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No.152

# english magazine

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## TRAVEL ENGLISH

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## LANGUAGE

Can translation help you learn a language?

## BODY LANGUAGE

How it can help you!

## CRIME

Organised crime gangs from around the world!

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The secrets to stress-free air travel!

## TECHNOLOGY

Is GM food evil?

## ACCENTS

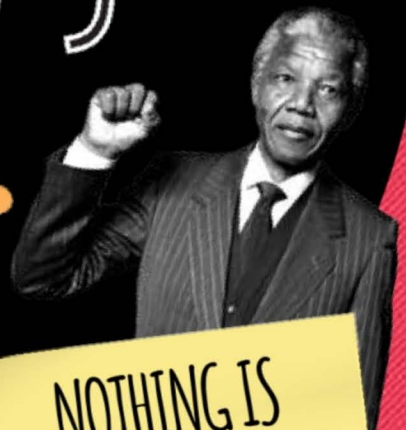
The Dutch English accent!

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# QUOTES TO HELP you LEARN ENGLISH



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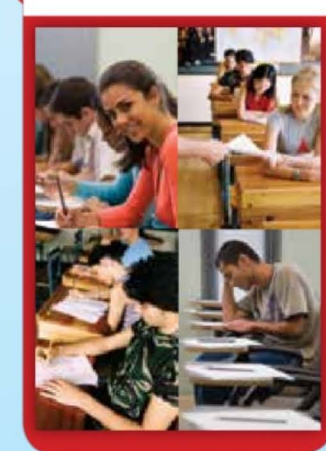
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# EDITOR'S INTRO

## How you learn English with Learn Hot English magazine

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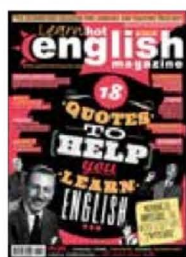
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**7 Want to learn even more?** Get a Skills Booklet! You'll learn extra vocabulary, grammar, social English and business English. The Skills Booklets are linked to the topics in Hot English magazine. They're sold separately – see page 25 for more information.



Hi, and welcome to another issue of *Learn Hot English* magazine – the practical, informative and fun magazine for learning English.

In this month's issue, we're looking at some quotes to keep you motivated. It's important to have a **positive frame of mind** when you're learning a language. These should help! We're also looking at some ways to improve your spoken English, and we're discussing the pros and cons of using translation when learning a language.

Also on the topic of language, we're looking at some puns. These are funny little jokes that are based on the **double meanings** of words. Find out about the different types of puns, and read and listen to some funny jokes with puns in them. On a more serious note, we're looking at GM food. Is it really the miracle product that some say it is, or could it be potentially **devastating** for humanity?

Of course, that's not all. We're also looking at body language, banknotes, famous climbs, fun runs, the Dutch English accent, heavy metal music, crime gangs and etiquette... to mention just a few of the articles in this month's magazine.

Don't forget to check out the blog on our website: [blog.learnhotenglish.com](http://blog.learnhotenglish.com) for free lessons and articles on how to learn English. Or like us on Facebook or Twitter (@LearnHotEnglish) so you can keep up with our latest news.

Happy learning!



### AUDIO FILES

Download the MP3 audio files for this issue for FREE from our website: [www.learnhotenglish.com/mp3s](http://www.learnhotenglish.com/mp3s)

Enjoy the magazine, learn lots of English and see you all next time,

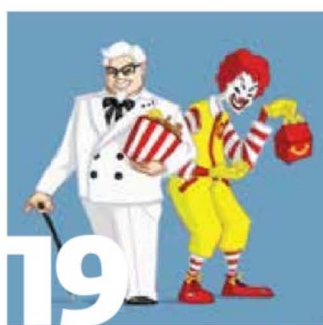
Yours,  
*Andy*

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### GLOSSARY

**a quote** *n*  
a phrase or sentence from a book, interview, etc.  
**a positive frame of mind** *exp*  
if you have a "positive frame of mind", you are hopeful, confident and optimistic  
**a double meaning** *n*  
two meanings  
**devastating** *adj*  
something "devastating" could cause a lot of damage and destruction or destroy things



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All material in this publication is strictly copyright, and all rights are reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. The views expressed in *Learn Hot English* magazine do not necessarily represent the views of Hot English Publishing SL. However, we do think that Jack Ma is a clever chap, Spinal Tap are awesome and the Dutch are very good at speaking English.

# BODY LANGUAGE & FLIRTING

How can you tell if someone really “likes” you (in the romantic sense of the word)? Simple! Just check out their body language. Here are a few typical signs that someone might find you attractive.

## Signs that someone might like you



Leaning in



Playing with your hair



Laughing and smiling



Preening yourself



Making eye contact



Dilated pupils



Dangling a foot from a shoe



Tilting your head to one side



Facing someone

## Signs that someone might not be interested



Yawning



Leaning back



Folded or crossed arms



Avoiding eye contact



Frowning



Turning away from someone



A blank stare (an empty, neutral expression)



Holding a glass or bag in front of the chest area



A forced smile

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** How important do you think body language is? Have you ever watched someone's body language before? Who was it? Where were you? What did you learn? What other body language signs do you know about?

TRACK 1: ENGLISHMAN & ENGLISHWOMAN

# BODY LANGUAGE & ATTRACTION!



## \*BODY LANGUAGE

Body language is a non-verbal form of communication. It involves transmitting what you're feeling or thinking through your body. Body language includes movement (changes to the position of your eyes, hands, legs, etc.), facial expressions (happiness, sadness, fear, disgust, etc.), posture (how you stand or sit) and gestures (the movement of your hands). Some experts include intonation and the pitch, volume and tone of your voice, as well. Studies have shown that in face-to-face communication body language accounts for between 50% and 80% of the perceived impact of your message.

## \*\*THE SOCIAL GAZE

The social gaze - if someone gives you the "social gaze", they look at the triangular area between your eyes and mouth while they're talking to you.



## VIDEO

YouTube

Find out about body language and attraction. Search YouTube for "How to Spot Sexual Attraction in Eyes | Body Language."

## GLOSSARY

**a cluster** *n*  
a "cluster" of things is a small group of them  
**to dilate** *vb*  
if your pupils "dilate", they become wider or bigger  
**a gaze** *n*  
someone's "gaze" is the way they're looking at you  
**a knee** *n*  
the joint in the middle of your leg  
**a shoulder** *n*  
the joint at the top of your arm  
**to point** *vb*  
if your feet are "pointing" at someone, the front of your feet are looking in the direction of that person  
**to flick off** *phr vb*  
if you "flick something off" a jacket (for example), you make it go off the jacket by using a quick movement with your hands  
**involuntarily** *adv*  
if you do something "involuntarily", you do it without realising or knowing that you're doing it  
**to stroke** *vb*  
if you "stroke" something, you move your hand gently over it  
**a thigh** *n*  
the top part of your leg  
**to preen** *vb*  
if someone "preens" themselves, they try to make themselves look nice: they rearrange their hair, etc.  
**a tie** *n*  
a long, thin piece of clothing men wear around their necks and over their shirts  
**a sleeve** *n*  
the arms on a shirt

**H**ow much do you know about **body language**? Understanding some of the typical signs could tell you when someone is attracted to you. Of course, on their own, these signals might not mean anything, but a **cluster** of them, could be a sign that you're in luck.

### Dilated pupils

According to body language experts, if someone likes you, their pupils will **dilate**. The opposite happens if they aren't interested – their pupils become smaller.

### Gaze

Someone who likes you (in the normal sense of the

word) will give you the **social gaze** – focusing their attention on the triangular area between your eyes and your mouth. But if their **gaze** drops to other parts of your body, it could mean that they're attracted to you.

### Body alignment

Experts say that someone who is interested in you will have parts of their body (their **knees**, feet or **shoulders** for example) **pointing** towards you as they're talking to you; and the opposite happens if they aren't interested.

### Eye contact

Maintaining eye contact shows you're interested in the other person. The normal duration of contact should be between 70% and 80% of the time. Anything less than that could mean that the other person isn't interested. And anything more than that could mean a number of things: a) they're crazy; b) they want to dominate you; c) they find you attractive.

### Personal body space

In the US, experts believe that good friends usually stand between 45cm and 120cm from one another. Of course, these figures vary from country to country. However, generally, people who are

interested in one another will stand or sit even closer.

### Touching

If the person you're talking to casually touches your arm, **flicks** something off your shoulder or takes your hand so they can read your palm, it could be a sign that they're interested.

### Self-touching

Experts say that when we're interested in someone, we may **involuntarily** touch or **stroke** a part of our body that we want the other person to look at. So, if you notice the other person touching their neck, hair or **thigh**, it could mean that they're attracted to you.

### Preening

Experts say that we involuntarily **preen** ourselves if we're in the company of someone we like. This includes actions such as fixing your hair, adjusting your clothes (straightening a **tie**, pulling down your **sleeves**) or checking your make-up – anything we might do to make ourselves look nicer.

### Mirroring

According to experts, we often copy the movements of someone we like. This is known as mirroring (or mimicry). For example, if the person you're talking to leans forward, you'll do the same (without even realising it). Or, if they hold their hands with their palms up while they're talking, you'll hold your hands the same way. So, if you notice the other person starts copying the way you sit, move or talk, it could mean that they like you.

Good luck! ✨

Answers on page 44

## 1 Reading I

Look at the paragraph headings. What do you think they refer to? What could they mean in terms of body language and attraction? Make notes. Then, read the article once to compare your ideas.

## 2 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write a short e-mail to a colleague explaining what you've understood about the topic.

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** What type of currency do they use in your country? What coins are there? What about the banknotes? What images are there on the coins or banknotes? Which famous people from your country would you like to see on the banknotes? Why? Do you have a stamp or coin collection? What type of coins have you got?

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

TRACK 2 ENGLISHMAN & ENGLISHWOMAN

I'M RIGHT ON THE MONEY!

# WHO IS ON A BRITISH BANKNOTE?

By Jamie Broadway

**W**ho are the people on banknotes in your country?

Queen Elizabeth II has appeared on British banknotes since 1960, when she first appeared on a £1 note. Today, she features on all British coins and banknotes. However, there are also famous people on the **reverse side** of the notes. But who are they?



**Elizabeth Fry (1780-1845)** appears on the reverse side of a British

£5 note. She was a famous **philanthropist** from the 19th century who wanted to improve prison conditions at Newgate Prison in London. She also dedicated a lot of her time to helping the **homeless**.



The man on the back of the £10 note is **Charles Darwin**. This English

**naturalist** is probably best known for his **theory of evolution** and his book *On the Origin of Species*. He wrote the book after travelling around the world for five years on the ship **HMS Beagle**.



Scottish economist **Adam Smith (1723-1790)** is on the back

of the £20 note. Smith wrote the book *The Wealth of Nations*. In his work, he looked at topics such as the **division of labour**, **productivity** and free markets. His ideas are still used in modern economics today.

Fifty-pound notes are quite **rare** as many shops won't accept them in case they're **counterfeit**. Two men appear on the back of these notes:



**Matthew Boulton (1728-1809)** and **James Watt (1736-1819)**. James Watt was a Scottish inventor who improved the design of **steam engines**, and Matthew Boulton was an English businessman who financed the project. The manufacturing firm they started (Boulton & Watt) played a major role in the **Industrial Revolution**.

The **Bank of England** often changes the design on banknotes as a way of preventing **forgeries**. The following are some people who might appear on future notes.

## Jane Austen

Jane Austen is set to feature on the next £10 note. Jane Austen, who lived from 1775 to 1817, is one of the UK's most famous novelists, and was the author of books such as *Pride and Prejudice* and *Sense and Sensibility*. After the Bank of England announced that Sir Winston Churchill would replace Elizabeth Fry on the £5 note, there was a campaign to get more women on banknotes, which resulted in the choice of Jane Austen.

## JK Rowling

JK Rowling is one of the **literary greats** of the 21st century. Her *Harry Potter* series about a boy wizard earned her a fortune, and by 2012, she'd become one of the richest women in the world.

## Tim Berners-Lee

Tim Berners-Lee is widely known as the man who invented the internet. Everything from online shopping to social networking is **down to** him. So, it could well be that one day he finds himself on the back of a £20 note.

## Elton John

Elton John is a world-famous singer and songwriter. In 1997, his song *Candle in the Wind* became the best-selling single of all time after he sang it at the funeral of Diana, Princess of Wales. He is also the founder of the Elton John Aids Foundation. ♣

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video about plastic banknotes. Search YouTube for "Plastic Banknotes For UK By 2016".

## GLOSSARY

**the reverse side** *exp*  
the opposite side; the other side  
**a philanthropist** *n*  
someone who gives money to help the poor  
**homeless** *adj*  
a "homeless" person has no house or home  
**a naturalist** *n*  
a person who studies animals, plants and other living things  
**the theory of evolution** *exp*  
the idea that the Earth's species have changed over time and developed and adapted over many thousands of years  
**HMS** *abbr*  
"Her Majesty's Ship" or "His Majesty's Ship" – a term used before the names of ships in the British Royal Navy  
**division of labour** *n*  
the organisation of labour and skills in a town / city / business / country / region, etc.  
**productivity** *n*  
the rate or speed at which goods are produced  
**rare** *adj*  
not common  
**counterfeit** *adj*  
"counterfeit" goods or products aren't original – they're illegal copies  
**a steam engine** *n*  
an engine that is powered by steam (a vapour/gas that comes off hot water)  
**the Industrial Revolution** *n*  
a period of major industrialisation that took place during the late 1700s and early 1800s  
**the Bank of England** *n*  
the central bank of the United Kingdom  
**a forgery** *n*  
an illegal copy of a banknote / a painting, etc.  
**a literary great** *n*  
a very famous author or writer  
**down to** *exp*  
if something is "down to" you, you were responsible for it – you produced it or made it

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

Look at the banknotes. Where are they from? Who are the people on them?



## 2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Did you identify any of the people from the British banknotes in the Pre-reading activity?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. When was Elizabeth Fry born?
2. What banknote does she appear on?
3. What's the name of the ship that Charles Darwin travelled on?
4. When did Adam Smith die?
5. How many men appear on the reverse side of a £50 note?
6. Who is going to replace Elizabeth Fry on the back of a banknote?

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** Are you scared of heights? In what way? When was the last time you were scared of heights? Where were you? Have you ever been climbing? Where did you go? What did you climb up? How high was it? What do you like or dislike about climbing? Did you like climbing as a child? What did you use to climb? Why?

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

TRACK 3: ENGLISHMAND & ENGLISHWOMAN

# AMAZING CLIMBS!

By Kelly Pyzik

**W**hat was the last thing you climbed? A wall, a tree, a hill? What about a mountain face? Here are some incredible buildings and mountains that climbers have **scaled**.



## The Shanghai Tower

The Shanghai Tower is a 632-metre building in Shanghai, China. In February 2014, Russian climbers Vitaliy Raskalov and Vadim Makhorov scaled the building, then climbed another 20 metres up the construction **cranes** on top of the tower. Wearing **Go Pro cameras**, a video of their **high five** at the top **went viral**.



## The Majlis Al Jinn cave

The Majlis Al Jinn cave has the second largest **cave chamber** in the world. It's located in the Sultanate of Oman, 100 km south-east of Muscat. In March 2014, Stefan Glowacz (from Germany) and Chris Sharma (from the USA) became the first people to climb out of it. "To climb from the **bowels of the earth** back into the light is one of the most impressive things I've done," Stefan later said.



## The Burj Khalifa

At 829.8 metres, the Burj Khalifa in Dubai (the United Arab Emirates), is

the world's tallest building. It was officially opened in January 2010. In March 2011, Frenchman Alain Robert, climbed up it in about six hours. He wore a **safety harness** and was attached to a **rope** ("to comply with safety regulations") but scaled the building without relying on either.



## Naranjo de Bulnes

Naranjo de Bulnes is a mountain in the Picos de Europa, a **range of mountains** in Asturias (in the north of Spain). At 2,529 metres, it isn't the highest **peak**, but it's got what some describe as a terrifying 550-metre vertical wall on its west face called Orbayu. It was finally **conquered** by Basque brothers Eneko and Iker Pou in September 2009.

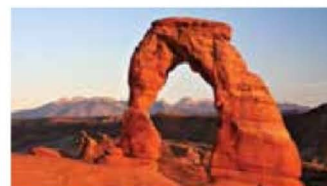


## The Telephonic Building

The Telephonic Building is a 132-metre structure in Santiago, Chile. It's the tallest building in the country, and was built by the telecommunications company Telefonica to look just like a mobile phone. In March 2014, American climber Dan Goodwin scaled the building using ropes and **suction cups**. The **solo climb** was recorded for the TV series *Superhumans*.

## The Delicate Arch

The Delicate Arch is a 20-metre high rock formation



in Arches National Park, Utah (USA). There are over 2,000 natural sandstone arches in the park. They're extremely fragile, and 43 have collapsed since 1970. In 2006, American climber Dean Potter (1972) made the first free solo ascent of the arch. Although it isn't illegal, he received a lot of negative criticism for the climb.

Now, how incredible is that? \*

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch Stefan and Chris climb out of the Majlis Al Jinn cave. Search YouTube for "Into the Light - Glowacz and Sharma Set New Climbing Record".

## GLOSSARY

to scale *vb*

to climb

a crane *n*

a large machine that moves heavy things by lifting them in the air

a Go Pro camera *n*

a high-definition personal camera, often used in extreme action video photography. You can mount it on a vehicle or on your head

a high five *n*

a form of greeting in which people hit their open palms of their right hands together

to go viral *exp*

if a video "goes viral", it becomes very popular on the internet and many people see it and send it to friends

a cave chamber *n*

the large, open area inside a cave

the bowels of the earth *exp*

the deepest areas under the ground

a safety harness *n*

a set of straps which fit around a person's body in order to keep a piece of equipment in place

a rope *n*

a long, thick cord you hold onto when you're climbing

a range of mountains *n*

a line of mountains with one next to the other

a peak *n*

the top of a mountain

to conquer *vb*

if you "conquer" a mountain, you manage to climb it

a suction cup *n*

an object made of rubber or plastic that can stick to a surface by producing a vacuum

a solo climb *n*

a climb without the use of ropes. Also, a "solo ascent" or "free solo climb"

an arch *n*

an object that is curved at the top. It's more or less in the shape of the letter "n"

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

Read or listen to the article once. Which climb is the most impressive? Why?

## 2 Reading I

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a building or mountain next to each statement.

1. It's in Asturias (in the north of Spain).
2. It's located in Oman.
3. It's about 20 metres high.
4. It's a 632-metre building.
5. It's the tallest building in Chile.
6. It was climbed by a Frenchman.

GRAMMAR BOOSTER

HOW TO REFLECT ON THE PAST WITH THIRD CONDITIONALS

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
If I'd seen it, I would have liked it.	If I'd seen it, I wouldn't have liked it.	If I'd seen it, would I have liked it?
If you'd seen it, you would have liked it.	If you'd seen it, you wouldn't have liked it.	If you'd seen it, would you have liked it?
If he'd seen it, he would have liked it.	If he'd seen it, he wouldn't have liked it.	If he'd seen it, would he have liked it?
If she'd seen it, she would have liked it.	If she'd seen it, she wouldn't have liked it.	If she'd seen it, would she have liked it?
If it'd seen it, it would have liked it.	If it'd seen it, it wouldn't have liked it.	If it'd seen it, would it have liked it?
If we'd seen it, we would have liked it.	If we'd seen it, we wouldn't have liked it.	If we'd seen it, would we have liked it?
If they'd seen it, they would have liked it.	If they'd seen it, they wouldn't have liked it.	If they'd seen it, would they have liked it?

The full forms are: I'd = I had; you'd = you had; he'd = he had; she'd = she had; we'd = we had; they'd = they had.  
 "Would" can also be contracted: I'd = I would; you'd = you would; he'd = he would; she'd = she would; we'd = we would; they'd = they would.  
 Negative contractions: wouldn't = would not; hadn't = had not

We form the Third Conditional with two clauses: *if* + past perfect / *would have* + a past participle. For example:

- a) If I had seen Sam yesterday, I would have invited her to my party.
- b) If he had worked longer hours, he would have earned more money.

We can use the Third Conditional to talk about what might have happened in the past if certain conditions had been met. For example:

- a) If I'd won the lottery, I would have bought a boat.
- b) If he'd told me the truth, I wouldn't have been angry.

We often refer to the Third Conditional as the Impossible Past. This is because we can't change what happened in the past, although we can imagine different scenarios. For example:

- a) We would have won the

match if I hadn't missed the penalty.

- b) She would have passed the exam if she had studied harder.
- c) If I'd turned off the oven, the cake wouldn't have burnt.
- d) If they'd taken the map, they wouldn't have got lost.

We can also use modal verbs (*could, might, should, etc.*) with the Third Conditional. For example:

- a) If I hadn't sent him the email, he **might** have forgotten about the meeting.
- b) If you'd come earlier, you **could** have had dinner with us.

**Dialogue: The argument**

Anna and Charlie have arranged to meet up. Anna is a bit late. Listen and complete with the correct verbs.

- Charlie: You're late again!  
 Anna: Sorry! I missed the bus! But I'm here now!  
 Charlie: I seem to spend a lot of



- time waiting around for you.  
 Anna: Rubbish!  
 Charlie: Erm, last week? When we'd arranged to meet at the Chinese restaurant at 7.30? You got there at 8.15 – 45 minutes late.  
 Anna: Well, I would've been there on time if my car hadn't (1) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Charlie: And a few days ago when I was waiting in that bar for over an hour?  
 Anna: Well, if I'd (2) \_\_\_\_\_ there were two Cuban bars in the same street, I wouldn't have been so late. I got there at 9 but it's just that I (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to the wrong bar.  
 Charlie: And last Monday when we planned to meet at the cinema?  
 Anna: Well, I wouldn't have kept you waiting if I'd (4) \_\_\_\_\_ a parking space.

- Charlie: You were even late for our first date. In fact, you were 50 minutes late!  
 Anna: I just (5) \_\_\_\_\_ it to be perfect. If I hadn't (6) \_\_\_\_\_ so long choosing the right dress, you might not have fallen in love with me.  
 Charlie: Well, I... I... Oh, no, I've just remembered.  
 Anna: What?  
 Charlie: I'm supposed to be at Mike's house. I said I'd (7) \_\_\_\_\_ him carry some furniture down. I promised I'd be there at 7pm.  
 Anna: Well, it's 7:30 now. You're a bit late.  
 Charlie: He's going to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ me.  
 Anna: So, what's your excuse?  
 Charlie: Excuse? What do you mean?  
 Anna: Your excuse for being late.  
 Charlie: Oh, very funny. It's not the same and you know it.  
 Anna: Whatever you say. 😊



## THE PHONE

Here are some useful words and expressions for talking about the phone.

## Call someone



If you "call" someone, you use your phone to communicate with them. Also, *to give someone a call*, *to ring someone*, *to telephone someone*, *to phone someone*.

**"I called her six times last night, but she didn't answer the phone."**

## Ring



If the phone "rings", it makes a sound. The different sounds on mobile phones are called "ringtones".

**"The phone's ringing. Aren't you going to answer it?"**

## (Telephone) line



A connection between two phones which makes it possible for people to speak to each other.

**"I can't hear you very well – the line's really bad."**

## Engaged



If the line is "engaged", it's already being used by someone else so you can't speak to the person you're phoning.

**"I'll have to call her later – the line's engaged."**

## Dial



If you "dial" a number, you press the keys on your phone so you can call the person who you want to talk to.

**"I think you've dialled the wrong number. There's no one called Ben here."**

## Speak up



If you ask someone to "speak up", you ask them to speak louder because you can't hear properly.

**"Could you speak up a bit, please? It's really noisy here."**

## Leave a message / take a message



If you "leave a message", you tell someone something that you want them to pass onto another person; if you "take a message", you write down what the caller wants to say to another person.

**"I'm sorry but Ms Briar is out at the moment. Would you like to leave a message?"**

## Get cut off



If you "get cut off", the telephone connection suddenly stops.

**"We got cut off. I'll try to call her again in a few minutes."**

## Out



If someone is "out", they aren't in the office or at home.

**"I'm sorry but Jim's out at the moment. Do you want to leave a message?"**

## Put on hold



If they "put you on hold", you have to wait while they connect you to the person you want to talk to. Music often plays while you're waiting.

**"They put me on hold for over half an hour."**

## Hang up



If you "hang up", you press a button so the telephone call ends, or you put the receiver down.

**"I hung up when I realised I'd dialled the wrong number."**

## Speakerphone



A device on a phone with a microphone and loudspeaker so you can speak to someone without holding the phone to your ear.

**"I put her on speakerphone so the others could hear what she was saying."**

## Learning expressions

The best way to learn any words or expressions is by seeing or hearing them in context when you're reading or listening to English. Make a note of any words or expressions that you like (or want to learn) and write these down in sentences. Remember, always record language in phrases or sentences – never as individual words. You should also practise using the words or expressions as often as you can: in conversation, on the phone, in e-mails, etc.

**Objective** To learn some useful words and expressions for describing pictures.

**Think about it** When was the last time you showed someone some photos? Where were you? What were the photos of? When was the last time you went to an art gallery? What sort of pictures did you see there? Have you ever told someone about a painting and what it means? What was the painting? What did you say about it?

## ENGLISH IN ACTION...

# DESCRIBING A PICTURE

Learn 15 words & expressions for describing a picture.

### Locating something in a picture



Look at the picture and see if you can identify the things mentioned below.

- There's a clock at the top to the right.
- You can see a pair of glasses on the table at the front.
- There's a window at the back of the picture.
- There are some books on the table in the foreground.
- There's a city skyline in the background.
- The man on the left is rubbing his chin.
- The person on the far right is wearing glasses.
- There's a cup in the middle of the table and another one on the right-hand side.
- I can see a bird in the top left-hand corner.
- There's a man with a red jumper in the bottom right-hand corner.
- There's a woman with glasses next to him.
- I can't see what's under the table.
- There's a woman standing at the back on the left.
- There's a man with a striped shirt in the middle of the picture.
- There are two women on either side of him.

### What's in the picture?

- I can see three people.
- There's a house on the left.
- There are two people playing a game.
- The man is eating.
- The people are running.
- It's raining.

### If something isn't clear

- It could be a dog or a wolf, I'm not sure.
- That woman reminds me of my aunt.
- It could be Ben, but I'm not sure.
- It looks like a cat, but I'm not sure.
- It might be a horse, but I can't see it properly.
- He could be the one on the left, but it isn't clear.
- If I'm not mistaken, I think that's Richard in the background.

### Dialogue: The photo

Joe is with her grandma, Sally. They're looking through some old photos that Joe found in the attic.

**Listen and complete the dialogue with the correct words.**

**Joe:** Hey, Grandma, I just found a box of old photos, and there are some of you, I think.

**Sally:** [coming to sit down] Oh, really?

**Joe:** That's you (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the left, isn't it?

**Sally:** Let's see. Ah, yes. That was a party (2) \_\_\_\_\_ a friend's house. That's your grandfather next to me.

**Joe:** That's Granddad? I've never seen a photo of him (3) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Sally:** Well, there are hardly any (4) \_\_\_\_\_ he died during the war.

**Joe:** How terrible! You know, I don't even know what he did.

**Sally:** He was a journalist.

**Joe:** A journalist? Just like me. Incredible! It must be in the genes. So, how old were you (5) \_\_\_\_\_ this photo?

**Sally:** About 18 years old. That must have been in 1938 – just before the war.

**Joe:** Wow! Who's that girl (6) \_\_\_\_\_ you?

**Sally:** That's my best friend, Harriet.

**Joe:** And who's that man next (7) \_\_\_\_\_ her? Her boyfriend?

**Sally:** Yes. He was some rich banker.

**Joe:** And the two men in the front?

**Sally:** The one in the left-hand corner is your great uncle Bob, and the one (8) \_\_\_\_\_ to him was just a friend.

**Joe:** That's my great uncle? He isn't very tall. I mean, most people (9) \_\_\_\_\_ our family are quite tall, aren't they?

**Sally:** He was the odd-one-out. It worked (10) \_\_\_\_\_ him though as he was a jockey.

**Joe:** A jockey? Was he any good?

**Sally:** He won the King's Cup once.

**Joe:** I've got famous family.

**Sally:** Yes! And talking (11) \_\_\_\_\_ famous, the woman in the background was a well-known jazz singer at the time.

**Joe:** So, why were there so many "celebrities" at your parties?

**Sally:** Well, they'd see our shows and then they'd want to meet us.

**Joe:** Shows? What shows?

**Sally:** The circus shows.

**Joe:** You worked (12) \_\_\_\_\_ the circus?

**Sally:** Yes, I was a trapeze artist. That's how I met your granddad. He came to interview us once.

**Joe:** You were a trapeze artist?

**Sally:** Oh yes. Why do you think you're so good at gymnastics? 🌟



# NATURAL ENGLISH

What do you do to cheer yourself up?

Photos and interviews by Georgie & Danielle

TRACK 6: ENGLISHMAN, IRISHMAN, PUERTO RICAN WOMAN, IRISHWOMAN, AMERICAN WOMAN, SCOTTISH WOMAN

## Remember!

When people (even native English speakers) talk informally, naturally and spontaneously, they often repeat themselves, correct themselves, use non-standard English and even make mistakes.

**Duncan McQueen**  
(England, chef)



I put on some music, I've got a really big record collection so I put on one of my favourite songs and that always **cheers me up**.

**James Duggan**  
(Ireland, actor)



Erm, when I want to cheer myself up, I don't know, listen to music or go out with my friends.

**Melissa Armstrong**  
(Puerto Rico, food critic)



Whenever I'm feeling a little bit **blue** and I **wanna** cheer myself up, I would normally either go out to the park if the weather's nice or I would go for a little bit of **retail therapy** – go shopping. Erm, if not, if I **wanna** stay home, then I'll turn on some music and dance a little bit.

**Anne Lydon**  
(Ireland, theatre director)



I tend to go for a walk to cheer myself up along the **banks** of the river as I find the water very **calming**.

**Rayna Taylor**  
(USA, marketing executive)



What I do to cheer myself up is listen to music, take a shower, paint my **nails** or read up on some **celebrity gossip**.

**Lindsay MacNaughton**  
(Scotland, translator)



To cheer myself up, I usually like to go to modern dance class or a **Zumba** class at the gym. It really makes me, helps me to **clear my head** to be in the dance studio exercising.

## GLOSSARY

**to cheer up** *phr vb*  
if something "cheers you up", it makes you feel happy  
**blue** *adj*  
if you're feeling "blue", you're feeling sad  
**wanna** *abbr*  
want to  
**retail therapy** *exp*  
going shopping as a way of making yourself feel happier or better  
**a bank** *n*  
the "banks" of a river are the high areas of ground along the edge of the river  
**calming** *adj*  
something that's "calming" makes you feel relaxed  
**nails** *n*  
the hard parts of skin at the ends of your fingers  
**celebrity gossip** *n*  
news and information about the private lives of famous people  
**Zumba** *n*  
a type of aerobic fitness programme with various styles of Latin American dance  
**to clear your head** *exp*  
if you "clear your head", you relax and stop being stressed so you can think more clearly

**Objective** To improve your listening skills.

**Think about it** How do you get to work or school? How long does it take you? What's the longest it's ever taken you? What about the shortest time? What do you like or dislike about the journey? How expensive is it per month? What means of transport would you like to take in order to get to work? How practical would that be?

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

TRACK 7: SEVERAL ENGLISH ACCENTS

### Note!

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

Answers on page 44

### 1 Pre-listening

Look at the list of forms of transport below. What are the pros and cons of using each one for getting to work?

*train, bus, car, bike, underground, tram, taxi, motorbike, walking, helicopter...*

Other?

### 2 Listening I

You're going to listen to five people talking about how they get to work. Listen once and match the forms of transport (1 to 5) to the times it takes them to travel on them (a-e).

1. Train
2. Bus and train
3. Bus
4. Bike
5. Underground

- a. 25 minutes
- b. 50 minutes
- c. 30 minutes
- d. 20 minutes
- e. 45 minutes

### 3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. **Train:** How far does the speaker live from the city?
2. **Bus:** How long does the bus take?
3. **Car:** How much does it cost to leave the car in the car park?
4. **Bike:** How long does it take the speaker to cycle to work?
5. **Underground:** What time does the speaker try to leave home?

### 4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct verbs.

### Audio script

# How do you get to work?

#### Train

I have quite a long commute on the train every day as I live about 50 km from the city where I work. Luckily, there's a train station near my house so I can (1) \_\_\_\_\_ there in about 10 minutes. Then I (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the train, which takes about 50 minutes with all the stops. I use the time to catch up on any work from the day before.

#### Bus

I leave for work at 7 in the morning, and I walk to a bus stop near my house. I usually catch one that comes past at about 7.15. The bus isn't very crowded when I get on, but it fills up during the journey. The bus (3) \_\_\_\_\_ about 15 minutes, then I get off and catch a train that (4) \_\_\_\_\_ into the city centre. The train ride lasts about

30 minutes, and normally there aren't any free seats.

#### Car

I use the park-and-ride system to get to work every morning. I leave the house at 6.30 and drive to the nearby bus station. Then I leave my car in the car park, which only (5) \_\_\_\_\_ £1 for the whole day. Then, I catch the bus, which passes every 10 minutes and it (6) \_\_\_\_\_ me right to the city centre in about 20 minutes. It's a lot cheaper than driving and paying to park the car in the centre.

#### Bike

My commute to work takes about 25 minutes by bike. I live on one side of town and work on the other so I have to cycle through it. When it's raining I sometimes take the bus

but I (7) \_\_\_\_\_ cycling. I've bought an umbrella I can attach to my bike so I can cycle in the rain without getting wet. I can leave my bike in the garage under the office at work so I don't have to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ about it.

#### Underground

I live in the city so I get the underground to work. I have to change lines once but the whole journey only takes about half an hour. It's really busy at peak times – from about 7:30 onwards – so I try to leave home at about 7 so I can (9) \_\_\_\_\_ an earlier train and find a seat. There are delays sometimes but the trains are quite frequent so it isn't really a problem. I've got a monthly travel pass. So, I think I (10) \_\_\_\_\_ quite a lot of money by using public transportation instead of the car. ☺

HI, HO, HI, HO,  
IT'S OFF TO WORK  
WE GO!

**Think about it!**

When was the last time you had to explain your job to someone? How did you describe it? What are some of the best jobs you've ever had? What are some of the most difficult jobs you've ever done? If you weren't working where you are now, where would you like to be working? Why? What do you like or dislike about your job?

PRACTICAL ENGLISH

# HOW TO DESCRIBE YOUR JOB!

## Time

- I've been working at the company for six months.
- I worked there for two years between 2004 and 2006.
- I left after just three months.

## Hiring (employing people)

- They took me on about six months ago.
- They've appointed a new salesperson.
- They contracted her for the post of marketing manager.

## Travel

- I get to work by bus. / I go to work by car.
- The journey takes about 20 minutes.
- I get in early to avoid the rush hour traffic.

## Tasks

- I have to attend meetings. / I often get asked to do **overtime**.
- I take **bookings** over the phone. / I **handle** customer **complaints**.
- I have to write up reports once a week.

## Positions / responsibility

- I'm the managing director. / She's the president.
- He's in charge of the design team.
- I'm the head of the sales team.
- She's responsible for quality control.

## Firing (telling people to leave)

- He got fired for industrial espionage.
- She was sacked for inappropriate conduct.
- They gave him the boot for incompetence.
- The company had to **cut back** on its workforce.
- They **got rid of** half the

department.

- The company **laid off** everyone in the Berlin office.

## Contract / hours

- There's a two-month **trial period**.
- I've got an **indefinite contract**.
- I'm a **self-employed** builder.
- I'm a **freelance** designer.
- She's on a **full-time contract**. / I'm on a part-time contract.
- They're all on **zero-hours contracts**.
- I get 25 days paid holiday a year.
- I work from 9 to 5pm.
- I work the morning **shift**. / She does the late-night shift.

## GLOSSARY

**overtime** *n*  
extra time that you work outside your normal hours

**a booking** *n*  
when a customer makes a "booking", they telephone and reserve a table at a restaurant, a room in a hotel, etc.

**to handle** *vb*  
if you "handle" a problem, you try to find a solution to it

**a complaint** *n*  
if a customer has a "complaint", they say that they aren't happy with the service, etc.

**to cut back** *phr vb*  
to reduce

**to get rid of** *exp*  
if a company "gets rid of" workers, they tell those workers to leave their jobs

**a trial period** *n*  
a time period (often 3 months) in which the worker is tested. If they're successful, they're offered a contract

**an indefinite contract** *n*  
a contract with no fixed time limit

**self-employed** *adj*  
a "self-employed" worker works for many companies and charges each time they provide a service

**freelance** *adj*  
a "freelance" worker works for many companies and charges each time they provide a service

**a full-time contract** *n*  
a contract to work a full timetable, usually 8 hours a day, 40 hours a week

**a zero-hours contract** *n*  
a contract with no guarantee of the number of hours you will work – the company calls you when there's work to do

**a shift** *n*  
a period of time that you work: the morning shift (from 8am until 2pm, for example)



## Listening: Describing jobs

Listen to two people describing their jobs. Complete the text with the correct words.

### The car rental manager

I work in the office of a car rental company at an international airport. I'm the (1) \_\_\_\_\_ of the branch, so I'm in charge of the other employees. My workload varies throughout the year as we have peak times during the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ when lots of people want to rent a car and then quiet periods when we don't rent out so many (3) \_\_\_\_\_. I work a 9-5 shift for most of the time but I have to do overtime sometimes and work two weekends a month. Some of my duties include taking bookings over the (4) \_\_\_\_\_, making photocopies, keeping the office tidy, filing things away, handling any client questions or (5) \_\_\_\_\_, working to resolve overdue car rentals and training new staff. I'm also responsible for ensuring the cars are clean, full of petrol and ready for the next customer.

### The travel writer

I work as a self-employed travel writer. I earn money by selling my (6) \_\_\_\_\_ to various travel-related publications (magazines mostly), agencies,

websites, and (7) \_\_\_\_\_. I also pitch ideas to publishers in the hope of getting a contract to write an article. I do freelance work for various publishers, and sometimes get assignments where they send me to a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and I have to report on it. The work is perfect for me as I'm an extrovert and I enjoy speaking to people from all walks of life. I also like being my own boss and the (9) \_\_\_\_\_ it gives me. Some of my tasks include interviewing people (hotel owners, restaurant managers, tour guides, etc.), doing online research, taking photos, checking out tourist (10) \_\_\_\_\_, visiting museums, eating at restaurants, reviewing hotels... it's the ideal job. And best of all, I can work whenever and wherever I want. All I need is my laptop. ✪

## Speaking

### Now talk about it!

What do you do? What are you in charge of? What are your responsibilities? What time do you get to work? How many people work under you? What are you responsible for?

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** When was the last time you went running? Where did you go? What do you like or dislike about running? What do you do to keep fit? How active are you? Give examples. What type of exercise do you enjoy doing?

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

TRACK 9: ENGLISHMAN & ENGLISHWOMAN



# Run, run as fast as you can!

“**F**un” and “run” aren’t usually words that you see together in the same sentence. But take a look at these races and you might change your mind.



## Holirun

Holirun is a 5km run with two rules: 1. wear a white T-shirt; and 2. have fun. As you run past each kilometre mark, people throw a different coloured biodegradable dry paint at you. There’s no winner – you simply have to walk, run or dance over the course. The idea for the run comes from Holi, a Hindu festival which is held each spring in India. Time to party!



## Tough Mudder

Tough Mudder is designed to test your mental and physical strength. The course is between 16 and 19 km long, and has over 20 obstacles. Some of these include swimming through ice water, crawling over a muddy field with live electric wires hanging over your head, and climbing up a slippery 3-metre wall. The objective is to finish the course with your team. Money collected from the race is donated to the charity Help for Heroes, which assists injured soldiers.

## The New York Hot Dog Challenge

If eating is more your thing, try the New York Hot Dog



Challenge. This race takes place in New York City and is between 3 and 8 kilometres long. Every time you come across a hot dog stand, you have to stop and force down a frankfurter, including the bun. And you can’t continue until you’ve eaten it all. In the 2013 race, there were 10 hot dog stops. If you throw up, you’re eliminated.



## Beer Mile

The Beer Mile involves running a mile and drinking four cans of beer. The race takes place on a 400-metre track. Before the race starts, you have to drink a can of beer. Then, on the word “go”, you do a lap, then drink a can of beer each time you complete a lap. After four cans of beer and four laps, you’ll have completed a beer mile (1,609 metres) – more or less. If you vomit, you have to run an extra lap... and drink more beer, of course.



## Run for your Lives

Run, climb over obstacles and escape from the zombies. As part of Run for your Lives (RFYL), you have to complete a 3 to 5 km course while actors dressed as zombies try to catch you. Runners wear a

flag under their belts which the zombies will try to take off. During and after the race, there’s an Apocalypse Party with beer, music, food and games. The idea for the race was developed by Reed Street Productions in Maryland and there’s one in Singapore now too. If you keep your eyes open you might see some famous guests such as T-Dog from *The Walking Dead*. 🍻

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video about Tough Mudder. Search YouTube for “Tough Mudder 2012 | Official Video”.

## GLOSSARY

**biodegradable** *adj*  
a substance that is “biodegradable” will break down naturally without any special chemicals, and won’t cause any pollution

**Holi** *n*  
a Hindu festival that takes place in spring

**mudder** *n*  
this comes from the word “mud”, which is a mixture of earth and water

**a course** *n*  
the area of land where you have to run in a race

**an obstacle** *n*  
in a race, an “obstacle” is an object you have to climb over, go under, etc.

**to crawl** *vb*  
if you “crawl”, you move on your hands and knees

**a live electric wire** *n*  
a thin piece of metal that is connected to electricity. If you touch it, you’ll get an electric shock

**slippery** *adj*  
something “slippery” is smooth, wet or oily and is difficult to walk on or hold

**to donate** *vb*  
if you “donate” money to a charity (see next entry), you give money to that charity

**a charity** *n*  
an organisation that helps poor people, animals, etc.

**injured** *adj*  
if someone is “injured”, a part of their body has been damaged or they have a cut

**a hot dog stand** *n*  
a type of mobile kitchen in the street where you can buy hot dogs

**a frankfurter** *n*  
a type of smoked sausage

**a bun** *n*  
a piece of bread in the shape of a circle

**to throw up** *phr vb*  
if you “throw up”, liquid/food comes out of your mouth because you’re ill

**a can** *n*  
a metal container for drinks

**a track** *n*  
an area of ground (often in the shape of an oval) for running around in a race

**a lap** *n*  
if you complete a “lap”, you run around the track once

**a flag** *n*  
a piece of cloth or material with an image or symbol on it

**a belt** *n*  
a piece of clothing you wear around your stomach to hold up your trousers

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

Read or listen to the article once. Which race would you like to participate in? Why?

## 2 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the abbreviated name of a race (Holirun, Mudder, Hot dog, Beer, Zombies) next to each statement.

1. The race involves eating and running.
2. There are more than 20 obstacles.
3. It’s abbreviated form is RFYL.
4. It’s five kilometers long.
5. It takes place on an athletics track.
6. It involves monsters.
7. Money from the race goes to a charity.
8. It’s based on a Hindu festival.
9. It’s about 1.5 kilometres long.
10. It takes place in a major city.

# THE DUTCH ENGLISH ACCENT!

This month we're looking at the Dutch English accent.

By Christian Olijve

**D**utch is spoken by around 28 million people worldwide – mainly in The Netherlands, but also in Belgium, Surinam (in South America) and the Dutch Antilles Islands (in the Caribbean).

With around 17 million inhabitants, the Netherlands is a fairly small country. However, in the 17th-century, the Netherlands went through what's called the "Golden Age", in which the Dutch dominated the **trade** in the **Far East**. The Dutch East India Company (the *Verenigde Oost-Indische Compagnie*, in Dutch) had a **trade monopoly** in much of Asia, and is often referred to as the world's first multinational. They imported **spices** and exotic food and made **huge** profits. Nowadays the Dutch are more famous for their cheeses, **windmills**, **clogs** and sense of freedom and **tolerance**.

Interestingly, the Netherlands is often referred to as Holland, but that's just a part of the country where you can find well-known cities such as Amsterdam, Rotterdam and the Hague.

In general the Dutch are quite good at speaking foreign languages, most probably because there aren't a lot of places in the world where you can speak Dutch. And they're good at English. However, although Dutch is related to English (they're both Germanic languages), some sounds are difficult for Dutch speakers. For example, a lot of people have trouble pronouncing the "th" (/θ/) or the voiced "th" sound

(/ð/). So, instead of saying, "I think that it's good", they might say, "I **xtink tat** it's good."

The Dutch also find it difficult to pronounce the /d/ and /t/ sounds, which in Dutch are pretty much the same. So, "I'm going to bed" might sound more like, "I'm going to **bet**."

Other problematic sounds include the /r/ sound, which isn't very strong in English. So, words such as "red, real" and "roar" might be pronounced with a stronger /r/ as in "rred, rreal" and "rroar".

Because Dutch and English are related, there are a lot of similar looking words, but not all of them have the same meaning. This can often lead to problems. In fact, there's a term that's used to describe phrases that the Dutch translate literally and end up getting wrong: **Dunglish** (Dutch-English). For example, in Dutch, it's typical to say that your beer has "died" if it's **gone flat**. But if a Dutch person translated this literally, it would sound strange to an English person.

Sometimes, things can get very funny. The former Dutch Prime Minister Joop den Uyl once said, "We are a nation of **undertakers**" when he meant to say "**entrepreneurs**". This is because he'd translated the Dutch word "ondernemer" (which means "entrepreneur") into the English word "undertaker".

In another incident, former Prime Minister Pieter Sjoerds Gebrandy was with British Prime



crazy, as a Dutch person was supposed to know. Eventually, I decided to **look it up** on my smartphone – I just couldn't stand the fact that there was a basic and common English word that I didn't know. But when I typed "copavan" into Google, nothing **came up**. Finally, my friend decided to ask the couple to describe "copavon", and it was then that we realised that they'd been trying to say "koopavond". Of course, we then told them that "koopavond" is every thursday night. 🌟

Minister Winston Churchill when Churchill said, "Spring is in the air" (which means that it feels like spring because of the weather, etc.). But Gebrandy responded with, "Why should I?", thinking that Churchill had asked him to "jump" into the air as "spingen" means "to jump" in Dutch.

Now, I'm going to tell you a little story in my Dutch English accent.

A friend and I were walking around in Amsterdam one day when an English couple came up to us and asked when it was "koopavond". Well, in Dutch "koopavond" (literally "shopping night") is a night when all the shops are open till 9pm (normally, they close at 6pm). However, the English couple pronounced it as "copavon" [sic] and I really didn't understand what they were talking about. I thought they might need directions or that this was the name of a party. So, I kept asking them, "What does "copavon" mean?" Obviously, they just looked at me as if I were

## GLOSSARY

- Dutch** *adj*  
the "Dutch" are people from the Netherlands; "Dutch" is also an adjective: Dutch cheese, Dutch food, Dutch paintings...
- trade** *n*  
the activity of buying or selling goods between people, companies or countries
- the Far East** *n*  
east Asian countries such as China, Japan, Indonesia, South Korea, etc.
- a trade monopoly** *n*  
if a company has a "trade monopoly" in a particular industry, they have complete control over that area and other companies can't do any business there
- spices** *n*  
parts of plants (or powder from those parts) that you can put in food: cinnamon, ginger, paprika...
- huge** *adj*  
very big
- a windmill** *n*  
a building with long pieces of wood on the outside which turn around as the wind blows. A "windmill" provides energy for a machine that crushes grain (to make bread, etc.)
- clogs** *n*  
wooden shoes
- tolerance** *n*  
if you have a high level of "tolerance", you let other people say and do what they want, even if you don't agree with it
- to go flat** *exp*  
if your beer "goes flat", there are no more bubbles (balls of air) in it
- an undertaker** *n*  
a person whose job is to prepare the bodies of people who have died and to arrange the funerals for them
- an entrepreneur** *n*  
a business person who sets up businesses and who is successful in business
- to look up** *phr vb*  
if you "look up" the meaning of a word, you try to find it in a dictionary, etc.
- to come up** *phr vb*  
if something "comes up", it appears

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** When was the last time you translated something? What was it? Which language did you translate it into? How often do you translate? Which words or expressions from your language are difficult to translate into English?

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

TRACK 11: ENGLISHMEN

# HOW IMPORTANT IS TRANSLATION IN LANGUAGE LEARNING?

Can translation help you learn a language? Or is it a complete **waste of time**? There are arguments on both sides of the debate.

## Against using translation

The best way to learn a language is to read it, listen to it and use it. By doing translation exercises, you'll have less time for these useful activities.

Translating can turn you into a **lazy** learner. When you come across a word you aren't sure of, it's better to try to **guess** the meaning rather than looking up the translation. Studies have shown that if you make an effort to understand the meaning of a word, you'll remember it more easily. If you really do need to check the meaning of a word, find a definition of it in English and read that. This will help you start to think in English – an important step in **language acquisition**.

Translating when you're speaking in a conversation



is **counter-productive**. For a start, there's no time. Conversations are mostly **spontaneous, dynamic** and **fast-paced**. People will soon lose patience if you start trying to translate. When you're speaking, it's better to explain things with the words you already know. For example, if you can't remember the word for "**hammer**", try to explain what it means: "The thing you use to hit a nail when you're putting up a picture". The same is true when you're writing – use the language you know and avoid translating, or you'll end up producing text that doesn't make much sense.

## In favour of using translation

Translation is a useful strategy for learners of all levels. For beginners, it's a useful platform to base their new language on. For other levels, it's a quick and effective way to find out what a word means. Why spend minutes trying to understand or explain a word when you can look up

the translation in a question of seconds?

Translating can be fun, too. There are lots of great ways to use translation to help you learn a language. For example, you could **work out** the translation of short pieces of text such as newspaper headlines, slogans, everyday expressions, film **taglines** or signs in English. Or you could discuss with a colleague how to translate useful idioms or phrases, focusing on translating the overall meaning, not the individual words.

Reverse translating can be **beneficial** too. And it's easy to do. First, create a list of useful sentences – the sort of language you need when you're talking. You could find these in audio scripts of conversations in English. For example, "*I went to the cinema / She's bought a new car / They're going to leave at six.*" Then, translate these sentences into your language. Later, cover up the original English sentences, read over your translations and try to translate them

back into English.

Do you think translation has a part to play in language learning? 🌟

## MORE FUN TRANSLATION ACTIVITIES

- Paste some text into Google Translate, see what comes out in English and try to correct any errors (it'll inevitably be wrong).
- Watch a news report with someone speaking in your language and try to do a simultaneous translation in English.
- Watch a film in English with the subtitles in your language and see if you can find any mistakes in the translation.
- Watch a film with the subtitles on in your language and the sound off and try to guess what the actors are saying in English. Then, compare your version to the original one.
- Try to translate a short poem.

## VIDEO

YouTube

Find out about Google Glass Translation. Search YouTube for "**First Look: Google Glass Translation and Language Learning Apps by Ectaco**"

## GLOSSARY

**a waste of time** *exp*  
a useless activity; an activity that doesn't bring any benefits

**lazy** *adj*  
someone who is "lazy" doesn't make any effort and doesn't want to work

**to guess** *vb*  
if you "guess" the meaning of something, you imagine what it means, even though you aren't sure

**language acquisition** *n*  
the process of learning a language

**counter-productive** *adj*  
something that's "counter-productive" produces the opposite result to the one you want

**spontaneous** *adj*  
something that's "spontaneous" just happens and isn't planned or arranged

**dynamic** *adj*  
new, exciting and full of energy

**fast-paced** *adj*  
quick, not slow

**a hammer** *n*  
a tool that consists of a piece of heavy metal at the end and a wooden handle. You can use it to hit nails or break things

**to work out** *phr vb*  
if you "work out" the meaning of something, you discover its meaning

**a tagline** *n*  
a short phrase used in advertising; a slogan

**beneficial** *adj*  
something "beneficial" is good and positive for you

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

What are the pros and cons of translating things when you're learning a language? Make notes.

## 2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity. Which arguments are the most convincing?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write a 150-word summary on either the pros or the cons of translating when learning a language.



**Think about it** Do you know anyone you could describe as greedy? In what ways are they greedy? Are any of your friends particularly lazy? Who? In what way? Have you ever felt envious towards someone? Why? When is pride a good thing? Have you ever been guilty of gluttony? When? In what way? Why is lust considered to be something bad?

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

# THE 7 DIGITAL DEADLY SINS

by Gareth Jones

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

Match the sin (1 to 7) to the definition (a-g).

1. Wrath
2. Greed
3. Sloth
4. Pride
5. Lust
6. Envy
7. Gluttony

- a. A strong feeling of sexual desire for someone
- b. Feeling bad because other people have things you want
- c. The desire to have more of something than you need
- d. Feeling angry and wanting to punish someone
- e. Eating or drinking more than you need
- f. A feeling of great love for yourself
- g. Being lazy

## 2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which digital "sins" are you guilty of?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a sin next to each statement.

1. Carefully editing any photos you upload.
2. Buying clothes you don't need from online stores.
3. Trying to get as many online friends as you can.
4. Asking one of your partner's friends out on a date.
5. Writing something horrible about someone.
6. Feeling depressed because your friends are all away on holiday.
7. Spending a whole day surfing the internet.

**W**rath, greed, sloth, pride, lust, envy, gluttony... these are the **seven deadly sins**\*. But just recently, the *Guardian* newspaper, in collaboration with the National Film Board of Canada, produced an interactive video called *The 7 Digital Deadly Sins*. Which ones are you guilty of?



### 1 Wrath

Writing **nasty** things about someone online. Creating

an internet **hate campaign**.

**Trolling** the comments section of a website.

**Tweeting** rude comments about someone.



### 2 Greed

Collecting as many friends and followers on your social

network accounts as you can, even if you don't know them.

**Tracking** how many **hits** your posts, images or uploaded videos get. Producing content **with the aim** of getting lots of hits.



### 3 Sloth

Using the internet as an alternative to doing any

real work. Joining groups or campaigns that you know nothing about. Shutting yourself off at home and **lazing about** on the sofa with your computer. Chatting to people you've never met, or doing some online social networking rather than going out with your real friends.



### 4 Pride

Spending time editing the photos you **upload** so they

always show you **in the best**

**possible light**. Asking people to **remove** photos of you that you don't like. Googling yourself every now and then to see what others are saying about you. **Boasting** about the number of friends you've got on Facebook. Using social networks to **chronicle** every event in your life.



### 5 Lust

Having a secret e-mail account your partner doesn't know

about. Checking up on your **exes**. Watching pornography.

Sending **friend requests** to people you find attractive but don't know personally.

Joining numerous online dating sites.



### 6 Envy

Feeling **envious** about all the exotic places your

friends have visited. Getting depressed because other people's lives seem to be more exciting and interesting than yours. Comparing your online profile to other people's. Feeling bad because you haven't got as many online friends as your colleagues.



### 7 Gluttony

Spending almost every spare moment online. Staying

up late so you can do some social networking. Being unable to stop yourself from messaging friends or commenting on Facebook or Twitter posts. Buying things from online shopping sites that you don't even need. Downloading lots of films or music that you'll never have time to watch or listen to.

Are you ready to **repent**? \*

## 7 DIGITAL DEADLY SINS

Check out the interactive website on the seven digital deadly sins:

<http://digital-deadly-sins.theguardian.com/>

## \*THE SEVEN DEADLY SINS

A "sin" is an action which breaks the laws of God. The seven deadly sins, also known as the capital vices or cardinal sins, have been used since early Christian times to teach Christians to live better lives.

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch the trailer for the film *Se7en*. Search YouTube for "**SE7EN - Trailer - HQ - (1995)**"

## GLOSSARY

**nasty** *adj*

horrible; not nice

**a hate campaign** *n*

a coordinated series of negative and horrible actions against someone

**to troll** *vb*

if someone "trolls" the comments section of a website (for example), they write horrible or stupid things there just for fun

**to Tweet** *vb*

to send a message via the social network "Twitter"

**to track** *vb*

if you "track" something, you watch it carefully in order to check its progress or see what's happening to it

**a hit** *n*

each "hit" on your website refers to the number of files that are downloaded from a single page. If a webpage has a lot of images, one visit to the page could mean 40 "hits", for example

**with the aim of** *exp*

with the intention of; with the idea of

**to laze about** *phr vb*

to stay in a place doing nothing, just relaxing, chatting, etc.

**to upload** *vb*

to put something onto a website from your computer

**in the best possible light** *exp*

in the best way possible

**to remove** *vb*

if you "remove" a picture from a website, you take it off that website

**to boast** *vb*

if you "boast" about something, you talk about how great it is or how fantastic you are

**to chronicle** *vb*

if you "chronicle" a series of events, you write about them

**an ex** *n*

a boyfriend or girlfriend you had in the past

**a friend request** *n*

a message you send to someone on Facebook asking them to connect with you and be your Facebook friend

**envious** *adj*

if you're "envious", you feel bad because someone has something that you want

**to repent** *vb*

if you "repent", you show or say that you're sorry for something wrong you did

**Objective** To improve your listening skills.

**Think about it** What jobs have you had in the past? Which one/s were the most interesting? Why? Have you ever done any manual labour? What was it? How much did you get paid? What are some of the worst jobs you've had? Why were they so bad? What would your ideal job be? How would you describe your job in just 100 words?

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

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Answers on page 44

### 1 Pre-listening

You're going to listen to three people talking about their jobs: a designer, a lorry driver and an airport security guard. Look at the list of tasks below. Write Designer, Lorry or Security next to each one.

1. The work can be quite lonely at times.
2. I have to check baggage using an X-ray machine.
3. I work on websites, books and magazines.
4. I get to see a lot of countries.
5. I have to liaise with illustrators and photographers.
6. I have to screen passengers.
7. I'm often away from home for weeks at a time.

### 2 Listening I

Listen once to check your ideas from the Pre-listening activity.

### 3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. How many people does the designer manage?
2. Where are his bosses?
3. How many hours does the lorry driver work a week?
4. What's the maximum number of hours he can spend on the road a day?
5. How long was the security guard's trial period?
6. How long has she been working at her job for?

### 4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct prepositions.



#### Note!

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

# What do you do?

Talking about jobs!

#### Audio script

##### The designer

I work as a designer for an international publishing company. I'm in charge (1) \_\_\_\_\_ the department and I manage a small team of 8 designers. It's very interesting but with a lot of tight deadlines. I often have video-conferences (2) \_\_\_\_\_ my bosses in New York, or travel there for meetings so we can discuss ideas and make plans for up-coming projects. As part of my job, I work (3) \_\_\_\_\_ websites, books, magazines, posters, computer games and product packaging. Some of my tasks during the day include meeting clients to discuss ideas, working on design projects and preparing quotes. I have to liaise (4) \_\_\_\_\_ all sorts of people, including illustrators, photographers, writers, printers, web developers and people in marketing or advertising departments.

##### The lorry driver

I'm a lorry driver for a European distribution company. I put in very long hours and I'm often away from home (5) \_\_\_\_\_ days or weeks at a time. The work can be quite lonely at times, although I get to see a lot of countries and I enjoy listening (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the radio. Some of the tasks for the job include ensuring that the goods are safely secured, keeping the vehicle in good condition and loading and unloading the boxes or crates. I work an average (7) \_\_\_\_\_ 48 hours a week, but I can't spend more than nine hours a day on the road. The best thing is not having a boss breathing down your neck all the time and the freedom of the open road. The worst thing is being away (8) \_\_\_\_\_ home and the long, unsociable hours.

##### The security guard

I work as a security guard (9) \_\_\_\_\_ an international airport. I started out on a temporary contract, but was given an indefinite one after a 6-month trial period. I've been here for about 15 years now and was recently promoted. I'm often asked to do overtime, especially in busy periods. We have to clock in and clock (10) \_\_\_\_\_ so our managers know exactly when we get in and leave. As part of my job, I have to screen passengers and check baggage using an X-ray machine, carry out airport patrols and resolve any passenger enquiries. You need to have good communication skills, and be able to work under pressure and (11) \_\_\_\_\_ a team. The worst part is changing from one shift to another as I find it difficult to adapt my daily routine. I'm quite a patient person, but it can get tense, and you have to stay alert (12) \_\_\_\_\_ all times. ☺

**Objective** To improve your range of business English vocabulary.

**Think about it**

When was the last time you went to a fast food restaurant? What did you eat? What was the service like? How would you rate the experience on a scale of 1 to 10? Why do you think fast food restaurants are so successful? What's the key to their success?

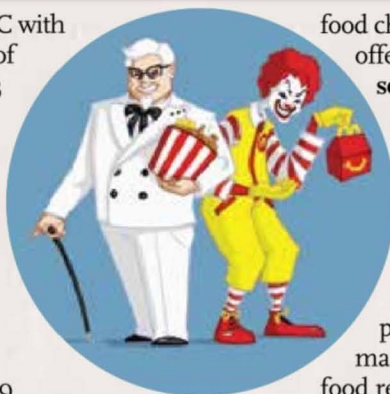
**BUSINESS NEWS**

# WHY IS THE FAST FOOD INDUSTRY SO SUCCESSFUL?

The fast food industry generated over \$190 billion in the US in 2013. By 2018, this figure is expected to **exceed** \$210 billion. In 2013, there were more than 230,000 fast food restaurants, employing over three and a half million people. So, who are the **major players** in the industry?

With over 30,000 restaurants in over 100 countries, McDonald's is the **leading** fast food chain, generating **revenue** of over \$28 billion in 2013. Other top-selling chains

include KFC with a **turnover** of around \$23 billion and more than 18,500 **outlets** in over 105 countries, and Subway with sales of about \$19 billion and more than 42,000 **locations** in over 100 countries. So, why are they so successful?



food chains also offer **drive-thru services**, so you can order the food from your car.

In order to **maximise** profits, many fast food restaurants have smooth business processes. So, the cooking and cleaning processes are **systemised**, and there are standardised training processes for new employees, which is important given the high **staff turnover**. And as fast food restaurants are **low-margin, high-volume** businesses, they need to be very careful about their costs, so food waste is kept down to a minimum.

Fast food restaurants are also highly visible and easy to find. With their large signs, instantly-recognisable logos and enormous **billboard ads**, it's hard to miss them. They're also often located in busy areas such as shopping malls, high streets and city centres.

So, what does the future hold for fast food restaurants? The industry has come under a lot of pressure recently to reduce the high levels of sugar, salt and fat in their food. And they've also been criticised for targeting children, especially through **movie tie-ins**. But whatever happens, the formula of low-cost food served in a clean environment seems to work very well! ✪

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

Why do you think fast food restaurants are so popular? Make notes.

## 2 Reading I

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

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions. Write one of the words from below next to each statement.

- location
- value for money
- processes are systemised
- consistency
- speed
- visibility

1. You can get your food in a question of minutes.
2. You can find the same food in fast food chains around the world.
3. They're often located in busy shopping areas.
4. They offer economically-priced food in a clean environment.
5. They often have easily-recognisable logos.
6. They have standardised training programmes.

For a start, fast food chains offer consistency. In Pizza Hut you can find a **buffet lunch** option every weekday that includes the same pizzas, pastas and salads in every restaurant around the world. And it doesn't matter whether you're visiting a McDonald's in America, Australia or Japan – you'll still be able to buy the same burgers and **fries**.

Fast food restaurants also offer value for money. You can get economically-priced, **tasty** food served quickly and efficiently in a clean environment. Chains often create menu deals where they offer various items together for a fixed, cheap price. For example, Burger King's "King of the Day" meal deal includes a burger, fries and a drink for around £4.

The sales process is fast and efficient, too. You choose from the menu, servers place your food on a **tray** and you pay for the food, all in a question of minutes. This fits in well with today's faster pace of life. Many fast

**TRACK 14: ENGLISHMEN**

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## VIDEO



Watch a video on fast food options from around the world. Search YouTube for "What Fast Food Is Like Around The World"

## GLOSSARY

- to exceed** *vb*  
If something exceeds a particular number, it's greater or larger than that number
- a major player** *n*  
an important company in a particular industry
- leading** *adj*  
the "leading" company (for example) is the biggest or most important one
- revenue** *n*  
the money a company receives from sales, etc.
- turnover** *n*  
the money a company receives from sales, etc.
- an outlet** *n*  
a shop that sells goods
- location** *n*  
a particular place
- a buffet lunch** *n*  
a long table in a restaurant with lots of food on it. You can eat as much as you like for a set price
- fries** *n*  
long, thin pieces of fried potato. "Chips" in British English
- tasty** *adj*  
food that's "tasty" is nice, tastes delicious and has a good flavour
- a tray** *n*  
a rectangular piece of plastic or metal for putting plates on so you can carry them
- a drive-thru service** *n*  
a restaurant where you can order the food from your car
- to maximise** *vb*  
if you "maximise" profits, you make the most profit possible
- to systemise** *vb*  
if a process is "systemised", everything is automatic and happens according to a carefully prepared system
- staff turnover** *n*  
this expression refers to the number of employees who leave a company over a period of time. It's often expressed as a percentage of the total number of employees
- low-margin** *adj*  
a "low-margin" business makes very little profit from each product sold
- high-volume** *adj*  
a "high-volume" business sells a large number of products
- a billboard ad** *n*  
a very large advert in the street on a flat, thin rectangular piece of wood or plastic
- a movie tie-in** *n*  
a product (a fast food restaurant meal in this case) that has images from a film on the packaging. It's a way of promoting a film, and also increasing sales by appealing to people who like the film

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** Do you ever have a nap? When? Where? How long for? Have you ever had a nap at work? Where did you have it? How long did you nap for? What would have happened if you'd been caught napping? Do you think employees should be allowed to nap? Why? Why not? What do you do to stop yourself from falling asleep or to wake up?

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

© TRACK 15: ENGLISHMAN & ENGLISHWOMAN

GO AWAY! I'M SLEEPING.

# The benefits of an afternoon nap!

**D**o you ever have an afternoon nap? Studies have shown that a little sleep during the day can **boost** your brainpower, make you healthier, improve **performance** and even help with weight loss.

A 2002 Harvard University study showed that a 30-minute nap can boost workers' performance, returning their productivity to beginning-of-the-day levels. NASA sleep researchers found that a 26-minute nap boosts work performance by 34%. And the National Sleep Foundation recommends a short nap of 20 to 30 minutes "for improved alertness and performance without leaving you feeling **groggy** or interfering with night-time sleep."

Napping is also good for your health. According to a 2007 study published in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, people who took naps at least three times a week had a 37% lower risk of heart-related deaths. Dimitrios Trichopoulos, of the Harvard School of Public Health in Boston, who led the study said, "Taking a nap could turn out to be an important weapon in the fight against **coronary mortality**." Napping also prevents **burnout** and reduces the risk of stress-related illnesses.

Several companies recognise the benefits of napping. At its Mountain View, California headquarters, Google has high-tech **napping pods**. Ice cream company Ben &

Jerry's offers **nap rooms** to employees who need a bit of peace and quiet. Online clothing company Zappos provides employees with **couches** so they can have a little sleep during the day. And Time Warner allows their employees to spend time at the Yelo **napping spa**.

Lots of historical figures are famous "nappers". Winston Churchill believed his afternoon nap helped him get twice as much done each day. He would regularly lie down after lunch, sometimes sleeping for up to two hours. Lyndon B. Johnson (the 36th president of the USA) had what he called a "two-shift day". He woke up at 6:30 or 7 and worked until 2pm. Then, after some exercise and lunch, he'd have a 30-minute nap, wake up at about 4, then work on his second shift until 1 or 2 in the morning.

During campaigns, French Emperor Napoleon Bonaparte (1769-1821) would often go for days without a full-night's sleep. However, he had the ability to fall asleep **at the drop of a hat**, sometimes just before a battle when the cannons were **booming** nearby. Spanish painter Salvador Dali (1904-1989) believed that one of the secrets to becoming a great painter was what he called "slumber with a key". This involved sitting in a chair with a heavy metal key pressed between the **thumb** and **forefinger** of his left hand. A plate would be

placed upside down on the floor underneath the hand with the key. The moment Dali fell asleep the key would **slip** from his finger, hit the plate (making a loud noise) and wake him up.

Happy napping! ☺

## QUOTE

Churchill once said, "Nature has not intended mankind to work from eight in the morning until midnight without that refreshment of blessed oblivion which, even if it only lasts twenty minutes, is sufficient to renew all the vital forces."

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video on a napping spa. Search YouTube for "Power Napping at Yelo Spa".

## GLOSSARY

**a nap** *n*  
a short sleep, often after lunch  
**to boost** *v*  
to increase  
**performance** *n*  
your "performance" is how well you do something.  
**groggy** *adj*  
if you're feeling "groggy", you're feeling tired, especially after waking up  
**coronary mortality** *n*  
death caused by having a heart attack (when someone's heart stops working)  
**burnout** *n*  
if you suffer from "burnout", you become extremely tired or stressed because you've worked too much and too quickly  
**a napping pod** *n*  
a container that you can sit or lie in and have a sleep  
**a nap room** *n*  
a room where you can have a short sleep  
**a napping spa** *n*  
a kind of special hotel or gym where you can have a short sleep and relax  
**a shift** *n*  
a period of time when you work: the morning shift is from 8am until 2pm, for example  
**at the drop of a hat** *exp*  
immediately  
**to boom** *v*  
if canons are "booming", they're making a loud noise as they're fired  
**a thumb** *n*  
the thickest finger on your hand  
**a forefinger** *n*  
the finger next to your thumb  
**to slip** *v*  
if something "slips" out of your hand, it falls out of your hand

Answers on page 44

### 1 Pre-reading

What are the pros and cons of napping (sleeping during the day)? Make notes.

### 2 Reading I

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

### 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. How much can a 26-minute nap boost work performance by, according to NASA?
2. How long is the nap that the National Sleep Foundation recommends?
3. According to the study in the *Archives of Internal Medicine*, what could a nap lower the risk of?
4. What does ice cream company Ben & Jerry's offer its employees for napping?
5. When would Winston Churchill regularly lie down?
6. What evidence is there that Napoleon was an extremely sound sleeper?
7. What did Dali use to wake him up from his nap?

**Objective** To improve your English by reading about music and listening to song lyrics.

**Think about it** Do you like any heavy metal music? Why? Why not? Have you heard any of the songs from this page? Which heavy metal bands have you heard of? Which heavy metal songs do you like? When would you listen to heavy metal music? Have you ever been to a heavy metal concert? What was it like? Who did you see in the concert?

**MUSIC...  
IN ENGLISH**  
© TRACK 16: ENGLISHMAN &  
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# HEAVY METAL

Christian Olijve

**H**eavy Metal is a type of fast, loud music with **distorted** guitar sounds, heavy drum beats and aggressive **lyrics**. Famous heavy metal bands include Black Sabbath, AC/DC, Motörhead, Metallica and Iron Maiden.



## Black Sabbath

Black Sabbath were formed in Birmingham, England, in 1968 by guitarist Tony Iommi, bassist Geezer Butler, singer Ozzy Osbourne, and drummer Bill Ward. Famous songs from the band include *Paranoid*, *Heaven and Hell*, *Black Sabbath* and *Iron Man*. Ozzy Osbourne was **kicked out** of the band because of his **substance abuse**, but went on to have a successful **solo career**. With almost 70 million records sold worldwide, the band is one of the most influential heavy metal groups of all time. Black Sabbath released the album *13* in June 2013.

## Paranoid

*Finished with my woman cos she couldn't help me with my mind.  
People think I'm insane because I am **frowning** all the time.  
All day long I think of things, but nothing seems to satisfy...*



## Metallica

Metallica is an American metal band that was formed in 1981. Drummer Lars Ulrich and guitarist James Hetfield started the band, Kirk Hammett joined in 1983 and Robert Trujillo in 2003. Some of their biggest hits include *Master Of Puppets*, *Creeping Death*, *One* and *Nothing Else Matters*. The band has sold more than 120 million records worldwide, making it one of the most commercially successful bands in music history.

## Master Of Puppets

*Master of Puppets I'm **pulling your strings**,  
Twisting your mind and smashing your dreams,  
**Blinded** by me, you can't see a thing,  
Just call my name, 'cause I'll hear you **scream**,  
Master, Master, just call my name...*



## Iron Maiden

Iron Maiden are a heavy metal band from Leyton, east London. They were formed in 1975 by bassist and songwriter Steve

Harris. Other members are Dave Murray (guitarist), Adrian Smith (guitarist), Bruce Dickinson (singer), Nicko McBrain (drummer) and Janick Gers (guitarist). The band has sold over 85 million records worldwide, and have played more than 2,000 **live shows** in the past 35 years. Their top hits include *The Number Of The Beast*, *Wrath Child*, *Run To The Hills* and *The Trooper*.

## The Number of the Beast

*Torches blazed and sacred chants were praised,  
As they start to cry, hands held to the sky,  
In the night, the fires were burning bright,  
The ritual has begun, **Satan's** work is done.*



## AC/DC

AC/DC are an Australian hard rock band. They were formed in November 1973 by brothers Malcolm and Angus Young, who continued as members until Malcolm's illness and departure in 2014. The band had huge success with the album *Highway to Hell* in 1979. When singer Bon Scott died of alcohol poisoning in 1980, he was replaced by Brian Johnson. AC/DC has sold over 200 million records worldwide and is at number seven of MTV's list of the Greatest Heavy Metal Bands of All Time.

## Highway To Hell

*No stop signs, speed limit,  
Nobody's **gonna** slow me down,  
Like a wheel, **gonna spin** it,  
Nobody's **gonna mess** me round.*



## Motörhead

Motörhead are an English rock band formed in June 1975 by bassist, singer and songwriter Ian Fraser Kilmister, better known as Lemmy. After being kicked out of the band *Hawkwind*, Lemmy created *Motörhead*. These days, Lemmy is still the **frontman**, with Phil Campbell on guitar and Mikkey Dee on the drums. Motörhead have sold over 30 million albums worldwide.

## Ace Of Spades

*Playing for the **high one**, dancing with the devil,  
Going with the flow, it's all a game to me,  
Seven or eleven, snake eyes watching you,  
**Double up** or quit, double stakes or split,  
The Ace of Spades... ♠*

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch Lemmy sing *The Ace of Spades*. Search YouTube for "**Lemmy, Slash & Dave Grohl - Ace Of Spades**".

## GLOSSARY

**distorted** *adj*  
a "distorted" guitar sound isn't clear and there are no "clean" notes

**lyrics** *n*  
the words to a song

**to kick out** *phr vb*  
to force someone to leave

**substance abuse** *n*  
taking illegal drugs

**a solo career** *n*  
if a member of a group has a "solo career", they sing or play on their own

**to frown** *vb*  
when you "frown", lines appear on your forehead, often because you're angry

**a puppet** *n*  
a toy you can move by pulling strings

**to pull strings** *exp*  
if you're "pulling someone's strings", you're controlling them

**to blind** *vb*  
if you "blind" someone, you do something to them so they can't see

**to scream** *vb*  
to make a loud sound with your voice

**a live show** *n*  
a concert (for example) that a band plays directly to an audience (the music isn't pre-recorded)

**a torch** *n*  
a long stick with burning material at one end

**to blaze** *vb*  
to burn

**sacred** *adj*  
something "sacred" has a special connection with God or a god

**a chant** *n*  
a word or group of words that is repeated over and over again, often as part of a ceremony

**to praise** *vb*  
if you "praise" God or a god, you say thanks or good things to him/it

**Satan** *n*  
the Devil

**AC/DC** *abbr*  
alternating current / direct current – an electrical term. Alternating current = an electric current that reverses its direction many times a second; direct current = an electric current flowing in one direction

**gonna** *abbr*  
going to

**to spin** *vb*  
to turn around and around

**to mess round** *exp*  
if you "mess someone around", you do things to them that causes them problems

**a frontman** *n*  
a main singer in a band

**a high one** *n*  
a card with a high value (an ace, for example)

**to go with the flow** *exp*  
to be relaxed and to accept a situation

**to double up** *exp*  
to double (increase by 100%) your initial bet (the amount of money you place)

**to quit** *vb*  
if you "quit" a round in a game of cards (for example), you stop playing in it

**a stake** *n*  
an amount of money

**to split** *vb*  
an action in a game of Blackjack in which you divide your cards into two sets

**the ace of spades** *n*



TRAVEL ENGLISH

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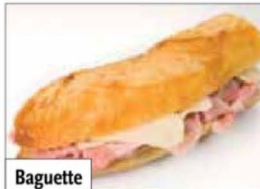
# THE SANDWICH SHOP

Learn over 20 useful words and expressions to use at the sandwich shop. In many English-speaking countries, people often have a sandwich for lunch. You can get sandwiches in supermarkets, restaurants, cafés, pubs and sandwich bars (small shops where you can buy sandwiches, such as the fast food chain Subway). Almost three billion sandwiches are sold every year in the UK.

## Useful words



Sandwich



Baguette



Ciabatta



(Bread) roll



Bap (a soft, flat bread roll)



Sliced bread



Wrap



Mayonnaise



Napkin / serviette



Mustard



Salmon



Cream cheese



Avocado



Prawns



Cress

## More words

- **Filling** – the food inside the sandwich.
- **Pasty** – a type of pie filled with vegetables and/or meat. The outside part of a “pasty” is made out of “pastry” (with an “r”), which is a mixture of flour, fat and water.
- **Sausage roll** – a pasty with a sausage in it
- **Quiche** – a pastry case filled with a mixture of eggs, cheese and other food.
- **Samosa** – a small, triangular, spicy pasty with vegetables and/or meat.
- **BLT** – a sandwich with bacon, lettuce and tomato
- **Toasted sandwich** – a sandwich that has been cooked
- **Counter** – a table in a shop. The shop assistant usually stands behind it.
- **Falafel** – a fried ball of mashed chick peas.
- **Hummus** – a paste made from mashed chick peas.
- **Chutney** – a sauce made from fruit, vegetables and spices.
- **Coronation chicken** – cold chicken and raisins in a curry sauce
- **Pesto** – a sauce made from basil, oil, garlic and pine nuts.



Chick peas

## Fillings

Some typical fillings for sandwiches include the following:

- Tuna and mayonnaise
- Ham and mustard
- Salmon, avocado and cream cheese
- Bacon and brie (a type of French cheese)
- Pesto, tomato and mozzarella
- Turkey and cheese
- Egg and cress
- Prawn cocktail
- Coronation chicken

## Dialogue: At the sandwich shop

Angela is in a sandwich bar ordering some food for lunchtime. Listen once, then complete the text with the correct words. Dialogue: A=Assistant An=Angela

- A: Hi, can I help you?  
 An: Yes, I'd like a sandwich please.  
 A: What kind of bread would you like? A roll, ciabatta, (1) \_\_\_\_\_?  
 An: Ciabatta, please.  
 A: And what would you like in it?  
 An: (2) \_\_\_\_\_, please.  
 A: We've got a traditional coronation chicken and one without raisins.  
 An: The normal one, please.  
 A: Margarine or butter?  
 An: Erm, (3) \_\_\_\_\_, please.  
 A: Would you like any lettuce or (4) \_\_\_\_\_ to go with it?  
 An: Yes, please.  
 A: Anything else?  
 An: Yes, I'd also like a toasted (5) \_\_\_\_\_ sandwich, a bag of crisps, a sausage roll and a bit of that quiche, please.  
 A: OK. Shall I heat up the sausage roll and quiche for you?  
 An: No thanks. I'm going to eat them later.  
 A: Anything to drink?



- An: Yes, a bottle of (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and a coke, please.  
 A: Great. So that's £24.50 please.  
 An: Can I pay with my (7) \_\_\_\_\_?  
 A: Yes, of course. Just put your card in here and key in your PIN number. [She does it.] OK, here's your (8) \_\_\_\_\_ and your card.  
 An: Thanks. Bye.  
 A: Bye. ☺

## GLOSSARY

a raisin is a dried grape (the small, round fruit used to make wine)

# HOW TO IMPROVE YOUR SPOKEN ENGLISH

Here are our top tips for improving your spoken English.

LET'S TALK!

OK, YOU START!



## Part I: Preparation

As part of improving your spoken English, you need to get used to producing English sounds. Here's what you can do.

**Read aloud** – take a short text (preferably one with an audio file to go with it) and read parts of it out loud. Later, you can compare your version to the original.

**Repetition** – repeat key sentences and expressions over and over again until they become automatic. Very soon, you'll have learnt lots of useful phrases you can use in real conversations.

**Stories** – practise telling your favourite stories or anecdotes. Write them out first. Then, make notes and practise saying them to yourself or a friend. Later, you can use these stories or anecdotes in conversations.

**Memory** – memorise typical phrases, expressions and sentences. A lot of the language we use when speaking consists of set expressions and chunks of language. For example, "That's interesting! / I never knew that! / That must have been scary!"

**Simultaneous speaking** – sing along to your favourite songs, or try to speak at the same time as the character in a video clip or an audio recording you're familiar with. Simply press play and then start speaking along with the news presenter, actors, singers, etc.

**Questions** – practise

forming questions. Take a piece of text and make questions from sentences in the article or paragraph. For example, "She's seen it. = Has she seen it?" Asking questions is a good way of participating in a conversation without having to say much.

**Listening** – work on improving your listening skills so you can follow what people are saying. You can do this by listening to audio files from course books, watching films or TV series, listening to music or watching videos on YouTube. Spend at least 70% of your study time listening to English.

## Part II: Participation

Conversations are complicated as people tend to speak fast and they skip from topic to topic. Here are our top tips for speaking in a conversation.

**Key words** – in a conversation, you won't understand everything. In fact, you won't even hear every word as people often speak unclearly and it's noisy (especially if you're in a bar or the street). So, you need to listen out for the **key words** – the most important words in a conversation: the verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, etc. And from these, you can guess what the person is saying. For example, if you heard these key words "saw / film / friend / last night", you could probably guess that the speaker was saying, "I saw a film with a friend last night."

**Paraphrasing** – if you want to check your understanding, do some

paraphrasing. Simply summarise in a few words what you think the speaker said. For example, "So, you went out to the pub, did you? / Oh, right, so it was your brother who told her, was it?"

**Avoid translating** – don't translate while you're speaking as it's a waste of time. Just use the language you already know. Remember, the important thing is to be understood.

**Motivation** – show the other speaker that you're interested in what they're saying. You can do this with your body language (by maintaining eye contact, smiling, having an interested look on your face, leaning in, etc.), or by using short phrases to show that you're following things: "Oh, yeah? / Really? / Wow! / Amazing! / I can't believe you did that! / Oh, no! / I didn't know that / Incredible!"

**Keep it simple** – speak slowly and clearly, and use simple English sentences with the language you know. Don't worry about your accent. And ignore any "mistakes". In fact, if you listen to any native speakers in casual conversations, you'll notice that they don't speak in perfectly-formed, grammatically-correct sentences (just listen to the recordings in the Group Talk section of the magazine and you'll see what we mean). And native speakers often make "mistakes" themselves in fast-paced conversations.

**Practice** – practise speaking as often as you

can. Speak to English friends or a teacher on Skype, join an English club or conversation group, find a pen friend, visit an Irish or English pub or food shop and talk to people there, go shopping in tourist areas and pretend you're a foreigner (so you can speak English), speak to a classmate in English (even if you both speak the same language)... the possibilities are limitless.

Have fun speaking in English! ☺

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# STAY MOTIVATED WITH THESE QUOTES!

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

try set making returns make see want end do get



“Nothing is impossible, the word itself says ‘I’m possible’.”  
(Audrey Hepburn (1929-1993), actress)



“Either I will find a way, or I will (1) \_\_\_\_\_ one.”  
(Philip Sidney (1554-1586), soldier)



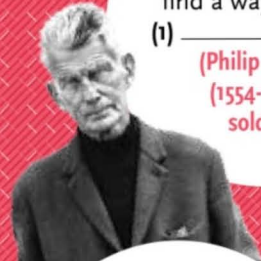
“If you can dream it, you can (2) \_\_\_\_\_ it.”  
(Walt Disney (1901-1996), cartoonist)



“You are never too old to (3) \_\_\_\_\_ another goal or to dream a new dream.”  
(CS Lewis (1898-1963), novelist and poet)



“Always do your best. What you plant now, you will **harvest** later.”  
(Og Mandino (1923-1996), author)



“Ever tried. Ever **failed**. No matter. Try again. Fail again. Fail better.”  
(Samuel Beckett (1906-1989), playwright)



“Even the darkest night will (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and the sun will rise.”  
(Victor Hugo (1802-1885), French writer)



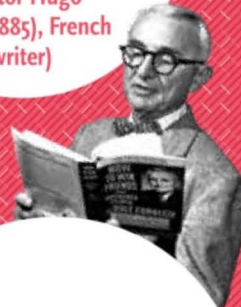
“Don't watch the clock; do what it does. **Keep going**.”  
(Sam Levenson (1911-1980), author)



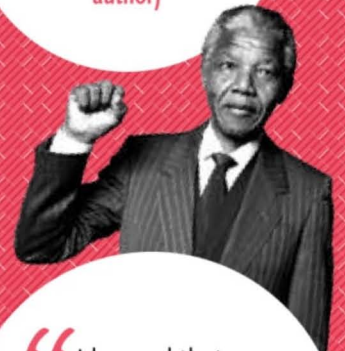
“Life is a mirror, if you **frown** at it, it frowns back; if you smile, it (5) \_\_\_\_\_ the greeting.”  
(William Makepeace Thackeray (1811-1863), English author)



“Don't cry because it's over, smile because it happened.”  
(Dr Seuss (Theodor Seuss Geisel, 1904-1991), author and illustrator of children's books)



“Success is getting what you want, happiness is wanting what you (6) \_\_\_\_\_.”  
(Dale Carnegie (1888-1955), American writer)

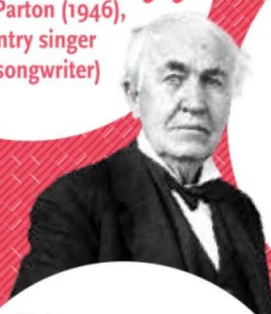


“I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the **triumph over it**.”  
(Nelson Mandela (1918-2013), President of South Africa from 1994 to 1999)





“The way I see it, if you (7) \_\_\_\_\_ the **rainbow**, you gotta **put up with the rain.**”  
(Dolly Parton (1946), country singer and songwriter)



“Our greatest weakness lies in **giving up**. The most certain way to succeed is always to (9) \_\_\_\_\_ just one more time.”  
(Thomas A. Edison (1847-1931), inventor)



“Above all, be the heroine of your own life, **not the victim.**”  
(Nora Ephron (1941-2012), playwright, screenwriter, novelist)



“The **will** to win, the **urge** to reach your **full potential**... these are the keys that will **unlock** the door to personal **excellence.**”  
(Confucius (551BC-479BC), philosopher)



“The things you think are the disasters in your life are not the disasters really. Almost anything can be **turned around**: out of every **ditch**, a **path**, if you can only (10) \_\_\_\_\_ it.”  
(Hilary Mantel (1952), writer)

“One of the things I learned the hard way was that it **doesn't pay** to get **discouraged**. Keeping busy and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ optimism a way of life can **restore your faith in yourself.**”  
(Lucille Ball (1911-1989), actress and studio executive)

### GLOSSARY

**ups and downs** *exp*  
the positive, good things (the ups) and the negative, bad things (the downs)  
**a can-do attitude** *exp*  
someone with a “can-do attitude” is very positive and feels that they can do anything  
**a quote** *n*  
a short phrase or sentence from a book, film, interview, etc.  
**to keep your spirits up** *exp*  
if something “keeps your spirits up”, it makes you feel positive and good  
**to harvest** *vb*  
when you “harvest” a crop (such as cereal), you collect it from the fields  
**to fail** *n*  
if you “fail”, you aren't successful and things don't go well  
**to rise** *vb*  
when the sun “rises”, it comes up in the morning  
**to keep going** *exp*  
to continue working or doing things  
**to frown** *vb*  
when you “frown”, lines appear on your forehead, often because you're angry  
**to triumph over** *exp*  
if you “triumph over” fear (for example), you ignore the fear and act anyway  
**a rainbow** *n*  
an arch of different colours you can see in the sky when it's raining  
**to put up with** *exp*  
if you “put up with” a bad thing, you tolerate it and accept it  
**doesn't pay** *exp*  
if something “doesn't pay”, it isn't worth it and it isn't positive for you  
**discouraged** *adj*  
if you get “discouraged”, you become sad, negative or depressed about something  
**to restore faith in yourself** *exp*  
to make you feel confident again  
**to give up** *phr vb*  
if you “give up”, you stop doing an activity because it's too difficult  
**a will** *n*  
a strong desire to do something  
**an urge** *n*  
a strong feeling or desire to do something  
**full potential** *exp*  
your “full potential” is the best you're capable of doing  
**to unlock** *vb*  
to open  
**excellence** *n*  
the quality of being extremely good  
**to turn around** *phr vb*  
if you “turn around” a bad situation, you make it become a good situation  
**a ditch** *n*  
a long, narrow hole in the ground  
**a path** *n*  
a long area of ground that you can walk on

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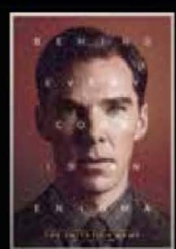
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6<sup>th</sup> JANUARY



**FURY**  
9<sup>th</sup> JANUARY



**THE IMITATION GAME**  
29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

**Objective** To learn some business tips from world-famous entrepreneurs and increase your range of vocabulary.

**Think about it**

Have you bought anything online? What was it? Which website did you use? How efficient was the service? Which retail sites operate in your country? How do they work? How do you think online retailers make their money?

OPEN  
SESAME!



by Gareth Jones

# MR ALIBABA JACK MA

**VIDEO** Listen to a news report on Jack Ma and his company, Alibaba. Search YouTube for “60 Minutes” talks with founder of Alibaba, largest e-commerce company”.

**GLOSSARY**

- online retail** *n* buying and selling things on the internet
- a transaction** *n* the act of buying or selling something
- eBay** *n* a website where you can sell your own things, or buy things from other people
- Amazon** *n* a website where you can buy things from Amazon or other online shops
- an IPO** *abbr* an initial public offering – the first sale of a company’s shares to the public. Once this happens, the company is listed on the stock market
- a stock market flotation** *n* this is the British English term for an IPO (see previous entry)
- an instinct** *n* if you have an “instinct” for something, you’re naturally good at it
- a seed** *n* if you plant a “seed” in someone’s mind, you put an idea there that will grow and develop. Literally, a seed is the small, hard part of a plant from which a new plant grows
- a mind** *n* your “mind” is the thing in your head you use to think
- to cloud your judgement** *exp* if something “clouds your judgement”, you can’t think properly or clearly
- to take down** *phr vb* to harm or destroy you
- the sky’s the limit** *exp* everything is possible
- to steer clear of** *exp* if you “steer clear of” something, you try to avoid it and not go near it
- to make sacrifices** *exp* if you “make sacrifices”, you stop using or having something, often in order to have or do something better
- courage** *n* if you have “courage”, you do something dangerous, even though you’re frightened
- a CEO** *abbr* the chief executive officer – the most important person in a company. He/She is held responsible for the company’s success or failure
- an Executive Chairman / Chairwoman** *n* the head of the board of directors
- a visionary** *n* someone with a lot of ideas about how to do things in the future
- foresight** *n* an ability to see what will happen in the future
- a setback** *n* a problem; something that stops you progressing
- endurance** *n* an ability to continue in a difficult situation
- to embrace** *vb* if you “embrace” change, for example, you accept and welcome it
- to give back** *phr vb* if a successful person “gives something back”, they do something good for society
- shark fin products** *n* products (food, for example) made from a shark’s “fin” (the triangular part that comes out of the top of its body)
- to earmark** *vb* if you “ earmark” money for a particular purpose, you reserve or keep it for that purpose
- revenue** *n* money a company receives from sales, etc.
- a challenge** *n* a new and difficult problem that you must try to find a solution to
- sustainable** *adj* a “sustainable” process doesn’t hurt the environment (the air, water, earth, etc.)
- a holding company** *n* a “parent” company with shares in other companies and control of those companies

Jack Ma is the chairman of the Alibaba Group – the biggest **online retail** company in the world. **Transactions** on sites in the group totalled \$248 billion in 2013, more than **eBay** and **Amazon** combined. One of the sites, Alibaba.com allows importers and exporters from more than 240 countries to buy and sell goods such as clothes, jewellery, toys and bags. During its recent **IPO**, the Alibaba Group raised over \$25 billion, making it the world’s largest **stock market flotation**. Here are a few things that helped Jack Ma become so successful.

**1 Look ahead!**

Jack Ma has a good **instinct** for business. Very early on, Jack saw the potential of the internet. In 1995, he founded China Yellow Pages, one of China’s first internet companies. He then went on to create Alibaba in 2000. “We got successful today, but not because we did a great job today. We had a dream 15 years ago,” he said in an interview with CNN. “The opportunities that everyone cannot see are the real opportunities,” he added.

**2 Offer support!**

Jack understands that in business you have to look after people who are in need of support. “The secret here is helping those who want to be successful,” he said. “Help young people. Help small guys. Because small guys will be big one day,” he said in an interview. And he believes in the power of the younger generation to create change. “Young people will have the **seeds** you plant in their **minds**, and when they grow up, they will change the world.”

**3 Learn!**

In dealing with his competitors, Jack doesn’t allow negativity to **cloud his judgement**. “When competing with one another, don’t bring hatred along,” he advises. “Hatred will **take you down...**

a real businessman or entrepreneur has no enemies. Once he understands this, the **sky’s the limit**,” he added. Jack also **steers clear of** borrowing ideas. “You should learn from your competitor and never copy. Copy and you die.”

**4 Make sacrifices!**

In order to achieve greatness, you have to **make sacrifices**. And in the world of big business, this often takes **courage**. After launching Alibaba on the Chinese stock market in 2013, Jack resigned from his position as **CEO** and took on the role of **Executive Chairman** so he could concentrate on strategy. He admitted that at the age of 48 he was “no longer ‘young’ for the internet business”, and felt that the next generation understood the future better than he did.

**5 Stand out as a leader!**

Jack believes in the power of ideas. “A leader should be a **visionary** and have more **foresight** than an employee.” He also feels that leaders need to be tough and responsive to **setbacks** by having “higher **endurance** and the ability to accept and **embrace failure**”.

**6 Give something back!**

Finally, Jack feels it’s important to **give back**. His top concerns are the environment and education. In January 2009, the Alibaba Group banned the sale of **shark fin products** on all of its e-commerce platforms. And in May 2010, Jack announced that the Alibaba Group would  **earmark** 0.3 percent of annual **revenue** to environmental protection, particularly water and air quality improvement projects. On the future of Alibaba, Jack has said that “our **challenge** is to help more people make healthy money, ‘**sustainable money**,’ money that is not only good for themselves but also good for society.”

Good luck to him, we say! ✨

**Bio - Jack Ma**

Born in Hangzhou (China) in 1964, Jack Ma started out as an English teacher, but is now the founder and Executive Chairman of the **holding company** the Alibaba Group. As of November 2014, he’s the richest man in China and the 18th richest man in the world, with an estimated net worth of \$29.7 billion, according to Bloomberg Billionaires Index. In 1995, he founded China Yellowpages, and from 1998 to 1999 headed an information technology company. He founded Alibaba in 1999.

## RECIPE

# HOME MADE PIZZA MARGHERITA



Learn how to make your own pizza margherita with this recipe by Gordon Ramsay. *By Christian Olijve*

### Ingredients

- 1 Yeast
- Warm water
- Tablespoon of sugar
- 2 Flour
- 3 Olive oil
- Tomato passata
- 4 Mozzarella balls
- 5 Fresh rosemary



### Process

1. For the pizza **dough**, add some yeast to warm water. Stir in a tablespoon of sugar, then leave it to one side for a few minutes.
2. In another bowl, **pour** in some **sifted** flour. Make a little well in the middle and add some olive oil and the yeast mixture. Use your hands to mix it all together.
3. Sprinkle some flour on the kitchen top and **knead** the mixture for about 10 minutes until it's even and smooth.
4. Then put it back in the bowl and cover it with a tea towel. Leave it in a warm place to **prove**. It should double in size.
5. When your pizza has risen, knock out any excess air and put it back on a surface with flour. Divide it into different four even balls (or fewer or more, depending on how many pizzas you want to make and how big you like them) and **flatten** the dough.
6. Put some olive oil into a hot metal pan (it must be completely metal - with no wooden handles - as you need to place it under the **grill** later) and add the pizza dough. As the dough starts to **bubble**, pour some tomato passata on top and **tear** in some **chunks** of mozzarella.
7. Place in a hot oven for a couple of minutes until the pizza is golden brown.
8. Sprinkle fresh rosemary over the top.

Now enjoy your homemade pizza. Alternatively, you could add any other ingredients for this super-fast and super-delicious pizza! ☺

### VIDEO

YouTube

Watch Gordon Ramsay make the pizza. Search YouTube for "How to Make Margherita Pizza at Home - Gordon Ramsay".

### GLOSSARY

**yeast** *n*  
a substance used to make bread rise (go higher) when you cook it

**tomato passata** *n*  
a type of food made by cooking tomatoes. It's similar to tomato puree

**dough** *n*  
a mixture of flour, water and sometimes fat that's used to make a pizza base

**to pour** *vb*  
to put liquid from one container to another

**sifted** *adj*  
if you "sift" flour (for example), you put it through a sieve in order to remove large pieces. A "sieve" is a plastic or metal object with small holes in it so large food can't pass through it

**to knead** *vb*  
when you "knead" dough, you press it with your hands so it becomes smooth

**to prove** *vb*  
to rise (to go higher)

**to flatten** *vb*  
to make flat

**a grill** *n*  
the area inside an oven at the top with metal bars that become very hot

**to bubble** *vb*  
if food starts to "bubble", little balls of air appear on it

**to tear** *vb*  
to break with your hands

**a chunk** *n*  
a large piece of something

## FILM SCRIPT

Real Language in action

# THIS IS SPINAL TAP



*This is Spinal Tap* (1984) is a **mockumentary** about a heavy metal band called Spinal Tap. The band members are David St Hubbins (played by Michael McKean), Nigel Tufnel (Christopher Guest) and Derek Smalls (Harry Shearer). The film is directed by Rob Reiner, who also appears in the film as journalist, Marty DiBergi. The movie is a **parody** of rock documentaries, and covers a 1982 concert tour in the States by the British band. They're over there to promote their new album *Smell the Glove*. The film includes interviews by Marty with members of the group and **footage** of the band from the past. In the interviews, the members of the band **come across** as a bit **dim**. In this scene, Nigel is showing Marty the band's very special **amp**, with volume **knobs** that go up to 11 (not the usual 10).



### The script

N=Nigel M=Marty

**N:** This is a top to a... you know, what we use on **stage**, but it's very, very special, because if you can see ...

**M:** Yeah.

**N:** The numbers all go to eleven. Look, right across the **board**, eleven, eleven, eleven...

**M:** And most amps go up to ten.

**N:** Exactly!

**M:** Does that mean it's **louder**? Is it any louder?

**N:** Well, it's one louder, isn't it? It's not ten. You see, most, most **blokes**, you know, are **gonna** be playing at ten, you're on ten here, all the way up, all the way up, all the way up, you're on ten on your guitar, where can you go from there? Where?

**M:** I don't know.

**N:** Nowhere! Exactly! What we do is if we need that extra **push over the cliff**, you know what we do?

**M:** Put it up to eleven.

**N:** Eleven, exactly, one louder.

**M:** Why don't you just make ten louder and make ten be the top number and make

that a little louder?

**N:** [pause] These go to eleven. ☺

### VIDEO

YouTube

Watch the clip from the film. Search YouTube for "These go to 11.mpg".

### GLOSSARY

**a mockumentary** *n*  
a type of documentary in which fictional events are presented as real

**a parody** *n*  
a funny film or TV show which makes fun of a person or event, etc.

**footage** *n*  
part of a video or film

**to come across as** *exp*  
if someone "comes across as" stupid (for example), they appear to be stupid

**dim** *adj*  
a bit stupid

**an amp** *n*  
an "amplifier" – an electrical device for making guitars (for example) sound louder

**a knob** *n*  
a little button (for controlling the volume)

**a stage** *n*  
the area in a theatre where the actors act

**a board** *n*  
a flat piece of plastic (for example) that's used for a particular purpose (in this case, it has the controls for the amp on it)

**loud** *adj*  
"loud" music is very noisy

**a bloke** *n* *inform*  
a man

**gonna** *abbr*  
going to

**over the cliff** *exp*  
if you "go over the cliff", you go too far or further than you should go. Literally, a "cliff" is a mountain by the sea

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** Are there any crime gangs in your country? What are they called? What do they do? How dangerous are they? Have any famous members been caught lately? What happened to them? Have they been in the news recently? Why?

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

TRACK 19 ENGLISHMEN

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

Look at the list of crimes below. Which ones are the three worst? Which three are the least "serious"?

How would you define each crime? Make notes. Then, check the answers page.

- Smuggling
- Illegal gambling / betting
- Money laundering
- Selling on the black market
- Theft
- Burglary
- Street crime
- Contract killing
- Counterfeiting
- Arms trafficking
- Drug trafficking
- Human trafficking
- Extortion
- Murder
- Racketeering
- Loan sharking
- Robbery
- Bootlegging
- Bribery
- Fraud

## 2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which gang sounds like the worst one? Why?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write *Chicago, Peaky, Triad* or *Russian* next to each statement.

1. They're mostly based in Hong Kong and Macau.
2. They started out smuggling alcohol.
3. They have annual revenue of over \$8 billion.
4. They were based in a city in England.
5. These days, they make some of their money from illegal online gambling.
6. They often get complex tattoos.
7. They wore caps with razors in them.
8. They have to pass beneath an arch of swords as part of their initiation ceremony.

# ORGANISED CRIME GANGS FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Are there any organised crime gangs in your country? Here are a couple from around the world.



### 1 The Chicago Outfit

The Chicago Outfit

(or simply, the Outfit) was an Italian American crime **syndicate** based in Chicago, Illinois (USA). Also known as the Chicago Mafia, the Chicago Mob, or the Ca-pono Mob, they originally made their money smuggling alcohol during the **Prohibition** period (1920-1933). Members were mainly Italians or Americans of Italian descent. One of their leaders was Al Capone, or Scarface (thanks to a large **scar** down his cheek). In the early days, gang members were usually well dressed in **suits** and **fedora hats**. These days, the gang still operates, mostly making its money from illegal online gambling activities, loan sharking and money laundering.



### 2 The Peaky Blinders

The Peaky Blinders were an

organised crime gang based in Birmingham (England) in the 19th and early 20th centuries. Their name came from the style of hats they wore: peaked caps with **razors sewn** into them. Peaky Blinders used the caps to hit their victims on the nose, temporarily **blinding** them (which is where the word "blinders" come from) so they could rob them. Peaky Blinders were one of the first gangs to wear a recognisable uniform of peaked caps, **cravats** and **bell-bottom trousers**. Their

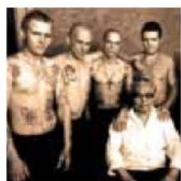
criminal activities included illegal betting, selling on the black market, theft, burglary and street crime.



### 3 Triads

Triads are Chinese secret societies. They're

mostly based in the Chinese cities of Hong Kong and Macau, but they're also present in countries with significant Chinese populations, such as the United States, Canada, the United Kingdom and Australia. Established between 1914 and 1939, the term "Triad" was used by British authorities in **colonial Hong Kong** to refer to the triads' use of **triangular imagery**. Triad members have to go through an **initiation ceremony** that involves drinking a mixture of wine and blood, and passing beneath an **arch** of swords while reciting the organisation's **oaths**. Triad activities include contract killing, counterfeiting, arms trafficking, drug trafficking, human trafficking, extortion, murder, money laundering and racketeering.



### 4 The Russian Mafia

The Russian Mafia is a

term used to refer to various organised crime gangs from the former Soviet Union. The Russian mafia began during the imperial period of the Tsars (from 1721 to 1917). Later, during Stalin's reign as dictator (from the mid-1920s until 1953), millions of people were sent to **gulags** (labour camps), where some gang members became powerful leaders known as "**thieves-in-law**". They often had complicated tattoos, which

are still used by Russian **mobsters** today. Experts estimate that the Russian Mafia has an annual **revenue** of over \$8 billion. Some of their activities include racketeering, drug trafficking, extortion, loan sharking, murder, human trafficking, money laundering, robbery, bootlegging, arms trafficking, illegal gambling, bribery and fraud.

Stay safe! ☀

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch the trailer for the TV series *Peaky Blinders*. Search YouTube for "**Peaky Blinders: Series launch trailer - BBC Two**".

## GLOSSARY

- a **crime syndicate** *n*: a criminal gang
- Prohibition** *n*: a period (from 1920 until 1933) in the US when it was illegal to make or sell alcohol
- a **scar** *n*: a mark on your body where you've been cut
- a **suit** *n*: a set of clothing with the trousers and jacket the same colour and material
- a **fedora hat** *n*: a soft hat with a crease (line) on the top of the hat going from the back to the front
- a **razor** *n*: a sharp object used for cutting the hair off your face
- to sew** *vb*: if you "sew" clothes, you repair them using a needle (a long thin metal object) and thread (a long, thin piece of cloth)
- to blind** *vb*: to do something to someone so they can't see
- a **cravat** *n*: a short, wide strip of material worn by men round the neck
- bell-bottom trousers** *n*: trousers that are wide at the bottom
- colonial Hong Kong** *n*: the period of time (1898-1997) when Hong Kong was part of the British Empire
- triangular imagery** *n*: images that are in the form of triangles
- an initiation ceremony** *n*: a formal event when someone is accepted into an organisation
- an arch** *n*: a structure that's curved at the top. It's more or less in the shape of an "n"
- to recite** *vb*: if you "recite" a piece of text or writing, you say it aloud
- an oath** *n*: a formal promise to be loyal and faithful to an organisation, etc.
- a **gulag** *n*: a prison camp where prisoners had to work hard
- thieves-in-law** *exp*: a Russian mafia term referring to the top bosses in the crime organisation
- a **mobster** *n*: a gangster
- revenue** *n*: money a company receives from sales, etc.

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** When was the last time you flew somewhere by plane? How smoothly did things go? Did you have any trouble queuing up? Did the person in front of you put their seat back? Did that annoy you? Why? Did you have any "fights" over the arm rest? Who won? What did you do with your luggage? Did you check it in or take it as hand luggage? Why?

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

TRACK 20: ENGLISHMAN & ENGLISHWOMAN

# TOP TIPS FOR THE PERFECT FLIGHT

Flying can be stressful, but if you follow these simple rules, it should all go smoothly.

## Share the arm rest!

In September 2011, a passenger on a Las Vegas-bound Delta flight had his **elbow** violently pushed off the armrest. When he demanded an **apology**, the other passenger reportedly said, "If I had a knife, I would **slit** your throat." **Flight attendants** were immediately informed. On **landing**, the passenger was arrested and taken to a



police station where he was questioned by FBI agents.

## Don't jump the queue!

In March 2014, a fight broke out in Germany's Frankfurt airport after a group of passengers joined a friend near the front of the **queue** to **board** the plane. A family of six just behind weren't happy about this. Insults led to shouting and to what airport security police described as a "**full-blown brawl**". Seven people were injured, four were arrested and several others were questioned. All of them **missed** their flights home.

## Don't put your seat back!

In September 2014, a commercial flight was forced to make an emergency landing after two passengers fought over the right to **recline**. According to a report in the Guardian, a woman on an American Airlines Miami to Paris flight put her seat back. The 61-year-old male passenger sitting behind asked her to **put it back up**. She refused. One thing led to another, and after an argument and a fight, two **undercover air marshals** were obliged to **step in**. As neither of the passengers would calm down, the plane was **diverted** to Boston, where they were **escorted off**.

## Comply with hand luggage regulations!

A passenger on a flight from Geneva (Switzerland) to Venice (Italy) was thrown to the ground and **handcuffed**

by police after getting into an argument over her hand luggage. According to a report by Italian newspaper *Il Mattino*, the woman had been informed that she couldn't have two items of hand luggage. So, she tried to put her handbag into her suitcase, but it wouldn't fit. After an argument, the airline staff member **tore up** the woman's **boarding pass** and requested police assistance. The woman spent two hours in a jail cell before being released, after which she spent the night in the airport and bought a new ticket to return to Italy. A spokesperson for the airline declined to comment.

## Control your kids!

In October 2014, a US couple were escorted off a plane after their young son had a **tantrum**. It all started when a flight attendant told the couple that their two-year-old had to be **buckled in** his own seat. The father complied with the request, but had to **restrain** his son who was screaming loudly. Minutes later, the attendant returned and told them to keep the child quiet. The boy calmed down but had another **outburst** during **turbulence**, leading to more tension between the couple and cabin crew. When the plane landed, the family were met by police. A spokesperson for the airline said that police were requested because the parents were verbally and physically abusive to flight staff.

Try to have a nice flight! ☺

## THE KNEE DEFENDER

The Knee Defender is a device that can stop the person in front of you from reclining their seat. It consists of two plastic clips which are placed at both sides of an open tray table.

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video on how to sleep on a plane. Search YouTube for "How to Actually Get Some Sleep on a Plane".

## GLOSSARY

**an elbow** *n*  
the joint in the middle of your arm

**an apology** *n*  
if you give someone an "apology", you say sorry to them

**to slit** *vb*  
to cut

**a flight attendant** *n*  
someone whose job is to help passengers on a plane, serving them food, etc.

**to land** *vb*  
when a plane "lands", it comes to the ground in a controlled manner

**a queue** *n*  
a line of people waiting to be served in a shop, etc.

**to board** *vb*  
to go onto a plane

**a full-blown brawl** *exp*  
a violent fight

**to miss** *vb*  
if you "miss" a flight (for example), you don't catch it

**to recline** *vb*  
if you "recline" a seat, you make the top part go back at an angle of about 30°

**to put back** *phr vb*  
see previous entry for "recline"

**undercover** *adj*  
an "undercover" police officer, dresses like an ordinary person so he/she can work secretly

**an air marshal** *n*  
a person trained to fight terrorists on planes. They often travel as ordinary passengers aboard airline flights

**to step in** *phr vb*  
if you "step in", you try to stop a fight

**to divert** *vb*  
if a plane is "diverted", it goes to a different airport because there's a problem

**to escort off** *phr vb*  
if someone is "escorted off" a plane, police officers take that person off the plane

**to handcuff** *vb*  
if someone is "handcuffed", the police put handcuffs (metal objects) around their hands in order to control them

**to tear up** *phr vb*  
if you "tear up" a piece of paper, you break it into small pieces

**a boarding pass** *n*  
a document that gives you permission to go onto a plane so you can fly somewhere

**a tantrum** *n*  
when a child has a "tantrum", he/she becomes very angry

**to buckle in** *phr vb*  
if you "buckle someone in", you fasten the safety belt around them in a seat

**to restrain** *vb*  
if you "restrain" someone, you hold them so they can't move

**an outburst** *n*  
when someone has an "outburst", they become very angry suddenly

**turbulence** *n*  
if there's "turbulence" while you're flying, the plane starts moving violently because it's passing through clouds, etc.

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

What are your top tips for a stress-free flight? Make notes.

## 2 Reading I

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

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. Where were the passengers who had a fight over the arm rest travelling to?
2. What did one of the passengers threaten to do to the other one who demanded an apology?
3. In which airport were the passengers who had a fight over queue jumping?
4. How many of those involved in the fight missed their flights home?
5. Who intervened to stop the fight over the reclining seat?
6. Why wasn't the passenger on a flight from Geneva to Venice allowed on the plane?
7. According to the airline, why was the family with the screaming child met by police?

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** When was the last time you told a joke? What was it? Do you know any jokes in English? What are they? Have you heard any jokes based on words with double meanings? What are they? Are there any homophones or homographs in your language? What are they? What type of confusions can they cause?

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

Answers on page 44

### 1 Pre-reading

Match the words (1 to 3) to the examples (a-c).

1. A homophone
2. A homograph
3. A homonym

- a. *close* (/kləʊz/) / *close* (/kləʊs/)
- b. *left* (the past tense of leave) / *left* (the opposite of right)
- c. *rain* / *reign*

### 2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once to check your answers from the Pre-reading activity.

#### Extra activity I

Choose three of the homophones below and write example sentences to show the different meanings.

*bare-bear; break-brake; cereal-serial; dear-deer; die-dye; for-four; hair-hare; hear-here; hole-whole; knight-night; made-maid; meat-meet; morning-mourning; none-nun; pair-pear; poor-pour; sail-sale; sea-see; steal-steel; tail-tale; their-there; weak-week; wear-where*

#### Extra activity II

Look at the homographs below. Can you think of a joke based on any of these word-pairs?

*arms (weapons)-arms (part of body); bear (animal)-bear (carry); bow (bend)-bow (part of ship); can (container)-can (able); colon (part of body)-colon (punctuation mark); date (fruit)-date (on calendar)-date (companion); duck (bird)-duck (avoid); fan (admirer)-fan (cooling device); fast (quick)-fast (starve); fly (insect)-fly (move through the air); lap (part of body)-lap (course); left (direction)-left (went); pound (weight)-pound (kennel); pupil (part of eye)-pupil (student); racket (for tennis)-racket (noise); ring (circle)-ring (sound of bell); row (in a line)-row (with oars); well (good)-well (for water); nail (body part)-nail (a metal object you hit with a hammer)*



## HOW TO UNDERSTAND PUNS!

A pun is a little play on words – a clever word joke with a **double meaning**. Puns are frequently used in advertising and literature. There are a number of different types. [See page 38 for some funny puns.]

#### Homophonic puns

Homophonic puns are based on homophones – two words with the same pronunciation but different spellings and meanings. Examples of homophones include “bored-board”, “weight-wait” and “flower-flour. For example:

**A:** Why is it so wet in England?

**B:** Because many kings and queens have **reigned** there.

#### Homographic puns

Homographic puns use homographs – words with the same spellings but different pronunciations and meanings. For example: “close” (/kləʊz/ = to shut) and “close” (/kləʊs/ = near). An example of a homographic joke could be:

**A:** Which fish can play the guitar?

**B:** The bass. (/bæs/ A “bass” (pronounced /bæs/) is a type of fish; while a “bass” (pronounced /beɪs/) is a type of guitar with four strings.

#### Homonymic puns

Homonymic puns are based on **homonyms\*** – words with the same spellings and pronunciations but different meanings. For example, “bank” (*noun*) meaning a place to keep money; and to “bank on” (*verb*) to rely on. This could give us a joke like this, “You can never **bank on a bank** to look after your money.”

#### Compound puns

Compound puns are made by using a string of words that sound similar to another word when all the words in the string are pronounced together. For example:

**A:** Why can't you starve in the desert?

**B:** Because of all the *sand which is there*.

Do you get it? Because of all the “sand-which-is-there” = “**sandwiches** there”.

#### Advertising

Puns are often used in advertising as they can be used to produce **memorable slogans**. Here are a few examples:

“**Alarmed?** You should be.”

Moss Security

“Taste. Not **waist**.” Weight

Watchers Frozen Meals

“Always **pick** flowers.”

Flowers Fine Ales

“Brilliant cleaning starts with

Finish.” Finish Detergent

“Get your family **into**

**Shape**, without them even

noticing.” St Ivel Shape Yogurt

“Nothing runs like a Deere.”

John Deere Tractors

“Because the Citi never sleeps.” Citibank

Next time you're reading or listening to something in English, see if you can identify any puns. ☺

#### \*HOMONYMS

Some people use the word “homonym” as a general term to refer to homographs and/or homophones. Strictly speaking though, homonyms are words with the same spellings and pronunciations, but a different meaning. For example, to “row” a boat, and a “row” of seats.

#### VIDEO

YouTube

Listen to 25 puns. Search YouTube for “**25 puns in under 2 minutes!**”.

#### GLOSSARY

**a double meaning** *n*  
if a word has a “double meaning”, it has two meanings

**to reign** *vb*  
the time when a king or queen “reigns” is the time when they're king or queen

**memorable** *adj*  
something “memorable” is easy to remember

**a slogan** *n*  
a short phrase or expression used to advertise something

**alarmed** *adj*  
two meanings: 1. frightened or worried; 2. with an alarm system installed

**a waist** *n*  
the middle area of your body around your stomach. “Waist” rhymes with “waste”

**to pick** *vb*  
two meanings: 1. to choose; 2. if you “pick” a flower, you take it out of the ground

**(get) into shape** *n*  
two meanings: 1. to become fit and healthy; 2. if you “get into” something, you start to like it. In this case, “Shape” is also the name of the yoghurt

# MISTAKES



## Make a mistake

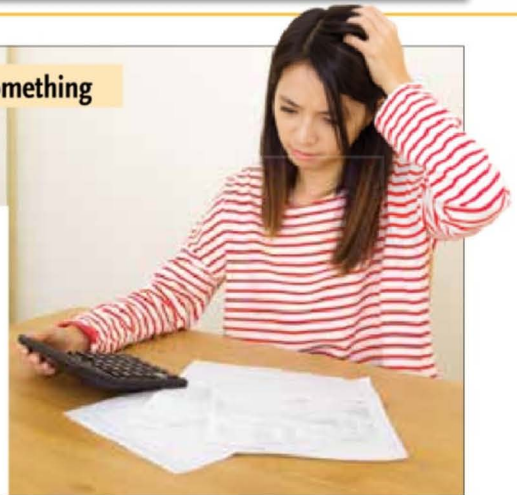


If you “make a mistake”, you do something wrong.  
 “I think I’ve made a mistake. Can I have the red one instead?”

## Make a mess of something



If you “make a mess of something”, you do it very badly and wrong.  
 “I made a real mess of the form I was trying to fill out and had to ask for another one.”



## Get something wrong



If you “get something wrong”, you answer it incorrectly.  
 “I got the answer wrong and was eliminated from the competition.”

## Drop something



If you “drop” something, it falls out of your hands.  
 “The noise made me jump and I dropped the antique vase.”

## Spill



If you “spill” liquid, the liquid comes out of a container, cup, bottle, glass, etc.  
 “I’m sorry but I’ve just spilt some coffee on the shirt you lent me.”

## Be absent-minded



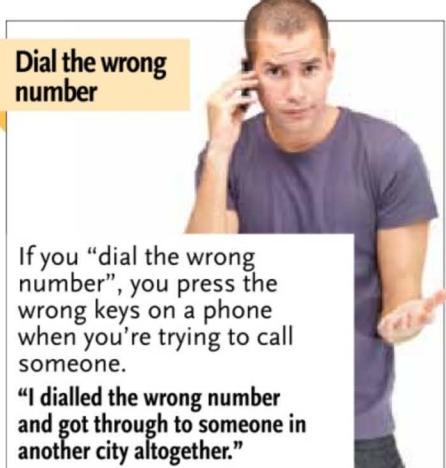
If someone is absent-minded, they often forget things.  
 “I left my keys at home today. I’m so absent-minded at times.”

## Get confused



If you “get confused”, you aren’t sure what’s happening or what to do.  
 “I got confused, pressed the wrong button and the door closed.”

## Dial the wrong number



If you “dial the wrong number”, you press the wrong keys on a phone when you’re trying to call someone.  
 “I dialed the wrong number and got through to someone in another city altogether.”

## Learn from your mistakes

If you “learn from your mistakes”, you find out what the problem was and make sure you don’t make the same mistake again.  
 “If you sit down and analyse what went wrong, you’ll be able to learn from your mistakes.”



## Regret doing something

If you “regret” something, you wish you hadn’t done it.  
 “I regret asking him to come along to the party because he made a fool of himself in front of all my friends.”



**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** What are some of the most unusual places you've ever slept in? Why did you have to sleep there? What are some of the most uncomfortable places you've had to sleep? Why were they so uncomfortable? What's the best night's sleep you've ever had? Where was it? Why was it so good? What do you like about your bed or room?

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

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## QUIRKY NEWS

Unusual news stories from around the world.

# UNUSUAL PLACES TO SLEEP!



**H**ave you ever had to sleep in a car, a park, or on someone's floor or sofa? Here are a few stories of people who have slept or lived in unusual places.

### KFC

Tan Shen, a 26 year old girl from China, lived in a Kentucky Fried Chicken (KFC) restaurant for a week. After her boyfriend left her, she didn't want to go home because it reminded her of him. So, after having a meal at KFC, she decided to stay there. Staff at the restaurant, which is open 24 hours a day, didn't notice Tan at first because there were customers constantly coming and going. However, after seven days, Tan decided she was sick of the taste of chicken. On top of that, the **media** had heard about her story and were **keen** to interview her. So, she left the restaurant and went back to her parents' house.

### IKEA

Mark Malkoff lived in an IKEA shop in New Jersey for a week. Mark used the staff showers, ate in the shop restaurant and slept on beds in the bedroom department. "I'd often wake up from naps and there would be people **staring at me**," he explained in an interview. Mark's stay at the store was part of a **viral marketing** campaign by IKEA, which seems to have been quite successful. Sales rose by 5.5% while Mark was

there, and he gave over 10 interviews a day with media companies from all over the world.

### The castle

Robert Fidler and his wife lived in a castle for four years, without anyone ever realising. The couple built the four-bedroom luxury castle complete with **turrets** and **canons** on their farmland in Surrey (England). However, they had to hide it behind a 6.5 metre **haystack** because they didn't have **planning permission** for it. Unfortunately for them, the **local council** eventually found out and ordered them to **demolish** it. Mr Fidler, who keeps a **herd of cattle** at the farm, submitted a new planning application in February 2014, claiming he needed the building for "agricultural purposes".

### The office

Eric Simons lived in the offices of AOL for two months. Eric was originally there to work on his business idea, ClassConnect – a website offering teachers interesting lesson plans. Eric received some money to set up the site, and the opportunity to work on it over the summer at AOL's Palo Alto campus in California. Things went well, but eventually the money ran out and Eric had to leave. However, instead of going, Eric decided to stay so he could finish the project. He worked until midnight every night, then

went to sleep on one of the couches at the **sprawling** office. Around 7 am, he went down to the gym for a workout and shower, and then back upstairs for a free breakfast in the **staff canteen** before heading to his workstation. Although he was eventually discovered and forced to leave, he was later given investment of \$50,000 to complete the site. ☺

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a news report about the secret castle. Search YouTube for "Castle Behind Hay Bales Ordered to Be Demolished".

## GLOSSARY

**the media** *n*

radio, newspapers, television, etc.

**keen** *adj*

if you're "keen" to do something, you really want to do it

**to stare at** *exp*

if you "stare at" someone, you look at them continuously for a long period of time

**viral marketing** *exp*

a type of marketing that involves doing something that people will write about or share online. Something that becomes popular online has gone viral

**a turret** *n*

a small, narrow tower on the top of a castle

**a canon** *n*

a large gun used for firing bombs that explode when they hit the ground

**a haystack** *n*

a large mass of hay (dried grass)

**planning permission** *n*

if you have "planning permission", you're allowed to build in a particular area

**the local council** *n*

the government for an area, town, city, that you're referring to

**to demolish** *vb*

if you "demolish" a building, you break it and destroy it

**a herd of cattle** *n*

a large group of cows

**AOL** *n*

America Online – a multinational company that invests in brands and websites

**sprawling** *adj*

a "sprawling" office (for example) is really big and covers a very large area

**a staff canteen** *n*

a restaurant in an office where employees can eat

Answers on page 44

### Pre-reading

Look at the paragraph titles, which refer to unusual places where people slept or lived. Why do you think the people slept or lived there?

### Reading I

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

### Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write **KFC**, **IKEA**, **Castle** or **Office** next to each statement. He, she or they...

- ...didn't want anyone to find out where they were living.
- ...spoke to media companies from all over the world.
- ...stayed there because she couldn't bear the thought of going home.
- ...had to sleep on a sofa every night.
- ...was allowed to sleep in this place as part of a marketing campaign.
- ...tried to hide it behind something you normally find on a farm.
- ...was there to finish a project.
- ...didn't want to speak to the press about her story.





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**Objective** To improve your listening skills.

**Think about it** Have you ever taken part in a conference call? What was it like? What was the topic? When was the last time you had to use a new operating system on your computer or smartphone? What was the new system like? What didn't you like about it? How did the change affect you? Did you want to switch back to the old system? Why?

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

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-listening

You're going to listen to part of an interview with a man (James) who is applying for the post of restaurant manager. During the interview, the interviewer uses the STAR interview technique\* and asks James about his experience in the restaurant industry. Look at the question-prompts below. How do you think James might answer them? What do you think he'll talk about?

- Give me an example of a time when you had to sort out a problem.
- Tell me about a time when you had to handle a particularly busy period in the restaurant.
- Give me an example of a time when you had to deal with a customer complaint.
- Tell me about a time when you put forward a suggestion.

## 2 Listening I

Listen once. Which question was James asked. Compare your ideas to the answer that James gave.

## 3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. Where did James work while he was at university?
2. Where has he been working for the past two years?
3. What was the manager worried about in the restaurant where he was working?
4. Who did James talk to in the focus group?
5. What two suggestions did they have?
6. What did James do to promote these two ideas?
7. What effect did this have over the following month?

## 4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct words.



### Note!

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

# The job interview

## Audio script

**Interviewer:** So, from your CV, I can see that you've had some experience working in restaurants before.

**James:** Yes, when I was at university, I worked as a waiter in the local pizzeria, and for the past two years (1) \_\_\_\_\_ as a part-time assistant manager in a restaurant in the city centre.

**Interviewer:** OK, then can you (2) \_\_\_\_\_ of a time when you put forward a suggestion and convinced your supervisor to adopt it. How did you accomplish this and what was the result?

**James:** Do you mean, like, a time when I persuaded a superior to do something at work?

**Interviewer:** Yes, exactly.

**James:** Right, well, erm, let me think... oh, yes, I know, when I was working as a waiter in the pizzeria, the manager was getting worried about falling sales and a lack of customers. Well, I saw this (3) \_\_\_\_\_ to show her what I was capable of doing.

**Interviewer:** So, what steps did you take to deal with the problem?

**James:** Well, after consulting with my boss, I organised a focus group with students from the local university – the campus was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ the restaurant. So,

I spoke to a group of six or seven and asked them to come up with ideas on how to make the restaurant more attractive to them. Surprisingly, they had quite a few. They mentioned lunchtime discounts and the possibility of hiring out a room in the restaurant (5) \_\_\_\_\_ or celebrations. So, I told my boss about this. She was impressed with my research and gave me the go-ahead to try out the two ideas. She let me design some flyers to hand out at the university with information about the day-time discounts and the room hire option. I also put an ad in the university magazine that goes round (6) \_\_\_\_\_ and staff.

**Interviewer:** And did you see any tangible results from this?

**James:** Well, over the next month, the restaurant received 10% more customers, and during the following three months there was (7) \_\_\_\_\_ in sales once word had got out about the offers.

**Interviewer:** That's great! And you said that this was while you were still a student yourself?

**James:** Yes, I was just 19 at the time.

**Interviewer:** OK, that sounds great. Now, tell me about a time that you... [fades out] ☺

## \*STAR interview technique

The STAR interview technique involves asking interviewees to describe situations in which they used the skills that are required for the post which is being advertised. Typically, the interviewer might say, "Give me an example of a time when you..." or, "Tell me about a time that you..." When giving details, you should cover the following areas from the acronym STAR:

**S** = Situation: describe what you were doing, where were you, when it was...

**T** = Task: describe what the task was, what you needed to do, why you had to do it...

**A** = Action: describe what action you took to accomplish the task, how you did it...

**R** = Results: explain the results, give details of how much you made, describe what effects the action had on the company...

STAR interview questions are also known as behaviour-based interview questions.

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## Leave the door open



If you “leave the door open”, you allow the possibility of negotiations in the future, even though this round of negotiations hasn’t ended well.  
“Although it didn’t end in an agreement, both parties left the door open for further negotiations.”

## Drive a hard bargain



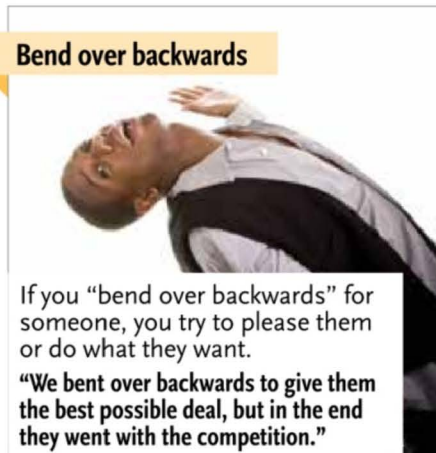
If someone “drives a hard bargain”, they’re always trying to get an advantage or the best deal.  
“Be prepared for tough negotiations with them – they drive a hard bargain.”

## Back to square one



If you have to go “back to square one”, you have to start all over again.  
“They refused to accept the terms of payment we’d spent days preparing, so it was back to square one.”

## Bend over backwards



If you “bend over backwards” for someone, you try to please them or do what they want.  
“We bent over backwards to give them the best possible deal, but in the end they went with the competition.”

## Clinch a deal / seal a deal



If you “clinch a deal” or “seal a deal”, you reach a final agreement with the other party.  
“Our promise to deliver the finished product in just three months managed to seal the deal.”

## Above board



If your dealings with someone are “above board”, they’re open, honest and legal.  
“Our dealings with them have always been above board.”

## Sticking point



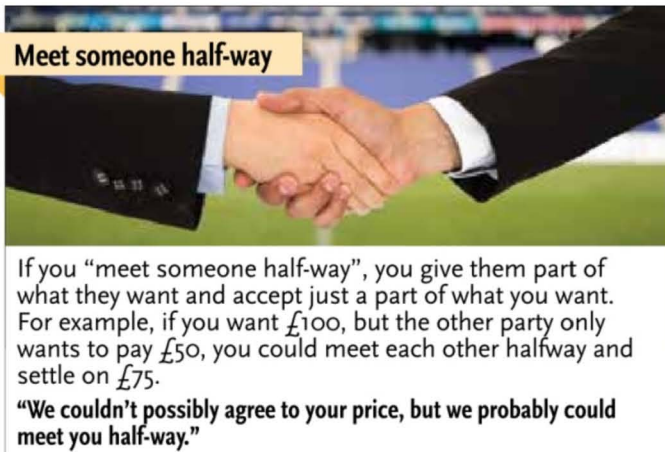
A “sticking point” is something that is blocking progress.  
“Their demands for a 10% reduction in the price was a sticking point as there was no way that we could agree to that.”

## Sign on the dotted line



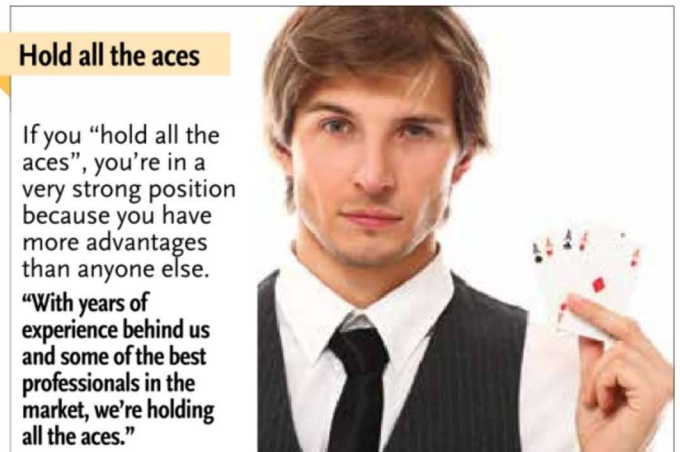
If you “sign on the dotted line”, you sign an official document.  
“They finally agreed to sign on the dotted line when we promised to throw in a three-year guarantee.”

## Meet someone half-way



If you “meet someone half-way”, you give them part of what they want and accept just a part of what you want. For example, if you want £100, but the other party only wants to pay £50, you could meet each other halfway and settle on £75.  
“We couldn’t possibly agree to your price, but we probably could meet you half-way.”

## Hold all the aces



If you “hold all the aces”, you’re in a very strong position because you have more advantages than anyone else.  
“With years of experience behind us and some of the best professionals in the market, we’re holding all the aces.”

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

**Think about it** What type of music do you like? What type of music don't you like? Why? Which artists do you like? What are some of your favourite songs? Who are the songs by? What type of music do you listen to while you're driving? Where else do you listen to music? How have your music tastes changed over the years?

TRACK 24: SEVERAL ENGLISH ACCENTS



### Note!

Don't read the audio script until you've completed the exercises. Also, please note that when people chat informally, they often use non-standard English, correct themselves, repeat themselves, rarely speak in full sentences and even make factual or grammatical mistakes because they're speaking fast.

## GROUP TALK

**Remember,** this is a literal transcript of a natural conversation, complete with many unusual features of spoken English.

# TALKING ABOUT MUSIC!

### Audio script

Answers on page 44

## 1 Listening I

You're going to listen to some people talking about music. In two minutes, make a list of as many types of music as you can.

For example: *opera, classical music, reggae, heavy metal...*

Then, listen once. Were any of the types of music you thought of mentioned?

## 2 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. What do all the speakers seem to think about jazz?
2. Where's the jazz club that one of the female speakers mentions?
3. What kind of jazz do they play every Wednesday night?
4. Why doesn't one of the speakers want to sing a jazz number?
5. What instrument does the male speaker play?
6. What type of music does he prefer?
7. Whose voice is "amazing", according to one of the speakers?

**Luisa:** So, right next to our apartment is this really awesome jazz club. I don't know, alright, would you guys be interested in going?

**Jack:** I love jazz.

**Lindsay:** Me too.

**Jack:** I would be... I would be down to go and see a jazz concert any day of the week.

**Lindsay:** Me too, I think as much as the as the music, like, the modern music, say a bit of hip hop or some pop, although that does interest me as well, I don't think, there's nothing that can beat a good just jazz lounge.

**Jack:** Nothing beats a good number.

**Laura:** Yeah

**Lindsay:** No.

**Jack:** You know, gets you moving and...

**Lindsay:** Definitely.

**Jack:** It contributes to so many different vibes, like, if you're eating out...

**Lindsay:** And it always puts me in a good mood.

**Laura:** It's true, this, well the jazz club that, that's next to our apartment – every Wednesday night they have Dixieland jazz, which is like the classic style, you know, Louis Armstrong...

**Lindsay:** Wow!

**Laura:** The whole, I'm not gonna sing you a number right now because I don't wanna sound ridiculous but, but...

**Jack:** That's great, that's great. You know, being a guitarist myself I played in a number of jazz bands when I was younger but, I mean, I've always preferred the blues just 'cause, you know guitarists are – their foundation is blues – but erm, I love it, you know I love the blues, I love all kinds of blues artists, I love John Mayer in particular...

**Laura:** Mmm...

**Jack:** Who are some of your favorite artists?

**Lindsay:** I love John Mayer

**Jack:** Yeah.

**Lindsay:** I love John Mayer, if I had to pick, pick a favorite artist... oh...

**Jack:** Who would it be, do you think?

**Lindsay:** There are so many different people, I mean...

**Laura:** That's true

**Lindsay:** Adele, you can always, Adele's voice is amazing and her song writing...

**Laura:** But is she really jazz?

**Lindsay:** She's obviously not jazz, but if I had to pick a jazz artist, I couldn't, but...

**Laura:** There are just too many.

**Lindsay:** She's my favorite artist at the moment...

**Jack:** That's one of the funny things about jazz is that you hear so many jazz numbers, but you're never given the artist.

**Lindsay:** No!

**Laura:** Yeah.

**Jack:** So you would never be able to pinpoint it.

**Lindsay:** Exactly.

**Jack:** Well, cool.

**Laura:** There's just...

[fades out] ☺

### Top tip: how to listen

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

**Objective** To teach you some slang words and expressions.

**Think about it** When was the last time you went to a party? Where was it? Who was there? Did you meet anyone interesting? Who? Have you ever done any networking? Where did you do it? Who did you meet? What happened as a result? What are your top tips for networking? What's the best way to get the most out of a networking event?

TRACK 25: ENGLISHMAN & ENGLISHWOMAN

## SLANG CONVERSATION



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# NETWORKING

Tim and Caroline are at a book launch party in London. They're both doing a bit of networking (trying to make useful business contacts). Listen once and answer this question. Does Tim offer Caroline a job?

- a) Yes, he does. And he says she can start straight away.
- b) Not exactly, but he invites her to get in touch again about some possible work.
- c) No, he doesn't because he doesn't think she's qualified enough.

Then, listen again and try to guess the meaning of the following slang expressions (also marked in bold in the text). Write out a version of them in Standard English:

	Slang expression	Standard version
1	Oh, gosh	
2	Cheers!	
3	A dope	
4	Booze	
5	Grub	
6	Get pissed	
7	Talk gibberish	
8	Bits and bobs	
9	For my sins	
10	A gig	
11	A pain in the arse	
12	Nothing major	
13	A stint	
14	A demo	
15	Right up my street	
16	To splash out	
17	Dosh	
18	Plonker	
19	Right up his own arse	
20	We've got history	
21	Donkey's years ago	
22	Leg it	



### Dialogue

**Tim:** Hi there. Is this your bag?  
**Caroline:** **Oh, gosh** yes. Did I leave it somewhere?  
**Tim:** On the chair by the door. I'd seen you with it before.  
**Caroline:** **Cheers!** I'm such a **dope** sometimes.  
**Tim:** Easily done! It's all the free **booze!**  
**Caroline:** Yeah, it just goes so well with all the free **grub.**  
**Tim:** Yeah, but then you end up **getting pissed** and **talking gibberish** to important clients.  
**Caroline:** Been there before.  
**Tim:** Tim Jackson, by the way. Nice to meet you!  
**Caroline:** Caroline Kentish. So, what brings you here?  
**Tim:** I'm the managing director at Bright Star – the publishing company.  
**Caroline:** Oh, really? What sort of books do you publish?

**Tim:** **Bits and bobs** but children's books mostly. And you?  
**Caroline:** I'm an aspiring actor and voice-over artist, **for my sins.**  
**Tim:** A tough world for you lot, isn't it?  
**Caroline:** Too many hopefuls and not enough **gigs.** It's great if you can get regular work, but a **pain in the arse** most of the time. I've worked on quite a few shows and projects, but **nothing major** yet.  
**Tim:** We're always looking for decent voice over artists.  
**Caroline:** Well, I've done a few **stints** with children's book publishers before.  
**Tim:** Actually, we're looking for someone to read the part of a character for our new book series. You could send us a **demo** if you want.  
**Caroline:** That sounds **right up my street.** What's your e-mail address?

**Tim:** [tim.jackson@brights.com](mailto:tim.jackson@brights.com)  
**Caroline:** OK. Great. Take mine, just in case. It's [ckentish@gmail.com](mailto:ckentish@gmail.com)  
**Tim:** Great! So, fancy getting a drink? I'm heading off to the bar.  
**Caroline:** I would, but I've just seen someone I'd rather not talk to.  
**Tim:** Where?  
**Caroline:** Just to your right, by the door.  
**Tim:** Ah, him. Looks like he's **splashed out** on a new suit.  
**Caroline:** He's got a load of **dosh**, but he's a right **plonker** – **right up his own arse.**  
**Tim:** Can't hurt just to say hello, can it?  
**Caroline:** **We've got history**, although it was **donkey's years ago** now. I'm sorry but I'm going to **leg it.**  
**Tim:** There's another exit just down that corridor. He won't see you if you go now.  
**Caroline:** Brilliant, thanks. I'll e-mail you!  
**Tim:** Looking forward to it! 🍷

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** Do puns exist in your country? Do you know any puns based on the double meaning of words? Are there things such as homophones and homographs in your language? What problems do they cause? Who are some of the most popular comedians in your country? Who are your favourite comic actors? What's your favourite comedy?

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

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# Funny puns!

Here are some funny puns – jokes with words with double meanings. See if you can understand the joke and identify the double meaning. [Answers on the right side of the page. See page 30 for our article on puns.]

1. "Time flies like an arrow, fruit flies like a banana."
2. "Shoes are required to eat in the restaurant. Socks can eat anywhere they like."
3. "Every day is a gift – that's why we call it the present."
4. "Writing with a broken pencil is pointless."
5. "I used to be a tap dancer until I fell in the sink."
6. A hamburger walks into a bar, and the bartender says, "I'm sorry, but we don't serve food here."
7. A guy walks into a bar. "OUCH!" he says.
8. Two peanuts walk into a bar, and one is a-salted.
9. I bet the butcher the other day that he couldn't reach the meat that was on the top shelf. He refused to take the bet as he said the steaks were too high.
10. "I work as a baker because I knead the dough."
11. "Do hotel managers get bored with their jobs?"
12. "I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger. Then it suddenly hit me." \*



A BAKER NEEDS DOUGH.



## Activity

Read or listen to the jokes and try to work out the meanings. Then, check your answers on this page.

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a sketch with some puns. Search YouTube for "My Blackberry Is Not Working! - The One Ronnie, Preview - BBC One".

## GLOSSARY

**a pun** <sup>n</sup>  
a type of joke from a word or phrase with two meanings  
**a sink** <sup>n</sup>  
an object in the kitchen where you wash the dishes, get water for a drink, etc.  
**dough** <sup>n</sup>  
two meanings: 1. mixture of flour, water and fat (and sometimes sugar) used to make bread, biscuits, etc. 2. an informal word for "money"

## Answers

- 1 "Times flies like an arrow" is an expression that means time goes really quickly.  
"Fruit flies" are little insects that like fruit.
- 2 Two meanings:  
a) Shoes must be worn if you want to eat in the restaurant.  
b) Shoes must eat in the restaurant, and nowhere else.
- 3 "Present" can mean...  
a) "The present" = "here and now"  
b) A "gift" = something you give to someone at Christmas or for their birthday, etc.
- 4 a) If a pencil is "pointless", it doesn't have a point (a sharp end);  
b) If something is "pointless", it's a waste of time.
- 5 a) A "tap dancer" is someone who does tap dancing – a form of dance with a rhythm provided by the sound of the shoes hitting the floor.  
b) A "tap" is an object in the kitchen sink (for example) that you turn in order to get water.
- 6 "We don't serve food" could mean:  
a) We don't have a kitchen and can't offer you any food.  
b) We can't offer any food or drinks to an item of food (such as a hamburger).
- 7 "Walk into" has two meanings:  
a) To enter, walking.  
b) If you "walk into" an object (such as a lamppost), you crash into it accidentally while you're walking.
- 8 a) A "salted" peanut has salt on it.  
b) "A-salted" sounds like "assaulted", which means "attacked".
- 9 a) If the "steaks" are too high, you can't reach them because they're on the top shelf.  
b) If the "stakes are too high", there's too much risk. "Stake" has the same pronunciation as "steak".
- 10 a) If you "knead" dough, you use your hands to apply pressure to it in order to make bread  
b) If you "need" some dough, you need some money. "Need" has the same pronunciation as "knead".
- 11 a) If you get "bored", you lose motivation because the work isn't stimulating.  
b) If you "get board", you receive a place to sleep for the night
- 12 If something "hits" you, it...  
a) ...strikes you on some part of your body.  
b) ...makes you suddenly realise or understand something.

**Think about it** How careful are you about what you eat? Would you ever eat GM food? Why? Why not? What do you think of GM food? Should it be banned? Why? Why not? Have you ever eaten any organic food? What did you think of it? Would you buy it again? Why are some people against GM food? What's wrong with it?

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

# Is GM food evil?



**G**M food\* is a hot topic. Some see it as a miracle new product. Others say it could be devastating for the planet.

Those in favour of GM food claim it saves lives. They point to the success of golden rice – a type of genetically-engineered rice with beta-carotene (a precursor of vitamin A) in the edible parts of it. Vitamin A **deficiency** is estimated to kill 670,000 children under the age of 5 each year. Scientists believe that golden rice could save these children, as well as preventing another 350,000 from **going blind**.

GM food is also beneficial for farmers. GM crops can be engineered to stay fresher for longer, extending their **shelf life** in the supermarket. They're also pest and disease resistant, so they're stronger. On top of that, they're **immune** to certain pesticides. So, farmers can spray a field to destroy the

**weeds** without harming the GM crops. This cuts down on the amount farmers have to spend on chemicals, and also reduces labour costs as farmers don't need to hire people to remove weeds. Using fewer pesticides will also help protect the soil, so the theory goes.

However, there are quite a few arguments against GM food. The biggest concern is that there hasn't been enough testing. In many cases, governments **rely on** tests carried out by the same companies that are producing GM crops. And the results of the few independent tests that have been conducted are hardly **reassuring**. In one European study, rats that were fed GM corn developed tumours and suffered from organ damage.

There are also concerns about the pesticides used on GM crops. Clinical trials have found that glyphosate, a common herbicide ingredient used to grow GMO plants, causes human breast cancer cells to grow. And given that some GM foods are modified using bacteria and viruses, there are also fears that new diseases could emerge.

Some scientists fear that GM products are contributing to an increase in food allergies. During genetic modification,

proteins are added to the plant. According to Brown University, this could cause allergic reactions in humans as some of the genes used in GM technology might be taken from a food that causes allergies. On top of that new **allergens** could be produced when genes are mixed across different species.

GM foods could also make antibiotics less effective. Some engineered crops have antibiotic features added to them so they're resistant to certain diseases and viruses. However, making plants resistant to bacteria can cause the bacteria to become stronger and harder to kill. And according to Iowa State University, when humans eat these crops, the antibiotics present in them could make actual antibiotic medication less effective.

Finally, there are fears that **agrochemical companies** will one day dominate the world food supply. Seeds which were once a common resource have now become the intellectual property of large multinationals. For example, large agrochemical businesses have taken over the cotton seed market in India, where 90 to 95% of all cotton is now genetically modified. Farmers are forced to buy expensive, **patented** seeds and use specially-designed (and costly) pesticides on their crops. This has led to **indebtedness** and over 250,000 farmer suicides since 1997.

For many, the **genie** has been let out of the **bottle** and it's going to be very difficult to put it back. And worse, the **biotech industry** seems to be **gambling** with our health for its own profit. ❖

## \*GM FOOD

GM is an abbreviation of "genetically modified". GM food (also known as biotech food or genetically engineered food) refers to crop plants that have been modified in a laboratory. The modification process often involves inserting a gene from a bacteria or virus into an organism where it would normally not be found. The purpose is to alter the genetic code in plants and animals to make them more productive or resistant to pests or farming techniques that would ordinarily kill them. The World Health Organization (WHO) defines GM food as organisms with their DNA altered in a non-natural way.



## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video about GMOs. Search YouTube for "What is a GMO? Let us quickly explain".

## GLOSSARY

- a deficiency** *n* if you have a "deficiency" of something, you don't have enough of it
- to go blind** *exp* if someone "goes blind", they can't see anymore
- a shelf life** *n* a product's "shelf life" is the amount of time it can be on sale in a shop, etc.
- immune** *adj* if you are "immune" to a particular disease, you can't be affected by it
- weeds** *n* wild plants that grow and that prevent other plants from growing properly
- to rely on** *phr vb* to depend on; if you "rely on" something, you need it
- reassuring** *adj* if something is "reassuring", it makes you feel less worried
- an allergen** *n* something that produces an allergy. If you have an "allergy", you become ill when you eat something that doesn't normally make other people ill
- an agrochemical company** *n* a company that produces chemicals used in farming
- patented** *adj* if you "patent" a product, you're the only person who can produce and sell that product for a certain period of time
- indebtedness** *n* the state of being in debt – owing money to other people, banks, etc.
- a genie... bottle** *exp* if a "genie has been let out of the bottle", something bad has happened that can't be stopped or controlled. Literally, a "genie" is a creature that lives in a bottle. If you let it out, it grants you three wishes
- the biotech(nology) industry** *n* this term refers to companies that produce products that help improve the value of plants, organisms or animals through complex scientific processes
- to gamble** *vb* if you "gamble" on something, you take a risk and hope that something positive will happen as a result, but you aren't sure

Answers on page 44

### 1 Reading I

What are the pros and cons of GM food? Make notes. Then, read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas.

### 2 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write a 150-word summary on either the pros or the cons of GM food.

**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.

**Think about it** What does it mean to be polite? Where did you learn your manners? How can children be taught manners? Have you ever had to consult a guide about an etiquette issue? What was it? How important is etiquette?

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

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YES, YES, I CAN TALK NOW. CARRY ON! IT'S ONLY JEFF.

# HOW IMPORTANT IS ETIQUETTE?

**D**o you know how to make the perfect cup of tea, what to wear for a formal dinner party or how to address the queen? The answer to these questions, and many more, can be found in **Debrett's\*** guides to **etiquette**. Debrett's advice covers hundreds of topics, including how to apologise, how to say no without sounding rude, how to write invitations, what to wear to an office party, how to make a complaint in a restaurant and how much to tip a taxi driver. Here's some of their advice.

## Children

"Get your child into the habit of asking permission before they help themselves to food, snacks or drinks, or switch on the television."

## Hosting a dinner party

"Be clear about dress codes. If you would like guests to depart by a certain time, say so politely."

## The toilet (at a dinner party)

"When **nature calls**, either **slip away** quietly or excuse yourself from the group. Leave it clean, always **flush** and never discuss."

## Money

"**Bragging** about one's bonus is a transparent and primitive **bid for supremacy** – it just heightens the difference between your financial situation and that of the person you are talking to."

## Titles

"In conversation a general guide when introducing **peers** or referring to them is to use Lord and Lady in

the same way as you would use Mr and Mrs.

## Saying no

"Refusing **graciously**, without causing offence, is a vital social skill. Whatever the occasion - a date, a dance, an invitation - you have the right to **turn** the offer **down**, and on many occasions you'll be genuinely unable to accept because of previous commitments."

## Drunkenness

"Social drinkers beware: at the beginning of the evening, drink is the **ally** of social confidence; at the end of the night, it is the enemy of social manners."

## Mobile phones

"It's always rude to pay more attention to a phone than a person in the flesh, and they should always be put away when transacting other business – for example, when you're paying for something in a shop. They should also be switched off in theatres, cinemas (including during the trailers!), art galleries, or any space where silence is desired."

## Pets

"If people are coming to your house, it is essential that you check out their attitude to dogs beforehand. If someone is genuinely frightened of dogs, or has a severe allergy to dog hair, **do your utmost** to keep dogs out of their way, and warn them in advance."

## Table manners

"The cardinal dining crime is eating noisily; nothing

is more likely to get you noticed and promptly **blacklisted**. Keeping your mouth closed while chewing and taking care not to overfill it will enable you to breathe steadily. Eat at a relaxed pace and really think about your food."

Do we really need these rules in today's society, or can we rely on our instinct to tell us what to do? ❖

## \*DEBRETT'S

Debrett's is a specialist publisher that was founded in 1769. Over the years, they have published a range of guides on traditional British etiquette. They also have lots of information on this topic on their website: [www.debretts.com/british-etiquette](http://www.debretts.com/british-etiquette)

## VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video about how to queue up. Search YouTube for "Awfully Thorough Guide to Being British: Queueing".

## GLOSSARY

**etiquette** *n.* rules for polite behaviour in society; rules on how to act in different social situations  
**nature calls** *exp.* when "nature calls", you need to go to the toilet  
**to slip away** *phr vb.* if you "slip away" from a meeting (for example), you leave it quietly and quickly  
**to flush** *vb.* to press a button on a toilet so water goes into it and cleans it  
**to brag** *vb.* if you "brag" about something good that you've done, you tell everyone about it in an annoying way  
**a bid for supremacy** *exp.* an attempt to prove that you're superior  
**a peer** *n.* a Lord, Lady, aristocrat, etc.  
**graciously** *adv.* politely; in a way that doesn't make other people feel angry or sad  
**to turn down** *phr vb.* if you "turn down" an offer, you say that you can't accept it  
**an ally** *n.* a friend; someone or something that will support you  
**to do your utmost** *exp.* to do your best; to try your hardest to achieve something  
**to blacklist** *vb.* if someone is "blacklisted", they're considered untrustworthy, etc. and they won't receive invitations to parties, etc.

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-reading

You're going to read an article about etiquette (rules for behaviour in society). Look at the paragraph titles. What do you think the rules are for each of these categories? Make notes.

## 2 Reading II

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

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. According to the information in the article, what should children get into the habit of doing before taking food?
2. What three things should you do if you use the toilet at a dinner party?
3. What do they describe the act of bragging about your bonus as?
4. What can "drink" turn into by the end of the night?
5. If you've got a pet dog, what should you find out about before guests come to your house?
6. What could get you blacklisted?



**Objective** To improve your listening skills.

**Think about it** When was the last time you applied for a job? How did the interview go? What sort of questions were you asked? Were you asked many questions about your previous experience? How did you answer them? Have you ever done any volunteer work? What was it for? What type of work did you have to do? Was it worth it?

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

TRACK 29: SEVERAL ENGLISH ACCENTS

Answers on page 44

## 1 Pre-listening

You're going to listen to part of an interview with a man (Mark) who is applying for a job at an events management company. During the interview, the interviewer uses the STAR interview technique\* and asks Mark about a time when he had to organise an event. Mark refers back to the time when he was working at a bird sanctuary. Look at the list of ideas below for promoting the bird sanctuary. Which ones do you think could work? Why? Which ones wouldn't be good? Why?

- Showing films about birds.
- Holding regular falconry displays.
- Organising workshops on keeping birds as pets.
- Inviting a bird specialist to give a talk to bird enthusiasts.
- Organising bird spotting excursions.
- Putting on a display of exotic birds.
- Providing talks at schools on bird-related topics
- Setting up a bird petting zoo for children.

## 2 Listening I

Listen once. Which ideas did Mark use to promote the bird sanctuary? How successful was he?

## 3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. Under what kind of employment conditions was Mark working at the bird sanctuary?
2. What were people at the sanctuary keen to do?
3. What two ideas did Mark come up with?
4. Why is the sanctuary eligible for grants?
5. Who did he convince to sponsor one of the events. How much did this person or company pledge?
6. Where did they distribute flyers to advertise the events?
7. How does the *Friends of the Sanctuary* scheme work?
8. What was surprising about the elderly lady who donated £5,000 to the sanctuary?

## 4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct words.

COME BACK!  
I NEED YOU FOR  
THE FALCONRY  
DISPLAY.



# APPLYING FOR A JOB

**Audio script** I=Interviewer M=Mark

- [fades in] ...and they'd never heard of us before.
- I: OK, that's great. Now, could you describe a time when you had to organise an event. Tell me (1) \_\_\_\_\_ and what the results were.
- M: Do you mean while I was in working in the events company in London in particular, or any time?
- I: Any time.
- M: Well, erm, I was working as a volunteer for a bird sanctuary once that was based in the UK. They were keen to raise their profile and attract more paying visitors. So, they asked me whether (2) \_\_\_\_\_. I thought about it for a couple of days and discussed some ideas with other people working there and eventually came up with two ideas: a falconry display, and a talk by a bird specialist. I thought this would be (3) \_\_\_\_\_ and getting them into the centre, where we could also tell them a bit about some of the work we were doing. We thought the falconry display would be good for families, and the bird specialist would attract (4) \_\_\_\_\_. Both of these would attract the attention of the press, and aside from entry fees, we'd also be able to request donations.
- I: So, tell me how you went about it exactly.
- M: Well, I took the initiative to apply for some funds to pay for the specialist and the falconry display. As the organisation is a charity, they're eligible for grants from the state. It's usually quite difficult to get grants for event funding, and of course, (5) \_\_\_\_\_.

### \*STAR interview technique

The STAR interview technique involves asking interviewees to describe situations in which they used the skills that are required for the post which is being advertised. Typically, the interviewer might say, "Give me an example of a time when you..." or, "Tell me about a time that you..." When giving details, you should cover the following areas from the acronym STAR:

**S** = Situation: describe what you were doing, where were you, when it was...

**T** = Task: describe what the task was, what you needed to do, why you had to do it...

**A** = Action: describe what action you took to accomplish the task, how you did it...

**R** = Results: explain the results, give details of how much you made, describe what effects the action had on the company...

STAR interview questions are also known as behaviour-based interview questions.

- I: True.
- M: Anyway, I spent several hours researching grant options and found several that were open to our group.
- I: And were you successful?
- M: I managed to secure some of the money, but not all of it. However, I didn't give up and I approached several local businesses to see (6) \_\_\_\_\_. Eventually, I managed to secure £4,000 from a local garden centre in return for publicity at the sanctuary and falconry display, as well as their logo on all our correspondence related to the events. In the end, we were able to afford both the falconry display and the bird specialist talk. So, next, I got to work promoting and organising them. We advertised the events (7) \_\_\_\_\_, we made flyers which we distributed in the local area, including tourist offices and hotels, we invited school groups to come in and I contacted the local press. In the end, (8) \_\_\_\_\_ than we'd anticipated and it was a huge success. We made money from entrance fees, but best of all, (9) \_\_\_\_\_ a *Friends of the Sanctuary* scheme that I'd set up. As part of this, and in return for an annual fee, members receive a regular newsletter giving details of our work and also discounts for any special events. We also received quite a few donations, including over £5,000 from an elderly lady (10) \_\_\_\_\_ we were doing. Incredibly, she lived just a few miles away but had never heard of us before.
- I: That sounds great. Now, tell me a bit about... [fades out] ☺

### Note!

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

# TALKS, SPEECHES & PRESENTATIONS

This month we are looking at some phrasal verbs on the topic of talks, speeches and presentations. Complete the sentences (1 to 8) with the words from below.

minute   method   end   questions   times   ill   report   back


**1**

**Go over / run over**  
 If you "go over" your presentation or speech, you practise saying it to yourself.  
 "She went over the speech several \_\_\_\_\_ before actually giving it."




**2**

**Put up**  
 If you "put up" your hand during a presentation, you put your hand in the air then wait for the person in charge to let you ask a question.  
 "She put up her hand so she could ask a question about the new \_\_\_\_\_."



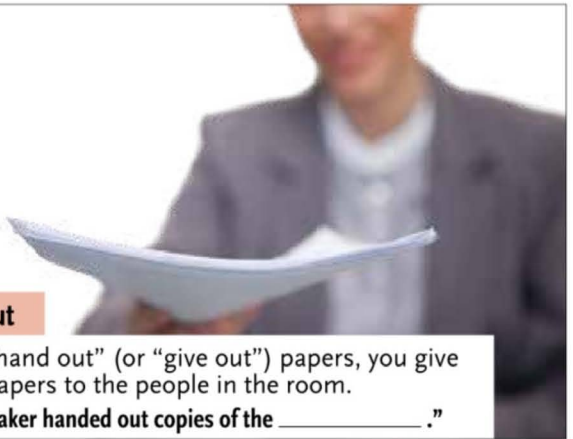
**3**

**Speak up**  
 If you "speak up", you speak more loudly so people can hear you more clearly.  
 "Could you speak up, please? We can't hear you at the \_\_\_\_\_."



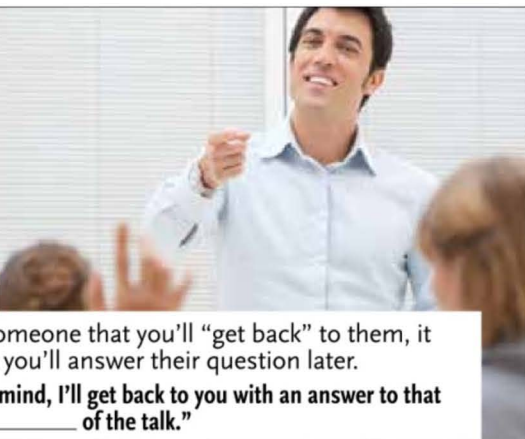
**4**

**Hand out**  
 If you "hand out" (or "give out") papers, you give those papers to the people in the room.  
 "The speaker handed out copies of the \_\_\_\_\_."



**5**

**Get back**  
 If you tell someone that you'll "get back" to them, it means that you'll answer their question later.  
 "If you don't mind, I'll get back to you with an answer to that at the \_\_\_\_\_ of the talk."



**6**

**Deal with**  
 If you "deal with" a question, you answer that question.  
 "I'll deal with your question in just a \_\_\_\_\_."



**7**

**Run out**  
 If you "run out" of time, you have no more time.  
 "I'm afraid we've run out of time, so I can't take any more \_\_\_\_\_."



**8**

**Call off**  
 If a talk or presentation is "called off", it's cancelled.  
 "They called off the talk because the speaker was \_\_\_\_\_."



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**ATTRACTION** (PAGE 5)

Student's own answers.

**BANKNOTES** (PAGE 6)

**1 Reading I**

1. 1780; 2. a £5 note; 3. HMS Beagle; 4. 1790; 5. two; 6. Winston Churchill

**CLIMBING** (PAGE 7)

**1 Reading I**

1. Naranjo de Bulnes; 2. The Majlis Al Jinn cave; 3. The Delicate Arch; 4. The Shanghai Tower; 5. The Telephonic Tower; 6. The Burj Khalifa

**GRAMMAR BOOSTER** (PAGE 8)

1. broken down; 2. known; 3. went; 4. found; 5. wanted; 6. spent; 7. help; 8. kill

**ENGLISH IN ACTION** (PAGE 10)

1. on; 2. at; 3. before; 4. as; 5. in; 6. behind; 7. to; 8. next; 9. in; 10. for; 11. about; 12. in

**GETTING TO WORK** (PAGE 12)

**1 Listening I**

1b 2e 3d 4a 5c

**1 Listening II**

1. about 50 km; 2. about 15 minutes; 3. £1 for the whole day; 4. about 25 minutes; 5. at about 7am

**1 Listening III**

1. walk; 2. catch; 3. takes; 4. goes; 5. costs; 6. takes; 7. prefer; 8. worry; 9. get; 10. save

**PRACTICAL ENGLISH** (PAGE 13)

1. manager; 2. holidays; 3. vehicles; 4. phone; 5. complaints; 6. stories; 7. organisations; 8. location; 9. freedom; 10. attractions

**FUN RUNS** (PAGE 14)

1. Hot dog; 2. Mudder; 3. Zombies; 4. Holirun; 5. Beer; 6. Zombies; 7. Mudder; 8. Holirun; 9. Beer; 10. Hot dog

**TRANSLATION** (PAGE 16)

1. Student's own answers.

**7 SINS** (PAGE 17)

**1 Pre-reading**

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

**1 Reading II**

1. Pride; 2. Gluttony; 3. Greed; 4. Lust; 5. Wrath; 6. Envy; 7. Sloth

**MY JOB** (PAGE 18)

**1 Listening I**

1. Lorry; 2. Security; 3. Designer; 4. Lorry; 5. Designer; 6. Security; 7. Lorry

**1 Listening II**

1. eight; 2. in New York; 3. 48; 4. nine hours; 5. six months; 6. 15 years

**1 Listening III**

1. of; 2. with; 3. on; 4. with; 5. for; 6. to; 7. of; 8. from; 9. at; 10. out; 11. in; 12. at

**BUSINESS NEWS** (PAGE 19)

**1 Reading II**

1. speed; 2. consistency; 3. location; 4. value for money; 5. visibility; 6. processes are systemised

**NAPPING** (PAGE 20)

1. by 34%; 2. 20 to 30 minutes; 3. heart-related deaths; 4. nap rooms; 5. after lunch; 6. he could nap while canons were being fired near to him; 7. a metal key

**TRAVEL ENGLISH** (PAGE 22)

1. sliced bread; 2. Coronation chicken; 3. margarine; 4. tomato; 5. cheese; 6. orange juice; 7. debit card; 8. receipt

**QUOTES** (PAGE 24)

1. make; 2. do; 3. set; 4. end; 5. returns; 6. get; 7. want; 8. making; 9. try; 10. see

**CRIME GANGS** (PAGE 28)

**1 Pre-reading**

- **Smuggling** – bringing goods into a country illegally
- **Illegal gambling / betting** – playing games for money in unofficial, unregistered clubs.

- **Money laundering** – processing illegal money through a legitimate business
- **Selling on the black market** – selling things illegally (without paying sales tax, etc.)
- **Theft** – stealing things
- **Burglary** – entering a building by force and stealing things
- **Street crime** – crime committed outside: vandalism, car theft, mugging (robbing someone in the street, often with violence)
- **Contract killing** – paying a professional to kill a person
- **Counterfeiting** – creating copies of documents and telling people they're original
- **Arms trafficking** – buying and selling weapons illegally
- **Drug trafficking** – buying and selling illegal drugs
- **Human trafficking** – the illegal movement of people, often so they can be used as slave labour
- **Extortion** – obtaining money through the use of force or the threat of violence
- **Murder** – killing someone
- **Racketeering** – making money from illegal activities for the benefit of an organisation
- **Loan sharking** – lending money and charging very high interest rates
- **Robbery** – stealing something from a building or vehicle by force
- **Bootlegging** – making things secretly and selling them illegally (CDs, alcohol, DVDs, etc.)
- **Bribery** – offering a person in authority money in return for a favour
- **Fraud** – getting money by tricking or lying to someone

**1 Reading II**

1. Triad; 2. Chicago; 3. Russian; 4. Peaky; 5. Chicago; 6. Russian; 7. Peaky; 8. Triad

**FLYING** (PAGE 29)

**1 Reading II**

1. Las Vegas; 2. slit his throat; 3. Frankfurt airport; 4. all of them; 5. two undercover air marshals; 6. because she had two items of hand luggage; 7. because they'd been verbally and physically abusive

**PUNS** (PAGE 30)

**1 Pre-reading**

1c 2a 3b

**Extra activities I & II**

Student's own answers.

**QUIRKY NEWS** (PAGE 32)

**1 Reading II**

1. Castle; 2. IKEA; 3. KFC; 4. Office; 5. IKEA; 6. Castle; 7. Office; 8. KFC

**THE INTERVIEW I** (PAGE 34)

**1 Listening II**

1. In a pizza restaurant.
2. As a part-time assistant manager in a city-centre restaurant.
3. Falling sales and a lack of customers.
4. Students from the local university.
5. Lunchtime discounts and the possibility of hiring out a room in the restaurant.
6. He made some flyers that he handed out at the university, and he put an ad in the university magazine.
7. The restaurant received 10% more customers.

**1 Listening III**

1. I've been working
2. give me an example
3. as an opportunity
4. right next to
5. for club meetings
6. to all the students
7. a 25% increase

**GROUP TALK** (PAGE 36)

**1 Listening I**

1. They mention jazz, hip hop, Dixieland, pop and blues.

**1 Listening II**

1. They all seem to like it.
2. Right next to her apartment.
3. Dixieland.
4. Because she doesn't want to sound ridiculous.
5. The guitar.
6. The blues.
7. Adele's.

**SLANG CONVERSATION** (PAGE 37)

First listening: the answer is "b"

	Slang expression	Standard version
1	Oh, gosh	Oh, no
2	Cheers!	Thanks
3	A dope	An idiot
4	Booze	Alcohol
5	Grub	Food
6	Get pissed	To become drunk
7	Talk gibberish	To say silly things
8	Bits and bobs	Lots of small, minor things
9	For my sins	As a punishment / because I've been a bad boy/girl
10	A gig	A job in the entertainment industry
11	A pain in the arse	An annoying thing
12	Nothing major	Nothing important
13	A stint	A period of time doing a job
14	A demo	An audio track with a sample of your voice or some music on it
15	Right up my street	Perfect for me
16	To splash out	To spend a lot of money on
17	Dosh	Money
18	Plonker	An idiot
19	Right up his own arse	With ideas of superiority
20	We've got history	If "you've got history" with someone, you've had a relationship with them in the past
21	Donkey's years ago	A long time ago
22	Leg it	To run away

**FUNNY JOKES** (PAGE 38)

Answers on page 38.

**GM FOOD** (PAGE 39)

**1 Reading II**

Student's own answers.

**ETIQUETTE** (PAGE 40)

**1 Reading II**

1. Asking for permission.
2. Leave it clean, always flush and never discuss.
3. A primitive bid for supremacy.
4. The enemy of social manners.
5. About their attitude to dogs
6. The cardinal crime of eating noisily.

**THE INTERVIEW II** (PAGE 41)

**1 Listening II**

1. He was working as a volunteer.
2. They wanted to raise the profile of the sanctuary and attract more paying visitors.
3. Putting on a falconry display and organising a talk by a bird specialist.
4. Because the sanctuary is a charity.
5. A local garden centre. They pledged £4,000.
6. They distributed them in the local area, including tourist offices and hotels.
7. People sign up to it, pay an annual fee and receive a regular newsletter, as well as discounts for special events.
8. The fact that she only lived a few miles away but had never heard of them before.

**1 Listening III**

1. how you handled it
2. I could do something about it
3. a good way of attracting visitors
4. bird enthusiasts from all over the country
5. there are many deadlines that need to be met
6. if they'd like to sponsor any of the events
7. on our social media sites
8. we had 50% more people attending both events
9. we got lots of people signed up to
10. who was very impressed with the work

**PHRASAL VERBS** (PAGE 42)

1. times; 2. method; 3. back; 4. report; 5. end; 6. minute; 7. questions; 8. ill

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## Eating

**A:** I say, I say, I say. What do **skeletons** say before they begin eating?

**B:** I don't know. What do *skeletons* say before they begin eating?

**A:** **Bone appétit!**

## Duck hotel

Two ducks are staying in a hotel. They want to order some food from **room service**. So, one of them calls **reception** and asks for a meal for two. "OK," says the receptionist. "Shall I put it on your **bill**?" she asks. "No!" says the duck, **indignantly**. "I'll **suffocate!**"

## Clever dog

A man gets a dog for his birthday. At first, he isn't that **impressed**, but when he takes it out for a walk

he soon realises that it's highly intelligent. For example, while they're in the park, there's a sign on a **bench** that says "**Wet paint**". The dog looks at the sign, **barks** "woof woof", **lifts** his leg and does what the sign says – he wets the paint. "Wow!" the man says. "A dog that can read." To which the dog says, "I can speak, too!" The man can't believe it. "A talking dog! This is a miracle." So, he takes the dog back to the pet shop and says to the man behind the **counter**. "Do you know what? You've just sold me a dog that can read and speak." And the shop assistant replies, "Yes, I know. But he isn't very intelligent. When we play chess, I nearly always win." ❖

## GLOSSARY

- a skeleton** *n*  
the shape formed by all the bones in your body
- Bone appétit** *n*  
this is version of the French expression "bon appétit", which is used in English as a way of saying, "enjoy your meal". A "bone" is one of the hard objects in your body that form your skeleton
- room service** *n*  
a service in a hotel that lets guests order food that they will eat in their rooms
- reception** *n*  
the area in the entrance to a hotel where you book rooms, ask questions, etc.
- a bill** *n*  
two meanings: 1. a piece of paper with information about how much you must pay for something; 2. the long, hard object on a duck's face
- indignantly** *adv*  
angrily
- to suffocate** *vb*  
if someone "suffocates", they die because they can't breathe
- impressed** *adj*  
if you're "impressed", you're surprised because something is so good
- a bench** *n*  
a long chair in a park where you can sit
- wet paint** *n*  
two meanings: 1. the paint is wet (so don't sit down); 2. (you must) make the paint wet! (a command)
- to bark** *vb*  
when a dog "barks", it makes a loud sound out of its mouth
- to lift** *vb*  
if you "lift" something, you take it to a higher level
- a counter** *n*  
the long table in a shop. The shop assistant often stands behind it when serving customers

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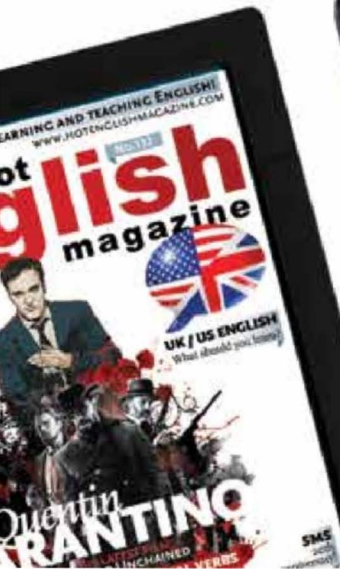
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