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12

IMPORTANT PROVERBS & SAYINGS!

PLUS

Fashion vocabulary & Taylor Swift Music in English & Prepositions of place



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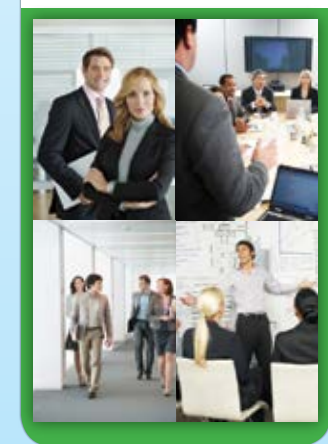
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EDITOR'S INTRO

How you learn English with *Learn Hot English* magazine

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

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

In this month's issue, we're looking at how to improve your speaking by learning about some proverbs and sayings. These are typical expressions that people often use in conversation.

We've got a fun exercise for you that should help you learn what they mean.

Talking about learning language, what are your top tips for learning really difficult words? You know – those really complicated words that you just can't seem to learn or remember. This month, we're looking at how visual mnemonics can help you with this.

Of course, that's not all, we're also looking at how to end a phone conversation, embarrassing things parents do, mysteries, fashion, mood-boosting snacks, ridiculous lawsuits and famous landmarks, to mention just a few. Plus, you can learn some useful expressions for negotiating, visiting someone's house and chatting about other people.

Happy learning!

See you next month! *Andy*



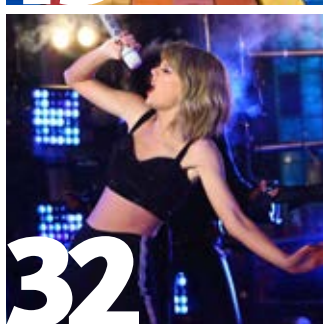
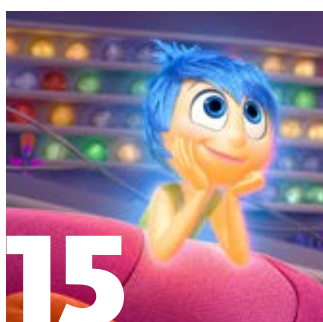
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UNUSUAL "FASHION" VOCABULARY

Here's some fashion vocabulary for you to learn.

"Fashion is about dressing according to what's fashionable. Style is more about being yourself." *Oscar de la Renta*



Glasses



Socks



Sandals



Baseball cap



Slippers



Football shirt



Hooded top



Tracksuit



Oversized sunglasses



Skinny jeans



Cargo shorts



Harem pants



Crop top



Gladiator sandals



Bum-bag ("fanny pack" in US English)



Jumpsuit



Saggy jeans



Gold necklace



Ugg boots



Mankini



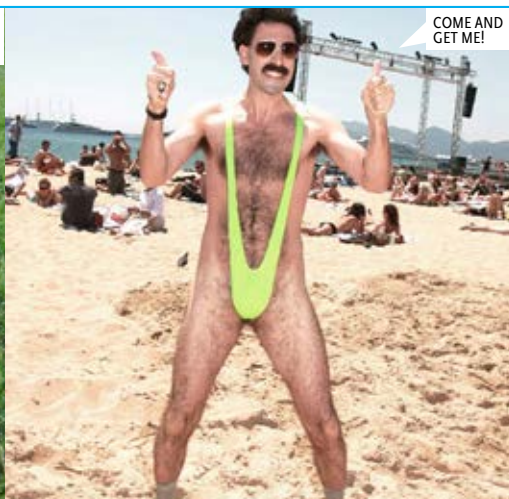
Thong

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you ever worn any of the things mentioned on this page? When? Where? Why? How important is fashion to you? What does being fashionable mean to you? Who are some of the most fashionable people you know?

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

TRACK 1: ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN



THINGS WE HATE ABOUT FASHION!

Are there any fashions you hate? Here are a few things some people really don't like.

My granddad goes for the "English-man-abroad" look with his socks-and-sandals **combo**. He often wears a bum-bag too! So not cool! [Georgina, 24]

My sister-in-law wears gladiator sandals. They **take her ages** to put on, and leave horrible marks on her legs. Plus, they make her look even shorter than she really is. [Gary, 29]

My dad wears a tracksuit all weekend... every weekend. And when there's a game on, he puts his football shirt on too. He even wears it at parties or when friends come round for a barbecue. I think it makes him look like a middle-aged football **hooligan**. [Melissa, 25]

My sister is really into her Ugg boots. In my opinion, they're just a pair of big, ugly slippers. I also read somewhere that the fur for **fake Ugg boots** is made from a disgusting method of killing **raccoon dogs**, so I'll never buy them. [Jack, 26]

My 55-year old uncle put on a **mankini** at the beach last year. And he says he's going to wear a thong next year. He's such an **attention-seeker**! [Amy, 22]

My aunt wears harem pants – you know those trousers with a really low **gusset** that make you look like you're wearing a big nappy. Sometimes, she wears a crop top too, even though she's got a bit of a **belly**. [Ben, 28]

My brother has the hipster look with his beard, skinny jeans and glasses (even though he can see perfectly well!). He says he dresses like that because he's got a job in a coffee shop and "needs" that look. Yeah, right! [Jessica, 19]

My cousin and his mates are really into rap, and walk around with saggy jeans, fake gold necklaces, hooded tops and baseball caps turned around. They think they look so cool. [Henry, 29]

My boyfriend wears cargo shorts all the time in the summer. I bought him some really nice shorts that he put on a couple of times but he soon went back to his khaki

cargo shorts. He says they're really comfortable and practical with the really big pockets, but I think they just look like a mess, especially as they're too big for him. [Chloe, 24]

My mum has a pair of those oversized sunglasses. Dad says she looks like she's hiding something, such as a **drink problem** or bags under the eyes. The other day she had a jumpsuit on too. She said it was like one that Victoria Beckham modelled. She's becoming more and more like her every day! [Dave, 26] ✪

GLOSSARY

- a combo** ⁿ a combination of two things that go well together: socks and sandals, in this case
- to take ages** ^{exp} to take a long time
- a hooligan** ⁿ someone (such as a football fan) who is noisy and violent in a public place
- fake** ^{adj} "fake" objects aren't real – they're a copy of the original
- a racoon dog** ⁿ an animal related to foxes and wolves. They have soft fur (hair on their bodies)
- an attention seeker** ⁿ someone who does things so that people notice him/her
- a gusset** ⁿ a piece of cloth added to clothing to make them looser or bigger. A trouser "gusset" is placed between the legs to give you more room there
- a belly** ⁿ a stomach
- a drink problem** ⁿ someone with a "drink problem" consumes too much alcohol

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the photos of the items of clothing on the previous page. Which ones do you like? Which ones do you hate? Which ones do you wear or would you like to wear?

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which comments do you agree with?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, identify the item of clothing. Which item of clothing...

- ...can be worn at the beach?
- ...has big pockets?
- ...takes a long time to put on?
- ...is worn over your legs and is popular with hipsters?
- ...is worn all weekend by one person's dad?
- ...is like a big pair of trousers?

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you ever been on a language exchange? Where did you go? Which language were you studying? What do you think of language exchanges? What could go wrong on a language exchange? What are the disadvantages of doing one? Have you ever stayed with a family abroad? What was it like?

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

© TRACK 2 ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN

I LEARNT SO MUCH!

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

What are the pros and cons of doing a student exchange? Tick the points below that you agree with? Can you add any more ideas?

- You can practise speaking the language.
- You're forced to use the language.
- You can improve your understanding of the language.
- You can learn something about a new culture.
- You can experience a language in the country where it's spoken.
- These days, you don't need to go abroad to listen to a language.
- It's an expensive way of learning a language.
- You're away from home for a long time.

Other?

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Who benefitted most from the language exchange?

3 Reading II

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

Who...

1. ...stayed with a family in Madrid?
2. ...went to France for a week?
3. ...spent over a week in Germany?
4. ...became a more confident person as a result of the exchange?
5. ...said the exchange made her feel more confident about her language abilities?
6. ...had problems with listening and speaking at first?
7. ...went to school with the host family's daughter?
8. ...thinks that everyone should do an exchange?



By Harriet King

CAN A STUDENT EXCHANGE HELP YOU LEARN?

Have you ever been on a **student exchange**? How useful was it? Did it help you improve your knowledge of the language you were studying? We asked three people for their opinions.

Ellen

I spent 8 days in Stuttgart (Germany) when I was studying for my **A levels**. I went to school with my **exchange partner** every day, and spent the evenings with her family. It was great because I had to speak German all the time. However, the most useful thing was that I was focusing more on communicating with the language, rather than speaking perfectly correct German. It also made me more confident because people could understand what I was talking about. I'd definitely recommend it to other students studying languages.

Frank

I went on an exchange with my class for a week in Madrid (Spain). I stayed with my exchange family in their house and

went to school with the **host family's** daughter, who was the same age as me. My other friends from the UK were also at the same school. Before the exchange, I think my understanding of grammar was pretty good, but I **struggled** with listening and speaking. So, it was good to be in a place where I had no choice but to use my language skills. It also helped me learn the kind of Spanish that people use when they're speaking, rather than the language from books. If I had the opportunity, I'd definitely take part in another language exchange.

Alice

I took part in a French exchange. It **lasted** one week and I stayed with my exchange family in a small town just outside Paris. I'm quite a shy person, so the first few days were a bit scary, but once I'd **settled in**, it was fine. I was studying French A-level at the time; I love the language and had a reasonably good level. But the exchange really helped

develop my speaking skills, and made me a much more confident person in general. It felt great to be able to **chat** to native French people, knowing we could communicate with each other. I also found that everyone who took part in the exchange did a lot better in their end-of-year exams. I would definitely recommend an exchange – in fact, I think it should be **compulsory**. ✦

GLOSSARY

a student exchange *n*
if you're on a "student exchange" programme, you study at a different school or university (often in another country) for a period of time. It's an "exchange" because people from the school you visited may come to study at your school

an A level *n*
a school qualification in a subject (such as Maths, History, English, etc.) typically taken by students aged 16–18. Students typically study for three A-levels

an exchange partner *n*
a student who you visit as part of a student exchange programme

a host family *n*
the family of the exchange student you're visiting and staying with

to struggle *vb*
if you "struggle" to do something, you find it difficult

to last *vb*
if something "lasts" for one week (for example), it happens for one week

to settle in *phr vb*
if you "settle in", you become comfortable living in a new place

to chat *vb*
to talk to someone in a friendly, informal way about things that aren't important

compulsory *adj*
if something is "compulsory", you have to do it

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What do you eat when you're hungry during the day? In what ways can food affect your mood? What are some of your favourite snacks or items of food? What type of food makes you feel good? Why?

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

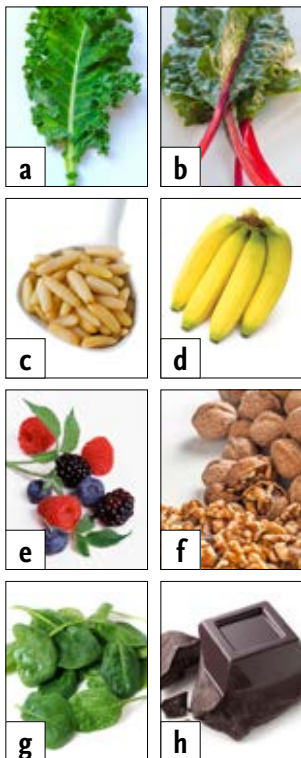
TRACK 3: ENGLISHMAN & IRISHMAN

Answers on page 44

Pre-reading

Match the items of food (1 to 8) to the pictures (a-h).

- Berries
- Kale
- Spinach
- Pine nuts
- Walnuts
- Chard
- Dark chocolate
- Bananas



Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which snack sounds the most delicious? Which one(s) do you eat anyway?

Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of an item of food next to each statement. Which item of food...

- ...can help you sleep better?
- ...can lower cholesterol?
- ...can be taken plain or with a bit of sugar?
- ...is full of protein?
- ...is rich in vitamin D?
- ...can be eaten with some granola or yoghurt?
- ...can slow down the production of stress hormones?
- ...has a lot of folic acid?



By Sarah Asch

8 SNACKS TO MAKE YOU FEEL BETTER!

Feeling a bit down? Need something to lift you up? Why not try one of these mood-boosting snacks.

1 Berries
Berries are full of **antioxidants** that stimulate the production of positive **enzymes** in the brain. Try them for breakfast with **granola**, yoghurt, or both.

2 Green tea
Green tea has antioxidants and **amino acids** that can reduce stress. For a healthy option, drink it **plain**. For a sweeter version, add a bit of sugar.

3 Dark leafy greens
Leafy greens like spinach, kale and chard have **folic acids** and magnesium which regulates **serotonin** – the chemical in your brain that makes you happy. For a great salad, mix some kale, pine nuts and **feta cheese**.

4 Eggs
Eggs are rich in vitamin D and produce serotonin in your brain. Start your day with some delicious scrambled eggs, or have a

fried one on toast when you get home in the evening.

5 Bananas
Bananas have tryptophan in them, which helps cure insomnia. Tryptophan also helps fight depression. Eat them plain or **slice** them up and put them in a peanut butter sandwich.

6 Dark chocolate
Research has shown that dark chocolate improves the way your brain functions. It can also slow down the production of stress hormones. Have some **grated** over **oatmeal**, or mixed with fruit for breakfast.

7 Walnuts
Walnuts are high in essential fats, which lower **cholesterol** and promote an overall sense of health by improving your blood flow. Eat them plain or place them in the **oven** for half an hour with some sugar and butter to make candied walnuts. Delicious!

8 Greek yogurt
Greek yoghurt is full of protein, which can increase levels

of pleasure-boosting **neurotransmitters** such as **dopamine**. Have some Greek yoghurt with honey, or add the berries mentioned earlier and include two mood-boosting snacks in one!

Get happy! ✨

GLOSSARY

to lift up *phr vb*
if something "lifts you up", it makes you feel happy or positive

an antioxidant *n*
a substance that prevents the damage that oxygen can cause. Foods with antioxidants are thought to be very good for you

an enzyme *n*
a chemical substance in living creatures which produces changes in other substances without transforming itself

granola *n*
a breakfast food that consists of oats, nuts, honey, etc.

amino acids *n*
substances containing nitrogen and hydrogen. They are found in proteins and occur naturally in the body

plain *adj*
if you eat something "plain", you have it without any sugar, salt, milk, etc.

folic acid *n*
"folic acid" is one of the B group of vitamins. It's found in green vegetables and fruit

serotonin *n*
a chemical produced naturally in your brain that affects the way you feel. It can make you feel happier, calmer, less hungry

feta cheese *n*
a type of salty, white cheese made from goats' or sheep's milk. It's typically from Greece

to slice *vb*
to cut food (for example) into thin pieces

to grate *vb*
if you "grate" food such as cheese, you rub it over a metal tool called a grater so that the food is cut into very small pieces

oatmeal *n*
a kind of flour made by crushing oats (a cereal crop)

cholesterol *n*
a substance that exists in the fat, tissues and blood of all animals. Too much of it in a person's blood can cause heart disease

an oven *n*
a device for cooking that is like a box with a door. You heat it and cook food inside it

a neurotransmitter *n*
a substance in the body that carries a signal from one nerve cell to another

dopamine *n*
a type of neurotransmitter (see previous entry)

GRAMMAR BOOSTER

THE PRESENT PERFECT PASSIVE

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
I've been told.	I haven't been told.	Have I been told?
You've been told.	You haven't been told.	Have you been told?
He's been told.	He hasn't been told.	Has he been told?
She's been told.	She hasn't been told.	Has she been told?
It's been told.	It hasn't been told.	Has it been told?
We've been told.	We haven't been told.	Have we been told?
They've been told.	They haven't been told.	Have they been told?

The full forms are: I've = I have, you've = you have, we've = we have, they've = they have, haven't = have not, hasn't = has not.

We form the present perfect passive with have been / has been + a past participle. For example:

- a) The e-mail **has been sent**.
- b) The windows **have been cleaned**.

We form negatives with haven't been / hasn't been + a past participle. For example:

- a) The e-mail **hasn't been sent**.
- b) The windows **haven't been cleaned**.

In active sentences, the person or thing doing the action is the subject of the sentence. For example:

- a) *Jack* (subject) + *has prepared* (verb) + *the food* (object)
- b) *Pete and Jenny* (subject) + *have checked* (verb) + *the documents* (object)

However, with passives, the person or thing receiving the action is the main focus of the sentence. For example:

- a) The food **has been prepared** by Jack.
- b) The documents **have been checked** by Pete and Jenny.

Notice how the person who does the action can appear

at the end of the sentence after the word "by". You don't have to add this information if you don't need to. For example, "The food has been prepared (by Jack)."

We use the passive when...

- a) ...we don't know who has performed the action = "The chair has been repaired."
- b) ...it isn't important who has performed the action = "The work has been completed."
- c) ...it's obvious who has performed the action = "The woman has been arrested." [Obviously, the police have arrested the woman.]

Dialogue: the museum

Jennifer Givens, a minister from the Department of Culture, is talking to Frank Jones, the director of the Natural History museum. She wants an update on the current situation. **Listen and complete the dialogue with the correct participles. J=Jennifer F=Frank**

J: So, I see the Tyrannosaurus Rex has been (1) _____ from the entrance.

- F: Yes, it's been sold.
J: Sold?
F: Yes, we had some expenses that we needed to cover.
J: Expenses?
F: Well, some of the staff hadn't been (2) _____ for a while. The money from the sale of the dinosaur has been (3) _____ for that.
J: Oh, right. And the replica blue whale that was such a popular attraction?
F: It's been (4) _____ to another museum. We couldn't afford to keep the room open any longer – the heating and lighting bills were really high.
J: Right, so, why has the "Romans in Britain" exhibition been (5) _____?
F: Cleaning work.
J: Hopefully it won't take too long. Now, on a positive note, I see that sales from the museum shop have (6) _____.
F: Yes, well, we're offering a lot more products now.
J: That's great. And I also see that the museum restaurant is doing quite well.
F: Yes, it's now the most popular part of the museum. We're offering a three-course meal for just £6.
J: Can we make a profit on that?
F: Not really, but it gets the visitors in – and as they have to pay £8 for the entrance fee, it works out quite well.
J: Ah, I see. Very clever. Now,



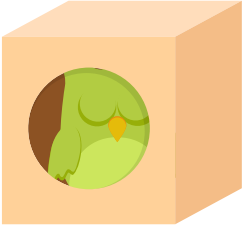
where's that exhibition on Early Man?

- F: It's been (7) _____ down for repairs. The Neanderthal man's arms fell off, and the sabre-toothed tiger has been (8) _____.
J: Stolen?
F: Yes.
J: Where was the security guard at the time?
F: We don't know, but he's been (9) _____.
J: Fired? Why?
F: Well, police think that he might have (10) _____ it.
J: What on earth would he want that for?
F: We also noticed that a stuffed lion has (11) _____ missing. The two thefts might be connected. The police are looking into it. Apparently the guard is really into hunting.
J: Oh, right. Now, what's happened to... [fades out] *

PREPOSITIONS OF PLACE

Here are 16 really useful prepositions of place.

1

The owl is **in** the box.

2

The owl is **on** the box.

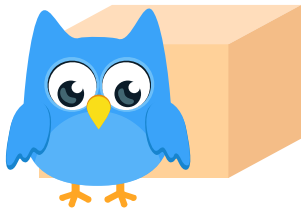
3

The owl is **under** the box.

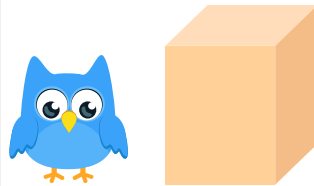
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The owl is **behind** the box.

5

The owl is in **front** of the box.

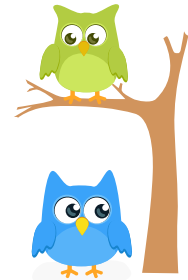
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The owl is **next** to the box.

7

The blue owl is **near** the green owl.

8

The blue owl is **below** the green owl.

9

The owl is **above** the box.

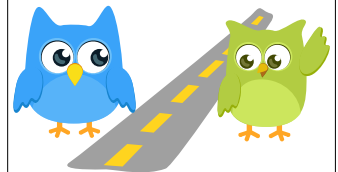
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The blue owl is **far from** the green owl.

11

The owl is **between** two boxes.

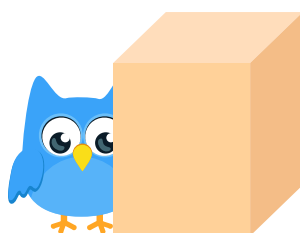
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The blue owl is **opposite** the green one.

13

The owl is **by** the tree.

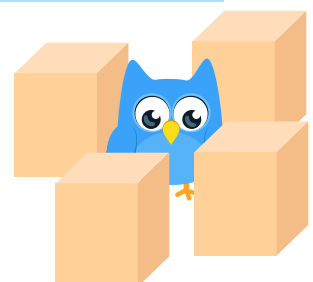
14

The owl is **beside** the box.

15

The blue owl is **among** some other owls.

16

The boxes are **around** the owl.

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you had a phone call with someone? What were you talking about? How did the conversation end? Who ended it? What do you say when you want to end a call? What are some other typical phrases or ways to end a call? Do you speak much on the phone? How many minutes per day?

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

Put the expressions below into the table.

Column "A" is for expressions that are used for wrapping up a conversation – for signalling that a conversation is about to end.

Column "B" is for expressions that are used at the end of the conversation to say goodbye.

- ~~I'm sorry but I've got a meeting to go to.~~
- See you next week.
- See you later.
- Just let me know if there's anything else I can do.
- Speak soon.
- We'll get back to you just as soon as we can.
- Goodbye.
- So, we'll talk about this next week then.
- Thanks so much for calling. I'll be in touch.
- Have a nice day.
- So, I'll arrange the meeting for next week then. OK?
- Take care.
- Bye.
- Anyway, I must apologise for taking up so much of your time.

A: Wrapping up a conversation

I'm sorry but I've got a meeting to go to.

B: Saying goodbye

ENGLISH IN ACTION...

HOW TO END A PHONE CONVERSATION



Phone dialogues

1

Ellis: Well, I know you're busy, so I don't want to keep you any longer.

Zoe: No problem. It was really nice talking to you.

Ellis: Yeah, it's great to finally speak over the phone after communicating by e-mail all these years.

Zoe: We'll have to meet up in person next time!

Ellis: Definitely.

Zoe: OK. So, I'll write up that report and send it as soon as I can.

Ellis: Yeah, thanks, great.

Zoe: Bye.

2

Eddie: Well, it's been great chatting to you but I've really got to go. My class starts in about half an hour and I need to get the train.

Oscar: Of course. I've got to get to the post office before it closes too.

Eddie: OK. So, then I'll see you next week.

Oscar: Yeah, Thursday at 6pm in the Horse and Hounds.

Eddie: Perfect.

Oscar: See you later.

Eddie: Bye.

Oscar: Bye.

3

Kate: Anyway, I must apologise for taking up so much of your time.

Jake: No problem at all. I'm glad to help. Just let me know if there's

anything else I can do.

Kate: I will, thanks so much.

Jake: I'll send those documents tomorrow afternoon.

Kate: Great! And I'll e-mail you the plans for the new development.

Jake: Yes, that would be great. I'd like to look over those.

Kate: OK. Speak soon.

Jake: Bye.

Kate: Bye.

4

Toby: ...and every time I touched one of the metal parts on the dishwasher, I got an electric shock.

Erin: Oh, I am sorry about that. We'll have someone come around to check it out as soon as possible.

Toby: Do you have any idea when they might come round?

Erin: Well, I just need to process the information, and as soon as that's completed, someone will phone you to arrange a time to pop round.

Toby: Well, it's rather urgent as we can't use it at the moment. We've only had it a couple of days.

Erin: I'll process it right now, and we'll get back to you just as soon as we can.

Toby: OK. Thanks.

Erin: Thanks so much for calling. Have a nice day.

Toby: Bye.

Erin: Goodbye. ☺

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to four phone calls. Listen once. Did you hear any of the expressions from the previous activity? Which ones?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

Dialogue 1

1. How had they been communicating up until now?
2. What is one of the speakers going to send?

Dialogue 2

3. When does the speaker's class start?
4. When are they going to see each other?

Dialogue 3

5. What is one of the speakers going to send next week?
6. What is the female speaker going to e-mail the other speaker?

Dialogue 4

7. What electronic device is giving the caller an electric shock?
8. How long has he had it for?

NATURAL ENGLISH

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

What's your favourite item of clothing?

Photos and interviews by Georgie & Danielle

Remember!

Remember, when people talk informally and spontaneously, they often use non-standard English.

Duncan McQueen
(England, chef)



Probably a pair of sandals I bought a couple of summers ago. I've always found it really difficult to find a comfortable pair.

James Duggan
(Ireland, actor)



Erm, maybe a leather jacket because I can put it on with anything else.

Melissa Armstrong
(Puerto Rico, food critic)



My favourite item of clothing would be shoes, erm, they are my addiction and I like them because I think they can **make or break** an **outfit**, erm, and also you can mix them up from one day to the next.

Anne Lydon
(Ireland, theatre director)



My favourite item of clothing are jeans because they're the most comfortable and you can wear them anywhere.

Rayna Taylor
(USA, marketing executive)



My absolute favourite items of clothing, which is kind of like clothing but it's not, are my headphones, which I wear everyday and they **go with** everything.

Lindsay MacNaughton
(Scotland, translator)



My favourite item of clothing is a sweatshirt designed by a friend of mine. He's a street artist in Paris so it's quite **trendy**. It's big and comfortable and looks cool.

GLOSSARY

to make or break *exp*
if something can "make or break" an outfit, it can either make the outfit look amazing (make) or terrible (break)

an outfit *n*
a set of clothes, often with the trousers (or skirt) and jacket of the same material, colour, etc.

to go with *exp*
if item of clothing A "goes well with" item of clothing B, the two items look good together

trendy *adj*
fashionable

Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it Have you seen any old friends lately? Who? Why hadn't you seen them for such a long time? What did you talk about? What did he/she ask you? What did you ask him/her? Where were you? When do you think you'll see them again?

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

TRACK 7: ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

Imagine you've just met an old friend or acquaintance in the street. What could you say to them? What could you ask them? Add three more ideas to the list below.

- I've got a new house.
 - I've changed jobs.
 - What's (Mike) doing these days?
 - Where are you living?
 - Where are you working?
- Other?

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to a conversation between two people who know each other, vaguely. Listen once. Which questions or statements did you hear from the Pre-listening task?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, choose the correct answers.

1. They were at a conference in...
 - a) Birmingham
 - b) Leipzig
2. It was about...
 - a) three years ago
 - b) two years ago
3. Libby has bought a little apartment overlooking the...
 - a) river
 - b) castle
4. Hugo has bought a house in a little...
 - a) village
 - b) town
5. Hugo is in Manchester...
 - a) on business
 - b) visiting friends and family
6. Libby is connected with Chloe on...
 - a) Facebook
 - b) LinkedIn
7. They decide to go for...
 - a) lunch
 - b) a coffee
8. The place they go to is in...
 - a) Canal Street
 - b) Fireplace Avenue

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.



Catching up!

Audio script

Hugo: Libby, isn't it?

Libby: That's right. And you are...?

Hugo: Hugo. Hugo Smith. We were at that Leipzig (1) _____ together. That was about two years ago, wasn't it?

Libby: Oh, yes, Hugo. That's right! Wow! Doesn't time fly?

Hugo: It sure does. You were in the process of getting a (2) _____ in London last time we spoke, weren't you?

Libby: That's right. I ended up getting a little apartment overlooking the (3) _____. Just as well, really, as house prices have shot up since then.

Hugo: So I've heard. Congratulations!

Libby: And you?

Hugo: Actually, I moved to the (4) _____.

Libby: Very nice.

Hugo: I bought a house in a little village. It's very peaceful, but I miss the (5) _____.

Libby: It's just a little bit too quiet at times.

Libby: I can imagine. So, what are you doing here in Manchester?

Hugo: I'm just back here for the (6) _____. I'm visiting friends and family.

Libby: So am I!

Hugo: Oh, great. Do you remember that guy who was in charge of the meetings?

Libby: Erm, yes, but I can't remember his (7) _____.

Hugo: No, neither can I.

Libby: Anyway, what about the other guys? I'm friends with Chloe on Facebook.

Hugo: So I am! But we haven't seen each other since the last (8) _____.

Libby: No, me neither. Hey, have you got time for a coffee?

Hugo: Yeah, sure!

Libby: There used to be a really nice (9) _____ in Canal Street.

Hugo: I know the one mean. I used to go there quite a lot.

Libby: So did I! It's got a lovely old (10) _____.

Hugo: That's it.

Libby: I'm so glad I bumped into you.

Hugo: Me too. I've been meaning to get in touch. So, tell me, what did you... [fades out]

Think about it!

When was the last time you arranged to meet someone? Who was it? Why did you need to meet them? What time did you meet? Where did you meet? What did you talk about? When was the last time you had to reschedule a meeting? Why did you have to reschedule it? What was the original time or date? What was the new one?



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

PRACTICAL ENGLISH

HOW TO ARRANGE A MEETING

Learn how to arrange a meeting in English.

Arranging a meeting

- Could we meet at 10 to discuss the new project?
- Are you available at 1pm on Friday?
- Are you free on Friday morning?
- How's Tuesday afternoon looking for you?
- What's your schedule like on Tuesday morning?
- Are you busy on Thursday morning?
- When would be convenient for you?
- How about meeting on Tuesday at 3pm?
- Does Monday afternoon at 6pm sound good to you?
- Would Thursday at 4pm work for you?
- Will you be able to make it to the meeting at 5pm?

Saying no

- I'm afraid I won't be able to make it at that time.
- I'm sorry but I'm really busy this week.
- I'm sorry but I'm going to be busy all day on Friday.
- I'm afraid I've got an early-morning meeting on Thursday.
- I'm sorry but I'm all tied up on Monday.

Offering an alternative

- Could we meet on Wednesday at 3pm instead?
- If you don't mind, I'd rather meet up sometime next week.
- I could possibly re-arrange my three o'clock appointment.
- I may be able to re-schedule my Tuesday lunch.

Confirming information

- That's great!
- That's perfect!
- OK, I'll see you then.
- That would suit me just fine.
- I'll see you on Tuesday 4th May at 11am.

Answers on page 44

1 Listening I

You're going to listen to a conversation between two colleagues at work. They're trying to arrange a time for a meeting. Listen once. Which day do they eventually decide to meet on?

2 Listening I

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. What's Oliver doing on Thursday?
2. What's Megan doing on Friday afternoon?
3. Why can't Oliver meet on Friday morning?
4. What's Oliver doing on Monday morning?
5. When do they finally agree to meet?
6. Why might it be difficult for Megan?

I'M AFRAID I'VE GOT NO TIME FOR A MEETING!



Dialogue: Arranging a meeting

- Oliver:** Oliver speaking.
Megan: Oh, hi, Oliver, it's Megan.
Oliver: Hi, Megan. How's it going?
Megan: Not too bad, thanks. Look, I'm trying to find time for a meeting this week. Are you free on Thursday?
Oliver: Erm, let me just check. No, sorry I've got a sales conference to go to all day on Thursday.
Megan: Erm, how about Friday afternoon? Are you free any time then?
Oliver: Yes, that should be OK. How about 4:30?
Megan: Oh, no, wait a minute. I forgot I have a meeting at 4pm. What's Friday morning looking like for you? Could you make it at 11am, for example?
Oliver: Friday mornings are never good for me. Could we meet up sometime next week?
- Megan:** OK. How about Monday morning?
Oliver: Erm, let me see. Oh, no, I'm busy on Monday morning. I've got an appointment with a client that could go on all morning. What about Tuesday afternoon? I haven't got anything pencilled in for the afternoon. Does 4pm sound all right to you?
Megan: OK, I had arranged to meet a work colleague, but it isn't that urgent so I can probably reschedule it. So, let's say Tuesday afternoon at 4pm, but I'll need to confirm that first, but I don't think it should be a problem.
Oliver: OK. Perfect. Just send me an e-mail to confirm and I'll write it into my diary.
Megan: OK. Will do. Bye.
Oliver: Bye. ☺

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you did something stupid? What did you do? How did you resolve it? Have you heard any stories of people doing stupid things? What happened? Have you ever lost anything? What was it? Did you eventually find it? Where was it? Have you ever been stuck somewhere? What happened?

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

TRACK 9: ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN



HOW STUPID CAN YOU GET?

Here are three stories of stupidity.

The police car

A woman was arrested after trying to steal a police car... with two police officers inside. The 32-year-old was reportedly drunk when she tried to get into the driver's seat of the **unmarked car** in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. She told the two **plain-clothes officers** in the back that she wanted to drive their car to where she'd left her vehicle earlier – but the officers arrested her **on the spot**. According to the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette the woman had “an **overwhelming odour** of alcoholic **beverage emanating** from her person”. She was later charged with robbery and public drunkenness.

The drugs

French police officers managed to lose 51kg of cocaine from their own **headquarters**. The drugs, worth an estimated €2.5m **vanished** from the force's famous Paris HQ at 36 Quai des Orfèvres. The cocaine “bricks” were **seized**

after officers **smashed** a **drug-trafficking network** in the capital. They were later placed in numbered evidence bags, and were last seen in a locked room in the building. Officials say the cocaine was definitely still in the secured store room on 23rd July when it was last checked, but was missing the following week.

The sculpture

An exchange student had to be rescued by fire fighters after he got **stuck** in a giant marble statue. The young man climbed into the stone sculpture of a woman's **private parts** for a bit of a **laugh**, but soon realised he couldn't get out again. Twenty-two fire fighters in five vehicles were called to the scene in the **grounds** of the Tubingen University Institute of Microbiology (in Germany). Named Pi-Chacán, which means “making love”, the sculpture has been at the institute for 13 years and is the work of Peruvian artist Fernando de la Jara. There was no damage to the erotic structure, and the student was released unharmed,

although **somewhat** embarrassed. Social media users were quick to comment on the incident. One joker tweeted, “It's a boy!”

How stupid! 🧠

GLOSSARY

an unmarked car *n*
an ordinary-looking car that the police use. It doesn't have the “police” sign on it or the flashing light

a plain-clothes officer *n*
a police officer who isn't wearing a uniform and who is dressed as an ordinary person

on the spot *exp*
immediately

overwhelming *adj*
very powerful and strong

an odour *n*
a smell

a beverage *n*
a drink

to emanate *vb*
if a smell is “emanating” from a place, it's coming from that place

a headquarters *n*
the main office of an organisation. The abbreviated form is “HQ”

to vanish *vb*
to disappear

to seize *vb*
to take, often with force

to smash *vb*
if a group is “smashed”, it is destroyed

a drug-trafficking network *exp*
an organisation that buys (or produces) and sells illegal drugs

stuck *adj*
if you're “stuck” somewhere, you can't get out of that place

private parts *n*
the external sexual organs

a laugh *n*
if you do something for a “laugh”, you do it for fun

grounds *n*
the “grounds” of a large or important building (such as a university) are the gardens or areas of land around it

somewhat *adv*
more or less

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the story titles. In what way might someone have been “stupid”? Think of at least one idea per story. 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 many police officers were in the unmarked car?
2. Where did the woman say she wanted to drive the car?
3. How many kilos of cocaine did the police lose?
4. Where were the bags of cocaine last seen?
5. When were they last seen there?
6. Why did the man climb into the sculpture?
7. How many fire-fighters came to help him get out?
8. How long has the sculpture been at the university?

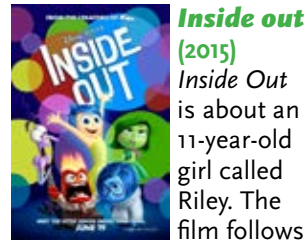
Think about it Have you seen any of the films mentioned on this page? Which ones? What did you think of them? Which ones would you like to see? Why? What do you think of animated films in general? What do you like or dislike about them? What were some of your favourite films as a child? Why did you like them?

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

By Sarah Asch

5 MOVIES FOR KIDS YOU WON'T HATE!

Here are five films that you're sure to love, no matter how old you are.



Inside out (2015) *Inside Out* is about an 11-year-old girl called Riley. The film follows

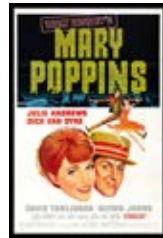
the adventures of her emotions: Joy, Sadness, Fear, Anger and Disgust. When Joy and Sadness (who are each played by different characters) get lost in Riley's mind, her life is turned upside down. Kids will love all the funny jokes and bright colours. However, adults will enjoy the way the film deals with important themes such as love, honesty and accepting change in a completely original way.



How to Train your Dragon (2010) Hiccup is a teenager from the island

of Berk where fighting dragons is a way of life. After secretly befriending one of the fiery beasts, he learns that they aren't that dangerous after all. Kids will be fascinated by the action and humour, while adults will be attracted by the beautiful score, the spectacular animation and a highly-original plot based around a mythical creature.

Mary Poppins (1964) *Mary Poppins* is about an English nanny who brings a bit of magic into the lives of two children. Kids will



marvel as she cleans their room at the snap of her fingers, or takes them into chalk pavement pictures. Adults will appreciate the subtle ironies. For example, the song *Sister Suffragette* is sung by Mrs Banks who is fighting for women's rights... when she isn't being a devoted housewife.



Shrek (2001) *Shrek* is about an ogre who is on a mission to rescue a princess. Kids love it

because it's full of fairytale characters, including the big bad wolf, the gingerbread man and Snow White. Adults will enjoy listening to the funny characters, especially Shrek's companion Donkey, who is voiced by Eddie Murphy. He turns his dialogue into a hilarious stand-up routine. "Before this is over I'm gonna need a whole lot of serious therapy," Donkey exclaims at one point.



Frozen (2013) *Frozen* is about two princesses, Elsa and Anna. Elsa has a secret

power, and accidentally uses it to cast a spell on the kingdom, placing it in an eternal winter. Horrified, she runs away, leaving the city covered in snow and ice. Anna joins up with mountaineer Kristoff and

his reindeer sidekick to find Elsa and break the spell. Children will love the jokes and songs. However, adults will appreciate the movie for its ironic touches on Disney stereotypes. For example, the song *Love is an Open Door* jokes about the idea of falling in love at first sight and living happily ever after. *

GLOSSARY

- joy** *n* happiness
- disgust** *n* a feeling of very strong dislike
- to turn upside down** *exp* if your life is "turned upside down", everything changes in it
- a way of life** *exp* if you say that something is a "way of life", you're saying that it's the normal or usual thing that people do
- to befriend** *vb* to make friends with
- a fiery beast** *n* a dragon; a monster that breathes fire
- a score** *n* the music for a film
- a plot** *n* the story for a film and what happens in it
- to marvel** *vb* if you "marvel" at something, you show that you really like and admire it
- at the snap of her fingers** *exp* when you "snap" your fingers, you make a sharp sound by moving your middle finger quickly across your thumb
- a pavement picture** *n* a drawing that someone has done on the pavement (the part of the road that you walk on)
- a suffragette** *n* "suffragettes" were women who fought for the right for women to vote in the early 20th century. Some women were given the vote in 1918 in the UK, and all women over 21 were allowed to vote in 1928
- devoted** *adj* a "devoted" husband or wife, loves his/her partner a lot
- a housewife** *n* a woman who works at home, doing the cleaning, cooking, etc.
- hilarious** *adj* very funny
- a stand-up routine** *n* if a comedian does a "stand-up routine", he/she tells jokes, funny stories, etc. in front of an audience
- therapy** *n* the treatment of someone with a mental illness through a series of sessions with a psychologist, etc.
- to cast a spell on** *exp* if you "cast a spell on" a person or place, you put magic on them
- a sidekick** *n* a person who accompanies or helps an important or powerful person
- an ironic touch** *exp* an example in a story of something that is unusual or funny because it shows a contradiction, a contrast, an unusual situation, etc.
- a stereotype** *n* a fixed general image of something. For example, a Disney "stereotype" is the typical image of a fairy tale story with a prince and princess that ends happily

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the film titles in the text. Have you seen any of the movies? What are they about? What did you think of them?

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which movie sounds the most interesting? Why?

3 Reading II

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

1. It's about an English nanny who can perform magic.
2. It's about an 11-year-old girl and her emotions.
3. One of the main stars places her kingdom in an eternal winter.
4. The plot is based around a mythical creature that flies.
5. It features a song about falling in love.
6. It features a talking donkey and lots of fairytale characters.
7. The film deals with issues such as accepting change.

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What famous mysteries have you heard about? What are some famous mysteries from your country? What do you like or dislike about mysteries? Which of these two stories is the spookiest? Why?

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

© TRACK 11: ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN



TWO SPOOKY MYSTERIES

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the story titles. What do you think the stories are about? What do you think might have happened? In what way is the story spooky? 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. What was the weather like on the night of 8th February?
2. What appeared around East and South Devon?
3. How long was the path the footprints seemed to follow?
4. Who or what do some people think might have been responsible for the prints?
5. Where is Overtoun Bridge?
6. When was it donated to the local people?
7. How far do the dogs that jump off the bridge fall?
8. Where exactly on the bridge do they jump from?

Here are two **spooky** mysteries to keep you awake at night.

The footprints

During the winter of 1855, much of England was covered in snow. On the night of 8th February, strange **footprints** appeared around East and South Devon (an area in the south of England). The unusual prints were about 6cm deep, and there was a distance of about 20cm between them. Curiously, they continued on a more or less straight **path** for over 150km, passing over any **obstacle**: rooftops, walls, hills, frozen rivers... On top of that, during that same period, several **witnesses** in the area claimed that they'd seen a "**diabolical figure**". Recently, in March 2009, similar **traces** appeared in the same area. There have been several explanations. Some claim it may have been a rat or mouse, others say it could have been an escaped kangaroo, but many are convinced it was the work of the **devil**.

The bridge

Overtoun Bridge is an **arched** bridge in West Dumbartonshire (Scotland). It lies within the **estate** of Overtoun House, a 19th-century country **manor** that **overlooks** the village of Milton. Built around 1860, it was **donated** to the people of Dumbarton in 1938. However, since then, it has become famous as a place where dogs, for no logical reason, **commit suicide**. The incidents were first recorded around the 1950s when it was noticed that dogs would suddenly jump off the bridge and fall the 16 metres to their deaths. In some cases, the dogs would **survive**, get better then **leap off** the bridge again. What makes this even more mysterious is that many of the dogs jump from the same side and from almost the same **spot**: between the final two **parapets** on the right-hand side of the bridge. Some believe that the bridge is haunted. In 1994, a man threw his baby son off the bridge, claiming he was the **anti-Christ**. Later,

the man attempted to kill himself by jumping off the same bridge.

Spooky! ✨

GLOSSARY

spooky *adj*
scary or frightening

a footprint *n*
a mark in the ground or snow made by someone's foot or shoe

a path *n*
a long strip of ground that you walk along

an obstacle *n*
an object that makes it difficult for you to go where you want to go, or something that stops you from progressing

a witness *n*
someone who sees a crime or incident

diabolical *adj*
very bad or horrible

a trace *n*
a "trace" of something is a small amount of it

the devil *n*
the most powerful evil spirit in Christianity

arched *adj*
an arched building is curved at the top, like half a circle

an estate *n*
a large area of land in the country which is owned by a person, family, etc.

a manor *n*
a large private house in the country, often from the Middle Ages. It includes the land and smaller buildings around it

to overlook *vb*
if a building "overlooks" a village (for example), you can see the village from the building, often because it's on a high point

to donate *vb*
if you "donate" something to someone, you give it to them, often in order to help

to commit suicide *exp*
to kill yourself

to survive *vb*
if you "survive" an accident, you don't die in that accident

to leap off *phr vb*
to jump off

a spot *n*
a place

a parapet *n*
a low wall along the edge of a bridge or roof

the anti-Christ *n*
the devil (see above)

Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you travelled into the city? How did you get into the centre? Why did you choose that means of transport over the others? What were the advantages? What's your favourite form of transport?

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

TRACK 12: ENGLISHMAN & IRISHMAN

IT'S YOUR
TURN TO
PAY!

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

If you had to travel into the city where you live (or near where you live), what means of transport would you use? What are the pros and cons of each type? Add two more ideas to each item on the list below.

- Car – you have to find a parking space, it's faster, it's more convenient...
 - Bus – it's cheap, you don't have to find a parking space...
 - Metro / underground – it's fast...
 - Taxi
 - Bicycle
 - Walking
- Other?

Note!

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

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to two people chatting about getting into the city. They start talking about the congestion charge. The congestion charge is a fee drivers pay to drive into Central London between 07:00 and 18:00 on Mondays to Fridays. It costs £11.50 per car if you pay in advance. There's a £65 fine if you drive into the zone and you haven't paid. What are the pros and cons of such a scheme?

Make notes. Then, listen once to compare your ideas.

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, choose the correct words in each sentence.

1. Karl has got some tickets for a theatre show on **Saturday/Sunday** afternoon.
2. He's got **one/two** spare ticket/s.
3. The play is a comedy and his **nephew/cousin** is in it.
4. They arrange to meet up outside the theatre at **5pm/6pm**.
5. Karl thinks the congestion charge is **£10/£20**.
6. Dave once got fined **£40/£50**.
7. Karl thinks the charge could help to **increase/reduce** the number of cars in the centre.
8. Dave thinks that it might be **good/bad** for business.
9. Karl hopes they'll pedestrianise **more/less** of the centre too.

4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct words.



Getting into the city

Audio script

Karl and Dave are having a chat in a pub. They're talking about the congestion charge – an amount of money you pay if you want to drive into London.

Dave: So, you got any plans for the weekend?

Karl: Not really, I think I'll just, erm, you know, take it easy. It's been a bit of a busy week.

Dave: Yeah, I know what you mean.

Karl: Oh, but, erm, I've some tickets for a theatre show on Sunday (1) _____. I've got a spare ticket if you fancy coming along.

Dave: That sounds good. What's the (2) _____?

Karl: It's some sort of comedy – nothing special. It's in, like, this little (3) _____ just off Marley Street. My cousin's in it – that's how I got the (4) _____.

Dave: Oh, right, that sounds great.

Karl: We could meet up just outside the theatre at, like, 6pm. It starts at, erm, 6:15, I think.

Dave: Great.

Karl: I'll send you the details by (5) _____.

Dave: OK. So, erm, how will you be getting into the centre?

Karl: Well, I was gonna drive, but, like, with the congestion charge plus (6) _____, it's just too expensive.

Dave: Yeah, tell me about it. I heard that they're planning to increase the (7) _____ too.

Karl: It's like 10 pounds now, isn't it?

Dave: Something like that, but I got fined last time for not paying in (8) _____ – it cost me 50 pounds!

Karl: Fifty pounds! That's outrageous. Although I do, like, think it's a good idea in principle. I mean, it's gonna reduce the number of cars in the centre and cut down on (9) _____.

Dave: Yeah, but some people who work there need to drive in. So, it's bad for business, isn't it?

Karl: Well, I don't know about that – I mean, the public transport (10) _____ is pretty good, but what I like is that there'll be fewer cars, and, like, less pollution. Hopefully, they'll pedestrianise more areas too, and make it more, erm, people-friendly.

Dave: Yeah, but lots of small business owners need to get their goods to the (11) _____. You know, shops need to have deliveries.

Karl: I guess so, but I think they've got, like, a reduced rate for people with businesses in the centre.

Dave: Yeah, maybe, so what time... [fades out] ☺

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Useful words



Living room



Hall



Kitchen



Bathroom



Bedroom



Dining room



Toilet



Drive



Front garden



Garden (back garden)



Sofa



Rug



Carpet



Coat stand



Umbrella stand

Useful expressions

Just arrived

You say...

- Sorry I'm late. The traffic was terrible.
- These (flowers) are for you. / Here's a **little something** for you.

- What a lovely house!
- How long have you been living here?

They say...

- Did you get the **directions** I sent you?
- Here, let me take your coat.
- I could have **picked you up** from the station.
- Come in and **make yourself at home**.

Drinks

They say...

- Can I get you anything to drink?
- Would you like a cup of tea? I've just put the **kettle** on.
- Milk and sugar?

You say...

- I'll have a cup of tea, please.
- Just a bit of milk, please.
- I'll have whatever you're having.

Leaving

You say...

- Do you know what time the last train leaves?
- Can I get a taxi from here?
- It's late. I think we should get going.
- Thank you for such a lovely evening.

They say...

- You must come again sometime.
- Can I give you a lift anywhere?
- Do come again!

Note

If you're invited to a lunch or dinner, it's typical to bring something with you such as a bottle of wine, a box of chocolates, some flowers, etc.

Dialogue: the visit

Maria has arrived at Peter's house for lunch. Complete the dialogue with correct words.

Jack: [The doorbell rings.] Maria. At last! We were getting worried.

Maria: Hi, sorry I'm late.

Jack: Did you get the (1) _____ I sent?

Maria: Yes, thanks, but I came by train in the end, and then walked from the (2) _____.

Jack: You should have told me – I would have come to pick you up.

Maria: Oh, well, next time!

Jack: Of course. Now, let me take your (3) _____. And come in.

Maria: Thanks! [looking around] Nice garden.

Jack: Thanks! It's a lot of work!

Maria: I can imagine.

Jack: [Two children come rushing out.] Oh, these are my (4) _____. This is Ben, he's 8. Say hi.

Ben: Hi.

Jack: And this is Lily, she's 10.

Lily: Pleased to meet you.

Maria: Pleased to meet you.

[to Jack] They're lovely.

Jack: They aren't always this polite.

Maria: Oh, I got you this. [She hands him some chocolates.]

Jack: Oh, thanks so much.

Maria: [walking into the hall] I love the (5) _____.

Jack: Thanks. I got it in India. So, can I get you anything to drink? I was just about to put the (6) _____ on.

Maria: Oh, yes, I'd love a cup of (7) _____, please.

Jack: Milk and sugar?



Maria: Just milk, please.

Jack: Er, let me **show you around**.

Maria: Yes, that would be nice.

Jack: Well, this is the (8) _____.

Maria: Very **cosy**. Is that you in the photo?

Jack: Yes, but I was a bit younger then. And through here is the (9) _____. Small, but functional.

Maria: That smells delicious. What is it?

Jack: Oh, just a little something I'm preparing for (10) _____.

Maria: Exciting!

Jack: Anyway, come on upstairs, I'll show you the bedrooms. Daisy will be back a bit later. She's in her karate class. Now, tell me, what have you... [fades out] ✨

GLOSSARY

- a little something ⁿ
- a little present
- directions ⁿ
- notes on how to arrive at a place
- to pick up ^{phr vb}
- to collect someone by car from the train station, etc.
- make yourself at home ^{exp}
- make yourself comfortable
- a kettle ⁿ
- a metal device for boiling water so you can make tea, coffee, etc.
- to show around ^{phr vb}
- if someone "shows you around", they show you the rooms in the house

HOW TO LEARN DIFFICULT WORDS IN ENGLISH!

What do you do if you're having problems learning a word? Next time, you might want to try using some **mnemonics**.

Some words are easier to learn than others. For example, there are thousands of **cognates** in English, such as the word "education", which is almost identical in French ("éducation") and Spanish ("educación").

In other cases, you can guess the meaning of words through the **context**. However, some words are just really hard to learn as they just don't seem to have any relation to

any other words you know. So, what can you do?

Simple! Use mnemonics! Mnemonics are devices to help you remember things. There are a variety of them, including rhymes, spelling **acronyms** and sentence mnemonics. Visual mnemonics with pictures or images are really good for learning words.

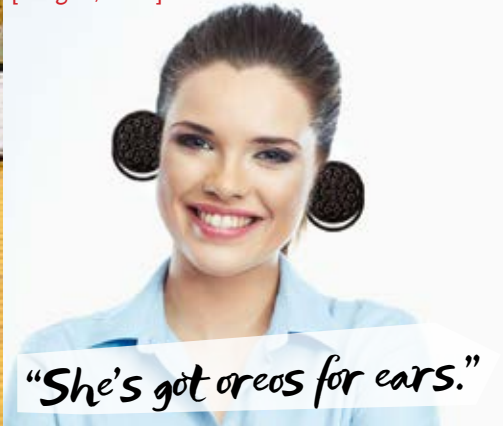
In order to create your own visual mnemonic, you need to think about

the word. What does it sound like? What does it make you think of? What does it rhyme with? Once you've established this, you can create an image that captures the word in your mind. And in order for this to work, your images need to be clear, distinct, strong and, if possible, a little bit crazy. Finally, write a sentence with your new word to help you remember it. We asked a few people for their examples of visual mnemonics.

1 I was having difficulties with the French word "escargot", which means "snail". So, I put together an image of an enormous snail travelling on a cargo ship. [Frank, Australia]



2 I used "oreos" to help me learn the Spanish word "orejas" (which means "ears"). I created a picture of a girl with oreos on her ears. It really helped me. [Abigail, USA]



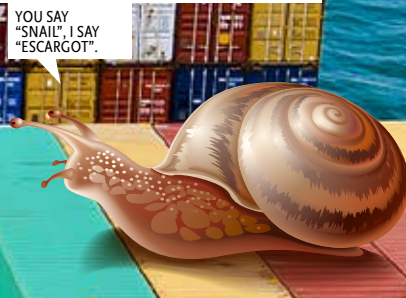
3 I kept forgetting the word for "trousers" in German, which is "Hose". So, I came up with a picture of some really dirty trousers that were being cleaned with a garden hose. [Sophie, Scotland]



4 I was learning Norwegian and was having problems with the word "mulighet", which means "opportunity, capability, chance, possibility", etc. So, I came up with an image using a "mule" because this word sounds a bit like a part of the word I wanted to learn." [Pete, England]



5 I've always found the word "abduct" hard to remember. So, I put together an image of a pirate abducting a duck, because "abduct" sounds a bit like duck. [David, Spain]



ONLINE FLASHCARD SOLUTIONS

One good way of testing yourself with your mnemonics is to use flashcards. There are lots of websites that have flashcard programs that are great for learning. One of these is Anki (<http://ankisrs.net>). It shows you one side of the flashcard and you have to guess what's on the other side. It also uses "spaced repetition". For example, if you find one of the cards easy, it won't ask you again for a while. However, if you found it hard, it'll ask you again the following day. This program can really help you learn things. Another great site is memrise (www.memrise.com).

GLOSSARY

- a mnemonic** 1) a device or technique for learning or remembering something
- a cognate** 1) a word that has the same origin or root in several languages. For example, "garden" (English), "jardin" (French) and "jardín" (Spanish) are all cognates
- a context** 1) the context of a word or sentence consists of the topic in general, and the words or sentences before and after it
- an acronym** 1) a word composed of the first letters of the words in a phrase. For example, LOL = laughing out loud

HOW ENGLISH UNLOCKED CAN HELP YOU LEARN ENGLISH!



The aim of our course book series *English Unlocked* is to help you speak and understand English quickly and effectively.



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there are lots of useful words and expressions in the reading and listening articles and recordings, as well as in the language activity texts.



2 Listening

Listening is key for language learning, so there are lots of listening activities in English Unlocked. The listenings are

graded, so lower-level students can benefit from slightly slower speech, and at higher levels there are conversations with several participants and background sounds to simulate real-life situations. The pre-listening activities will activate your existing knowledge of the topic. Then, the initial listening activity is designed to get you to listen for gist – to get a general understanding of the text. This is followed by comprehension exercises, and a gap-fill activity so you can focus on individual word sounds.



3 Reading

Reading is another important part of language learning. So, you'll find lots of reading activities in English

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your level. The pre-reading activities will activate your existing knowledge of the topic. Then, the initial reading activity is designed to get you to skim the text – to get a general understanding of it. This is followed by vocabulary and comprehension exercises to check that you've understood the material. There are also lots of reading exercises in the language sections.



4 Speaking

There are lots of opportunities to speak in English Unlocked. The free speaking tasks on the last page of each unit allow you to practise what

you've learnt. While you're doing this, your teacher will be making notes on an Error Correction Sheet. So, during the speaking task, focus on communicating messages. Later, your teacher will go over any errors. Other speaking activities are designed to build up your confidence and fluency. These include the language drills, the question-answer sessions, the pair-work activities and the discussions.



5 Writing

Many of the writing activities are linked in directly to other tasks. So, after a listening, reading or speaking activity, there may be

a writing task that's related to this. There are also writing tasks linked into the language activities, and which are often extension exercises based on the task. There are also lots of sample writing texts that you can use as models on which to base your own writing.



6 Pronunciation

With English Unlocked you'll learn lots about aspects of pronunciation such as connected speech,

sentence stress and intonation. There are also activities to help you distinguish different word sounds, and develop a better ear for the language. This will also benefit your listening skills.



7 Homework

Doing homework is an excellent way of reinforcing and developing language skills, and as

a way for you to take more control of your learning – something that is essential if you want to see real progress. As part of the course, your teacher will set activities that you can do at home.



8 Testing

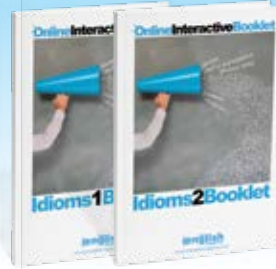
The Progress Tests are a way of recording your progress by evaluating your language

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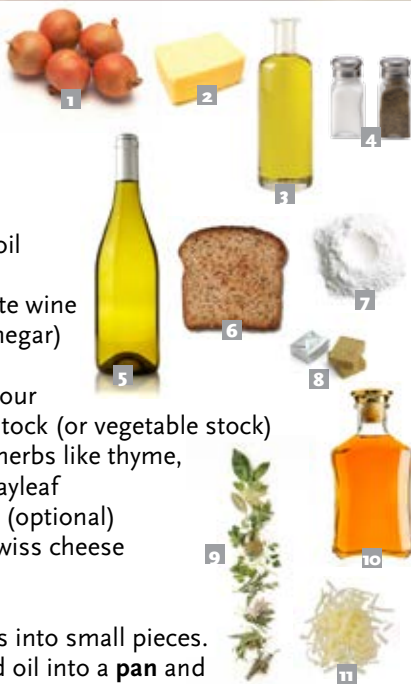
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FRENCH ONION SOUP

This delicious recipe is said to be perfect for a hangover or a broken heart.



Ingredients

- 1 5 onions (1 kilo)
- 2 2 knobs of butter
- 3 A drizzle of olive oil
- 4 Salt, pepper
- 5 A glass of dry white wine (or apple cider vinegar)
- 6 Toasted bread
- 7 A tablespoon of flour
- 8 One litre of beef stock (or vegetable stock)
- 9 A bunch of dried herbs like thyme, rosemary and a bayleaf
- 10 Cognac or brandy (optional)
- 11 A cup of grated Swiss cheese

Steps

1. Slice up the onions into small pieces.
2. Add the butter and oil into a **pan** and cook the onions on a medium heat.
3. Season with salt. **Stir** from time to time for about 30 minutes.
4. When the onions are looking nice and brown, **pour** in the wine.
5. Add a tablespoon of flour. Mix well and stir for about a minute.
6. Add the stock and dried herbs and let the soup **simmer** for about 20 minutes.
7. **Season** the soup and add a **dash of** cognac or brandy for added flavour.
8. Pour the soup into little bowls.
9. Rub the toasted bread with garlic, and float the toast on top of the soup.
10. **Sprinkle** with grated cheese and put the bowls into a pre-heated oven.
11. When the cheese is golden, the soup is ready. ☺

VIDEO

YouTube

Search YouTube for "Classic French Onion Soup | French Guy Cooking".

GLOSSARY

a pan *n*
a metal container for cooking food
to stir *vb*
if you "stir" food, you use a large spoon to move it in the pan so it mixes and cooks
to pour *vb*
if you "pour" liquid from container A to container B, you put the liquid from container A into container B
to simmer *vb*
to cook on a low heat
to season *vb*
to add salt and pepper
a dash of *exp*
a small quantity of
to sprinkle *vb*
if you "sprinkle" cheese (for example) over toast, you put a small amount of cheese over the toast

FRIENDS



The TV series *Friends* lasted 10 seasons from September 1994 to May 2004. These days, it's still popular, with a new generation of fans watching the series online. In this clip from the 10th season, the gang (Rachel, Ross, Phoebe, Joey, Chandler and Monica) have just returned from a trip to Barbados. Rachel has brought her daughter Emma to Ross's apartment. Rachel needs to talk to Ross, but she's interrupted by an unexpected disaster.

The script

Ro=Ross Ra=Rachel



ARE WE STILL FRIENDS?

[There's a knock on the door. Ross answers. Rachel and baby Emma are there.]

Ro: I'm sorry, I'm sorry, you were saying? [Ross continues to empty his bag.]

Ra: Oh, yeah. OK, look it's about me and...

Ro: Oh, not another one! Oh, my... and this is **moisturiser**. It's even harder to clean! Why? Why do bad things happen to good people?

Ra: Wow! Well, clearly this is not a good time.

Ro: YOU THINK? ☺

Ro: Hi! There she is. Hi, Emma. Oh my God I missed you. Oh, Emma I **missed** you so much. Hi. Did you have a good time with grandma Green? **Huh?** Did she give you a bottle of **anti-depressants** again, to use as a **rattle**?

Ra: That was one time, Ross. And they were only like 5 milligrams.

Ro: Oh, hey, Emma, daddy has some presents for you. OK? OK? I want you to wait right here. Come here, **sweetie**. [Ross puts Emma in the baby cot.]

Ra: Ah. Ross, erm, actually there's something that, erm, I really need to talk to you about.

Ro: OK, **shoot!** [Ross goes over to open his bag.]

Ra: OK. Erm, alright **here's the deal**...

Ro: [looking in his bag] OH NO!

Ra: What? What is it?

Ro: Oh, major **shampoo explosion!** [Ross begins pulling things out of his bag, covered in shampoo.]

Ro: Oh, look Ross, this really isn't easy...

Ro: [looking in his bag] Oh, it's all over everything! Why? Why me?

Ra: Because you took 300 bottles of shampoo?

VIDEO

YouTube

Search YouTube for "Friends shampoo explosion".

GLOSSARY

to last *vb*
if a TV show (for example) "lasts" for 10 years, it appears on TV for 10 years
a season *n*
TV shows are often divided into seasons, with anything between 6-20 episodes per season
to miss *vb*
if you "miss" someone, you feel sad because you aren't with them
huh? *exp*
this sound is often used to show surprise or that you haven't understood something, or to ask someone to agree with you
anti-depressants *n*
a drug that is used to treat people who are suffering from depression
a rattle *n*
a baby's toy with loose bits inside which make a noise when the baby shakes it
sweetie *exp*
you can call someone "sweetie" if you like them a lot, especially if they're younger than you
a cot *n*
a special bed for a baby
shoot! *exp*
Tell me! / Talk! / Ask me!
here's the deal *exp*
this is the situation
a shampoo explosion *n*
if there's a "shampoo explosion", a bottle of shampoo opens in your bag and covers everything in shampoo
moisturiser *n*
a cream that you put on your skin to make it feel softer and smoother

12 IMPORTANT PROVERBS & SAYINGS!

Every culture has its sayings and proverbs – phrases that offer little pieces of advice or **wisdom**. Here are some common ones from English-speaking countries. Read over the proverbs and see if you can guess the meaning. Then, listen to the article to check your answers. Notice how in many cases we don't say the entire proverb – just a part of it.



1 “There’s no such thing as a free lunch.”

Nothing in life is free – there’s always a condition or hidden cost.

- A** Hey, they’re offering a free iPad to everyone who turns up.
B Yeah, but then you probably have to sign up for their mobile network in order to get it. There’s no such thing as a free lunch!



2 “People who live in glass houses shouldn’t throw stones.”

Don’t criticise other people if you aren’t perfect yourself.

- A** That’s the third time she’s arrived late for the meeting!
B Yeah, but you aren’t the most punctual person in the world. As they say, people in glass houses...



3 “Good things come to those who wait.”

Be patient and something good will happen to you.

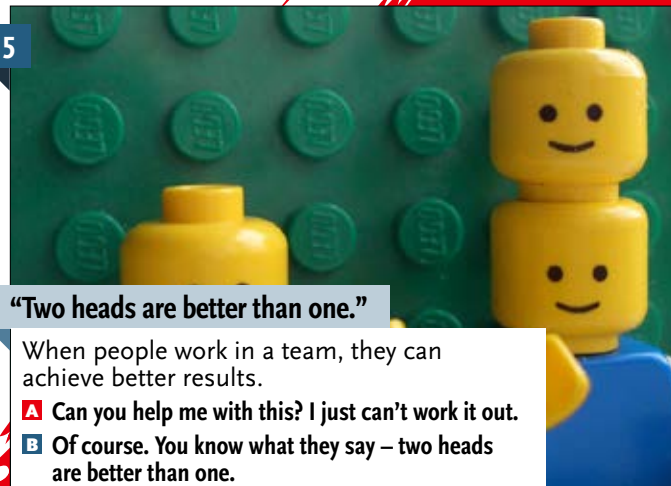
- A** Are we there yet? We’ve been in the car for ages!
B Only twenty minutes more. The view is worth it, I promise. Good things come to those who wait.



4 “Don’t put all your eggs in one basket.”

Don’t depend on just one thing; don’t put all your money into one investment because you could lose it all.

- A** I was thinking about investing my savings in this new tech company.
B I wouldn’t put all my eggs in one basket if I were you.



5 “Two heads are better than one.”

When people work in a team, they can achieve better results.

- A** Can you help me with this? I just can’t work it out.
B Of course. You know what they say – two heads are better than one.



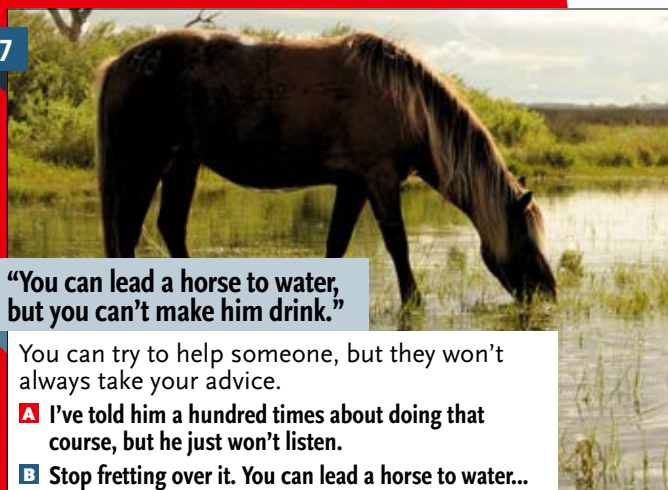
6 “Absence makes the heart grow fonder.”

You start to love people or places more when you’re away from them.

- A** So, do you miss your family much?
B Yes, especially as I don’t see them so often! Absence really does make the heart grow fonder.

TWO HEADS ARE
BETTER THAN ONE

7



“You can lead a horse to water, but you can’t make him drink.”

You can try to help someone, but they won’t always take your advice.

- A** I’ve told him a hundred times about doing that course, but he just won’t listen.
- B** Stop fretting over it. You can lead a horse to water...

8



“Too many cooks spoil the broth.”

When there are too many people in charge of something the results won’t be good.

- A** I don’t know how we’re ever going to get this done in time with all these people here.
- B** Yes, too many cooks...

9



“Take care of the pennies and the pounds will take care of themselves.”

If you’re careful with small amounts of money, those small amounts will soon grow into bigger amounts.

- A** Why do you bother with all those supermarket coupons?
- B** Every bit counts. Remember what they say, if you take care of the pennies...

10



“If at first you don’t succeed, try and try again.”

Don’t give up if you fail the first time. Just keep trying and you’ll succeed in the end.

- A** I give up. I just can’t do it.
- B** Remember what they say, if at first you don’t succeed...

11

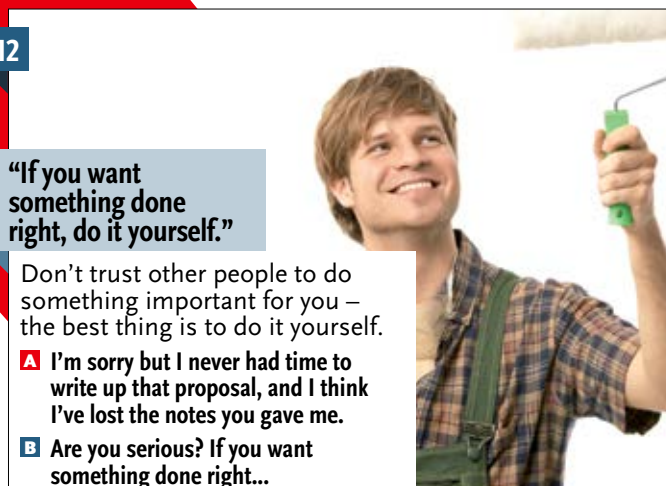


“Honesty is the best policy.”

The best thing is to tell the truth.

- A** I don’t know whether I should tell her what I really think of her boyfriend.
- B** I’ve always found that honesty is the best policy.

12



“If you want something done right, do it yourself.”

Don’t trust other people to do something important for you – the best thing is to do it yourself.

- A** I’m sorry but I never had time to write up that proposal, and I think I’ve lost the notes you gave me.
- B** Are you serious? If you want something done right...

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Do you know anyone who has got their revenge lately? What happened? Have you read any stories about people getting their revenge? What did it involve? What are the pros and cons of getting your revenge? Are there any spite homes in your country? Why were they built?

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

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HOW TO GET YOUR REVENGE... WITH A HOME!

Feeling angry with someone? Want to get your revenge?

Why not build a **spite home**? They're specially designed to annoy your neighbours. Here are a couple of famous ones from the US.



1 The Nevada Spite House (Nevada)

A Nevada man bought an area of land next door to one of his enemies. Then built his own home less than half a metre away. This blocked his neighbour's view and **cut off** any **ventilation** for that side of the house.



2 The Tyler Spite House (Maryland)

A local doctor built the Tyler Spite House in 1814 to prevent the town from placing a road through his property. A local law stated that the city couldn't build a road if there was any building work in progress along the planned route. So, the clever doctor quickly got to work on his mansion.

3 The Alameda Spite House (California)

The Alameda Spite House in northern California is 6.1 metres high, 3 metres wide and 16 metres long. A local legend says that the owner



of the house next door sold a small **parcel of land** to a local **carpenter**. Some years later, there was an argument between the two men.

As a result, the carpenter built a house with a solid wall facing his neighbour's house, just **out of spite**!



4 The Hollensbury Spite House (Virginia)

Built in 1830, the Hollensbury Spite House is just 2.1 metres wide. It was constructed by the owner of one of the buildings next door. Apparently, he was **fed up** of people using the alley next to his house as a place to **loiter**.



5 The Skinny House (Boston)

A dispute over an inheritance between brothers resulted in the **Skinny House**. One brother reportedly built a large house on land he shared with his brother. When the second brother returned from serving in the military, he built the skinny house.

It's four **storeys** tall and blocks out the sunlight on one side of the other house.



6 Equality House (Kansas)

Equality House is directly opposite the Westboro Baptist Church, whose members are known for their extreme anti-gay views. Aaron Jackson, who **runs** the non-profit group Planting Peace, deliberately chose the home because of its location, and painted it in the bright rainbow colours of the Gay Pride flag. It was finally completed and **unveiled** in March 2013.

How spiteful! ☺

GLOSSARY

a spite home *n*
a house that someone builds to annoy another person (see below for literal definition of spite)

to cut off *phr vb*
if you "cut off" light (for example) in a building, you stop light from entering that building

ventilation *n*
if a house has good "ventilation", fresh air can enter it

a parcel of land *n*
an area of land where you can build something

a carpenter *n*
a person whose job is to make things from wood

out of spite *exp*
if you do something "out of spite", you do it in order to hurt another person

fed up of *exp*
if you're "fed up of" (or "with") something, you're tired of that thing and want it to stop

to loiter *vb*
if you "loiter" in a place, you stay, wait or stand there for no purpose or reason

skinny *adj*
very thin

a storey *n*
a level of a house. For example, a "three-storey" house has three levels

to run *vb*
if you "run" an organisation, you're in charge of it and you manage it

to unveil *vb*
when something new (such as a home, for example) is "unveiled", it is shown to the public for the first time. Sometimes, this involves pulling away a curtain to reveal it

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

You're going to read an article about how a home can be used as a form of revenge. Look at the list of ideas below. Which ones would be the most justified?

Building a home to...

1. ...get your revenge against a relative who treated you badly.
2. ...stop a road being built through your property.
3. ...annoy a group of people whose views you find obnoxious.
4. ...get back at someone who you argued with.
5. ...block your neighbour's view and cut off any ventilation.
6. ...prevent people gathering or loitering beside your home.

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which home is the most spiteful? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a home next to each point (1 to 6) from the Pre-reading activity.

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Do you know anyone who has ever sued another person or organisation? What were they trying to achieve? How easy is it to sue someone in your country? What is involved in the process? Have you ever thought about suing someone? Who? Why? Have you heard any stories of ridiculous lawsuits? What were they about?

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

🎧 TRACK 16: ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN



By Sarah Asch

FOUR RIDICULOUS LAWSUITS

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the four story titles. What do you think the lawsuits are about? In what way might they be ridiculous? 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, write Kelly, Clardy, Lucas or Ortiz next to each statement, according to the names of the people who filed the lawsuits. He/She...

1. ...claimed an employee was disrespectful.
2. ...took some time off work as a result of the injury.
3. ...tried to sue the people who almost died helping him/her.
4. ...tried to sue the manufacturer of an item of clothing.
5. ...sought damages from the owner of the building where she worked.
6. ...claimed half a million dollars because the people helping him/her weren't fast enough.
7. ...said the incident led to a certain degree of mental torment or anguish.
8. ...claimed an item of clothing should have had a warning label on it.

Having a working justice system is important. However, sometimes things can get a bit silly, as these four lawsuits clearly show.

The employee

A woman tried to **sue** the owner of the building where she worked because she was attacked by a **seagull**. Cathie Kelly, who was injured as she was leaving work, took two weeks' **sick leave** after the attack. She claims that the owner of the building is **to blame** for "not taking sufficient care" of it. However, the court **dismissed** her case because the gull had probably come from a nearby **rubbish dump**.

The pimp

Sirgiorgio Sanford Clardy once tried to sue Nike for \$100 million. Clardy, who was a **pimp**, had been given a 100-year prison sentence for a crime he committed while wearing a pair of Nike Air Jordan **sneakers**. He reportedly kicked a customer who was trying to leave a Portland motel without paying. In the trial, Clardy claimed that the shoes he was wearing should have come with a warning label, advising wearers that when used as a weapon,

they could cause serious damage. The judge **threw** the case **out**.

The customer

A customer at McDonald's tried to sue the firm for \$1.5 million because he was only given one **napkin** in his order. Webster Lucas, 59, claims that when he asked for more, the manager became rude and unhelpful. The two men got into an argument, which quickly **escalated**. Lucas claimed that he suffered "**undue mental anguish**" as a result after he was given just one napkin. "I am an immaculately clean person," Lucas told the *Huffington Post*. "I saw food particles on the table and wanted to clean them up."

The flood victim

Floods in the Denver area in September 2014 caused substantial destruction. But thanks to the efforts of rescue workers the **death toll** wasn't as high as it might have been. One such victim, Roy Ortiz, was trapped in his car when rescue workers **risked their lives** to save his. However, Ortiz then went on to sue them for \$500,000. Ortiz claims rescue workers didn't arrive fast enough while he was trapped inside

his car, and that his **pleas for help** via mobile phone were ignored.

How ridiculous! 🌟

GLOSSARY

to sue *vb*
if you "sue" someone, you start a legal process against them in order to get compensation (money, etc.)

a seagull *n*
a large grey and white bird that lives near the sea

sick leave *n*
if you take "sick leave", you spend time away from work because you're sick or ill

to blame *exp*
if you say that someone is "to blame" for a bad thing, you're saying that this person is responsible for this bad thing

to dismiss *vb*
if a judge "dismisses" a case, he/she says that the case cannot continue because there's no evidence, etc.

a rubbish dump *n*
an area of land where rubbish is placed

a pimp *n*
a person who manages and controls prostitutes. As part of their work, they get clients, take money from the prostitutes, etc.

sneakers *n US*
shoes you wear to do sports. "Trainers" in British English

to throw out *phr vb*
if a judge "throws out" a case, he/she says that the trial/case cannot continue because there's no evidence, etc.

a napkin *n*
a small piece of soft paper you use to clean your face/hands, etc. when you're eating

to escalate *vb*
if a bad situation "escalates", it becomes worse, bigger, more serious, etc.

undue *adj*
if you say that something is "undue", you mean that it's greater or more extreme than you think is reasonable or appropriate

mental anguish *exp*
if something causes you "mental anguish", it makes you suffer and feel mental pain

the death toll *n*
the number of people who have died in an incident. For example, if the "death toll" is 30, then 30 people have died

to risk your life *exp*
if you "risk your life", you do something dangerous that could kill you

a plea for help *exp*
if there's a "plea for help", someone asks for help desperately because they're in danger

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you visited any of these landmarks? What did you think of them? Which ones would you like to visit? What famous landmarks are there in your country? What were they built for? What purpose do they serve?

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

© TRACK 17: ENGLISHMAN & US WOMAN

By Sarah Asch

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT THESE FAMOUS LANDMARKS?



Who built the pyramids? When did Big Ben start ticking? And what was Stonehenge used for? Here are some interesting facts about famous landmarks.

The Statue of Liberty

The Statue of Liberty is the symbol of American freedom, but did you know it was made in France? At a height of 46.5 metres*, the statue (which was installed in 1886) was a gift to the United States from the French government.

The Golden Gate Bridge

During the 50th anniversary celebrations for the Golden Gate Bridge, so many people walked across it that the middle of the bridge sank over two metres. The bridge (which was opened in 1937) is actually red, but is called "golden" because gold was discovered in California.

The Eiffel Tower

The Eiffel Tower was built for the World's Fair in 1889, and was supposed to be taken down about 20 years later, especially as many people thought it was so ugly. These days, because of its height (it's 324 metres tall), the Eiffel Tower is used as a wireless transmitter for radio and TV signals.

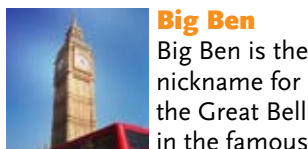
La Sagrada Familia
La Sagrada Familia is a



church in Barcelona which was designed by artist Antoni Gaudí. Construction began in 1882, but over 100 years later, it still isn't finished. The building is being financed by donations.

Stonehenge

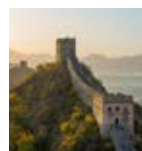
Experts are fairly certain that Stonehenge was built around 4,000 years ago. However, nobody knows what it was used for. Some believe it was a sacred burial ground. Others think it was built to study astronomy, and some are under the impression that it was used as a place to cure sick people.



Big Ben
Big Ben is the nickname for the Great Bell in the famous clock. The Great Bell, which began functioning in 1859, rings every hour. There are people whose job it is to place coins on the pendulum to correct the weight and keep the clock on time.



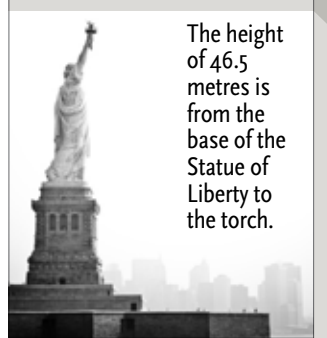
St Basil's Cathedral
Construction of St Basil's cathedral (a Russian Orthodox Church in Moscow) was completed in 1561 by the first Czar of Russia – Ivan the Terrible. St Basil is actually a nickname, and its full title is "The Cathedral of the Protection of the Most Holy Theotokos on the Moat."



The Great Wall of China

You've probably heard that you can see the Great Wall of China from space. That's technically true, though you need a strong telescope, but did you know that there are people buried inside the wall? The Great Wall of China was built over many centuries to protect China from invaders; and when workers died, they were often buried within the stone. ☺

*46.5 METRES



The height of 46.5 metres is from the base of the Statue of Liberty to the torch.

GLOSSARY

a gift *n*
a present – something you give someone for their birthday, for example
to sink *vb*
if an object "sinks", it moves to a lower position, often because it has a heavy weight on it
a wireless transmitter *n*
a "wireless transmitter" accepts signals (such as radio signals) and then translates them into a form so they can be sent over the airwaves
a donation *n*
an amount of money or something you give to a charity or other organisation to help them, etc.
sacred *adj*
a "sacred" place is holy and has a special connection with God or gods
a burial ground *n*
an area where dead people are buried (placed in the ground)
astronomy *n*
the scientific study of the stars, planets, etc.
a nickname *n*
an informal name you give to someone – it isn't their real name
a pendulum *n*
a clock's "pendulum" a piece of metal with a weight at the end. It swings from side to side in order to make the clock work
a moat *n*
an area of water around a castle. It's used to protect the castle from attack
to bury *vb*
to place a dead body in a hole in the ground

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the paragraph titles in the article on the famous landmarks. What do you know about them? When were they built? Which ones have you seen in real life?

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which fact is the most unusual or surprising?

3 Reading II

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

1. When was the Statue of Liberty installed?
2. Why did the Golden Gate Bridge sink over two metres?
3. Why is it called the "Golden" Gate Bridge when it's red?
4. What's unusual about La Sagrada Familia?
5. What three things do people think Stonehenge might have been used for?
6. Why are coins placed on Big Ben's pendulum?
7. Who completed St Basil's cathedral?
8. What unusual fact is given regarding the Great Wall of China?

NEGOTIATING

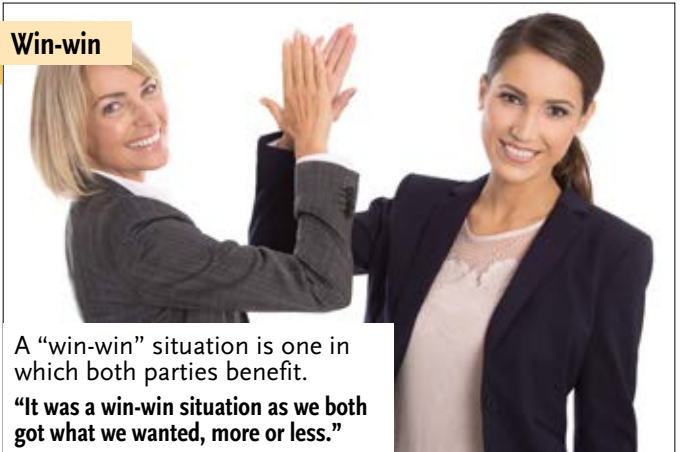
Here are some useful words and expressions for talking about negotiating.

Quote / quotation



An estimated price.
 "Could you give us a quote for 300 of the cameras, please?"

Win-win



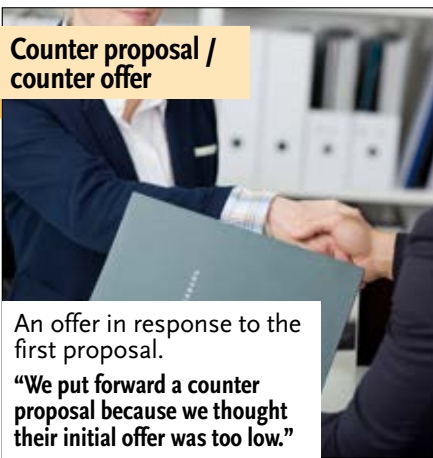
A "win-win" situation is one in which both parties benefit.
 "It was a win-win situation as we both got what we wanted, more or less."

Proposal



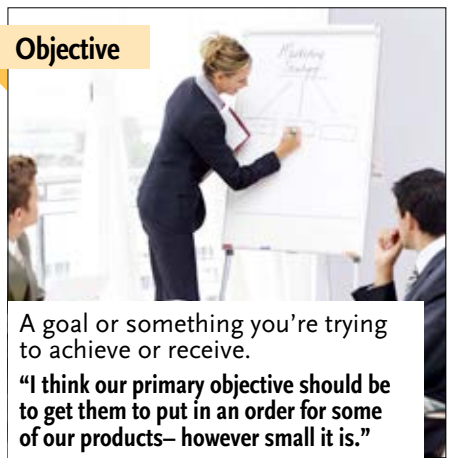
A plan or idea.
 "We listened to their proposal, then went off to discuss it."

Counter proposal / counter offer



An offer in response to the first proposal.
 "We put forward a counter proposal because we thought their initial offer was too low."

Objective



A goal or something you're trying to achieve or receive.
 "I think our primary objective should be to get them to put in an order for some of our products— however small it is."

Flexible



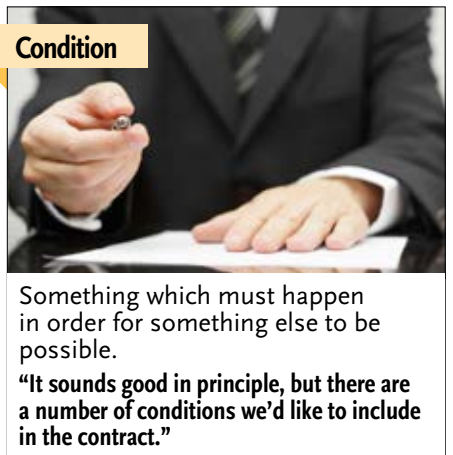
Someone who is "flexible" is open or willing to change.
 "I think we need to be a bit more flexible or they'll walk out."

Commitment



If you make a "commitment" to do something, you promise to do that thing.
 "We made a commitment to deliver the product before the 20th of every month."

Condition



Something which must happen in order for something else to be possible.
 "It sounds good in principle, but there are a number of conditions we'd like to include in the contract."

Compensate



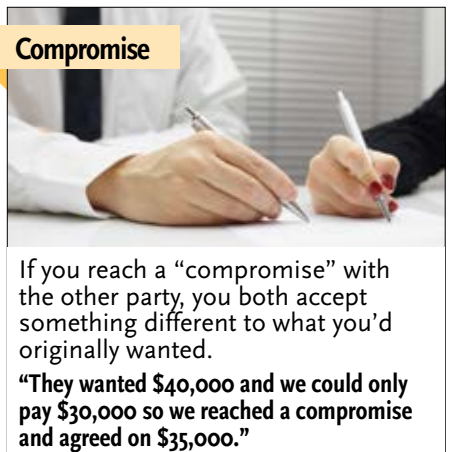
If you "compensate" someone for something bad or wrong, you do something to make the situation better.
 "If you accept the changes, we'll compensate you by paying you overtime."

Haggle



If you "haggle" over the price of something, you argue about it constantly.
 "We've been haggling over costs for weeks. I think we need to think about dropping our price a bit."

Compromise



If you reach a "compromise" with the other party, you both accept something different to what you'd originally wanted.
 "They wanted \$40,000 and we could only pay \$30,000 so we reached a compromise and agreed on \$35,000."

Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you had to introduce yourself? Who were you talking to? What are some polite ways to introduce yourself to people in your language? What do you usually say to friends when you see them after a short period of time? How do you greet them? What about friends you haven't seen for a long time? What do you say or do?

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



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

Getting to know someone

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

What questions could you ask someone who you've just met? Add at least three more questions to the list below.

- What's your name?
- Where are you from?
- How long are you staying here?
- Where are you staying?

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to a conversation between two people who are at a lunch. Listen once. How many of the questions from the Pre-listening activity did you hear?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. Where has Judith just come over from?
2. When is she flying back?
3. What does Mark have to drink?
4. What about Judith?
5. Where is Pauline from?
6. What about Wolfgang?
7. How many times has Mark been at the restaurant before?
8. What does he recommend?
9. How old was Judith when her parents moved to Brazil?
10. Which city did she once work in?
11. Where does Mark think they once met?
12. What did Judith give a speech on?

4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct words.

Audio script

Mark is at a lunch with some overseas visitors. He has just sat down next to one of the guests, Judith.

Mark: Hi, I'm Mark Schilling. Pleased to meet you.

Judith: Judith Peterson. Pleased to meet you.

Mark: You've just (1) _____, haven't you?

Judith: Yes, that's right. I fly back next week. [silence]

Waiter: Hi, can I get you anything to drink (2) _____?

Mark: I'll have an orange juice, please.

Judith: And I'll have a glass of white wine, please.

Mark: So, let me introduce you to Pauline. She's from France.

Judith: Pleased to meet you.

Pauline: And you.

Mark: And this is Wolfgang from Germany, I think you've (3) _____, haven't you?

Judith: Yes, we have. [speaking to Wolfgang] Good to see you again.

Wolfgang: And you!

Judith: [speaking to Mark] Nice restaurant. Have you been here before?

Mark: Once or twice. It's quite (4) _____.

Judith: So, what would you recommend?

Mark: The lasagne is great.

Judith: OK.

Mark: You aren't actually from Brazil, are you?
Judith: No, not exactly. My parents moved there (5) _____. I'm originally from the States.

Mark: Oh, right. That explains your perfect English! [silence] You worked in the Seattle office once, didn't you?

Judith: That's right! How did you know?

Mark: I think we met there (6) _____ – just briefly in a meeting one morning.

Judith: Oh, really?

Mark: Eerm, weren't you (7) _____ in Washington back in 2013, too?

Judith: Yes, that's right.

Mark: You (8) _____ on marketing, didn't you?

Judith: Yes, that's right. How did I do?

Mark: It was really interesting. In fact, it was one of the few talks I had time to go to.

Judith: Oh, wait a minute, didn't you come up to me afterwards and ask (9) _____?

Mark: Yes, that's it, and (10) _____.

Waiter: Here are your drinks. The white wine?

Judith: Yes, that's for me.

Waiter: And the orange juice for you. Are you ready to order now?

Judith: Yes, I think so. I'll have the...

[fades out] ☺

COUNTRIES

Learn more! Get an idioms booklet!
Over 150 useful idioms + audio files. For more information,
visit: products.learnhotenglish.com/idioms-booklet-2

Here are some idioms for you to learn. Some people may find some of these idioms offensive as they refer to nationalities, etc. So, we recommend that you don't actually use them. However, they are very useful to learn as people often use them in speech and writing.

Go Dutch



If you "go Dutch" in a restaurant, you each pay for half (50% each) of the total cost of the meal.
"I offered to pay for the meal, but she insisted that we go Dutch."

Indian file / single file



If people walk in "Indian file", they walk in a line, with one person behind the other.
"They walked through the jungle in Indian file."

Young Turk



A young person in a company, team or organisation who is rebellious and difficult to control.
"The party leadership were facing a revolt from the Young Turks, who were demanding changes to the system of voting."

It's all Greek to me



If something is "all Greek to you", it's really difficult to understand it.
"Did you hear the president's speech? I didn't understand a word – it was all Greek to me."

Trojan horse



Someone who seems to be helpful or kind but whose real intention is to trick or harm you. This expression comes from the Trojan War (around 1000 BC) when a small group of Greeks entered the city of Troy hidden inside an enormous wooden horse. They crept out of the horse at night and opened the gates for the Greek army, who defeated the Trojans.
"Many think the rebels will use the peace treaty as a Trojan horse to try and take over large areas of the country."

Chinese whispers



A situation in which information is passed on by a series of people. As a result, the information often becomes distorted, inaccurate or incorrect in the process. In US English, this is known as "the telephone game".
"All this talk about the singer getting married is just Chinese Whispers. There's no truth in it whatsoever."

Too many chiefs and not enough Indians



This expression is used to describe a situation in which there are too many managers in a company or organisation and not enough people doing any real work. Also, "too many cooks in the kitchen".
"The trouble with this company is that there are too many cooks in the kitchen."

An Englishman's home is his castle



An English person's home is a place where he can do what he wants, and no one has a right to tell him what to do.
"The government has no right to interfere in our private lives. An Englishman's home is his castle!"

Taylor Swift

By Sarah Asch

Taylor Swift's songs are a mixture of pop, rock and country. With her fifth studio album, *1989*, selling over a million copies in the first week after its release in October 2014, the American singer-songwriter has been dominating the pop music scene.



Shake it Off

This was the album's lead single. In the song, Taylor sings about not caring about what people say about her and how she'll just "shake it off".

Extract

*I'll never miss a beat, I'm lightning on my feet
And that's what they don't see mmm,
That's what they don't see mmm,
I'm dancing on my own (dancing on my own),
I make the moves up as I go (moves up as I go),
And that's what they don't know mmm.*

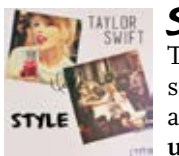


Blank Space

Taylor seems to be making fun of herself as a crazy jealous girlfriend in this song. She implies that she has a long list of ex-boyfriends, but that she's got a "blank space" on the list and she's willing to add a new name to it.

Extract

*So hey, let's be friends,
I'm dying to see how this one ends,
Grab your passport and my hand,
I can make the bad guys good for a weekend.*



Style

This song is about some sort of forbidden romance as the man is picking her up with "no headlights".

on when he drives up. With lyrics about classic red lipstick and James Dean, Taylor romanticises about the past, but also says her love won't fade because it will never "go out of style."

Extract

*Midnight, you come and pick me up,
no headlights,
Long drive, that ends in burning flames
or paradise.*

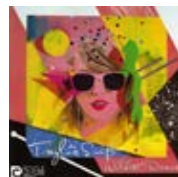


Bad Blood

Taylor released this song twice. The second version features rapper Kendrick Lamar, and is about an argument Taylor had with someone, and how they now have "bad blood".

Extract

*Did you think we'd be fine?
Still got scars on my back from your knife,
So don't think it's in the past,
These kind of wounds they last and they last now.*



Wildest Dreams

In this song, Taylor sings about a romance she knows won't last. However, she says that she hopes her romantic interest will remember the good things about her. And she thinks that it'll all be worth it if they can see each other again, even if it's just in her "wildest dreams".

Extract

*He said let's get out of this town,
Drive out of the city,
Away from the crowds,
I thought heaven can't help me now,
Nothing lasts forever,
But this is gonna take me down. ☺*

GLOSSARY

to shake it off *exp*

literally, to make something go away by moving it quickly from side to side. Metaphorically, to make a bad feeling go away

to miss a beat *exp*

if you don't "miss a beat", you don't stop or pause

lightning *n*

"lightning" is a flash of light in the sky during a storm. If you say that you're "lightning" on your feet, you're saying that you're very fast

to make up *phr vb*

to invent

a move *n*

an action or something you do

jealous *adj*

someone who is "jealous" feels angry or sad because they think another person is trying to take their lover from them

dying... *exp*

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

forbidden *adj*

something "forbidden" is prohibited or not allowed and you can't do it

to pick up *phr vb*

when someone "picks you up", they drive to where you are so you can go with them in their car

headlights *n*

the lights at the front of a car

lyrics *n*

the words to a song

to romanticise *vb*

if you "romanticise" about the past, you talk about it in a way which isn't at all realistic and which makes it seem better than it really was

to fade *vb*

to disappear slowly

to go out of style *exp*

if something "goes out of style", it isn't fashionable any more

a burning flame *exp*

literally, a hot stream of burning gas.

Metaphorically, a night of hot passion

bad blood *exp*

if there's "bad blood" between two people, they hate each other because of something that happened in the past

a scar *n*

a mark on your body where you were cut

a back *n*

the part of your body behind your chest. The singer is referring to a friend who stabbed her in the back – who betrayed her and did something bad to her

the crowds *n*

a "crowd" is a large group of people

to take you down *exp*

if something "takes you down", it destroys you or makes you sad

WE'RE ALL BAD HERE!

St Trinian's

The world's worst girls.

ST TRINIAN'S FILMS

The 2007 film, *St Trinian's*, brought the franchise up to the 21st century. It was directed by Oliver Parker and starred Rupert Everett, Colin Firth and members of the British pop group *Girls Aloud* (a group that was formed from participants of the television reality show *Popstars: The Rivals*). In this film, the school is facing **bankruptcy**. The girls must find a way to save the school. Will they be able to?

RONALD SEARLE

Ronald William Fordham Searle was born on 3rd March 1920. He studied at the Cambridgeshire College of Arts and Technology, currently known as Anglia Ruskin University. He is famous as the creator of St Trinian's School. He started drawing at the age of five and left school at the age of fifteen. When World War II broke out, he joined the Royal Engineers. During the war he was taken prisoner and spent much of the war in a prisoner of war camp. While a prisoner, he made drawings of camp life, which were later published after he was liberated in 1945 in a book called *The Naked Island*. Those interested in seeing sample pages from Ronald Searle's books should visit this site: www.kinglybooks.com

GLOSSARY

to gamble *vb*
to play games for money
a boarding school *n*
a school with rooms and beds where pupils can sleep
wild *adj*
crazy; not under control
disreputable *adj*
not respectable; not honest
self-imposed *adj*
"self-imposed" discipline comes from you, not from some outside authority
discipline *n*
if you have "discipline", you can work and live in a controlled and strict way
mischievous *adj*
naughty; badly-behaved; always getting into trouble
lacrosse *n*
a game similar to hockey played with a stick which has a little net at the end for catching or throwing the ball
a merciless world *n*
a cruel, heartless, unkind, not nice world
a franchise *n*
a film concept (including all the characters) that is copied to make other films because the idea is so successful
bankruptcy *n*
a situation in which a business cannot pay its bills (the money it owes) and may have to close

Young girls drinking, smoking, **gambling** and being violent. A teenager from 2015? Actually, these are the girls from St Trinian's school for girls who appeared in a series of cartoons during the 1940s. There have been a number of films about the school, including the 2007 movie, *St Trinian's*, starring Colin Firth, Rupert Everett and members of the group *Girls Aloud*.

The original St Trinian's cartoons are based on a fictional school called St Trinian's. The school is a **boarding school** with **wild** pupils (often well-armed) and **disreputable** teachers (or "mistresses", as female teachers in Britain were often known at the time). The cartoons were created by the British cartoonist Ronald Searle, and they often showed girls gambling, playing pool and smoking, as well as depicting the bodies of murdered school girls.

St Trinian's is actually based on a real school called St Trinnean's in Edinburgh. This school was established by Miss C. Fraser Lee and opened on 4th October 1922 with sixty girls. The school was based on the Dalton system of education, with an emphasis on **self-imposed discipline**, rather than school-imposed discipline. This caused many to say that St Trinnean's was the school "where they do what they like". Eventually, the

HURRAH FOR ST. TRINIANS



RONALD SEARLE



Timothy Gray and Ronald Searle

school moved to another building. It is now part of the University of Edinburgh, and is used for administration and conferences. One of the rooms in the building is still called "St Trinnean's" [notice the different spelling]. A number of books with cartoons were produced by Ronald Searle. These include: *Hurrah for St Trinian's* (1948); *The Female Approach* (1950); *Back to the Slaughterhouse* (1952); and *The Terror of St Trinian's* (1952). There have also been a number of comedy films, including *The Belles of St Trinian's* (1954 – the first film); *Blue Murder at St Trinian's* (1957); and *The Pure Hell of St Trinian's* (1960).

In the films, the girls come in two categories: the Fourth Form girls who are **mischievous**, with the smallest girls being the most dangerous, often armed with a weapon such as a **lacrosse** stick; and the much older Sixth Form girls (one of them is even married), who wear provocative clothing.

The headmistress of St Trinian's is Miss Millicent Fritton, whose philosophy is summed up as this, "In other schools girls are sent out quite unprepared into a **merciless world**, but when our girls leave here, it is the merciless world which has to be prepared." ✨



WHY AM I DOING THIS?



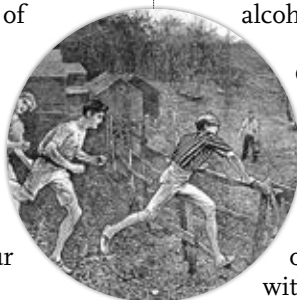
Hash Harriers

A drinking club with a running problem.

Like many **expats**, the Brits like to **stick together** when they're abroad. One way is through clubs and organisations. And one of the most famous ex-pat organisations is the world's most **eccentric** running club: the Hash House Harriers.

So, what is the Hash House Harriers? Very basically, it's a running and social club. Runs are organised, which are followed by a **trip** to a bar or pub afterwards for a social **get-together**. The run is a fun event. A group of people known as the "**hares**" **lay a trail** (often using bits of paper, or biodegradable material such as flour). The "pack" (or "hounds" as they're also known) are the runners. They must follow the trail and try to get to the end. Sounds easy? It can be, but it can also be difficult as the hares may also lay a false trail. In some competitions, the hares leave a few minutes before the hounds and one of the objectives is to catch the hares before they lay the trail. In other competitions, the hares lay the trail the day before and the objective is to reach the end of the trail.

There are now more than 1,500 Hash House Harrier groups, with one in most of the major cities around the world. So, how did it all begin? Hashing began in Kuala Lumpur (Malaysia), in 1938. A group of British colonial expatriates, Cecil Lee, Frederick "Horse" Thomson, Ronald



"Torch" Bennett, and Albert Stephen Ignatius Gispert (a British accountant of Catalan descent) would meet after work on Monday evenings to run. They often followed paper trails through the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur. The main objective was to **get rid** of the **excesses** of the previous weekend. Although after the run, the exhausted runners would often go to a bar for a few drinks.

Later, they registered their society. Gispert suggested the name "Hash House Harriers". The name came from the place where they lived as **bachelors**, the Selangor Club Annex, known locally as the **Hash House**, because of its boring, unimaginative food.

There are many traditions involved with hashing. Anyone who violates a law or tradition is given a "down-down". This is when they are obliged to come to the middle of a circle and drink everything they have in their cup or glass (often beer or an alcoholic mixture).

Other traditions include no pointing with fingers (you have to use your **elbows**), no using real names (you have to use **nicknames**), and no using new shoes. The traditional symbol of hashing is the outline of a foot with the words "On-On" written on it, which is what hashers shout when they have found the trail. 🍷

GLOSSARY

- an expat** ⁿ
a person who chooses to live in another country
- to stick together** ^{phr vb}
if people "stick together", they go to the same bars, clubs, pubs, etc.
- eccentric** ^{adj}
with strange and unusual habits or customs
- a trip** ⁿ
a journey
- a get-together** ⁿ
a social occasion in which people meet
- a hare** ⁿ
a large type of rabbit
- to lay** ^{vb}
to place/put
- a trail** ⁿ
a series of marks on the ground that show someone a route
- to get rid of something** ^{exp}
to make something go away
- the excesses** ⁿ
the "excesses of the weekend" refers to all the drinking, eating, late nights, etc.
- a bachelor** ⁿ
a man who isn't married
- hash** ⁿ
a dish made of meat, potato, vegetables, etc. It is often fried until brown
- an elbow** ⁿ
the joint in the middle of your arm
- a nickname** ⁿ
an informal name

Think about it Have you ever met anyone famous? Who? Where? What's your definition of a famous person? Who would you like to meet? Why? Which famous person would you like to have lunch with? What would you talk about? Which famous people would you never like to meet? Why?



GROUP TALK

WHICH FAMOUS PEOPLE WOULD YOU LIKE TO MEET?

Audio script

Arthur: So my, my step-mum said she bumped... well bumped into, no, she saw Colin Firth in the supermarket the other day. She didn't go up to him or anything.

Simone: Like real Colin Firth? Actual Colin Firth?

Arthur: Real Colin Firth, yeah, yeah. Heartthrob Colin Firth.

Natalie: She didn't come up...

Arthur: No. I think she was too embarrassed or...

Natalie: Oh, wow!

Arthur: I think she said she wanted to go and say thanks for all the films or something like that but then thought it might sound a bit corny.

Simone: I don't know. I don't think I've ever actually, like, met a real live famous person.

Natalie: Well I have met, actually, I have met erm writers, for example at book fairs.

Simone: Oh, that would be cool.

Natalie: You know you wait with your book in the queue and then they sign the book.

Arthur: Which famous, which famous writers?

Natalie: Well I've seen, I've seen at a book fair, yes, I've seen Isabel Allende.

Arthur: Oh, very good.

Simone: She lives right near me.

Natalie: Exactly, exactly. And I have seen the Spanish writer María Dueñas, yes. And yeah, it's great to compare the picture for example, like at the back of the book with the actual person. Sometimes they're very different.

Simone: If I could meet any famous person, I would probably have to pick a writer because I like so many famous writers. There's one called John Green – he writes for teens in the States and he has a bunch of famous books, and then also it'd be, it'd be rather fun to meet JK Rowling, I think. Talk to her about Harry Potter. Cause I grew up reading those.

Natalie: Yeah exactly, then you can really ask questions, right? About the book. Yeah, I think that's cool.

Arthur: I think I'd like to meet comedians, I don't know. It'd be more...it'd be fun to talk to them, you know.

Natalie: But who, for example?

Arthur: I don't know, Ricky Gervais, Ben Stiller... I don't know.

Natalie: Oh OK, OK.

Arthur: It'd be fun to... hang out with them and go for a drink at the pub.

Natalie: What about musicians? Like I would love to meet George Michael. Do you have any musicians you would love?

Arthur: George Michael? Why would you... what would you say to George Michael?

Natalie: Well, I would talk to him about the songs, of course.

Arthur: What would you say about his songs?

Natalie: I would ask him about the songs. Yeah.

Arthur: What? Like what they mean? Or...

Natalie: Yeah, yeah. Of course, some of the songs.

Arthur: Which song has been confusing you over the years?

Natalie: No, no, but like the inspiration. Right? Because the lyrics are beautiful. Yeah, I think. Fantastic. As a fan.

Arthur: Do you know any, do you know any lyrics that... tell us some lyrics that you think are good. I can't remember apart from...

Natalie: Erm well no, I would have to think about that. But I definitely, definitely know the lyrics, definitely. It's perfect, also, for learning the language.

Arthur: Oh, OK.

Natalie: When you listen to songs, also for Spanish for example, perfect.

Arthur: Yeah, I remember I learnt a lot of Spanish from a song.

Natalie: Yeah?

Arthur: That I used to listen to.

Simone: We used to do that, ermm, in class. We'd have songs of the week. We were meant to learn specific vocabulary.

Arthur: Yeah.

Natalie: Yeah, but especially songs that you like of course, right? That you want to listen to again and again and again. You don't mind listening to them

Arthur: Well, I quite like it 'cause the Spanish teacher I had, she explained the meaning behind the song and...

Natalie: Yeah, exactly.

Arthur: ...so it was interesting. It wasn't the type of song I might have listened to if she hadn't introduced me to it.

Natalie: Of course.

Arthur: But it was interesting to hear the story behind it and, things like that.

Natalie: Yeah, but if you like the music, the lyrics. Right. Good stuff. [fades out]

Answers on page 44

1 Listening I

You're going to listen to some people talking about which famous people they'd like to meet. Listen once. Which famous people are mentioned?

2 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. Who did someone's step-mum see? Where did she see him?
2. Who did one of the speakers see at a book fair?
3. Why would one of the speakers like to meet JK Rowling?
4. What would one of the speakers like to talk about with George Michael?
5. What does she think of the lyrics to his songs?
6. What does one of the speakers say about how his Spanish teacher used songs in class?

Top tip: how to listen

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

Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you said goodbye to someone? Where were you? Who was the other person? When were you going to see them next? What expressions did you use? How often do you see this person?

SLANG CONVERSATION



Free lessons to improve your English, and articles on learning English!
blog.learnhotenglish.com

SAYING GOODBYE

You're going to listen to a conversation between two friends: Pete and Greg. Listen once. Does Pete have another drink with his friend in the end? 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	make a move	
2	be up	
3	at the crack of dawn	
4	I haven't got a clue	
5	nice one	
6	it's really screwed up my weekend	
7	banger	
8	I really must get going	
9	in a bit of a huff	
10	to shoot off	
11	see you around	
12	a game	
13	a piece of cake	
14	no sweat	
15	likewise	
16	don't be a stranger	
17	catch you later	
18	do you fancy...	



Warning
Many of the words and expressions from this section are used in informal situations. So, be careful how you use them yourself!

Dialogue

Pete: Well, I'd better **make a move**. I've got to **be up at the crack of dawn**.

Greg: Why's that?

Pete: I've got a meeting first thing. I'm supposed to have read through a 100-page report beforehand, but I **haven't got a clue** what it's about.

Greg: Nice one!

Pete: They gave it to me last thing on Friday afternoon – **it's really screwed up my weekend**.

Greg: I hate it when they do that.

Pete: Yeah, well, anyway. It was nice talking to you.

Greg: Yes, we must do it again sometime.

Pete: Of course!

Greg: So, erm, drive carefully.

Pete: I will. Bye...

Greg: ... are you still driving that old **banger** of yours?

Pete: The VW? Yes. Anyway, I **really must get going**. Bye!

Greg: Oh, if you see Paul, could you say hi from me.

Pete: I will. Bye.

Greg: ...when did you last see him?

Pete: Well, I haven't seen him in a while now.

Greg: Last time I spoke to him he was in a **bit of a huff**. Apparently...

Pete: ...look, I'm sorry but I've really got to **shoot off**.

Greg: OK. So, **see you around**.

Pete: Yeah, bye.

Greg: Have a good **game** on Sunday.

Pete: Thanks.

Greg: I might come and watch.

Pete: Oh, right. Great. [*getting further away*]

Greg: It'll be a **piece of cake**, I should imagine.

Pete: I hope so.

Greg: So, thanks again for all your help.

Pete: **No sweat**.

Greg: It was good seeing you.

Pete: **Likewise**.

Greg: Keep in touch!

Pete: I will.

Greg: **Don't be a stranger**.

Pete: I won't.

Greg: **Catch you later!**

Pete: Bye! [*from afar*]

Greg: Hey, **do you fancy** another drink?

Pete: No, thanks, BYYYYYE. ☺

Objective To improve your listening and reading skills.

Think about it What do you do when you're ill? How often do you visit the doctor? Do you trust doctors in general? Why? Why not? Have you ever looked up any symptoms online? Which ones? Why? Have you ever self-diagnosed? How effective was it? What dangers are involved in self-diagnosing? What other typical illnesses or diseases do you think people find out about online?

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

TRACK 22: ENGLISHMAN & IRISHMAN

Answers on page 44

Pre-reading

Write a word from below next to each definition. When was the last time you suffered from any of these things? What did you do about it?

stiffness headache dizzy
fidgety diarrhea swelling
runny nose ~~nausea~~
fatigue constipation

- I'm feeling a bit sick.
nausea
- My head hurts.

- She was extremely tired.

- I've been to the toilet 10 times today!

- I haven't been to the toilet for three days.

- Have you got a tissue?

- My joints are aching.

- My head is spinning.

- My ankle is all red and twice as big as normal.

- I just can't sit still.

Reading I

Look at the paragraph titles. What do you know about these illnesses or disorders? What are the symptoms? Make notes. Then, read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas.

Comprehension

Read the article again. Then, match the symptoms from the Pre-reading activity to the illnesses, disorders, etc. below.

- Attention deficit disorder: _____
- Multiple chemical sensitivity: _____
- Gout: _____
- Gluten intolerance: _____

GOOGLE, OR THE DOCTOR?

What do you do if you aren't feeling well? Go to bed? Visit the doctor? These days, more and more people are using the internet to **self-diagnose**. But is it such a good idea? Here are several common disorders and illnesses that people often search for online. [Disclaimer – none of the information on this page has been verified by a medical specialist. If you're feeling bad, consult a doctor!]

Attention deficit disorder (ADD)

Attention Deficit Disorder is a mental health issue. Symptoms include an inability to concentrate, forgetting things, acting without thinking and getting **fidgety**.

Asperger's syndrome

Asperger's syndrome (AS) is a form of **autism**. People suffering from it may find it hard to interact socially, understand jokes, read other people's body language and start or maintain a conversation.

Multiple Chemical Sensitivity (MCS)

People suffering from Multiple Chemical Sensitivity are **sensitive** to certain chemicals. Symptoms include nausea, headaches, fatigue, depression, diarrhea, a runny nose... basically anything that

falls under the category of "being sick". The chemicals are also wide-ranging and include solvents, perfumes, petrol, diesel, smoke... just about anything chemical that you can think of!

Gout

Gout is a form of **arthritis**. It occurs when too much uric acid builds up in the body. Symptoms include pain, swelling, redness, heat and stiffness in **joints**. However, for many people, the first attack of gout occurs in the big toe, which may become very sore, red, warm and swollen. But the next time you feel a little pain in your big toe, don't let it worry you too much.

Gluten intolerance

Gluten is a **protein** found in **wheat, rye** and **barley**. People with **celiac disease** (an **autoimmune disease**) will suffer an **immune response** that attacks the small intestine if they eat gluten. And when this happens, nutrients cannot be absorbed properly into the body and it can lead to serious health complications. Milder forms of this are known as "gluten intolerance" or "gluten sensitivity". Many people now follow a gluten-free diet in order to avoid any complications, although

it's estimated that gluten sensitivity only affects about 5% of the population. Some of the symptoms of this include gas, diarrhea and constipation, as well as feeling tired or dizzy after eating a meal that contains gluten.

Stay sane! ☺

GLOSSARY

to self-diagnose *vb*
if you "self-diagnose", you find out what illness you have by investigating the symptoms online, etc.
fidgety *adj*
if someone is "fidgety", they can't sit still or stop moving
autism *n*
a mental disorder that affects someone's ability to relate to other people or understand them
sensitive *adj*
if someone is "sensitive" to certain chemicals (for example), they're easily affected by those chemicals
arthritis *n*
a medical condition in which the joints (the knees, elbows, etc.) in someone's body are swollen and painful
a joint *n*
a part of your body where two bones are joined, such as your elbow, knee, shoulder, etc.
a protein *n*
a substance in food (such as meat, eggs, milk, etc.) that helps you to be healthy
wheat *n*
a cereal crop grown for food. It is often ground to make flour that is used to make bread
rye *n*
a cereal grown in cold countries. Its grains can be used to make flour, bread, etc.
barley *n*
a cereal grain that is used to make food, beer, whisky, etc.
celiac disease *n*
a disease in which the small intestine is very sensitive to gluten, which makes it very difficult to digest food
an autoimmune disease *n*
a disease in which the body produces antibodies that attack its own tissues
an immune response *n*
the reaction of the cells and fluids to the presence of a substance in your body which it doesn't recognise

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have your parents ever embarrassed you? What did they do? Did they do something in public? Who was there? Why were you embarrassed? Have you ever embarrassed anyone? In what way? Have you ever embarrassed yourself? What did you do? How did you resolve the situation?

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

TRACK 23: ENGLISHMAN & IRISHMAN



By Sarah Asch

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

How can social media be used negatively? Look at the list below. What are some of the worst things? What else could you add to the list?

Social media could be used to...

- ...write something horrible about someone.
- ...upload a “not-very-nice” photo of someone.
- ...obtain someone’s personal information to steal their identity.
- ...spread nasty rumours about someone.
- ...harass someone.
- ...find out confidential information about someone.
- ...spread lies about someone.

Other?

2 Reading I

You’re going to read an article about things parents have done on social media to embarrass their kids. Read or listen to the article once. Which one is the funniest? Which one is the nastiest?

3 Comprehension

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. In what way did the girl who claimed she was a thug get ridiculed?
2. How was the guy who posted a bathroom selfie on social media mocked?
3. What was illogical about the young man’s comment on Facebook?
4. How did his dad ridicule him?
5. What did Emily Musson’s parents do to make fun of her?
6. What was Emily surprised about as a result of retweeting the images?

REALLY EMBARRASSING PARENTS!

Have your parents ever embarrassed you? Perhaps they once shouted at you in public, **hugged** you in front of your friends, or showed your schoolmates photos of you as a baby. Unfortunately, with social media, it’s become even easier to embarrass your kids. Here are some recent examples.

A girl uploaded a photo on her social media site with the following caption, “I didn’t choose the **thug** life, the thug life chose me.” About an hour later, her dad **posted** this comment, “You can’t be a thug *and* scared of the dark.”



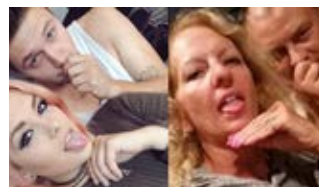
A young guy posted a **bathroom selfie** on social media while dressed in a **stripy** shirt, a pair of dark jeans and a baseball cap worn backwards. Hours later, his dad posted a similar selfie with the exact same clothes as his son. He even posed the same way too, with his right thumb **hooked** into his belt.



A young man updated his Facebook page with this comment, “Currently staring at the ceiling. It’s fascinating how much we can learn only by staring at random things,” (forgetting the fact that you can’t be **staring** at the ceiling and writing on a computer at the same time). Minutes later, his dad left this joke comment, “Have you ever considered staring at one of your textbooks?”



Emily Musson, a student from New York City, posted a series of selfies with her new boyfriend. Her mum and dad took this as an opportunity to join in on the fun. They recreated the selfies then posted them online, complete with many of the original **poses**: **duck faces**, a **fist** over the mouth, sticking their tongues out, and more. When Emily saw what her parents had done, she **re-tweeted** the photos and was shocked when they **went viral**.



How embarrassing! ❗

BARACK OBAMA

Barack Obama has said on multiple talk shows that if either of his daughters ever gets a tattoo, he and First Lady Michelle Obama will get **matching** ones and show them off online. Obama hopes that this threat will keep his daughters ink-free.



GLOSSARY

to hug *vb*

if you “hug” someone, you put your arms around them to show that you’re pleased to see them or that you love them

a thug *n*

a violent person or criminal. The “thug” life is a life of violence or crime

to post *vb*

if you “post” a picture on a website, you put it on the website

a bathroom selfie *n*

a photo you take of yourself (a selfie) in the bathroom, often using the mirrors for extra effect

stripy *adj*

with stripes (lines of colour) on it

to hook *vb*

if you “hook” your thumb (for example) around a belt (for example), you put your thumb around the belt

to stare *vb*

if you’re “staring” at something, you’re looking at it continuously

a pose *n*

a particular position you have (or an expression you have) while someone takes a photo of you

a duck face *n*

an expression people make with their face. They push their lips together and out to make them look bigger

a fist *n*

when you make a “fist”, you close your hand

to re-tweet *vb*

if you “re-tweet” a message, you post it on your Twitter account

to go viral *exp*

if a picture, video, etc. “goes viral”, it becomes really popular on the internet because many people share it and send it to their friends

matching *adj*

if you have a “matching” tattoo (for example), you have the exact same tattoo as another person

Objective To improve your listening and reading skills.

Think about it How fair is the justice system in your country? Do you think the justice system is biased in favour of the rich? Have you heard of any cases of rich people getting off lightly or not being sentenced for a crime they've committed? What happened? What about stories of poor people being sentenced heavily for minor crimes? Have there been any cases of corruption within the justice system lately? What did they involve?

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

© TRACK 24: ENGLISHMAN & IRISHMAN



IS THIS WHAT WE CALL JUSTICE?

Is there one law for the rich and another for the poor? Sometimes it seems like it.

THE RICH

The MP

MP Margaret Moran fiddled about €72,000 in her parliamentary expenses, but never went to jail. The thieving Labour MP won't even get a criminal record because she was deemed too "unwell" to stand trial because of a depression. In a case that was heard without her, Moran was found guilty of 15 instances of false accounting. This included claiming more than €2,700 for a phone at her flat when there was no phone line fitted, and putting in a bill for carpets in "three bedrooms" even though her flat had just one room.

The mobster

A Mafia boss was freed from jail just 12 months into a 15-year sentence because of an allergy to beans on the prison menu. Michele Aiello was released after a judge heard he was intolerant to beans, peas, spinach and all other types of greens offered to inmates serving time behind bars. Millionaire Aiello, 56, was arrested in Palermo on the Italian island of Sicily in 2010 and charged with money laundering. Police said Aiello laundered more than €800 million for jailed Mafia Godfather Bernardo Provenzano, who was caught in 2006 after almost 40 years on the run.

THE POOR

The starving woman

A famished woman was fined about €450 for stealing a €1 pack of chocolate after her benefits were stopped. Louisa Sewell pleaded guilty to theft at Kidderminster Magistrates Court. She was fined €100 for the theft, €1 in compensation to the store, €200 in court charges, €115 in prosecution costs and a €30 victim surcharge. Her solicitor Susie Duncan said Ms Sewell's benefits had been sanctioned and she hadn't eaten in days when she stole the cheapest food she could find from the store, according to the *Kidderminster Shuttle*.

The desperate man

Ian Mulholland admitted stealing three packets of steak from a supermarket when he appeared at Newton Aycliffe Magistrates Court. The court heard he stole the meat to eat after changes to his benefits left him hungry. The 43-year-old, who has difficulty walking, was unable to afford food, and couldn't get to the local foodbank. Mulholland pleaded guilty to stealing the food, worth about €17, and was sentenced to six weeks in prison. A suspended prison sentence imposed for a previous offence was also activated, meaning he must spend 14 weeks behind bars.

How "just" is that? ☆

I'M OK,
I'M RICH!

WWW.ANCESTRY.CO.UK

Family history website www.ancestry.co.uk has more than 4,000 criminal records in its collection, many from the 19th century. They show how harsh sentencing could be, especially for the poor. For example, Mary Richards was jailed for five years in 1880 for stealing 130 oysters valued at eight shillings (about 5 cents). And Dorcas Mary Snell, 45, was sentenced to five years in prison with hard labour in 1883 for the theft of a single piece of bacon!



GLOSSARY

an MP *abbr*

a Member of Parliament – someone who is elected to represent a city or other area of the UK

to fiddle *vb*

if someone "fiddles" financial documents, they change them so they can get more money for themselves

expenses *n*

money you receive from the company you work for when you travel. The money pays for travel costs, hotels, restaurants, etc. Parliamentary "expenses" refers to the money MPs receive to pay for housing, travel, etc.

to deem *vb*

if someone is "deemed" to have a particular quality (such as being unwell), people think they have that particular quality

to stand trial *exp*

when someone "stands trial", they're tried in court for a crime. The judge and jury decide whether they're innocent or guilty

to serve time *exp*

if someone "serves time", they go to prison

behind bars *n*

if someone is "behind bars", they're in prison

money laundering *exp*

the act of hiding the origin of illegally-obtained money, often by investing it in businesses, property, etc.

famished *adj*

if someone is "famished", they're really hungry

to fine *vb*

if someone is "fined", they must pay an amount of money because they've committed a crime, etc.

benefits *n*

a small amount of money unemployed people receive to pay for food, housing, transport, etc.

to plead guilty *exp*

if you "plead guilty" to a crime, you admit that you committed the crime

a Magistrates Court *n*

a court that deals with minor crimes (crimes that aren't that serious or important)

a foodbank *n*

a place where food (typically basic provisions such as milk, bread, rice, etc.) is given to poor people

to activate *vb*

if something is "activated", it starts working

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the paragraph titles. What do you think the people involved did? What might they have been sentenced to? 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 without referring back to the article.

1. Why didn't Margaret Moran have to stand trial, despite stealing over €70,000?
2. What was strange about the bill she put in for carpets?
3. How did the Mafia boss get out of jail so quickly?
4. What had he been charged with?
5. In what way is Louisa Sewell's crime understandable?
6. What did her solicitor say in an attempt to minimise the seriousness of the crime?
7. What was Ian Mulholland's excuse for having stolen the meat?
8. Why does he have to spend 14 weeks behind bars when he was only sentenced to six?

Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you visited a new city? What did you do there? Where did you eat? What museums did you visit? Did you get any recommendations from anyone about what to see, where to eat, etc.? What did you think of their suggestions? Which cities would you like to visit in the future? Why?

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

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Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

Imagine you're visiting a city for the first time. What questions could you ask about it? Add at least three more questions to the list below.

- What do you think I should see?
- Which museums would you recommend?
- Where's the best place to eat out?
- Which restaurants would you recommend?

Other?

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to a conversation between two people, Poppy and Ellis. They're acquaintances who haven't seen one another for a long time. They're at a conference break, waiting to order a drink from the cafeteria in the conference centre. Listen once. Which questions from the Pre-listening activity did you hear?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. When did they last meet and where?
2. What does Poppy say was on the walls before?
3. When is Ellis off to New York and why is he going there?
4. What example does Poppy give for how cheap electronics are?
5. How does Ellis describe what happened to his cousin in the States?
6. What are some of the typical things that Poppy mentions that Ellis should do?
7. What is Ellis' e-mail address?
8. What suggestions does Poppy give for eating out?
9. What does she tell him about tipping in the States?
10. What happened to her friends when they were over there?

4 Listening III

Listen again and complete the audio script with the correct words.

Note!

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



Asking about a city

Audio script

Ellis: Poppy?

Poppy: That's right. Erm, Ellis?

Ellis: Yes, that's it!

Poppy: How's it going?

Ellis: Not bad, thanks. And you?

Poppy: Great. So, how long has it been?

Ellis: About three years, I think. It was (1) _____, wasn't it?

Poppy: That's right. We had a bit of a chat (2) _____, if I remember rightly.

Ellis: Yes, yes. [silence]

Poppy: Hey, I like those new paintings they've (3) _____. There were some old black and white ones from Florida in the 1930s before, weren't there?

Ellis: I think so, although I can't really say I noticed. Hey, talking about the States, I'm off to New York next week – a five-day management training course.

Poppy: That's great! Have you been before?

Ellis: No, never. You're from New York, aren't you?

Poppy: Boston, actually, but (4) _____. It's a fantastic city and the food's amazing. How many days are you staying for?

Ellis: About a week.

Poppy: It's great for shopping. (5) _____. I picked up this really incredible camera and tablet computer last time I was there for about half the price you'd expect to pay over here.

Ellis: I'm so looking forward to it.

Poppy: You've got a cousin or something over there, haven't you?

Ellis: That's right. She went there about 20 years ago, (6) _____, fell in love and got married about six weeks later.

SHALL I SHOW YOU AROUND THE CITY?

Poppy: How romantic!

Ellis: Very! So, any top tips (7) _____?

Poppy: Well, for the first couple of days, you'll want to do all the typical things: the Empire State Building, Madison Square Garden, the Rockefeller Center, Grand Central Station... (8) _____ if you want.

Ellis: Oh, yes, (9) _____!

Poppy: Is your e-mail the same as before?

Ellis: Yes, e.collins@workstone.com Here, it's on my card. [He hands her his card.]

Poppy: Great.

Ellis: So, what about eating out?

Poppy: Well, you have to try one of the typical hot dogs (10) _____. Then, there are just so many great places. I love S'MAC – it's this hamburger place. Their 4-Cheese hamburger is amazing. I'll add some restaurants to the list too.

Ellis: Oh, thanks so much.

Poppy: You have to be careful with tipping though. (11) _____, haven't you?

Ellis: No.

Poppy: Basically, we're big tippers, so you have to leave 15% for most things, including taxi drivers. I know this couple who went over there and got into an argument with a restaurant owner after leaving a bit of small change as a tip. He got really angry and (12) _____.

Ellis: Oh, no.

Poppy: Yeah, well, he calmed down when he realised they were from Europe.

Ellis: That was lucky.

Cashier: Hi, can I take your order, please?

Poppy: Oh, yes, I'll have a latte and one of those cookies, please. [fades out] ☆

CHATTING ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE

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

saw tragic job offer girlfriend seen places heard film

1 

End up
If you “end up” in a certain place, you go there eventually.
“I heard that Georgia ended up in Canada, of all _____.”

2 

Put on
If you “put on” weight, you become fatter or heavier.
“Bill has put on a bit of weight since I last _____ him.”

3 

Go out
If two people are “going out”, they’re in a relationship.
“I’ve _____ that Ben and Lauren are going out.”

4 


Turn down
If you “turn down” an offer, you don’t accept it.
“Did you hear? Sophie turned down the _____ in Chicago.”

5 

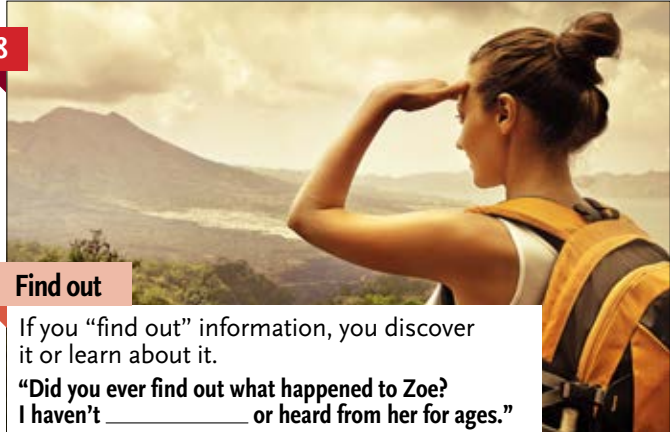
Make of
If you don’t know what to “make of” something, you don’t know what to think of it.
“Have you seen that _____ that Ellis is in? I’m not quite sure what to make of it.”

6 

Move in
If you “move in” with someone, you start living with them. The opposite is “move out”.
“Greg has moved in with his _____, at last.”

7 

Break up / split up
If two people in a relationship “break up”, they stop the relationship.
“Madison and Finley broke up after six years together. It’s _____!”

8 

Find out
If you “find out” information, you discover it or learn about it.
“Did you ever find out what happened to Zoe? I haven’t _____ or heard from her for ages.”

CROSSWORD

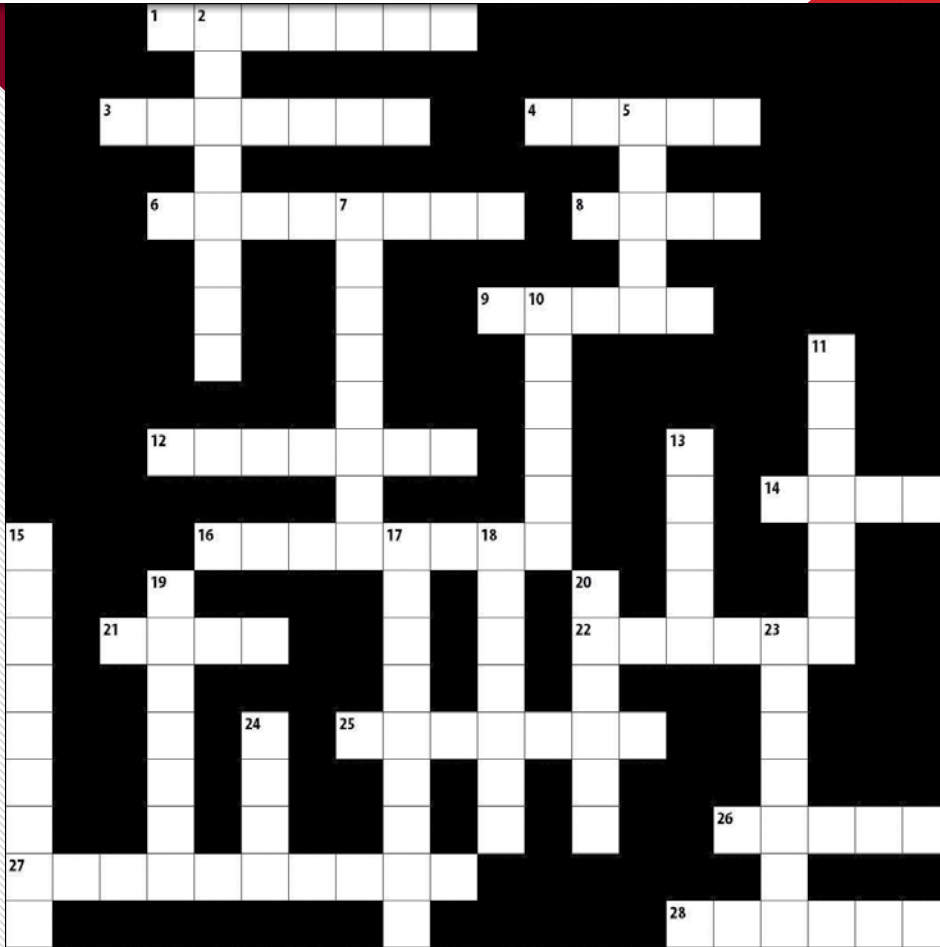
TRAVEL

Learn lots of useful "travel" words and expressions by doing this crossword.

Answers on page 44

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Across

1. A type of illness you get when you travel on a boat.
3. A holiday that includes everything: the flight, hotel, meals, etc. = a _____ holiday
4. A place where you stay. It has rooms, restaurants, a gym, a swimming pool, etc.
6. A bag you carry on your back when you travel somewhere.
8. The area where you show your boarding pass and get on the plane = the boarding _____ .
9. A means of transport that flies in the air.
12. The place where you go to catch a plane.
14. A journey that a business person goes on to another city or country = a business _____ .
16. A large bag you use to carry all your things. You often have to check it in as it's too big to take as hand-luggage.
21. When a plane does this, it comes to the ground in a controlled manner.
22. A shop where you can buy holidays = a travel _____ (also, a "travel agent's")
25. If this has happened, your plane/train, etc. leaves later than planned.
26. If you do this, you get on a plane.
27. An object you wear to protect your eyes when the sun is bright.
28. A place with hotels, restaurants, etc. where people spend their holidays: a beach _____ .

Down

2. The rate at which you can buy a currency = the _____ rate.
5. A means of transport that travels on tracks.
7. A document you need to travel abroad. It has a photo of you in it.
10. A large room in an airport where you can sit before getting on the plane = the departure _____ .
11. A trip by car, train, etc. = a train _____ .
13. Someone who shows tourists around a place. They explain its history, architecture, etc. = a tour _____ .
15. A type of hotel that offers you a bed with breakfast included = a Bed and _____ .
17. If this has happened, your plane/train, etc. doesn't leave or go anywhere.
18. Open shoes you wear when it's hot.
19. A little bag for your toothbrush, deodorant, etc.
20. An electronic device for taking photos.
23. The place in an airport where they check your bags for drugs, weapons, etc.
24. An official document or a stamp in your passport which allows you to enter or leave a particular country.



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FASHION (PAGE 5)

1 Reading II

1. a tankini or thong; 2. cargo shorts; 3. gladiator sandals; 4. skinny jeans; 5. a tracksuit; 6. harem pants

LANGUAGE EXCHANGE (PAGE 6)

1 Reading II

1. Frank; 2. Alice; 3. Ellen; 4. Alice; 5. Ellen; 6. Frank; 7. Frank; 8. Alice

SNACKS (PAGE 7)

1 Pre-reading

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

1 Reading II

1. bananas; 2. walnuts; 3. green tea; 4. Greek yoghurt; 5. eggs; 6. berries; 7. dark chocolate; 8. dark leafy greens

GRAMMAR BOOSTER (PAGE 8)

1. removed; 2. paid; 3. used; 4. loaned; 5. closed off; 6. increased; 7. taken; 8. stolen; 9. fired; 10. taken; 11. gone

ENGLISH IN ACTION (PAGE 10)

1 Pre-listening

A: Wrapping up a conversation

- I'm sorry but I've got a meeting to go to.
- Just let me know if there's anything else I can do.
- We'll get back to you just as soon as we can.
- So, we'll talk about this next week then.
- Thanks so much for calling. I'll be in touch.
- So, I'll arrange the meeting for next week then. OK?
- Anyway, I must apologise for taking up so much of your time.

B: Saying goodbye

- Bye.
- Goodbye.
- Take care.
- See you next week.
- Speak soon.
- See you later.
- Have a nice day.

1 Listening II

Dialogue 1

1. by e-mail; 2. a report

Dialogue 2

3. in half an hour; 4. next week.

Dialogue 3

5. some documents; 6. plans for the new development

Dialogue 4

7. the dishwasher; 8. a couple of days

CONVERSATION (PAGE 12)

1 Listening II

- 1b 2b 3a 4a 5b 6a 7b 8a

1 Listening III

1. conference; 2. flat; 3. river; 4. country; 5. city; 6. weekend; 7. name; 8. meeting; 9. café; 10. fireplace

PRACTICAL ENGLISH (PAGE 13)

1 Pre-listening

They finally decide to meet up on Tuesday of the following week.

2 Listening II

1. Oliver is at a sales conference.
2. She's got a meeting at 4pm.
3. Fridays are never good for him – he's too busy.
4. He's got an appointment with a client.
5. They agree to meet up on Tuesday at 4pm.
6. Because she had arranged to meet a work colleague, but she thinks she can reschedule it.

STUPID (PAGE 14)

1. two; 2. to where her car was parked; 3. fifty-one; 4. in a locked room in the headquarters; 5. on 23rd July; 6. for fun; 7. twenty-two; 8. for 13 years

FILMS (PAGE 15)

1. Mary Poppins; 2. Inside out; 3. Frozen; 4. How to Train your Dragon; 5. Frozen; 6. Shrek; 7. Inside out

MYSTERIES (PAGE 16)

1. It was cold and snowy.
2. Footprints in the snow.
3. Over 150km.
4. A rat, mouse, kangaroo or the devil.
5. It's in West Dumbartonshire (Scotland).
6. In 1938.
7. 16 metres.
8. Between the final two parapets on the right-hand side.

CONVERSATION (PAGE 17)

1 Listening II

1. Sunday; 2. one; 3. cousin; 4. 6pm; 5. £10; 6. £50; 7. reduce; 8. bad; 9. more

2 Listening III

1. afternoon; 2. show; 3. theatre; 4. tickets; 5. text; 6. parking; 7. rates; 8. advance; 9. pollution; 10. system; 11. shops

TRAVEL ENGLISH (PAGE 18)

1. directions; 2. station; 3. coat; 4. kids; 5. rug; 6. kettle; 7. tea; 8. living room; 9. kitchen; 10. lunch

SPITE HOMES (PAGE 26)

1 Reading II

1. The Skinny House; 2. The Tyler Spite House; 3. Equality House; 4. The Alameda Spite House; 5. The Nevada Spite House; 6. The Hollensbury Spite House

LAWSUITS (PAGE 27)

1 Reading II

1. Lucas; 2. Kelly; 3. Ortiz; 4. Clardy; 5. Kelly; 6. Ortiz; 7. Lucas; 8. Clardy

LANDMARKS (PAGE 28)

1 Reading II

1. in 1886; 2. because so many people walked across it; 3. because gold was discovered in California; 4. it's still being constructed; 5. a burial ground, a place to study astronomy and a

place to cure sick people; 6. to correct the weight and keep the clock on time; 7. Ivan the Terrible; 8. workers are buried inside it

CONVERSATION (PAGE 30)

1 Listening II

1. Brazil; 2. next week; 3. orange juice; 4. a glass of white wine; 5. France; 6. Germany; 7. once or twice; 8. the lasagne; 9. sixteen; 10. Seattle; 11. at a conference in Washington; 12. marketing

2 Listening III

1. come over from Brazil
2. while you're waiting
3. both met before
4. close to the office
5. when I was sixteen
6. several years ago
7. at that conference
8. gave a speech
9. for my business card
10. I've still got it

GROUP TALK (PAGE 35)

1 Listening I

They mention Colin Firth, Isabel Allende, María Dueñas, John Green, JK Rowling, Ricky Gervais, Ben Stiller, George Michael.

2 Listening II

1. She saw Colin Firth in a supermarket.
2. She saw Isabel Allende and María Dueñas.
3. Because she grew up reading her books.
4. She would like to ask him about his songs.
5. She thinks they're beautiful and fantastic.
6. He says that she explained the meaning behind the song.

SLANG CONVERSATION (PAGE 36)

First listening: No, Pete doesn't have another drink with Greg.

Slang expression	Standard version
1 make a move	to leave
2 be up	to be awake
3 at the crack of dawn	when the sun starts to come up
4 I haven't got a clue	i really don't know
5 nice one	very good (often used ironically – to mean the opposite)
6 it's really screwed up my weekend	it really ruined my weekend
7 banger	an old car
8 I really must get going	I really must leave
9 in a bit of a huff	in a bad mood
10 to shoot off	to leave
11 see you around	see you later
12 a game	a football game
13 a piece of cake	very easy
14 no sweat	OK; no problem
15 likewise	the same to you
16 don't be a stranger	keep in touch
17 catch you later	see you later
18 do you fancy...	would you like...

ONLINE DOCTORS (PAGE 37)

1 Pre-reading

1. nausea; 2. headache; 3. fatigue; 4. diarrhoea; 5. constipation; 6. runny nose; 7. stiffness; 8. dizzy; 9. swelling; 10. fidgety

2 Reading I

1. Attention deficit disorder: fidgety
2. Multiple chemical sensitivity: nausea, headache, fatigue, diarrhoea, a runny nose
3. Gout: swelling, stiffness
4. Gluten intolerance: diarrhoea, constipation, dizzy

EMBARRASSING PARENTS (PAGE 38)

1 Comprehension

1. Her dad told everyone that she was scared of the dark.
2. His dad posted a similar selfie with the same clothes and pose as his son.
3. He claimed to be staring at the ceiling while he was writing and uploading his comments at the same time.
4. He asked whether his son was going to do any studying.
5. They posted selfies that recreated the ones she'd taken with her boyfriend.
6. She was surprised that the photos went viral.

JUSTICE (PAGE 39)

1 Reading II

1. Because she was deemed too unwell because of a depression.
2. She put in a bill for carpets in three bedrooms, but her flat only had one.
3. He claimed he had an allergy to some of the prison food.
4. He had been charged with money laundering.
5. She stole food because she was hungry.
6. Her solicitor said that Louisa hadn't eaten in days and that she'd tried to steal the cheapest food she could find in the shop.
7. He was hungry because of

changes in his benefits. Also, he couldn't get to the foodbank because of a leg injury.
 8. He had to spend 14 weeks in prison because a previous offence was activated.

CONVERSATION (PAGE 40)

1 Listening II

1. About three years at a sales conference in Woking.
 2. Some old black and white ones from Florida in the 1930s.
 3. He's going next week and it's for a management training course.
 4. She tells him how she got a camera and tablet computer for about half the price you'd expect to pay.
 5. Ellis explains how she went there about 20 years ago, met a guy in Central Park, fell in love and got married about six weeks later.
 6. She says he should visit the Empire State Building, Madison Square Garden, the Rockefeller Center and Grand Central Station.
 7. e.collins@workstone.com
 8. She says he has to try one of the typical hot dogs from a stand in the street, and that he should go to S'MAC, which is a hamburger restaurant.
 9. She tells him that they're big tippers in the States, and that you have to leave 15% for most things, including taxi drivers.
 10. They got into an argument with a restaurant owner after leaving a bit of small change as a tip, although he calmed down when he realised they were from Europe.
- 2 Listening III**
1. at the sales conference in Woking
 2. during one of the breaks
 3. put up here
 4. I've been there several times
 5. Electronics are really cheap
 6. met a guy in Central Park
 7. on what I should see
 8. I could send you a list
 9. that would be great
 10. from a stand in the street
 11. You've heard about tipping in the States
 12. wanted to know what the problem was

PHRASAL VERBS (PAGE 41)

1. places; 2. saw; 3. heard; 4. job offer; 5. film; 6. girlfriend; 7. tragic; 8. seen

HOT CROSSWORD (PAGE 42)



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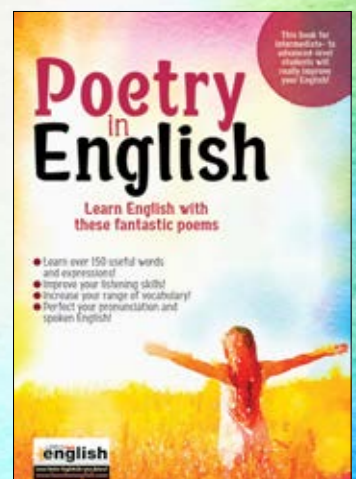
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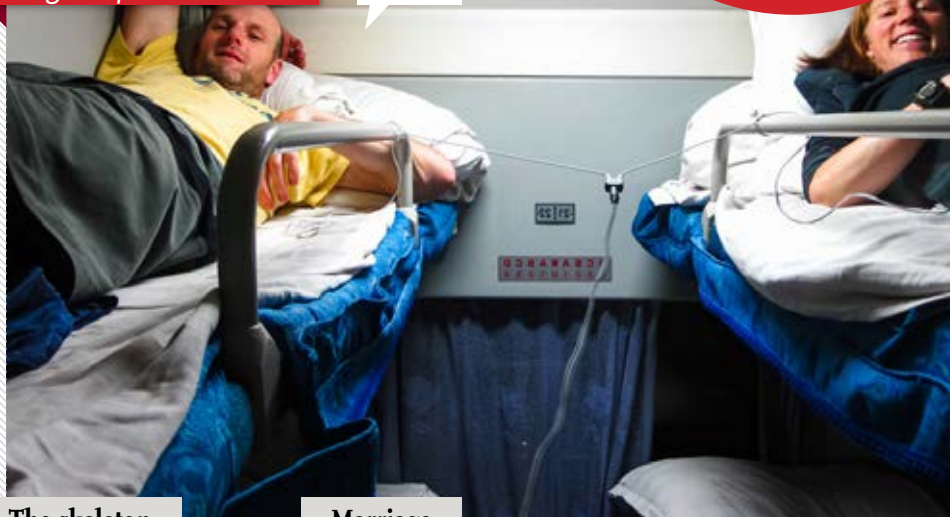
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STORY TIME

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

SO, WHAT'S YOUR NAME?



The skeleton

A: I say, I say, I say.

Which room can't a skeleton enter?

B: I don't know. Which room can't a skeleton enter?

A: The living room.

A good trade

A saleswoman is driving home in the rain when she sees a little old lady with lots of **heavy shopping**. Feeling sorry for her, the saleswoman stops the car and invites the old lady to climb in. During the journey, the old lady **glances** at a brown paper bag on the front seat between them. "If you're wondering what's in the bag," says the saleswoman, "it's a bottle of wine. I got it for my husband." The little old lady is silent for a while, **nods** several times then says, "Good **trade**."

Marriage

A man and a woman find themselves in the same sleeping carriage in a train. After an **awkward introduction**, they both manage to get to sleep, with the man on the top **bunk** and the woman on the lower one. Sometime in the middle of the night, the man wakes up, **leans out** from the top bunk and says, "I'm sorry to bother you but I'm a bit cold and I was wondering whether you could possibly pass me a **spare blanket** from the cupboard next to you." The woman wakes up, **leans out**, and with a smile on her face says, "I've got a better idea... let's **pretend** we're married." "Why not?" **giggles** the man.

"Good," she replies, "Then jump down and get it yourself!" ❄

GLOSSARY

heavy shopping *n*
someone with "heavy shopping", has bags with lots of heavy products they've bought from a shop, supermarket, etc.

to glance *vb*
to look at quickly

to nod *vb*
to move your head up and down as a way of saying yes

a trade *n*
if there's a "trade", person A gives something to person B, and person B gives another thing to person A

awkward *adj*
uncomfortable and embarrassing

an introduction *n*
if there's an "introduction", two people greet one another for the first time

a bunk *n*
a bed that is fixed to the wall. Often, there are two beds with one on top of the other

to lean out *phr vb*
if you "lean out" of bed (for example), you move your body so that it comes out of the bed

spare *adj*
extra

a blanket *n*
a thick piece of material (often made of wool) that you use to keep you warm in bed

to pretend *vb*
if you "pretend" to be someone, you act as if you're that person, even though you aren't really

to giggle *vb*
to laugh in a childlike way, often because you're nervous or embarrassed

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