to be a trap and that forces someone to say something silly/damaging/dangerous/rude, etc

I'm fixing to *exp US inform*
I'm going to

to knock every tooth outta your head *exp inform*
to hit you in the mouth so all your teeth fall out

to ponder *v*
to consider or think carefully about something before acting or speaking

BORAT: THE MOVIE

Borat: The Movie

Sasha Baron Cohen's latest film stars Borat and is called *Borat: Cultural Learnings of*



America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan. In the film Borat travels to the US where he falls in love with Pamela Anderson after seeing her in a DVD. Borat has many strange and hilarious adventures as he tries to **track her down**.

***Donkey expert – Information Box** At the start of the film you can see a rather large man riding a donkey. Some animal rights activists were angry about this. In Britain there is a weight limit for donkeys.

And of course plenty of funny interviews with people who do not realise he is a fictional character. Just recently there was an interesting article in the *Observer*, with a **panel of judges** giving their opinions of the film. Here is a summarized version of that article. ☺



Information Box – Sasha Baron Cohen

Cohen made his first appearance on the British Channel 4 show *The Eleven O'clock Show* six years ago. As well as coming from a **leading** British Jewish family, Cohen is a history graduate of Cambridge University. After graduating, he spent some time working for a TV company and had a **role** in a



comedy film called *The Jolly Boys Last Stand*. Later, he developed the character of Super Greg, a Latino DJ. Cohen used elements of Super Greg to develop Ali G, his first major comedy character.

THE QUESTIONS: IS BORAT OFFENSIVE? WHAT DID YOU THINK OF THE FILM?



watching and going, **wink, wink**, 'It's all right. I don't really mean any of this.'



Peter Tatchell
(a homosexual)

"I don't find Borat anti-gay. If anything, his attempts to **greet** American men with a **French-style kiss** on the cheeks, provokes negative reactions that expose the **homophobia** of others."



Erik Amirbai-Lang
(Kazakh man)

"It's funny on a simple level because it's just silly, a **bundle of toilet jokes**. In some ways it's more a reflection of middle America's ignorance of the outside world than about Kazakhstan."



Dawn Vincent
(donkey expert*)

"He's a bit of an **imbecile**. He **puts obvious questions to people** but they don't really know how to answer him. That in itself is quite funny. It's all very **tongue-in-cheek**."



Clare Hemmings
(an academic)

"I liked a lot of it. I especially like the way in which it **critiqued** US nationalism, **religious fundamentalism** and **bigotry** of various kinds (including both "Kazakh" and US **frat-boy misogyny**), and highlighted the hypocrisy at the centre of consumer culture."



Tomi Ajayi
(Afro-Caribbean journalist)

"This was the first time that I had seen Borat in action, and it was one of the funniest things I'd seen in ages. The humour is often **spot-on**. It was fascinating to see how Borat manages to expose the **prejudices** of the people he **encounters**."



Naomi Alderman
(Jewish writer)

"I didn't find it offensive... While he was saying all these things about Jews, he was talking in Hebrew all the way through. It felt like he was turning to every Jewish person

The Future of Cohen

Will there be any more outrageous character's from Sasha Baron Cohen? Who knows? But if they are as funny as Borat, Bruno and Ali G, we'll be telling you about them. ☺

GLOSSARY

- to track someone down** *exp*
to discover where someone is living
- a panel of judges** *n*
a group of people who must give their opinions on something
- to greet** *vb*
to say hello to someone when you meet them
- a French-style kiss** *n*
a kiss on both cheeks (sides of the face)
- homophobia** *n*
hating or fearing homosexuals
- to critique** *vb*
to criticise; to give opinions on
- religious fundamentalism** *n*
extremist religious thoughts/opinions
- bigotry** *n*
being a bigot (someone with narrow-minded, intolerant opinions)
- a frat boy** *n*
many American universities have frat societies (organised student societies). A "frat boy" is a member of a frat society (or fraternity)
- misogyny** *n*
being a misogynist (someone who hates women)
- wink, wink** *exp-infam*
this is often used as a private signal to tell someone that you are only joking. It can be said verbally ("wink, wink") or be done physically by opening and closing one eye
- a bundle of** *exp*
a selection of
- a toilet joke** *n*
a rude joke that is mostly about a function of the body
- an imbecile** *n*
an idiot
- to put a question to someone** *exp*
to ask someone a question
- tongue-in-cheek** *adj*
ironic or sarcastic. Not serious
- spot-on** *adj*
very good; perfect
- a prejudice** *n*
a feeling of hatred or superiority towards a social group or people from a certain country
- to encounter** *vb*
to meet
- leading** *adj*
important, influential
- a role** *n*
a part in a film

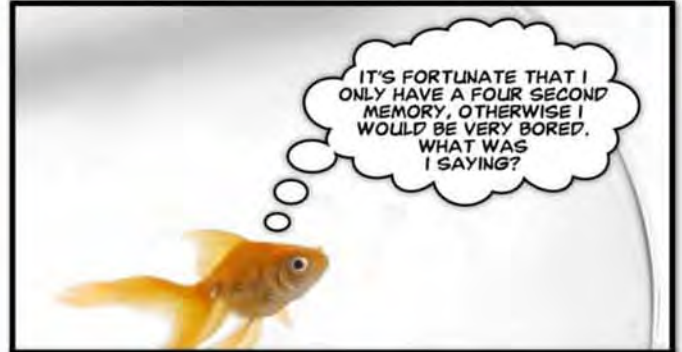
FISH IDIOMS

This month we are looking at some general fish idioms.



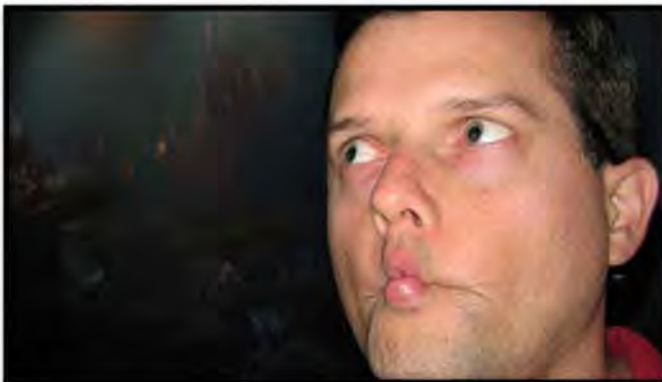
A big fish

An important or powerful person in a group or organisation.
"She's one of the directors – a really big fish."



A big fish in a small pond

One of the most important people in a small group or organisation. Normally, this person would have much less power and importance if they were part of a larger group or organisation.
"She likes being manager of a local branch of the bank – she feels like a big fish in a small pond."



A cold fish

A person who isn't very friendly and who doesn't show any emotions.
"Sandra never shows her feelings. But her mother was a cold fish too, so that's probably where it comes from."



Like a fish out of water

To feel uncomfortable because you are in a new and unfamiliar situation, or because you are very different from the people around you.
"Both Sally's parents were doctors, but all the other children in the school had working-class parents. Within a couple of days she was beginning to feel like a fish out of water."



Drink like a fish (informal)

To drink a lot of alcohol.
"She often has two pints at lunch, and another six at night. She drinks like a fish."



Have other/bigger fish to fry

To have something more important or more interesting to do
"I didn't want to waste my time trying to reach an agreement with them – I had bigger fish to fry."



AMAZING WORLD

Queensland is one of the most incredible states in Australia. It's **huge** (1,730,648 km²) and it's the northeastern territory of Australia. It has some of the most beautiful natural **scenery** on the planet, with the Great Barrier Reef, rainforests, and spectacular beaches. Whether you want to relax, explore, or test the limits of your physical capabilities, Queensland has more to offer than you could do in a lifetime. Travelling around this state takes you on a journey through exotic, un-chartered territory. What are you waiting for?

The People

Natives of Queensland are called "banana-benders" or "bananalanders" by other Australians. The reason is self-explanatory: Queensland's banana farms produce one million tonnes of bananas every year. Banana-benders **get their own back** though: they call Western Australians "sand-gropers", and people from the state of Victoria "**cabbage-patchers**". People from Queensland are very friendly and very relaxed. The climate of the state contributes to this. In the Australian winter (from May to September), the temperature is an average 15° C in the south, and 19° C in the north. In the summer it can be very hot and humid, and this slows the population down. But it would be hard to live in place with so much beauty and not be **good-natured**, as the Queenslanders are.



cheapest deals can be found in the tourist areas of Cairns and Airlie Beach. But **it is worth** paying a little bit more to have less

students per teacher.

If you have neither the time nor the money to dive, then **snorkelling** can be almost as good. Or if you have a little extra money and you're feeling a bit lazy, you can fly over the reef in a plane. This will give you an idea of its scale and diversity.

Fraser Island

Another area of natural beauty is Fraser Island. This is the world's largest sand island. It's best visited from Hervey Bay on the mainland, where there are a number of places offering



trips around the island.

Once you're on the island, the best way to explore it is probably by **hiring a 4-wheel-**

drive vehicle with groups of up to eight. Some of the **tracks** across the island have very deep and fine sand so you'll need the 4X4. To fully appreciate Fraser Island you should go for three or four days. Highlights include some **breath-taking** fresh-water lakes, particularly Lake Wabby and Lake McKenzie. You can walk around these on white sands untouched by human footprints. Indian Head, at the northern tip of the island, and next to a good **campsite**, also has some **stunning** views. Braver travellers can walk to the **edge** of the **cliff** and watch **sharks circling** in the water hundreds of metres below.

The Great Barrier Reef

One of the most incredible things about the state is the Great Barrier Reef. It is one of the world's largest **natural features**. It stretches



more than 2,300 km along the northeastern coast of Australia from the northern tip of Queensland to just north of Bundaberg. It is

also a World Heritage Site. The things that most astound visitors to the reef are the colours and geometrical systems, which bear no relation to anything above the surface of water.

Diving

Without doubt, the best way to see the Great Barrier Reef is by **scuba diving**. There are **countless** courses available along the coast. They offer you the basic training necessary to take you out on a **diving trip** to the coral. The

Information Box – Australian Pubs

Women used to be **barred** by bar law from Australian pubs. The idea was to protect them from men's **foul language**. In 1965, and in response to this injustice, Merle Thornton and Rosalie Bogner **chained themselves** to the Regatta Hotel bar in Toowoong, Queensland. This act of opposition eventually led to a change in the law.

Interesting Australian Facts

→ The whole Great Barrier Reef was made by one animal: the coral polyp.

→ Boomerangs are used for many different activities, including hunting, digging, cutting, and for making music.

→ 160 million years ago, saltwater crocodiles could grow up to 27 metres long. Now they are "only" 6 metres long.



QUEENSLAND



Information Box – Convicts



I WISH I WERE A CONVICT.

In 1786, the British Prime Minister William Pitt decided to establish a convict colony at Botany Bay, on the other side of the world, on the south coast of Australia. Following this decision, between 1788 and 1868, 160,000 British criminals were taken to the island. The lyrics of a popular song at the time went: "Thieves, robbers and villains, they'll send them away to become a new people at Botany Bay." And few ever went back to Britain. And who can blame them? The convicts had a hard time during their sentences, but **on release** they were allowed to **settle** in Australia and make a new life. The free men who headed northeast couldn't believe their luck.

Fishing

Fishing is another popular **pastime** on the island. You can take trips **off-shore** to the



ocean to chase red emperor and many other great fish. However, if you fish on or around the island, as with everywhere in

Queensland, be careful as there are strict environmental laws protecting the species. Oh, and look out for **dingoes**. They may well try and steal your food.

The Whitsunday Islands

It would be a real shame to travel around Queensland without taking a trip around



the Whitsunday Islands. They were **named** by Captain Cook in 1770, **after** the day on which he arrived. Here are some of the

great things you can do there.

- **Cruise around** them on a relaxed trip.
- Take a sailing course.
- Look at the aboriginal paintings in caves on Hook Island.
- **Chill out** on Whitehaven beach on Whitsunday Island.
- Have fun in the water doing lots of water sports.

Food and Drink

Australians like a drink, sometimes more than they like life itself. And Queenslanders are



no exception to this. There are **watering holes** everywhere in the state. Brisbane is good for going out, and you can visit the XXXX

brewery there too. Cairns also has a very vibrant social life. So, will you be going to Queensland? ✨

GLOSSARY

- huge** *adj*
very big
- scenery** *n*
the general appearance of the land/country
- to get your own back** *exp*
to do something bad to someone who did something bad to you
- a cabbage** *n*
a large round vegetable with dense green leaves
- good-natured** *adj*
kind, nice
- a natural feature** *n*
something formed by the earth: a mountain, river, volcano, etc
- scuba diving** *n*
a sport that involves swimming under water with oxygen
- countless** *adj*
too many times to count
- a diving trip** *n*
an expedition to go swimming under water with oxygen
- it is worth...** *exp*
it is good value...
- snorkelling** *n*
a sport that involves swimming under water with a tube connected to your mouth so you can breathe under the water
- to hire** *vt*
to pay money to use something for a limited period of time
- a 4-wheel-drive vehicle** *n*
a large car for driving in the country
- a track** *n*
a road in the country often made by people or animals
- breath-taking** *adj*
amazing, incredible, etc
- a campsite** *n*
an area where you can officially camp (set up a tent)
- stunning** *adj*
incredible and spectacular
- the edge** *n*
the line that is formed when two surfaces meet
- a cliff** *n*
an area of high ground next to the sea
- a shark** *n*
a large fish – they sometimes attack humans
- to circle** *vb*
to move in circles, going around something continuously
- a pastime** *n*
an activity you do for fun
- off-shore** *adv*
in the sea, but close to the land
- a dingo** *n*
a type of wild dog that lives in Australia
- to name after** *exp*
to give someone/something the same name as another person/thing
- to cruise around** *exp*
to travel in a ship, visiting places
- to chill out** *phr vb*
to relax
- a watering hole** *n inform*
a pub
- a brewery** *n*
a factory where they make beer
- to bar** *vb*
to prohibit
- foul language** *n*
taboo/rude words
- to chain yourself to something** *exp*
to use a chain (a series of metal circles all connected) to attach yourself to something, often as a protest
- on release** *exp*
when he/she was freed (from prison)
- to settle** *vb*
to start living in an area permanently

LIVING ABROAD



Every month we interview someone who has lived or worked in a foreign country. This month we are talking to Dominic from Ireland about his time in Queensland, Australia.

Dominic, why did you go to Queensland?

I'd wanted to go for years because I have relatives in Brisbane. So, before university, I took a **gap year**, **saved up** for my flights, and went for eight months. Simple as that.

So, where did you stay?

Everywhere and anywhere. I stayed with my **relatives** just for a couple of weeks in the



time I was there. The rest of the time I stayed in hostels in Brisbane, Noosa, Hervey Bay, Airlie Beach, Bundaberg and Cairns. I also stayed in a tent, in the back of a **4X4** on Fraser Island, on the beach, on the floor of a bar, and on a boat for a week around the Whitsunday Islands. You stop caring after a while.



Did you have a job in Queensland?

I was very lucky because I was able to work in a bank in Brisbane for three weeks and **make** a bit of **extra cash**. Your money can go a long way in Queensland too if you look after it. It's not as cheap as travelling in parts of Asia, but it's certainly **not crazy**. I knew people who worked at farms **and stuff for short stints** and then **moved on** with what they earned. They were able to **keep going** and have a lot of fun.

How were the people different?

I think that Aussies have a fair bit in common with the Irish to be honest, except that they've got the weather, the beach and the

sea. They're very happy and very **laid-back**. They just love having a drink and a good time – like anyone would in a place like that.

And what were the best things about being there?

Too many to mention. My personal favourite was **diving** in the Great Barrier Reef, though.



I'd never been diving before and what a place to choose. I did a course with **PADI**. This took three or four days, and cost about 170 euros. With this

qualification you can dive down to twenty metres. It is definitely well worth doing. Many courses even **throw in** a few free **dives** afterwards. This qualification is recognised all over the world too, so since then I've been able to dive in other places. While you can see a lot **snorkelling**, scuba-diving brings you a whole other world. I couldn't believe the reef. To be honest, I was a bit **freaked out** at first. But once I **got used to it**, it was **mind-blowing**. I'll never forget any of this, the colours especially.

Any special moments?

I was working on a boat near the Whitsunday Islands as part of the crew. I distinctly remember one night on the **deck**, **supping** a beer. We'd **dropped anchor** just off Hook Island. This might sound like a **cliché**, but I remember that as the sun was going down a **pod of whales** passed by us, their **tails** crashing into the water. I sometimes think about that when I'm **rushing** down the rainy streets of Dublin on my **lunch-break**. A **one-way ticket** back to Brisbane please!

OK, Dominic, that was really interesting. Thank you very much.

No problem. ☺

GLOSSARY

- a gap year** *n*
a year between the end of school and the start of university that many students use for travelling or getting work experience
- to save up** *phr vb*
to keep money so you can use it later for a special purpose
- relatives** *n*
members of your family
- a 4X4** *n*
a large car for driving in the country
- to make** *vt*
to earn
- extra cash** *n*
extra money
- not crazy** *exp inform*
not too expensive
- and stuff** *exp*
and things like that
- for short stints** *exp*
for short periods of time
- to move on** *phr vb*
to leave one place and to go and live or stay in another place
- to keep going** *exp*
to continue; to have enough to survive
- laid-back** *adj informal*
relaxed
- diving** *n*
a sport that involves swimming under water with oxygen
- PADI** *abbr*
the Professional Association of Diving Instructors
- to throw in** *phr vb*
to include as part of the general price
- a dive** *n*
if you go on a "dive", you swim under water with oxygen
- snorkelling** *n*
swimming with a tube attached to your mouth so you can swim under water
- to freak out** *phr vb*
if something "freaks you out", it frightens you
- to get used to** *n*
to become accustomed to
- mind-blowing** *adj informal*
incredible/amazing
- a deck** *n*
the part of a ship that you can walk on
- to sup** *vb*
to drink
- to drop anchor** *exp*
if a ship "drops anchor", it lowers its anchor (a heavy metal object attached to a chain) and rests for a period of time
- a cliché** *n*
an expression or idea that is repeated too many times
- a pod of whales** *n*
a group of whales
- a tail** *n*
the part of an animal's body that extends from the back
- to rush** *vt*
to go somewhere quickly
- a lunch-break** *n*
a period of time (usually one hour) during the working day when you can have lunch
- a one-way ticket** *n*
a ticket for a single journey

Idioms booklets

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Crank

Call



Telephone conversations to help improve your listening skills. Here are some more crank calls - those funny telephone calls that are designed to **wind** people **up**. *Answers on page 29*

The Job Application

For this call, we phoned up a company that was advertising for an engineer. Listen to the conversation and answer this question: Why won't they employ the woman?

Victim: Clyde Engineering. Jim Masters speaking.

Hot: Oh, hello, this is Naomi Peddle. I was just phoning **with regards** to the job you have advertised in the *Guardian*.

Victim: Ah, yes, Mrs Peddle. We did receive your **CV** - all sixteen copies of it.

Hot: And? What did you think?

Victim: Well, we felt that you weren't really **qualified** for the job.

Hot: But I have a lot of experience in construction.

Victim: Yes, so I see.

Hot: Building with Lego blocks can get quite complex. So, did I get the job?

Victim: No, you haven't made it to the **interview stage**.

Hot: But you'd really like me if you met me.

Victim: I'm sure I would. But as I've explained at least six times by phone, **you aren't suited for the job**.

Hot: Do you have any other **positions available**?

Victim: Erm, no.

Hot: So, it's goodbye then.

Victim: Yes, goodbye.

Hot: Bye. *(She starts to cry.)*



GLOSSARY

to wind someone up *exp*
to really annoy someone
with regards to *exp*
about/concerning
a CV *abbr*
a curriculum vitae (information about your personal and professional life)
qualified *adj*
with the appropriate training, skills or qualifications
the interview stage *n*
the part of the job-application process that involves meeting the employer
you aren't suited for the job *exp*
you aren't the right person for the job
a position *n*
a job
available *adj*
if something is "available", you can buy/use/have it



USEFUL ADVICE

HOW NOT TO BE BORED



Learn how to entertain yourself with these fun activities.

See how long you can hold a piece of **burning paper**. **Compete with** a friend. Both **participants** should use paper of a similar size and quality.



Have a competition to see who the most **competitive** is. Take turns mentioning something that you've done. The objective for the other player is to say something even more incredible. For example:
A: Once I was attacked by two guys in the street.
B: Well, I was attacked by ten guys and I sent them all to hospital.
Continue until one person **gives up**.

Take a computer mouse and run through the streets shouting, "I caught a mouse! I caught a mouse!" See how long it takes before someone tries to stop you.



Stare at a dog until it starts **barking**. Try different **breeds of dog** and see if there is any difference in the time it takes.

What fun! ☺



GLOSSARY

burning paper *n*
paper that has fire on it
to compete with *exp*
to have a competition with
a participant *n*
someone who takes part in a competition
competitive *adj*
someone who like to win in competitions
to give up *phr vb*
to stop participating
to stare *vb*
to look at something constantly and continuously
to bark *vb*
if a dog "barks", it makes a loud sound from its mouth
a breed of dog *n*
a type of dog (a German shepherd, a poodle, a bulldog, etc)

DR FINGERS' DESCRIPTIVE NOISE



"NOISE NUISANCE"

Here's another part in our special "noise" class. This month: fighting noises. **Answers** also on page 24

Part I

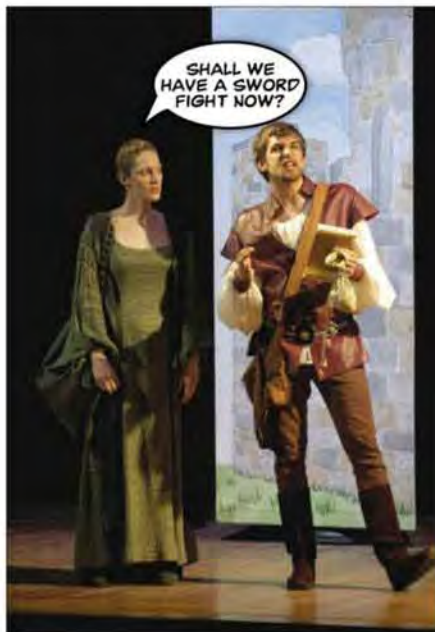
Listen to each noise sentence and the accompanying noise. Repeat each sentence as you hear it.

1. He **punched** me.
2. I kicked him.
3. They shot some **arrows** at me.
4. She fired the gun.
5. They fired the cannon at the building.
6. Indiana Jones tried to whip me.
7. He blew a poisoned **dart** at me.
8. They **blew up** the building with high explosives.
9. They had a **sword** fight.
10. I threw a knife at the door.

Part II

Now, look at the following sentences. In each one there are missing "noise words". Listen to the sound on the CD, then write in the correct word or words that describe the sound. Choose from the words below.

shot an arrow	kicked
punched	fired the gun
fired the cannon	whipped
blew up	blew a poisoned dart
threw a knife	sword fight



1. The bandit _____ the bridge.
2. The bandit _____ at the cowboy.
3. Indiana Jones _____ the **grave robber**.
4. Robin Hood had a _____ with the Sheriff of Nottingham.
5. The explorer _____ at me.
6. He _____ at my hat.
7. The boxer _____ her opponent on the nose.
8. The king _____ as part of the celebration.
9. She _____ him in the **shins**.
10. We _____ at the painting. ☺



GLOSSARY

- to punch** ^v
to hit with a closed hand
- an arrow** ⁿ
a stick with a sharp point at the end that is fired at people from a bow
- a dart** ⁿ
a small object with a sharp point that is fired, blown or thrown
- to blow up** ^{phr yb}
to destroy by causing an explosion
- a sword** ⁿ
a large knife used for fighting
- a grave robber** ⁿ
a person who opens graves (places where dead bodies are buried) in order to find treasure or valuable objects
- a shin** ⁿ
the front part of your leg between your knee and your foot

DR FINGERS' GRAMMAR CLINIC



Dear Hinge,

Thank you very much for your extremely interesting questions. I will try to answer each and every one of them to the best of my abilities.

Question I: As you know, "might" can be used to talk about probability. However, the interrogative form "might it rain?" sounds very formal and antiquated. Some alternatives to this question could include:

- a) Do you think it could rain today?
- b) Do you think it's going to rain today?
- c) What do you think the weather is going to be like today?

Question II ("is cancelled" and "has been cancelled"): Basically these two structures are very similar in meaning, although they are using different tenses (the present passive and the present perfect passive). They both refer to the fact that there is no meeting. However, there is a very subtle difference. Compare these two sentences:

- a) The meeting is cancelled due to staff shortages. (This is a fact, and this is the situation now.)
- b) The meeting has been cancelled due to staff shortages. (The action of cancelling happened before now – the meeting was cancelled by someone in the past, and this is the situation now.)

In short, both sentences refer to the same result: there is no meeting. But there is a very subtle difference, as you can see with the present tense being used to demonstrate a fact, and the perfect tense being used to describe an action that has occurred before now.

Question III (Charles' versus Charles's): Remember that with most plural possessive forms you can put the apostrophe after the "-s". For example:

- a) The cats' dinners.
- b) The girls' bicycles.

However, names ending in a /z/ or /s/ sound, such as Dickens and Charles may be written in two ways in the possessive singular form:

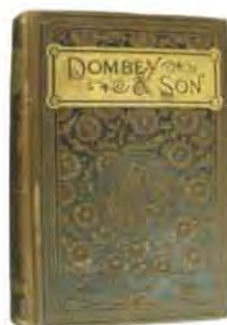
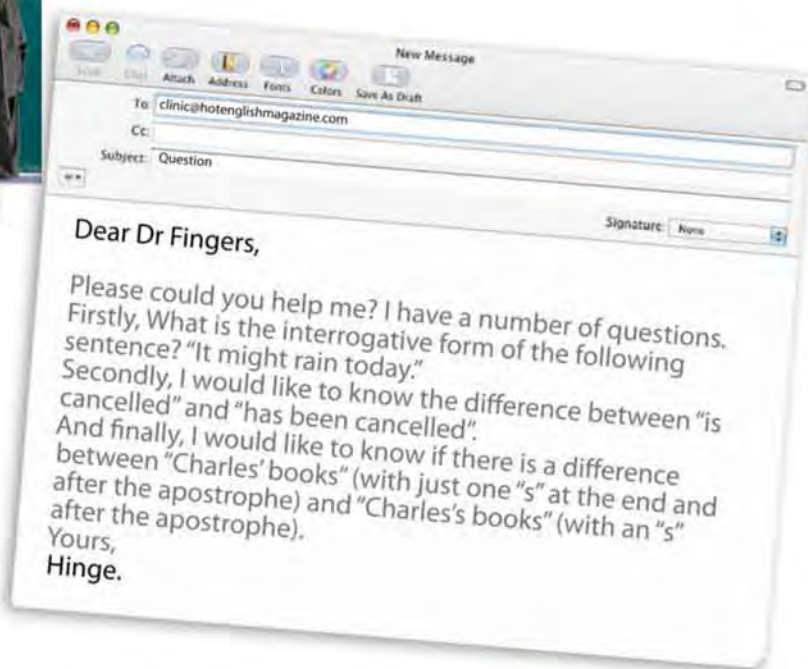
- a) Dickens' house; Charles' books.
- b) Dickens's house; Charles's books.

Both are correct, although personally I prefer the first option (a).

Well, Hinge, I really hope my explanations have helped you understand these things.

Yours, Dr Fingers.

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British bar chat

The consortium Richard Rogers Partnership has won a prize for the design of the new terminal at Barajas airport in Madrid. The prize money was 20,000. It is the first time the firm has won the award. The judges were impressed with the roof. The judges included architects Ian Ritchie and Stefan Behnisch, and the editor of The Architects' Journal, Isabel Allen.

Architecture

This month two British people are talking about architecture. Listen to the conversation and answer these questions:

1. What does one of the speakers say in favour of modern architecture?
2. What does the other speaker say against modern architecture?

Jen: Hey, I just heard that Madrid's **terminal** got an architectural prize. Did you hear about it?

Chris: Yes, I've seen pictures. Well, I don't know what you think, but people these days are just building **monstrosities**.

Jen: Oh, I completely disagree. I think it **reflects** modern society. It's such an interesting building. It's so different from everything else.

Chris: No, I think they're just **reflecting** their **ego**. They're just **putting up buildings** which say, "look at me, look at me", you know.

Jen: Well, what do you think? What is good architecture?

Chris: Well, they need to, erm, they need to say something, you know, about human beings that live and use, live in and use the buildings.

Jen: Well everything was once modern architecture. It just looks different now. Art Deco,

Classical – at the time there were critics, now it's considered art.

Chris: Well, yeah, it's art, like most modern art they just want to demonstrate something. They're trying to make the biggest, **wackiest statement**, trying to **make a point**.

Jen: Well, it might not be the case now, but in years these buildings will be valued.

Chris: Well, it's just about making something different. Again, like I say, they're just saying, "look at me, this is different, give me a prize".

Jen: Well, at the end day, if the building **performs a function** then it has been a **success**.

Chris: Well, I don't know why we need to. Why can't we just make buildings like we did in the past – nice looking, pleasant to look at?

Jen: I think it's important that architects create buildings that are interesting and different. Why do we always have to do the same thing? ☺

GLOSSARY

- a terminal** *n*
a place where airplanes begin or end a journey. Some airports have various terminals
- a monstrosity** *n*
a very ugly building
- to reflect something** *exp*
to be representative of something
- an ego** *n*
if someone has a big "ego", they think they are very important
- to put up a building** *exp*
to build a building
- wacky** *adj*
crazy; very strange
- a statement** *n*
something that you say or write which gives information in a formal or definite way
- to make a point** *exp*
to show that something is true either by arguing it or by your actions
- to perform a function** *exp*
to have a role in life; to be useful for something
- a success** *n*
something that makes money or that achieves what it intended to achieve

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US bar chat

Madonna has adopted an African baby boy. Government officials in Malawi said the 48-year-old singer had chosen a one-year-old child. The southern African country is the 10th poorest in the world. Many children in Malawi have AIDS. The pop star went by private plane to Lilongwe, the capital.



Madonna Adoption

Authentic conversations by native American speakers

This month two young Americans, Sarah and Laura are talking about adoption. Listen to the conversation and answer these questions: (US English spelling)

1. What does one of the speakers say in favor of Madonna's adoption?
2. What does the other speaker say against Madonna's adoption?

Leigh: Hey, did you hear about Madonna adopting a boy in Africa?

Janet: Yeah, I think it's fine. It sounds great.

Leigh: Really, you don't think she **got preferential treatment**?

Janet: No, not really. I mean, I think she didn't **do anything wrong**.

Leigh: Right, but it's very difficult to adopt and she got a baby. It was very easy for her. Didn't she... She, she **skipped in front of others** just because of her status.

Janet: I don't agree. I think, I mean, she's helping. She's **giving this kid a chance** in life. I think that's wonderful.

Leigh: Yeah, but there are plenty of children from our own country who need help.

Janet: Yeah but Malawi is one of the poorest countries in the world. This child really needed help.

Leigh: But, the situation, this child's situation, is going to be so extreme. He's going from complete poverty to extreme wealth.

Janet: Don't you think she's giving a good example to other people though? I mean, I think international adoptions are wonderful.

Leigh: Oh, I think she's thinking of her image. It's just good for her image that she's helping this person.

Janet: What are you talking about? Adoption is a completely **selfless act**. It's wonderful, it means you're sharing your life with a child.

Leigh: Yeah, but it's becoming a **trend**. Rich people all over the world are doing things like this – Angelina Jolie, Madonna...

Janet: Ok, well **I'm afraid** I don't agree, but... ❄

GLOSSARY

to get preferential treatment ^{exp}
to be given special treatment because people think you are important

to do something wrong ^{exp}
to do something bad or illegal

to skip in front of others ^{exp}
to go to the top of a list or the front of a queue (a line of people)

to give someone a chance ^{exp}
to give someone an opportunity to live a good life

a selfless act ⁿ
an action that is designed to be beneficial for others and not for yourself

a trend ⁿ
something that more and more people are doing

I'm afraid ^{exp}
I'm sorry but



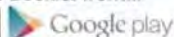
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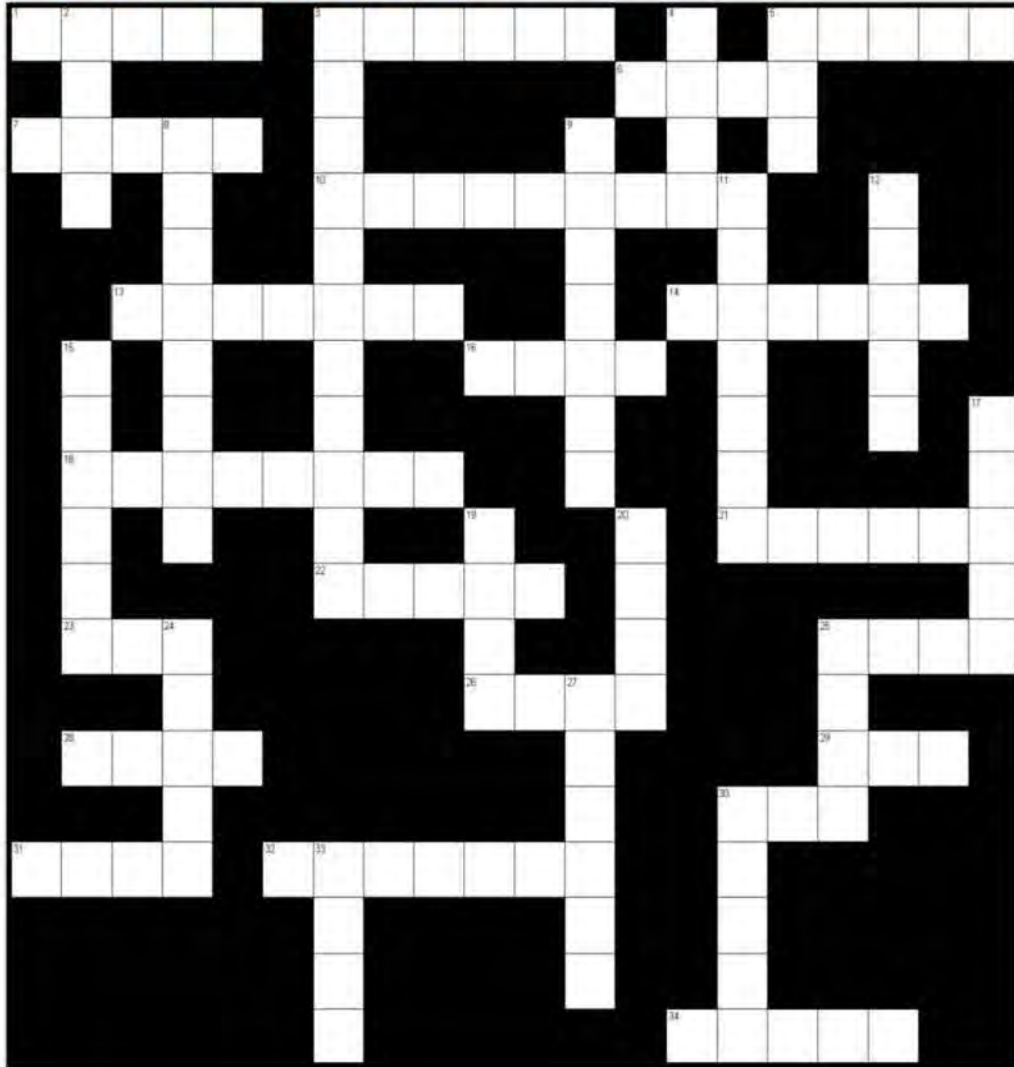
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CROSSWORD

Answers on page 33



Down

- 2: To pay money to use something for a limited period of time = to h_____
- 3: A sport that involves swimming under water with a tube attached to your mouth = snorkel_____
- 4: To keep money so you can use it in the future = to save_____ up
- 5: To ask for something with desperation = to beg_____ for something
- 8: A method or way of doing something = an approach_____
- 9: If you are like this, you are prepared and keen to do something = will_____
- 11: To take food or a liquid from your mouth to your stomach = to swallow_____
- 12: To act dishonestly in a game or in life = to cheat_____
- 15: A sport that involves swimming under water with oxygen = scuba diving_____
- 17: To obtain something = to get your hands_____ on something
- 19: To become accustomed to something = to get used_____ to something
- 20: A portable device for lifting heavy objects such as your car = a car jack_____
- 24: To include as part of the price = to throw_____ in
- 25: A plan to commit a crime = a plot_____
- 27: To accuse formally of a crime = a charge_____
- 30: A short period of time = a short stint_____
- 33: To go somewhere quickly = to rush_____

Across

- 1: To relax = to chill_____ out
- 3: To start living in a place permanently = to settle_____
- 5: To stop working (a machine/car, etc) = to bring_____ down
- 6: To earn money = to make_____ money
- 7: To frighten you = to frighten_____ you out
- 10: Members of your extended family = relatives_____
- 13: A factory where they make beer = a brewery_____
- 14: A tool for hitting things (often nails) = a hammer_____
- 16: To prevent or stop an evil plot = to foil_____ a plot
- 18: A profession that you choose to do because you feel passionate about it = a vocation_____
- 21: A gun, knife, rocket, etc = a weapon_____
- 22: I suppose = I guess_____
- 23: To do something bad to someone who did something bad to you = to get_____ your own back
- 25: To die = to pass_____ away
- 26: The area on a ship where you can walk = the deck_____
- 28: To refuse to do something; to say no to someone = to turn_____ someone down
- 29: To possess = to own_____
- 30: To press a button so an alarm starts making a sound = to set_____ off an alarm
- 31: To destroy with an explosion = to blow_____ up
- 32: The paper or plastic around a bar of chocolate = a wrapper_____
- 34: To become trapped = to get stuck_____

Halloween Jokes

1C 2J 3G 4A 3D 6F 7K 8E
9I 10B 11H

Creepy Words

- 1. Owl
- 2. Skeleton
- 3. Ghost
- 4. Witch
- 5. Broomstick
- 6. Bat
- 7. Owl
- 8. Pumpkin
- 9. Spider
- 10. Black cat

Noise Nuisance

- 11. Vampire
- 12. Rat
- 13. Candle
- 14. Haunted house
- 15. Werewolf
- 16. Mummy
- 17. Cemetery
- 18. Gravestone
- 19. Coffin
- 20. Snake
- 21. Jack O' Lantern

Jokes

1F 2E 3A 4C 5B 6D

Typical Dialogues

- 1. His house keys and his car keys.
- 2. Stan gave the robber his address, so now the robber knows where Stan lives.
- 3. He's a cold fish.
- 4. He felt like a fish out of water.
- 5. I've got other fish to fry.
- 6. He drinks like a fish.

Quiz Analysis

Mostly "a" = You would make a really good teacher. You are kind, patient and very understanding. Mostly "b" = Please, for the good of humanity, do not

Fluency Practice

- 1. She's a really big fish.
- 2. He's a big fish in a small pond.
- 3. He's a cold fish.
- 4. He felt like a fish out of water.
- 5. I've got other fish to fry.
- 6. He drinks like a fish.

Fluency Practice

- 1. When was the last time you played football?
- 2. Did you use to play football when you were younger?
- 3. Which team do you dislike/hate?
- 4. Which team do you support?

Fluency Practice

- 1. In May.
- 2. During / in the 1970s.
- 3. During the exam.
- 4. On Christmas Day.
- 5. For/in three weeks.
- 6. On Saturdays.
- 7. In the future.
- 8. On Wednesday.

Fluency Practice

- 1. In May.
- 2. During / in the 1970s.
- 3. During the exam.
- 4. On Christmas Day.
- 5. For/in three weeks.
- 6. On Saturdays.
- 7. In the future.
- 8. On Wednesday.

- 9. On Monday
- 10. On Valentine's Day
- 11. During / in the holidays
- 12. In July
- 13. For/in ten minutes
- 14. At the moment
- 15. At 7 o'clock
- 16. In the summer
- 17. At bedtime
- 18. For/in fifteen days
- 19. For/in three years
- 20. In/by 2001

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Here's another part in our mini-series on things your parents used to say to you as a child. Do you recognise any of these expressions?

My parents taught me ambition:

"If you don't pass your exams, you'll **end up** cleaning toilets."

My parents helped me appreciate the pain of isolation:

"Go to your room, and don't come down till I call you."

My parents taught me sophistication:

"Close that door. Were you born in a **barn**, or what?"

My parents taught me about **censorship**:

"You're far too young to be watching that."

My parents taught me about **anxiety**:

"Just wait until I get home."

My parents taught me about intelligence:

"I wasn't born yesterday!"

My parents taught me biology:

"Eat your **greens** – they're good for you."

My parents taught me about the use of force:

"I'll **tan your backside** if you say that again."

My parents taught me about **guilt**:

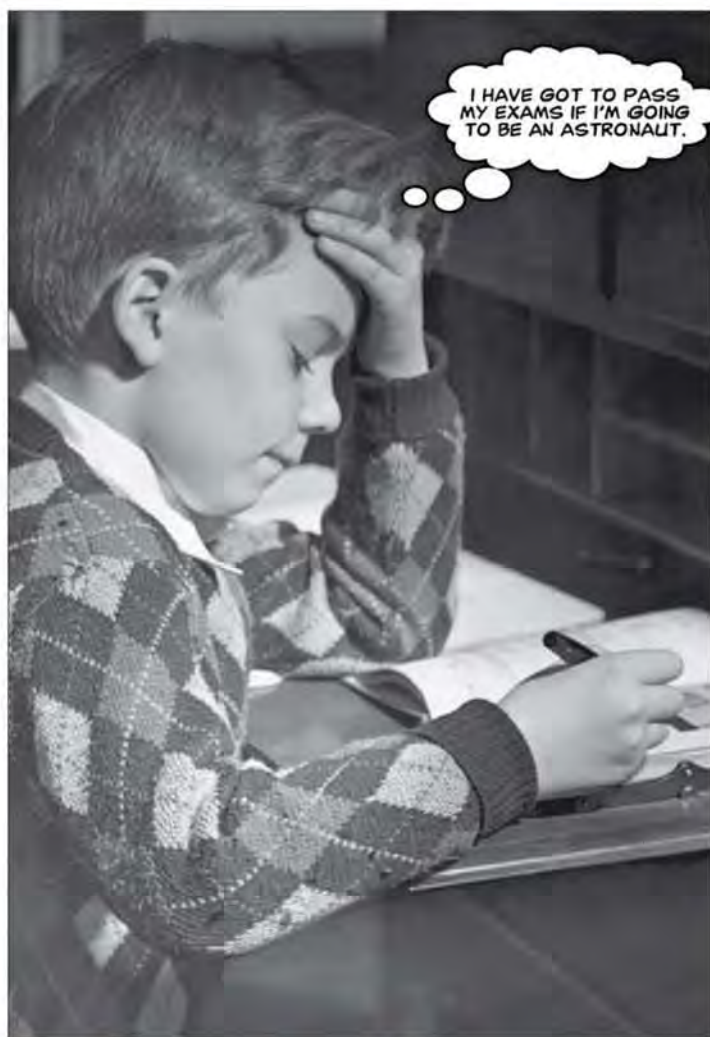
"There are millions of other children who are far less fortunate than you."

My parents taught me about **revenge**:

"One day you'll have kids, and I hope they turn out just like you!"

My parents taught me about **wisdom**:

"You'll understand what I'm talking about one day." ☺



GLOSSARY

to end up *phrasal verb*
if you "end up" doing something, you do that thing eventually

a barn *n*
a large building for animals on a farm

censorship *n*
prohibiting films/books, etc

anxiety *n*
worry/concern

greens *n*
vegetables (green ones)

to tan someone's backside *exp*
to hit someone on the bottom (the part of your body that you sit on)

guilt *n*
feeling bad about something you have done

revenge *n*
doing something bad to someone who has done something bad to you

wisdom *n*
someone with "wisdom" is intelligent and good at making decisions

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GREAT MOMENTS IN AMERICAN HISTORY



This is the second part in our mini-series on US history. This month, the California Gold Rush, and the Civil War. *By Laura Warrell*

The California Gold Rush

In January 1848, a **building crew** on the American River near Sacramento, California, found a few **nuggets of gold**. **Word got out**, and in a short time, half a million people from all over the world migrated to California to get rich. **Mines** were created all over the area, starting the development of an industry that lasted for more than one hundred years.

A lot of gold was found and many people became rich. However, most didn't. In fact, many people died. A typical **miner** spent ten hours a day in ice-cold water **digging** for gold.

Others died on their way to California, trying to cross the hot states on the journey from east to west. Sometimes there was no water for miles and people **died of thirst**. Early capitalists sold water, sometimes for \$100 a glass. By 1849, most of the easy gold was gone, but people kept coming.

"Sure, my tongue's black, I haven't had a meal or glass of water for days and my entire family is lying dead somewhere in Nevada," said one eager miner. "But I **gotta** get my gold!"



The Civil War

During the 19th century, America had two political groups: those with business interests who wanted a powerful government; and those who wanted stronger individual states. As the country expanded, the two groups fought to protect their interests. Very soon, there was a **clash of cultures** between the north and the south, and **slavery** became a **deciding issue**. Many of the southern states were **slave states**, and their economy depended on slavery. But in the north there was legislation to **abolish** slavery. Escaped slaves who made it to the North were often considered free; while slaves who were captured in the South were usually returned to their owners. The spirit of rebellion was rising.

Things came to a head in March 1861 when Abraham Lincoln was elected president. Immediately, South Carolina **seceded** from the Union in protest. Then, in February 1861, six other states joined it and the war began. The North, as Lincoln saw it, was fighting for democracy and freedom. The South felt that they should be able to organize their own lives, slaves included.

In 1863, Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation, freeing slaves throughout the Union. In 1865, an amendment to the Constitution prohibited slavery. The war lasted for four years. There were more than 900,000 casualties (about 3% of the population), including approximately 600,000 soldier deaths, two-thirds by disease. By the end of the war, the slaves were free, and Lincoln had been assassinated.



GLOSSARY

- a building crew** *n*
a group of workers who are building something
- a nugget of gold** *n*
a small piece of gold
- word got out** *exp*
people discovered/heard
- a mine** *n*
a tunnel in the ground created by man in order to extract metal or minerals
- a miner** *n*
a person who works in a mine
- to dig** *vb*
to make a hole in the ground
- to die of thirst** *exp*
to die because you have no water
- gotta** *exp* *abbr* *inform*
have got to
- a clash of cultures** *n*
a war/dispute between two groups of people with different cultures
- slavery** *n*
keeping slaves (people who are owned by others and who work for no money)
- a deciding issue** *n*
a question that causes people to reach a conclusion or to take a decision
- a slave state** *n*
a state that has laws that permit having slaves
- to abolish** *vb*
to put an end to something
- things came to a head** *exp*
things became serious and critical
- to secede** *vb*
to stop being a member of an organisation or forming part of a group

Story Time



Story Time

The Loving Husband
A man and his wife go on holiday to Jerusalem. While they are there, the man **passes away**. The **undertaker** tells the wife, "You can **have him shipped home** for \$5,000, or you can **bury** him here for \$150." "I think I'll have him shipped home," she says. "Why would you spend \$5,000 to ship your husband home when it would be wonderful to be buried here, and it would only cost you \$150?" the undertaker asks. And the woman replies, "Long ago a man died here, was buried here, and three days later he **rose from the dead**. I just don't want to take any chances."

The Perfect Son

Two men are talking about their children. "You know," says the first man. "I have the perfect son."
"Really?" says the second man. "Does he smoke?"
"Never!" replies the first man. "Well, does he drink?" the second man asks.
"No, he's **never touched a drop of alcohol**."
"That's pretty impressive," the second man says. "What about going out? Does he come home late?"
"**Nope!**" the first man says. "He's always in bed nice and early, and he gets up really early too."
"That's great. **I guess** you really do have the perfect son. So, how old is he?" the second man asks.
And the first man replies, "He'll be six months old next Friday."

Flying Idiot

An idiot goes to a **flight school** and asks to have helicopter flying lessons. The owner agrees and shows him how to fly the helicopter. After a couple of hours, the instructor says, "Ok, you can go now. Have fun!" So, the idiot starts up the motor, and **takes off**. The idiot goes up to about 500 metres then **radios in**. "I'm doing great! I love it! The view is so beautiful." At about 1,000 metres, the idiot radios in again. "This is easy!" Then, the instructor watches as the idiot climbs to over 1,500 metres. And now she's beginning to worry because the idiot hasn't radioed in. A few minutes later, the instructor watches in horror as the idiot crashes about half a kilometre away. The instructor runs over and pulls the idiot from the **wreckage**. "What happened?" the instructor asks. "I don't know," the idiot replies. "Everything was going fine, but as I got higher, I was starting to get cold, so I turned off the big **fan** thing and then..." ❄️

GLOSSARY

- to pass away** *phr v/p*
to die
- an undertaker** *n*
a person whose job is to prepare the dead for burial or cremation
- to have someone shipped home** *exp*
to pay money so a (dead) person can be taken home by ship
- to bury** *v/t*
to put someone/something in a hole in the ground
- to rise from the dead** *exp*
to become alive again
- to never touch a drop of alcohol** *exp*
a never to drink alcohol
- nope** *exp infurm*
no
- I guess** *exp*
I think/suppose
- flight school** *n*
a school where they teach you how to fly
- to take off** *phr v/t*
if a plane "takes off", it leaves the ground in a controlled manner
- to radio in** *phr v/t*
to communicate with someone by radio, often reporting on a situation
- wreckage** *n*
the remains of something that has been destroyed
- a fan** *n*
an object for making the air cool. It goes round and round

Crime Words

See if you can identify the word. Then, try to find the words in the Wordsearch. Good luck! (Read the vocabulary page 32/33 before doing this.)



- The crime of stealing from a building or person = ro_____.
- To take something that doesn't belong to you from a building = to r_____.
- The crime of taking something that doesn't belong to you = th_____.
- To take something that isn't yours = to st_____ something.
- To obtain money in return for not revealing a secret = bla_____.
- The crime of committing an act against your country = tr_____.
- Giving false evidence in a court of law = per_____.
- To rob someone in the street with violence or the threat of violence = to mu_____.
- To take someone by force and to demand money in return for their safe return = to ki_____ someone.
- The crime of entering a house illegally in order to steal things = bur_____.
- A person who enters a house illegally = a bur_____.
- The premeditated killing of someone = mu_____.
- Killing someone by accident = man_____.
- Taking goods illegally from one country to another = smu_____.
- Obtaining money by falsifying accounts = fr_____.
- The destruction of property by fire = ar_____.
- Stealing things from shops = sho_____.

FAMILY DISCUSSION BY DANIEL COULTOINE

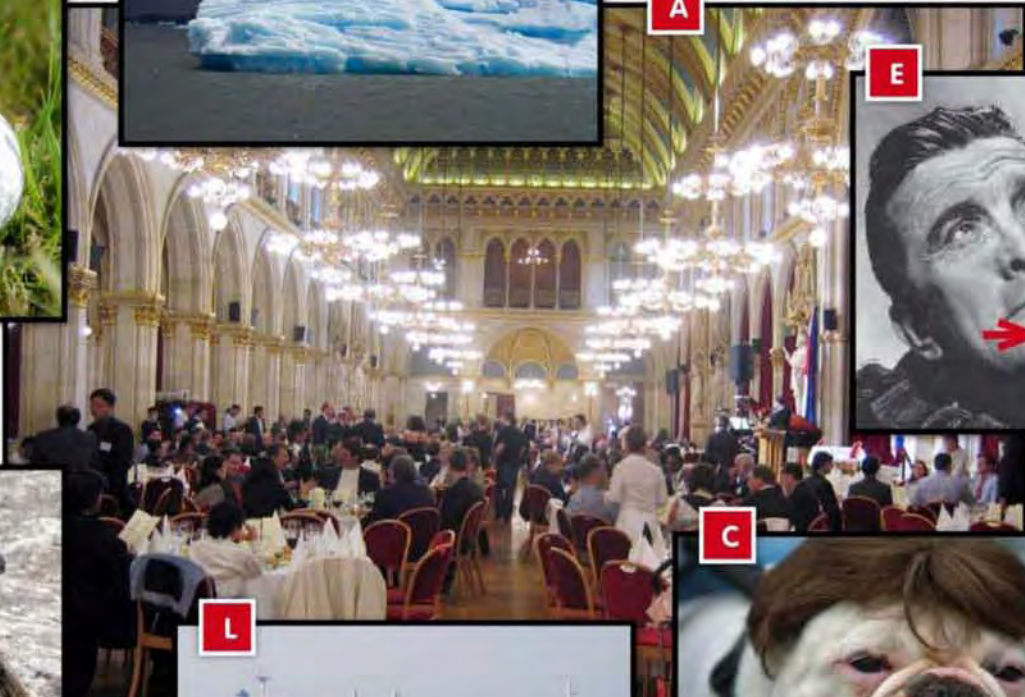


Trivia Matching

Exercise

See if you can do this matching exercise. Look at the list of things (1 to 13), and the photos (A-M). Write a letter next to the name of each thing in the list below. Answers also on page 24

1. A goldfish
2. A bat
3. A cave
4. A fork
5. A spoon
6. A banquet
7. A toupee
8. A dimple
9. A golf ball
10. A penguin
11. Swimwear
12. A super-tanker
13. An iceberg



Weird Trivia

This is another part in our mini-series on strange facts. Whoever thought the world was so **awesome**?

The shortest complete sentence in the English language is "I am". Impress your English teacher with this fascinating fact.

In the White House there are 13,092 knives, forks and spoons, which is enough for a rather large **banquet**.

One third of most our lives is spent asleep; and most of that time is spent in dreaming. **Sweet dreams**.

All mammals are thought to dream; and it is suspected that some **lower animals** dream as well. However, what they dream about remains a mystery.

In Florida it is illegal to sing in a public place if you're wearing **swimwear**.



In Tokyo, they sell **toupees** for dogs.

A **pregnant goldfish** is called a **twit**. Incidentally, the oldest known goldfish lived to 41 years of age, and its name was Fred.



Bats always turn left when exiting a **cave**. Useful information if you are ever invited on a bat-catching expedition.



It takes about a two litres of water to cook macaroni, and about four litres to clean the pot. Help the environment by re-using your macaroni water.



There are 336 dimples on a regulation golf ball. Incidentally, according to a recent survey, the most famous dimples in Hollywood are Kurt Douglas' (the actor who starred in the film Spartacus, amongst many other movies).

Strangely, many of the world's worst serial killers have thirteen letters in their names, including Jack the Ripper, Charles Manson, Jeffrey Dahmer, Theodore Bundy and Albert De Salvo.



African black-footed penguins cannot fly, but they can swim up to 40 kph, which is faster than the Atlantic bottle-nosed dolphin, whose maximum speed is 35 kph.



A **fully-loaded super-tanker** travelling at normal speed takes at least twenty minutes to stop, which isn't a lot of time if you happen to notice an iceberg or large rock **up ahead**.

Einstein couldn't speak fluently when he was nine. His parents thought he might have a serious **learning difficulty**. How wrong they were. 🧠

GLOSSARY

- awesome** (adj) amazing/incredible
- a banquet** (n) a large formal dinner for many people
- sweet dreams** (exp) something that is often said to someone who is about to sleep. It means, "sleep well and dream about nice things"
- a lower animal** (n) not a mammal
- swimwear** (n) clothing worn to go swimming
- a toupee** (n) a piece of false hair
- pregnant** (adj) with a baby inside her
- a goldfish** (n) an orange-coloured fish that people often keep as pets
- a twit** (n) (informal) a pregnant goldfish; an idiot
- a bat** (n) a mammal that lives in a cave, flies and has wings
- a cave** (n) a natural hole in the side of a mountain or hill
- fully-loaded** (adj) filled with goods for transporting
- a super-tanker** (n) a very large ship for transporting oil
- up ahead** (exp) in front of you
- a learning difficulty** (n) a mental problem that makes it hard to learn

VOCABULARY CRIME

Learn some useful words and expressions related to crime.

Robbery – stealing from a building or person. Remember, the object of the verb “to rob” is a *place* or *person*. For example:
They robbed a *bank*. / They robbed a *man* in the street.

Theft – the crime of taking something. Remember, the object of the verb “to steal” is a *thing* (money, a car, etc). For example:
They stole some *money* from the bank. / They stole a *briefcase* from a man in the street.

Blackmail – obtaining money in return for not revealing a secret or publishing photos.

Treason – committing an act against your country. This could involve stealing state secrets and selling them to other countries.

Perjury – giving false evidence in a **court of law**, or giving someone an **alibi** so they don't get convicted. The big question: Would you commit perjury to save a loved one?

Libel – publishing something that says bad or untrue things about a person. At present there's a big libel case in Britain between Heather Mills (Paul McCartney's wife) and the *Sun* newspaper after they published a lot of **nasty** things about her.

Perverting the course of justice – **threatening a witness** or member of the jury involved in criminal proceedings – you know, what the Mafia do when they are **on trial** and want to avoid that heavy sentence.

Mugging – this is robbing someone in the street with violence or the threat of violence. The crime may involve Actual Bodily Harm (ABH – minor injuries to the victim), or Grievous Bodily



ART OR CRIME?

Harm (GBH – serious injuries to the victim).

Kidnapping – taking another person by force and demanding money in return for his or her **safe return**.

Burglary – entering a house illegally in order to steal things. Burglars who are good at climbing or jumping from roofs are known as “cat burglars”.

Homicide – this is the act of killing someone. There are various types of homicide, including murder (**premeditated killing**), manslaughter (unintentionally killing someone – whoops!

Sorry!), and attempted murder (trying to kill someone, but **failing**).

Vandalism – damaging property. This includes everything from **inoffensive** graffiti to **trashing a place**.

Smuggling – this is the crime of taking goods illegally from one country to another. In the past, there was something romantic about smugglers working in the middle of the night secretly **off-loading** ships filled with **barrels** of wine or brandy. These days it's all about drugs.

Fraud – obtaining money by **falsifying accounts**,

GLOSSARY

- a court of law** *n*
a building where a legal process happens
- an alibi** *n*
evidence that a person was not near a crime when it happened
- nasty** *adj*
horrible; very bad; unpleasant
- to threaten** *vb*
to tell someone that you will do something bad/violent to them if they don't do what you want
- a witness** *n*
a person who has seen a crime
- on trial** *exp*
if someone is “on trial”, that person is accused of a crime and is in court defending him/herself
- a safe return** *exp*
if there is a “safe return”, someone is returned without being harmed or injured
- a premeditated killing** *n*
a killing that was prepared in advance
- to fail** *vb*
not to succeed
- inoffensive** *n*
not bad; with no intention of hurting/damaging someone
- to trash a place** *exp* *inform*
to destroy a place completely
- to off-load** *vb*
to take goods out of a ship/car/lorry, etc
- a barrel** *n*
a wooden or metal container (in the shape of a cylinder) for liquids
- to falsify accounts** *exp*
to manipulate the accounts with the intention of tricking someone
- to deceive investors** *exp*
to trick investors in order to obtain money
- to turn a blind eye** *exp*
to ignore
- pot** *n* *inform*
marijuana
- to cause a disturbance** *exp*
to make a noise or to act violently in the street
- to handle** *vt*
if you “handle” goods, you take charge of them
- fall off the back of a lorry** *exp* *inform*
if you say that something has “fallen off the back of a lorry”, you are saying that it is stolen
- unwelcome** *adj*
not wanted

Useful parts of speech for crimes

Noun	Verb	Person
Crime	To commit a crime	A criminal
Theft	To steal	A thief
Robbery	To rob	A robber
Mugging	To mug	A mugger
Burglary	To burgle	A burglar
Fraud	To defraud	A fraudster
Murder	To murder	A murderer
Arson	To commit an act of arson	An arsonist
Smuggling	To smuggle	A smuggler
Blackmail	To blackmail someone	A blackmailer
Kidnap	To kidnap someone	A kidnapper
Drug trafficking	To traffic in drugs	A drug trafficker
Shoplifting	To shoplift	A shoplifter

deceiving investors, giving false cheques, or using stolen credit cards. Trust no one!

Drug trafficking – buying and selling controlled drugs. Possession of controlled drugs is also a crime, but the police often **turn a blind eye** if it's just a bit of **pot**.

Violent disorder – causing a disturbance in the street. The most extreme example is "riot", which involves a disturbance by twelve or more people. Avoid "riot" charges by limiting the number of friends you go out with to a maximum of eleven people.

Handling stolen goods – receiving or **handling** goods that you know have been stolen. A typical example includes buying a 10-euro

DVD player, which has obviously **fallen off the back of a lorry**.

Arson – the destruction of property or areas of forestland by fire.

Shoplifting – stealing things from shops. Every child's favourite game.

Harassment – this crime includes bullying, which consists of systematic attacks against an individual by one or more people.

Sexual harassment – **unwelcome** words or actions of a sexual nature in the work place.

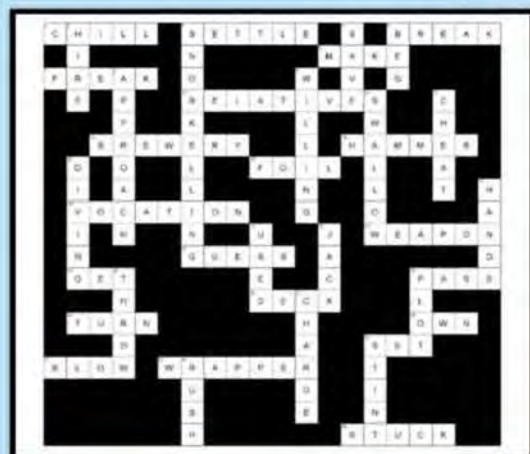
Stalking – following someone obsessively. Famous people are sometimes bothered by stalkers. ☺



Wordsearch answers

Crime Words, page 29

1. Robbery
2. Rob
3. Theft
4. Steal
5. Blackmail
6. Treason
7. Perjury
8. Mug
9. Kidnap
10. Burglary
11. Burglar
12. Murder
13. Manslaughter
14. Smuggling
15. Fraud
16. Arson
17. Shoplifting



Crossword page 24

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TYPICAL DIALOGUES THEFT

Listen to this dialogue and learn some useful vocabulary and expressions. **This month: The stolen briefcase**

In this conversation Stan and his father (Nigel) are talking about the theft of Stan's **briefcase**. Listen to the conversation and answer these two questions.

1. What did Stan lose in his briefcase?
2. What silly thing has Stan done?

Answers on page 24



Nigel: So, they stole your briefcase, did they?

Stan: Yes, that's right dad. And I know what you're going to say...

Nigel: Then, I won't have to tell you that you should **keep an eye on your things** at all times.

Stan: I know, I was in a café, and I just went up to bar to get a coffee, and then I was **robbed**...

Nigel: Look, these guys are **pros**. You know, this world would be a happier place if everyone learnt these two words: **people stink**.

Stan: Oh, come on. That's too **cynical** for me. People are basically good and decent. People aren't born robbers, **fraudsters**, **muggers**, **burglars**, etc. **They are driven to that** by their circumstances.

Nigel: Ever heard of the word "choice"? People have choices, you know.

Stan: Well, I haven't **lost faith in the human race**. And besides, the guy who **stole** my briefcase has **repented**.

Nigel: What do you mean?

Stan: Well, just a few hours ago, he phoned to tell me that he felt bad about what he'd done, and that he wanted to return my briefcase.

Nigel: Oh, really?

Stan: Yes, he said he could come round to the house.

Nigel: And you gave him your address.

Stan: Yes.

Nigel: You gave the man who stole your briefcase with your house keys and car keys in it, your address.

Stan: Yes, that's right. He offered to meet me here... my car is safe, isn't it? *(The sound of a car being driven.)* Oh, no, my car is going down the road! Stop! Stop!

Nigel: You won't be seeing that again. Still got your faith in the human race?

Stan: Two things: firstly, **wipe that smirk off your face**. Secondly, can I **borrow** your car keys? ☹️



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GLOSSARY

- a briefcase** *n*
a flat case for carrying documents
- to keep an eye on things** *exp*
to watch or observe things carefully
- to rob** *vt*
to steal from a building or person
- a pro** *n*
a professional
- people stink** *exp*
people are bad
- cynical** *adj*
someone who is "cynical" always thinks of the most negative reasons for something
- a fraudster** *n*
a person who obtains money by tricking others, often by manipulating accounts
- a mugger** *n*
a person who attacks people in the street in order to rob them
- a burglar** *n*
a person who enters a building illegally in order to steal things
- they are driven to that** *exp*
they are compelled to do that because of their unfortunate situation
- to lose faith in the human race** *exp*
to stop believing that people are generally good
- to steal** *v*
to take things that do not belong to you
- to repent** *v*
to feel bad about something you have done
- to wipe a smirk off your face** *exp*
to stop smiling. A "smirk" is the smile of someone who is pleased with him/herself
- to borrow** *vt*
to take something with permission for a limited period of time and with the intention of returning it

Taking a taxi

Learn the kind of English you need for social occasions. This month: taking a taxi.

Part I: Listen and repeat these expressions.

What you say

- Taxi! (in the street)
- Could you call a taxi for me, please?
- Where can I get a taxi?
- Is this taxi free?
- Do you know this address?
- Do you know where this street is?
- Could you take me to the hotel, please?
- I'd like to go to the airport, please.
- To the town centre, please.
- Please take me to this street.
- Could you go a bit slower, please?
- How much will it cost, more or less?
- Just stop over there, please.
- The **meter** isn't **running**.
- How long will it take?
- I'll tell you when we get there.
- Just **drop me off** at the corner.
- I'm **in a hurry**.
- Could you take me to the nearest Underground station, please?
- I'll get out **by** the traffic lights.



Part II
Now listen to this social English dialogue. In this conversation, John is in a taxi.

John: To the airport, please.
Taxi driver: Any particular route?
John: The quickest! What's the traffic like?
Taxi driver: It's a bit **heavy** – we're in **rush hour**.
John: I need to get there by 12.
Taxi driver: That's gonna be **hard**.
John: Well, **do your best**, please.
Taxi driver: Off on holiday, are you?
John: No, business.
Taxi driver: Do you mind if I **put the radio on**?
John: No, not at all. How long do you think it's going to take to get there?
Taxi driver: About half an hour.
John: Good, I should **make it**.



- I'm sorry but I don't have any **change**.
- Do you have change for a 50-euro note?
- **What's the traffic like** today?
- You can put your luggage in the **boot**.
- There's a surcharge from the airport.
- Don't you have any change?
- Do you know what part of town it's in?
- Which way would you like to go?
- Any preferences for the route?
- That'll be twenty-six euros, please. ☺

What you hear

- It's about 30 km from here.
- It'll take about ten minutes.
- Where would you like to go?
- Where to?

GLOSSARY

- a meter** *n*
a machine in a taxi that says how much you must pay
- to run** *vb*
if a machine is "running" it is working
- to drop someone off** *exp*
to leave someone in a place
- in a hurry** *exp*
if you are "in a hurry", you must go somewhere quickly
- by** *prep*
next to
- change** *n*
small amounts of money in the form of coins and small-denomination notes
- what's the traffic like?** *exp*
is there much traffic?
- the boot** *n*
the back of the car where you can put luggage, etc
- heavy** *adj*
if traffic is "heavy", there are many cars on the road
- rush hour** *n*
the period of time when people are travelling to work or from work. This means there are a lot of cars on the road
- hard** *adj*
difficult
- do your best** *exp*
try to do the best you can
- to put the radio on** *exp*
to turn on the radio
- to make it** *exp*
to be successful; to achieve what you wanted to achieve; to arrive when you wanted to arrive

QUIZ COULD YOU BE A GOOD TEACHER?

Are you patient and understanding? Do you have the ability to teach others? Do our quiz and find out whether you could be a good teacher or not. **Analysis** on page 24

- What would inspire you to become a teacher?
 - The long holidays and short working day – it's an easy job.
 - It would be like a **vocation** for me – an opportunity to work with young people, and contribute to their mental, psychological and **educational development**.
- Someone is having problems on the computer at work and asks you for help. What do you say?
 - "Go away and **stop bothering me**."
 - "I'll help you. Just let me explain the process to you, then I'll send you an e-mail summarising the main points again."



- How does an **effective** teacher teach?
 - By telling students to open their books and to start reading so they can **memorise** the information.
 - By showing students how things work, by getting students to experiment with things, to question things and to develop an interest in the topic.
- What do you think of people who are slow at

- learning?
 - They're stupid.
 - They just need a bit more help, or perhaps a different **teaching approach**.
- What do you think of this statement: "Everyone has the ability to learn."
 - It's just a load of rubbish!**
 - It's true. OK, so not everyone learns at the same rhythm, and not everyone has the same

mental capacity, but if you **modify** your **approach** and give people opportunities, they can do just about anything.

- What is the ideal student?
 - One who sits down, shuts up and does what I say.
 - One who is interested in learning and who wants to develop his or her mind and capabilities.
- Are there different ways to teach?
 - No. Teaching is teaching and that's it.
 - Yes. Some people respond better to different teaching styles. For example, some learners are kinaesthetic (they like to touch and manipulate things), others are visual (they like to see things), others are verbal and linguistic (they like to hear things), and others are logical (they like understanding systems). 🌐



GLOSSARY

- a vocation** ^v
a profession that you choose to do because you really want to do it, often for selfless reasons
- educational development** ⁿ
learning and educational improvement
- stop bothering me** ^{exp}
stop irritating/annoying me
- effective** ^{adj}
good, successful, and efficient
- to memorise** ^v
to learn text so you can repeat it exactly
- a teaching approach** ⁿ
a method for teaching
- it's a load of rubbish** ^{exp}
it isn't true; it's stupid
- to modify** ^v
to make small changes
- an approach** ⁿ
a method or way of doing something

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friends

(if we aren't already!)

Quirky News

Funny news stories from around the world.

Naughty ape



Fire officers who **responded to an alarm** at a **research centre** found no fire. Later, they discovered that an orang-utan called Bonbon had **set off the fire alarm** at the Ape Mission in New Jersey. The fire alarm is on a wall in an area used by the apes and members of the scientific team. Bonbon, a 15-year-old male, is one of seven orang-utans at the facility. A leading scientist at the centre said, "These **apes** are incredibly intelligent, and Bonbon is no exception. We've told him not to do it again." A fire department spokesperson said it was the first known case of an animal doing something like this in New Jersey.

Lovely Daddy



A thirty-one-year-old man was arrested and **charged with abandoning** his three-year-old son. Chris Rudo had left his young son in the car while he went to a strip club. The boy waited in the car for about 30 minutes before walking into the club looking for his dad. The big question for investigators was why the boy had waited for so long in the car. Police later discovered that Mr Rudo had told his son that if he got out of the car "monsters would eat him". What a lovely daddy!

Trojan camels

Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein may not have had weapons of mass destruction in his final days in power, but he did have plans for another secret weapon: camels of mass destruction. The dictator, who is now on trial in Iraq, had planned to use the animals packed with explosives. The idea was to move them towards invading armies and then **blow them up**. The **plot** was discovered by the Pentagon.



Naked Robbery



A burglar's plan to rob a house was **foiled** after he **got stuck** – naked – in a window. Police received a call from a neighbour, and found the man trapped in a **window frame**. The man told police that he was forced **at gunpoint** to **break into** the apartment by a person he only knew by his first name. The police believe the robber had taken off his clothes in order to enter the small space.

GLOSSARY

- to respond to an alarm** ^(v) if the fire brigade "responds to an alarm", they go to a place because someone has set off the alarm or phoned them
- a research centre** ⁽ⁿ⁾ a centre involved in scientific investigation
- to set off a fire alarm** ^(v) to press a button or pull a cord so that an alarm starts making a sound
- an ape** ⁽ⁿ⁾ a large monkey
- to charge with** ^(v) to accuse formally of a crime
- to abandon** ^(v) to leave a defenceless person in a place in which they are in potential danger
- to blow up** ^(v) to destroy something by causing an explosion
- a plot** ⁽ⁿ⁾ a plan to commit an illegal act
- to foil** ^(v) to prevent/stop
- to get stuck** ^(v) to become trapped
- a window frame** ⁽ⁿ⁾ the area around a window
- at gunpoint** ^(adv) with a gun pointing at you
- to break into a place** ^(v) to enter a place illegally and often with force

Guy Fawkes

The original 'bad guy'

Think of England's famous Parliament buildings and Big Ben. Think of Queen Elizabeth, Tony Blair, and think of the entire House of Lords and all the politicians of Great Britain. Now, imagine that they are all suddenly destroyed in one terrible explosion. Four hundred years ago, someone did try to blow up the King and Parliament. This terrorist **plot** became known as the **Gunpowder Plot**. Who was behind it? And why? By Rob Julian.

Second-Class Citizens

Like September 11, The Gunpowder Plot was an ambitious terrorist plan. It was put together by a group of people who were unhappy with the government. They



obtained a huge amount of explosives and a weapons expert. So, what was the problem? Well, in the early 1600s, around the time of Shakespeare, England's Catholics were unhappy – very unhappy. They weren't allowed to vote, they weren't allowed to **hold mass**, they weren't allowed to join the army, they couldn't practise law, receive a university degree or vote in local elections. All this on top of having to go to Anglican churches in order to baptise their children or be **buried**.

In effect, the Catholics were second-class citizens. Things were fairly bad during the reign of Queen Elizabeth I (1558 to 1603). But when she died, Catholics thought things would change. However, the new king, James the First (who reigned from 1603 to 1625), was no different. He was a Protestant too. And now the Catholics were worried that they would never get the rights they deserved.



The Plan

Some influential Catholics of the day **came up with** a spectacular plot. They decided to blow up Parliament on its opening day,

when the King would be there, as well as the Prime Minister and all the government and opposition ministers. Not only that,



they planned to **kidnap** the children of the royal family. They hoped this would start a revolution so that a Catholic king would once again rule the country.

The Man

The **plotters** included Guy Fawkes, an ex-military man and weapons expert. Fawkes managed to obtain a huge amount of gunpowder – about 36 **barrels**. First, the plotters **rented** an empty house next to Parliament.



The plotters started to **dig a tunnel** to put the gunpowder under the Parliament building. But then they had some good luck. They were able to rent a **coal cellar** directly beneath Parliament. The gunpowder was taken down to the cellar a long time before, so nobody would notice. When the last barrel was delivered, they covered it with wood so that it couldn't be seen. All they had to do was to wait until the opening day of Parliament and "Ka-Boom!" – everyone inside would be **blown up**.

The Wait

But they had to wait a long time. By chance, the opening day of Parliament was **delayed**, not once, but twice. The plotters were getting nervous. Every day they had to wait, the chances that the plot would be discovered increased. Then there was another problem. Some of the Catholic plotters were worried about other Catholics who would die in the explosion. One of the plotters, Francis Tresham, tried to warn his brother-in-law, Lord Monteagle, in a letter.

GLOSSARY

- a (terrorist) plot** *n*
a plan to commit a crime / to kill people
- gunpowder** *n*
an explosive substance
- to hold mass** *exp*
to conduct a Catholic service
- to bury** *vb*
to put a body in a hole
- to come up with (an idea)** *exp*
to think of an idea
- to kidnap** *vb*
to take someone illegally and with force, and to demand money or something in return
- a plotter** *n*
someone who plans to commit an act of terrorism
- a barrel** *n*
a large container that is often used for beer
- to rent** *vb*
to pay money to use something for a period of time
- to dig a tunnel** *exp*
to make a long hole in the ground
- a coal cellar** *n*
a room under a house where coal is kept. Coal is a hard, black substance used for burning, etc
- to blow up** *phr vb*
to explode
- to delay** *vb*
if something is "delayed", it happens at a later time
- to attend** *vb*
to go to
- to search** *vb*
to look for something carefully
- to refuse** *vb*
to say that you won't do something
- to flee** *n* (past: fled)
to run away; to escape
- to go into hiding** *exp*
to hide because the authorities are looking for you
- a trial** *n*
a legal process for deciding if someone is innocent or guilty
- to judge someone guilty** *exp*
to say that someone has committed a crime
- a major event** *n*
a very important occasion with many people attending
- to hang someone** *vb*
to kill someone by putting a rope around their neck
- guts** *n*
the organs inside someone's body
- a bonfire** *n*
a large fire outside, often as part of a celebration
- a dummy** *n*
a model of a person, often the same size as that person
- straw** *n*
dried yellow grass that animals eat

He wrote, "I advise you to devise some excuse not to **attend** this parliament, for they shall receive a terrible blow, and yet shall not see who hurts them."

The Discovery

Monteagle showed the letter to the authorities. They **searched** the Parliament in the early morning of the 5th of November. They found the gunpowder. And they found Guy Fawkes. He was carrying a box of matches.

Fawkes was arrested and brought to the King, who asked Fawkes to explain why he wanted to kill him. Then, Fawkes was taken to the Tower of London. He **refused** to give the names of the other plotters, so he was tortured. Fawkes eventually confessed the names of the others. But by then, they had already **fled** from London and had **gone into hiding** all over the country. But one by one, they were all arrested or killed.

The Penalty

During a one-day **trial**, on 26th January 1606, the plotters were all **judged guilty** and sentenced to death. The execution was a **major event**. Tickets were sold for record prices. It is even said that the King and Queen secretly attended the event. Fawkes and the others were **hung** by the neck, drawn (their **guts** were taken out) and their bodies quartered (cut into four pieces). The Gunpowder Plot was finished. But the memory of it lives on.

The Memory

That night on 5th November 1605, hundreds of people across the country lit **bonfires** to celebrate the news of the discovery of the plot that had prevented the deaths of many people. Incredibly, this tradition has survived, and every 5th November there are bonfires and fireworks all over England. This festival is known as "Guy Fawkes Night" or "Bonfire Night". At the end of the night, the



figure of a man is thrown onto every fire. This figure is known as a "guy", and is a **dummy** of Guy Fawkes, often made from old clothes and **straw**. So, next time you find yourself in England on 5th November, you'll know what's happening. ☺

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Guy Fawkes Trivia

Here are some interesting things about Guy Fawkes and the Gunpowder Plot.

At the time of the plot, Guy Fawkes' name was actually Guido Fawkes. However, he is always referred to as Guy Fawkes.



For many centuries now, Guy Fawkes has been considered the **main culprit**. However, he wasn't one of the principal leaders.

By the 19th century, the word "guy" was used to describe a strangely dressed person. Today, in informal language, "guy" is used to refer to any male person.

For Bonfire Night, it is typical for children to make their own "guys" with straw and old clothes. Some children take their guys around the streets with signs on them saying, "a penny for the Guy", before burning the Guys on the night of 5th November.

The most famous Bonfire Night celebrations in England are those of Lewes in East Sussex. In 1994, there were **effigies** of Mrs Thatcher,



John Major and Michael Howard, as well as Guy Fawkes. Eighty thousand people attended.

These days there are five Bonfire Societies in Lewes.

For the special night, many members wear historical **fancy dress**. However, only one of them, the Cliffe Bonfire Society, still burns an effigy of the Pope (but the Cliffe is careful to make it clear that it is a 17th-century Pope, not the present one).

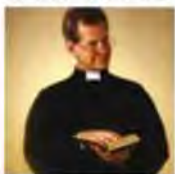


For most people, the celebrations in Lewes are a night of **wildness** and fun, although there will always be some people who feel uncomfortable seeing a **banner** across the street with the words "No Popery".

In 2005, a British television station made a documentary programme about the gunpowder plot. They decided to build a **replica** of the Parliament building and then blow it up, to test the power of the gunpowder used by Guy Fawkes. The explosion was enormous. From the test, they concluded that everyone in the building would have been killed instantly. And anybody within 100 metres of the building would also have died.

For many years, Catholic priests had to hide

from the authorities. If they were caught, they could be executed. Many English country manor houses had (and still have) secret



passageways, hidden doors and rooms which the priests used. Baddesley Clinton is a typical example. It is about a hundred miles from London, and has enough hiding places for twelve priests.

In 1613, there was a proposal for a law in the House of Commons to force Catholics to wear a red hat (as the Jews in Rome did), or coloured **stockings** (as clowns did), so they could easily be distinguished or humiliated. In the end, it wasn't adopted, but it shows something of the **mood of the country**.

As a result of the failed attempt, the **vaults** of the House of Lords are still searched **on the eve** of the Opening of Parliament.

In the 19th century, some historians claimed that there was never any plot to blow up Parliament. They argued that the government invented it in order to create an excuse to attack and **repress** Catholics. Interestingly, many Muslims make similar claims with regard to the September 11th attacks.

Were the Gunpowder Plotters terrorists or freedom fighters? At the time, many people thought that blowing up Parliament was the right thing to do given the circumstances. But obviously others would say that this is a blatant act of terrorism. What do you think? ☺



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GLOSSARY

- the main culprit** ⁽ⁿ⁾
the person who is most responsible for a crime
- an effigy** ⁽ⁿ⁾
a figure of a famous person made to look funny or silly. It is often of a politician who no one likes
- fancy dress** ⁽ⁿ⁾
clothing people wear to parties so they look like pirates, Romans, etc
- wildness** ⁽ⁿ⁾
craziness, insanity
- a banner** ⁽ⁿ⁾
a long strip of cloth with a message on it
- No Popery** ^(exp)
an anti-Catholic slogan used by extremist Protestants
- a replica** ⁽ⁿ⁾
a model of a building
- a passageway** ⁽ⁿ⁾
a corridor in a building
- stockings** ⁽ⁿ⁾
long socks that go to the top of the leg
- the mood of the country** ⁽ⁿ⁾
the atmosphere in the country
- a vault** ⁽ⁿ⁾
a room for storage or burial, often in the lowest level of a building
- on the eve of** ^(exp)
the day before
- to repress** ^(v)
to attack and restrict someone's freedom

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GLOSSARY

- a device** ⁿ something made for a particular purpose
- the Richter scale** ⁿ a measurement of the force of an earthquake (the violent and natural movement of the earth)
- a reading** ⁿ an amount that is registered on a machine
- heels** ⁿ a high part of a shoe that is on the bottom of the shoe at the back
- to slip off** ^{phr vb} to take off casually
- to pour** ^{vb} to put liquid from one container to another
- impermeable** ^{adj} that doesn't permit water to enter
- a bug** ⁿ a very small electrical device that records conversations
- to insert** ^{vb} to put
- to search for** ^{phr vb} to look for
- a crutch** ⁿ a long wooden/metal/plastic stick that is used to help someone walk
- to seep out** ^{phr vb} if a liquid or gas "seeps out", it escapes from a container slowly
- to sizzle** ^{vb} if something "sizzles", it starts making a hissing sound because it has been cooked with a very strong heat
- vulcanised rubber** ⁿ very thick, strong rubber
- pants** ⁿ clothing worn under trousers / a dress, etc
- NBC** ^{abbr} nuclear, bacteriological and chemical. An NBC suit is clothing that protects you against harmful chemicals or radiation
- a veil** ⁿ a piece of clothing worn on the head and that covers the face (often for religious purposes)
- weather forecasting** ⁿ predicting the weather



HOW TO HOST A BARBY

The barby

For many Australians, Christmas lunch is a "barby" (a barbecue). This is a traditional Australian social activity that takes place in **backyards** all over Australia. Here's what you'll need to host your own barbecue or "barby".

Lots of food

Most Australian homes have barbecues. The barbecue can be anything from an expensive "super barby" using gas and capable of cooking a lot of food, to a simple wood fire with a **hotplate** made from a piece of old **steel**.

The backyard.

In Australia, backyards are big, usually with some grass (called a **lawn**), or maybe even a swimming pool. But you can have a barby anywhere outside your house, like in a park, or near a river for example.

Beer!

Lot's of beer. Favourite Aussie beers include XXXX, Victoria Bitter and Tooheys.

Usually, the **host** buys a **carton** of 24 beer **cans**, called a "slab". These can be cans or small bottles called "stubbies". You'll need **heaps of** ice to keep it cool. Favourite places to keep the beer include the bathtub or the **sink**.

Food!

Specifically, lots of meat like sausages or steaks. **Seafood**, such as **prawns**, is popular too. The expression, "Chuck a prawn on the barby, mate!" is sometimes heard, and it has become associated all over the world with the Australian lifestyle.

Mates (friends)

If you don't have any, then invite your neighbours. In Australia, you can do this by shouting over the **fence** "Hey! Sheila! Bruce! Wanna come over this **arvo**? We're chuckin' some prawns on the barby and having a few **cold ones!**" (Translation: "Hello there, Sheila and Bruce! Would you like to join us this afternoon for a barbecue? We will be having some seafood and some cold beers.")

Sporting equipment

Sport is popular in Australia, and no barby would be complete without a game of backyard cricket or footy (Australian Rules Football) before, during or after the barby. It is also common to kick or hit the ball over the neighbour's fence by accident. Someone then has to **retrieve** it by **sneaking** into the neighbour's garden. When they come back, they are congratulated by the other guests who say "Ta! Onya mate!" (Translation: "Thank you, and well done my friend!")

Aussie barby conversation

Now listen to this conversation, complete with authentic Aussie slang. For any explanation on the meaning, please see the translation (below).



Sheila: Strewth Bruce! She's hot today!

Bruce: Too right Sheila! It's a scorcher!

Sheila: (giving him a beer) Get this into ya!

Bruce: Ta, love!

Sheila: Hit the spot?

Bruce: Didn't even touch the sides!

Sheila: Jeez that smells grouse! What ya cookin Mick?

Mick: Sangers. Chuck us ya plate and I'll plop one on.

Sheila: Thanks, Mick. Sanger, Bruce?

Bruce: Nah. I'm stuffed. I'll stick to the amber fluid.

Sheila: Righty oh!

Translation

Sheila: Gosh, Bruce. It's a hot day today.

Bruce: I agree, Sheila. It's very hot.

Sheila: Drink this. You'll feel better.

Bruce: Thank you, my friend.

Sheila: Did that help?

Bruce: Yes. I was so thirsty I drank it very quickly.

Sheila: Wow! That smells great! What are you cooking?

Mick: Sausages. If you give me your plate, I'll put a sausage on it.

Sheila: Thank you. Would you like a sausage, Bruce?

Bruce: No thanks. I'm not hungry. I think I'll just drink beer.

Sheila: OK, then.

GLOSSARY

- a backyard** *n* the garden or area of grass behind a house
- a hotplate** *n* a piece of flat metal used for cooking food over a fire
- steel** *n* a type of strong, heavy metal
- a lawn** *n* an area of grass that is cut very short
- a host** *n* the person who is organising a party
- a carton** *n* a plastic or cardboard container
- a can** *n* a small metal container for liquids: beer, Coke, etc
- heaps of** *adv* a lot of
- a sink** *n* the object in a bathroom in which you wash your hands
- seafood** *n* food from the sea such as prawns, shellfish, etc
- a prawn** *n* a small pink animal from the sea that you can eat
- to chuck** *vb informal* to throw in a casual manner
- a fence** *n* a barrier between a garden
- arvo** *n informal Aus* afternoon
- a cold one** *n informal Aus* a can/bottle of beer that has been in the refrigerator
- to retrieve** *vb* to gain possession of again
- to sneak into a place** *vb* to enter a place secretly and silently

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WALTZING MATILDA

Waltzing Matilda is possibly Australia's most **widely-known** song, and has even been suggested as a potential **national anthem**. Let's find out more about it. By Rob Julian.



Waltzing Matilda Trivia

The Start

The **lyrics** to the song were written in 1895 by the poet and nationalist Banjo Paterson. The song even has its own museum, the Waltzing Matilda Centre of Winton, Queensland. There is a lot of discussion about the song and the process of its creation. Paterson wrote the lyrics when he was staying at the isolated Dagworth Homestead, in Queensland. While he was there, his **hosts** played him a traditional Celtic tune called the *Craigelee*, and Paterson



decided that it would be a good tune to write lyrics to, producing the song during the rest of his stay.

The Story

The song tells the story of a "swagman" (a travelling worker) who steals a sheep and then **drowns himself** when the police arrive. This makes it unlikely that the song will ever be a national anthem. However, many Australians continue to regard the song as better than the **current** anthem *Advance Australia Fair*. Some people have even suggested using the same tune but with different lyrics. But for the time being the song has no official status, but it continues to be used unofficially as the national anthem. The song itself was first performed on 6th April 1895 at the North Gregory Hotel in Winton, Queensland. The occasion was an official dinner for the **Premier** of Queensland. It became an instant success. 🌟



- Paterson sold the rights to *Waltzing Matilda* (plus some other songs) to Angus and Robertson Publishers for five British pounds (about 8 euros).
- In 1941, the song was falsely copyrighted by an American publisher who claimed it was an original composition.
- *Waltzing Matilda* was performed at the Closing Ceremony of the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney by singer Slim Dusty, as well as at the Opening Ceremony of the Sydney 2000 Para-Olympic Games by Australian pop star Kylie Minogue. It was also sung at the Opening Ceremony of the 1982 Commonwealth Games in Brisbane, by Rolf Harris.
- The song has also been recorded by many other artists and bands, including Russia's Red Army Choir.
- A related song, *And The Band Played Waltzing Matilda*, was created by Eric Bogle in 1972, and performed by *The Pogues* on the album *Rum Sodomy & the Lash*. The song is about the Australian experience at the **Battle of Gallipoli**, and is told from the point of view of a soldier who loses both legs in the fighting. The song uses the same melody as the original, and uses a few lines of lyrics at its conclusion.
- *Waltzing Matilda* is the official march of the (US) First Marine Division, commemorating the time the unit spent in Australia during the Second World War.
- In 1903 the song was used by the Billy Tea Company as an advertising campaign, making the song nationally famous.



Waltzing Matilda

Once a **jolly swagman** camped by a **billabong**.
Under the **shade** of a **coolibah tree**.
And he sang as he watched and waited 'til his **billy** boiled
"Who'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me?"

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda
Who'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me
And he sang as he watched and waited 'til his billy boiled,
"Who'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me?"

Along came a **jumbuck** to drink at the billabong,
Up jumped the swagman and seized him **with glee**,
And he sang as he put that jumbuck in his **tucker bag**.
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda
Who'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me
And he sang as he put that jumbuck in his tucker bag,
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me?"

Up rode the **squatter**, **mounted** on his **thoroughbred**,
Down came the **troopers**, one, two, three,
"Whose is that jumbuck you've got in your tucker bag?"
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me."

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda
Who'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me
"Whose is that jumbuck you've got in your tucker bag?"
"You'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me?"

Up jumped the swagman, **leapt** into the billabong,
"You'll never catch me alive," said he,
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by the billabong,
"Who'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me?"

Waltzing Matilda, Waltzing Matilda
Who'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me
And his ghost may be heard as you pass by the billabong,
"Who'll come a-Waltzing Matilda, with me?"

GLOSSARY

- widely-known** (adj)
known in many countries or places
- a national anthem** (n)
a formal song that represents a country
- the lyrics** (n)
the words to a song
- a host** (n)
a person who receives guests in his/her house
- to drown yourself** (v)
to kill yourself in water
- current** (adj)
belonging to the present time
- the Premier** (n)
the elected leader
- jolly** (adj)
happy
- a swagman** (n) (informal Aust)
someone who travels around the country looking for work. A "swag" is a bag containing his possessions
- a billabong** (n) (informal Aust)
a deep pool of water found next to a river
- the shade** (n)
an area under a tree or at the side of a building that is protected from the sun
- a coolibah tree** (n) (Aust)
a type of eucalyptus tree which grows near billabongs
- a billy** (n) (informal)
a metal can for boiling water
- to boil** (v)
to heat water so it reaches 100°C
- to waltz Matilda** (v) (informal Aust)
to travel with a swag (a bag with your possessions)
- a jumbuck** (n) (informal Aust)
a sheep
- with glee** (adv)
happily
- a tucker bag** (n) (informal Aust)
a bag for carrying food
- a squatter** (n) (informal Aust)
an Australian farmer who is rich because he/she owns a lot of land. In standard English, a "squatter" is someone who lives illegally in someone's house or on their land
- to mount** (v)
to get on a horse
- a thoroughbred** (n)
a pure breed of horse
- a trooper** (n)
a police officer
- to leap** (v)
to jump
- the battle of Gallipoli** (n)
a battle fought in Turkey during the First World War between Turkish and Australian troops

The Crocodile Hunter

The original "Crocodile Hunter", Australian naturalist Steve Irwin, was one of Australia's best-loved larrikin (a "larrikin" is slang for someone with an **outgoing** and distinctive personality), and Steve Irwin certainly had those qualities. Sadly, Irwin died just recently after being **stung** in the **chest** by a **stingray**. The **freak accident put an end to** one of the most enthusiastic television presenters the world has seen. By Rob Julian

His Life

Irwin dedicated his life to animals. Despite the critics, his genuine love of animals and desire to communicate always kept him popular. Irwin was one of the most recognisable TV **documentary makers** in the world.

He was born in Victoria, Australia in February 1962. His parents began a reptile zoo in Queensland in 1970. Living in the Zoo, Steve **grew up** with all kinds of animals, taking part in the animal's daily **feeding**, care and **maintenance**. His 6th

birthday present was what he had always wanted: his own snake, a python. It was 3.6 metres long. While most other children were playing with the family dog, Steve **was out** catching fish and hunting **rodents** to feed to his crocodiles and snakes.

CRUIKEY! LOOK AT THIS LITTLE BEAUTY! HOLD ON, I'LL JUST TRY AND GRAB HIM BY THE TAIL!

Here are some great Steve Irwin moments

Irwin once made the **controversial decision** to take his newborn baby boy, Bob, into a crocodile **enclosure**. He held the child while feeding a chicken to a crocodile, and then put his child in even more danger by helping him **paddle** in the crocodile's pool.



Irwin was "kissed" by a Fierce Snake, regarded as the most **venomous** land snake in the world.

Irwin went to Namibia to film a documentary. His hand was **pierced** by a **splinter** from a poisonous tree. His hand turned black and became the size of a football.

A seven-metre python once tried **squeeze** Irwin **to death** at Australia Zoo.



GLOSSARY

- crikey** *excl*
an exclamation of surprise
- a beauty** *n*
a beautiful thing
- to hold on** *phr vb*
to wait
- to grab** *vb*
to take suddenly and with force
- outgoing** *adj*
extrovert
- to sting** *vb* (past: **stung**)
if an animal "stings" you, it attacks you with a sharp or poisonous part of its body
- the chest** *n*
the area at the top of your body at the front
- a stingray** *n*
a tropical fish with sharp spines
- a freak accident** *n*
an unexpected accident
- to put an end to something** *exp*
to make something stop
- a documentary maker** *n*
a person who makes documentary films
- to grow up** *phr vb*
if you "grow up" in a place, you live there from childhood to adulthood
- to feed** *vb*
to give food to
- maintenance** *n*
maintaining, supporting, repairing, managing, etc
- was out** *exp*
wasn't at home
- a rodent** *n*
a mouse/rat, etc
- (with) bare hands** *exp*
with hands that have no protection
- to breed** *vb*
to keep animals for the purpose of producing young animals
- to take over** *exp*
to take control of
- the management** *n*
the organisation and control of a business
- to run (a business)** *exp*
to organise and control a business
- a creek** *n*
a small tributary of a river
- a mangrove** *n*
a tropical tree that grows in swamps (wetlands) and that has many roots above ground
- to broadcast** *vb*
to show on television
- an endangered species** *n*
an animal that is in danger of becoming extinct
- a controversial decision** *n*
a decision that creates many divisions of opinion
- an enclosure** *n*
an area where an animal is kept
- to paddle** *vb*
to walk in a shallow water
- venomous** *adj*
poisonous; containing a liquid that can kill
- to pierce** *vb*
to make a hole in, often with a sharp point
- a splinter** *n*
a very small piece of a tree
- to squeeze to death** *exp*
to kill by creating pressure against a part of someone's body
- to whack** *vb*
to hit
- grumpy** *adj*
angry; in a bad mood
- to capture** *vb*
to film
- to tear someone's nose off** *exp*
to take off someone's nose with force
- a thrill-seeker** *n*
someone who looks for adventure and excitement
- to pour** *vb*
to put a liquid from a container into another container or onto something
- vinegar** *n*
a liquid made from wine by fermentation
- a fatal bite** *n*
a bite that can kill you
- to zigzag** *vb*
to move along a course that goes from right to left at very sharp angles

Lessons

Steve's father Bob taught him everything there was to know about reptiles. He even taught young Steve how to jump into a river and catch crocodiles at night – when he was just nine years old! Every crocodile in the zoo (about 100 in total) was either caught with Steve's **bare hands** or **bred** in their zoo. In 1991, Steve's parents retired and he **took over** the **management** of the zoo, which he **ran** with his

American wife Terri. Steve also worked for the Queensland Government's East Coast Crocodile Management Program. He spent years living on his own in the mosquito-filled **creeks**, rivers and **mangroves** of North Queensland, catching huge crocodiles all by himself.

Television

The series *The Crocodile Hunter* began in 1992. Steve filmed over 70 episodes of the programme. At its

highest point, *The Crocodile Hunter* had millions of viewers and was **broadcast** in 122 countries. Irwin's Australia Zoo, continues to be a major tourist attraction in Queensland. Irwin was not just an entertainer. He also dedicated himself to other conservation activities, such as creating the Steve Irwin Conservation Foundation, which was opened to help **endangered species** from all over the world such as the Sumatran Tiger. 🐾

Dangerous Animal Facts

- Australia has **80%** of the world's most dangerous land snakes.
- The stonefish is a poisonous fish that sits on rocks in shallow water. It looks like a stone and can sting you if you walk on it.
- The box jelly fish is found in northern Australian waters in the summer. It is extremely poisonous. If it stings you, you have to **pour vinegar** on your skin to stop the pain.
- Australia is home to two poisonous spiders: the red back and the funnel web. The funnel web has a **fatal bite**. It is often found in suburban gardens in Sydney.
- Crocodiles are very fast when they run in a straight line, but they cannot change direction quickly. So, if you want to escape from a crocodile, do some **zigzagging** until you find a large tree to climb up.



Irwin quotes

"Crikey, mate. You're far safer dealing with crocodiles and western diamondback rattlesnakes than the executives and the producers and all those sharks in the big MGM building."

Irwin describing a "moment" with a crocodile: "I bled a lot. I got hit across the face. We couldn't film for seven days. I got hit, **whacked**, underwater, across the face. I finished the shot, got into the boat, and blood started coming out."

Irwin looking at a venomous snake, smiling and saying, "Crikey! She's a **grumpy** one!" as it tries to attack him.

"So now what happens is the cameras follow me around and **capture** exactly what I've been doing since I was a boy. Only now we have a team of, you know, like 73 of us."

"The only animals I'm not comfortable with are parrots, but I'm learning as I go. I'm getting better and better at them. I really am. Yeah, for some reason parrots have to bite me. That's their job. I don't know why that is. They've nearly **torn my nose off**. I've had some really bad parrot bites."

"Yeah, I'm a **thrill-seeker**, but crikey, education's the most important thing."

Present Perfect & Past Simple Grammar fun

In this month's grammar fun section we'll be looking at the difference between the present perfect and the past simple.

General

Remember, we can use the present perfect or present perfect continuous to describe an activity that began in the past and that has continued until the present. For example:

- a) I have had this car for ten months. (I still have the car.)
- b) I have been living in Paris for six months. (I still live in Paris.)

And we use the past simple to

b) I lived in Los Angeles for ten months. In sentence "a" (with the present perfect) the speaker is referring to a situation that started in the past and has continued until the present. The speaker is still living there. And in sentence "b" (with the past simple) the speaker is referring to a situation in the past that has finished, and has no relation to the present.



perfect because the person (John Grisham) is a living author, and therefore the actions are recent and related to the present.

And in sentence "b" we use the past simple because the author is dead, and therefore the actions are all in the past and perceived as complete, remote and with no connection to the present. ●

More Expressions

Here are some more examples to compare:

- a) I have worked here for six weeks. (I am still working here.)
- b) I worked in that office for ten months. (I worked there in the past. I no longer work there.)
- a) I have had this red jumper for three days. (I still have the red jumper.)
- b) I had the blue jumper for nine months. (I don't have the jumper any longer.)

Now, compare these two sentences:

- a) John Grisham has written many books.
 - b) Charles Dickens wrote many books.
- In sentence "a" we use the present



describe actions from the past that we consider remote and with no connection to the present.

- a) I had that car for four years. (I don't have the car any more.)
- b) I lived in Berlin for ten years. (I don't live in Berlin any more.)

The Differences

Compare these two sentences:

- a) I have lived in Paris for two months.



Fluency Practice

Here are six quick activities for you to improve your pronunciation and fluency. Answer the questions as quickly as possible, and try not to think too much. Later, you can check your answers. You need to study the phrasal verbs and idioms before attempting these exercises. *Answers on page 24*

A: Tongue Twister

Try repeating this ten times as quickly as you can.
"The sixth sick Sheik's sixth sheep is sick."



B: Pronunciation: connected speech, fish idioms

Listen to these sentences and see if you can write down the words that you hear. Remember, some words are weak sounds and are unstressed, and as a result they are very difficult to hear.

- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____
- _____

C: Rapid response – Football

Answer these questions as quickly as you can. Try not to think too much and just invent the answers if you need to.

1. What football team do you support?
2. Have you ever been to see a football game? Where? When?
3. Who is your favourite player?
4. Who did you want to win the last World Cup? Why?



D: Sentence transformation – Football

Listen to these sentences and try to make a question for each one. Do it as quickly as you can. Use the question words in brackets ().

1. About six months ago in an office team.
(When) _____?
2. Yeah, I used to play with my friends in the park.
(Did / use) _____?
3. Manchester United. I can't stand them.
(Which) _____?
4. Liverpool. I've been supporting them since I was a kid.
(Which / support) _____?

E: Phrasal Verbs with "take"

Listen to each sentence then repeat it with an appropriate phrasal verb. You should try to be as quick as possible.

1. He is the same as his father.
2. Apologise for that.
3. That reminds me of my time in Africa.
4. They wrote down what he said.
5. I'm going to have a two-day holiday from work.
6. The plane left the ground and went into the air at 6 pm.

F: Revision Drills – prepositions of time

This drill is designed to practise using prepositions of time (in, during, at, by, on, for, from, since, etc). Listen to the list of words (1 to 20), and say the correct preposition.

1. May in _____
2. The 1970s _____
3. The exam _____
4. Christmas Day _____
5. Three weeks _____
6. Saturdays _____
7. The future _____
8. Wednesday _____
9. Monday _____
10. Valentine's Day _____
11. The holidays _____
12. July _____
13. Ten minutes _____
14. The moment _____
15. 7 o'clock _____
16. The summer _____
17. Bedtime _____
18. Fifteen days _____
19. Three years _____
20. 2001 _____



PHRASAL VERBS TAKE

GLOSSARY

to sit around all day *exp*
to stay in one place doing nothing and being lazy

trouble *n*
problems

smartly-dressed *adj*
with elegant or stylish clothes

a bushy tail *n*
a tail with a lot of hair on it. A fox has a bushy tail

to glue something back on *exp*
to attach something again using glue (a substance for sticking paper, etc)

The verb "to take" has many different uses. However, we often use this verb to say that we are carrying something from one place to another. For example, "I took my car to the garage so they could repair it."

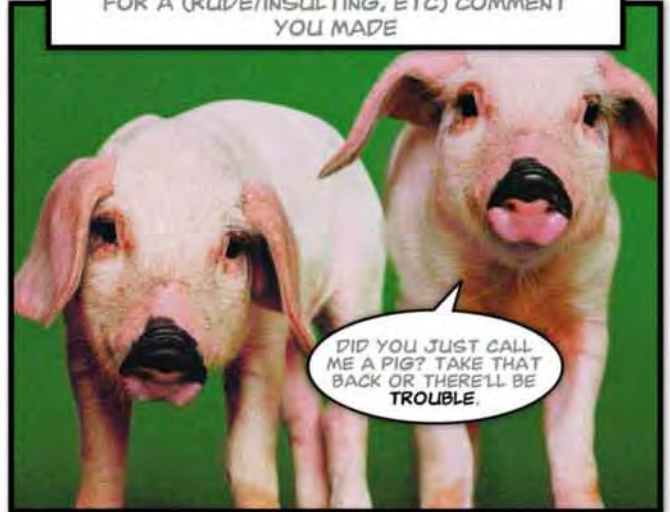
TAKE AFTER SOMEONE TO LOOK LIKE OR ACT LIKE SOMEONE (USUALLY IN REFERENCE TO YOUR PARENTS)

MY SON NIGEL SITS AROUND ALL DAY AND NEVER DOES ANYTHING. HE TAKES AFTER HIS FATHER.



TAKE BACK (A COMMENT) TO APOLOGISE FOR A (RUDE/INSULTING, ETC) COMMENT YOU MADE

DID YOU JUST CALL ME A PIG? TAKE THAT BACK OR THERE'LL BE TROUBLE.



TAKE YOU BACK TO REMIND YOU OF A TIME IN THE PAST

SEEING ALL THOSE PEOPLE TAKES ME BACK TO MY TIME IN THE ZOO. AH, THOSE WERE THE DAYS.



TAKE DOWN (A STATEMENT) TO WRITE WHAT SOMEBODY SAYS.

SO, YOU WERE ATTACKED BY A SMARTLY-DRESSED GENTLEMAN WITH A RED BUSH TAIL, WERE YOU? WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE DOWN YOUR STATEMENT.



TAKE OFF (DAYS FROM WORK) IF YOU "TAKE OFF" DAYS FROM WORK, YOU HAVE A HOLIDAY FROM WORK.

I'LL BE TAKING A FEW DAYS OFF TO RECOVER FROM ALL THE STRESS. YOU DON'T MIND, DO YOU?



TAKE OFF (AN AEROPLANE) IF A PLANE "TAKES OFF", IT LEAVES THE GROUND AND FLIES INTO THE AIR.

GOOD MORNING LADIES AND GENTLEMEN, THE PLANE WILL TAKE OFF JUST AS SOON AS THE ENGINEERS HAVE FINISHED GLUING THE ENGINE BACK ON.



BUSINESS ENGLISH

USEFUL BUSINESS EXPRESSIONS - WORK.



This month we are looking at some typical words or expressions with "work". Listen and repeat the following expressions.

- In the past, we worked ten hours a day. Now, the **working day** has been shortened to eight hours.
- Sandra is a **workaholic**. She starts at 6 in the morning and doesn't stop till about 9 at night.
- Half the **workforce** is unemployed in this country.
- There will be a shorter **working week** thanks to this new computing system.
- They are demanding better working conditions.
- They have about 300,000 euros **working capital**.
- She had to cancel the trip because of her **heavy workload**.
- We can't cope** with all this extra workload.
- The standard of **workmanship** at this company that produces precision tools is extremely high.
- Does he get on with his **workmates**?
- What difficulties do you **face** in the workplace?

Discrimination?
Bullying?

- We have an **open-plan office** with individual workstations.

Business Telephone Conversation

Now listen to this conversation. You'll hear many of the expressions from this unit.

- Margaret:** Hello? Margaret speaking.
- Paul:** Oh, hi, Margaret. This is Paul Oates from accounting.
- Margaret:** Oh, hi Paul. How can I help you?
- Paul:** Well, firstly, thanks for your help with the end-of-year figures. I couldn't have done it without you.
- Margaret:** No problem.
- Paul:** Secondly, I was just hoping to get your thoughts on the new computing system.
- Margaret:** Well, it will definitely improve efficiency, and we should be able to reduce the workforce – one of the company objectives for next year.
- Paul:** What impact do you think it will have on the working day?
- Margaret:** Well, I think you'll find that a lot more time can now be

dedicated to more strategic thinking, rather than trying to deal with everyday stuff. It'll also have a good effect on staff morale as it'll reduce the heavy workload.

- Paul:** OK, thanks a lot for that. I just wanted to get your initial thoughts. We can talk about it later.
- Margaret:** OK, speak soon. Bye.
- Paul:** Bye. ☺

GLOSSARY

- the working day** ☺
the number of hours you work during the day (also: the workday)
- a workaholic** ☺
a person who is obsessed with work
- the workforce** ☺
the people who are working in an organisation
- the working week** ☺
the number of hours you work during the week
- working capital** ☺
money available for use (as opposed to money tied up in investments)
- a heavy workload** ☺
a lot of work that has to be done
- we can't cope** ☹☹
we cannot do it – it is too much for us
- workmanship** ☺
the skill and quality with which something is made and which affects the appearance and quality of that thing
- workmates** ☺
the people who you work with
- to face** ☺
if you "face" a problem, you must find a solution to that problem
- bullying** ☹
intimidating, frightening or hurting an individual psychologically or physically. Often done by someone/people in a stronger or more superior position
- an open plan office** ☺
a large office area with everyone working in the same large room
- a workstation** ☺
a desk with a computer on it in an open room. Anyone can use the desk

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Printing

Printerman

Audio Production

atxsound.com

CD Production

MPO S.A.

ISSN 1577-7898
Depósito Legal M.14277.2001
October 2013

Published by Hot English Publishing, S.L.
C/Paseo del Rey, 22 - 1ª planta,
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French material by Hot English:
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Magazine images:

MoviePosterDB shutterst*ck CanStock

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