



# hot english magazine

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The Beatles versus The Rolling Stones. Who will win?

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# Editor's intro



Hello everyone, and welcome to another issue of Hot English. Do you think you've done a lot in life? Have you been up the Eiffel Tower, crossed the Golden Gate Bridge, or written a book? Our feature article this month is on the 77 things you should do before you're 77. You can read

the results inside the magazine.

Talking of 77, it was almost 77 years ago (give or take a few years) that the Lonely Hearts Killers were executed. Have you ever heard of them? They were two serial killers from the 1950s. Just recently, there was a film on their story starring Salma Hayek and John Travolta. Find out more about them and where they got their name from.

The 1950s was also the decade when the Beatles were first formed. Were they the greatest band ever? Or do The Rolling Stones **have the edge**? See them **battle it out** in our Face 2 Face section.

We've also got some incredible news stories for you this month: a Calypso band that gets arrested on charges of terrorism, a dog that shoots its owner, England's most frightening school, the world's most **eccentric** club, and a new term for a type of worker, to mention just a few. Well, we hope you enjoy reading and listening to this issue of Hot English magazine. All the best and see you next month,

*Andy*

### GLOSSARY

**to have the edge** *exp*  
if you "have the edge over someone", you are slightly better/superior than them  
**to battle it out** *exp*  
if two people/groups "battle it out", they have a competition to see who is the best  
**eccentric** *adj*  
with strange and unusual habits or customs

PS Don't forget to order your copy of the Student's Pack or the Teacher's Pack. See the ad in the magazine for more details.

## Product ad of the month



I wonder what this smell's like?

## Job ad of the month

Here's a job ad from England. What job do you think it's for?  
"Would you like to contribute to high-quality bus services and can you make a significant change to our customer-focused service?"  
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They're looking for a bus driver.

## DR FINGERS' BLOG

For our word or expression of the day, please visit Dr Fingers' blog:  
[www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog)

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# Swimming Squirrel

*Tourists see unusual swimmer.*

Tourists on a boat in the north of England had a big **shock**. They were in the middle of a **lake**. All of a sudden, they saw a **squirrel** swimming. This is very strange because it is difficult for most mammals to swim. Also, squirrels are very small, so it is even more difficult for them. The squirrel had swum 274 meters from the side of the lake to the middle. It was eventually rescued by the captain of the boat. The squirrel was taken back to **shore**. "We don't know what the squirrel was doing," said Captain Edward McGregor. Once back **on land**, the squirrel disappeared quickly. 🌟



# Dashing Damon

*The world's "sexiest" man is chosen.*



I'M NOT JUST A PRETTY FACE.

Readers of *People* magazine have voted for the sexiest man on the planet. And the winner is... Matt Damon. The 37-year-old *Bourne Identity* star said he was pleased, but also very **embarrassed** by the **award**. He said, "You have made an old, **suburban dad** very happy!" The magazine says that the fact that Damon was embarrassed shows

that he **deserved** it. Damon is one of the most **successful** actors in Hollywood. He has been earning millions of dollars for each film he appears in. Previous winners of the prize include Brad Pitt and George Clooney. The first winner of the award, in 1985, was the award-winning actor Mel Gibson. 🌟

## GLOSSARY

- a shock** *n*  
something surprising and not expected
- a lake** *n*  
an area of fresh water (not sea water)
- a squirrel** *n*  
an animal that lives in trees and who has a bushy tail (a tail with a lot of hair)
- the shore** *n*  
the area of land next to the sea
- on land** *exp*  
on the ground (not in the sea)
- embarrassed** *adj*  
if you are "embarrassed", you feel shy, guilty or bad about something
- an award** *n*  
a prize for something good you have done
- suburban** *adj*  
"suburban" areas are the areas of a city around the city (not in the city itself)
- a dad** *n inform*  
a father
- to deserve** *vb*  
if you think someone "deserves" something, you think that person should get that thing
- successful** *adj*  
rich, popular, important, etc



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# OUT NOW!

# Dance Health

Dance daily. Be healthy. Live longer.

Match each activity to the picture. (A-K). Answers on page 42



- 1**  
 Dancing
- 2**  
 Playing board games
- 3**  
 Doing exercise
- 4**  
 Reading
- 5**  
 Playing a musical instrument
- 6**  
 Listening to music
- 7**  
 Playing tennis
- 8**  
 Doing sport
- 9**  
 Playing football
- 10**  
 Swimming
- 11**  
 Running/jogging

Dancing is good for you. And that's a fact. Scientists have discovered that dancing can prevent **senile dementia**. Other things that help include playing a musical instrument, reading, playing board games, doing crosswords or learning new languages. Dr Joe Verghese (from the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in New York) **carried out a study** on 469 people over the age of 75. At the start of the study, everyone was mentally healthy. But five years later, about 25% had developed dementia. Each person's **lifestyle** was examined. Scientists found a **link** between mental activity and dementia. People who used their **brains** were **less likely to** develop the condition. "Reading, playing board games, playing

musical instruments and dancing are associated with a reduced risk of dementia," a scientist said. Dementia affects about 700,000 people in Britain. Alzheimer's disease is the most common form of dementia. ❖



### GLOSSARY

- senile dementia** *n*  
a disease of the brain (the organ in the head) that affects old people
- to carry out a study** *exp*  
to investigate something
- a lifestyle** *n*  
the way you live: what you eat, what exercise you do, etc
- a link** *n*  
a connection
- a brain** *n*  
the organ in your head that you use for thinking
- less likely to** *exp*  
not probably going to

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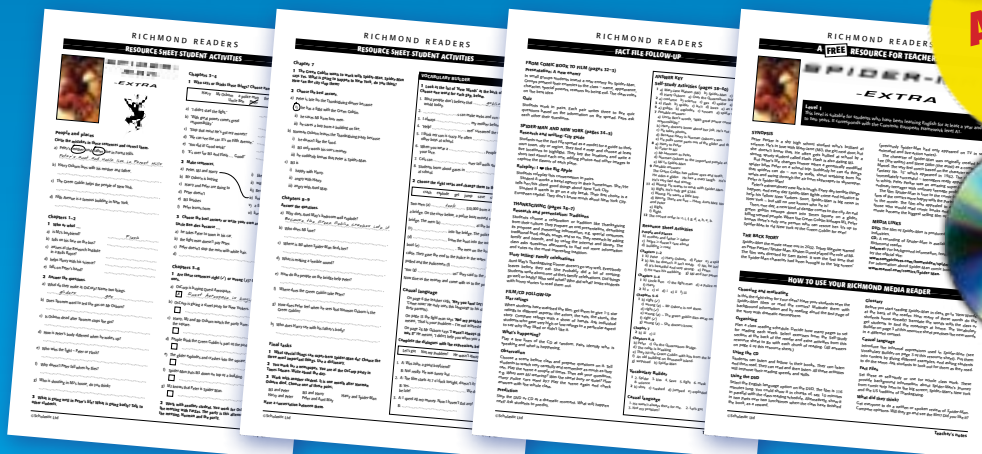
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# Headline News

Headline News N° 1

The voice of the people

London 2008

# Pole Position

Englishman discovers the good life... in Poland.

"I can't understand why all the **Poles** are going to England," said English **bus driver** Paul Brahms. Paul, 43, left England and went to find work in Poland. He was **fed up** of all the competition from Eastern Europeans. "You earn less here, but everything is much cheaper – and there are lots of jobs because all the **Polish** drivers have left," Paul explained. Paul, who is originally from Newcastle, took a job driving people through the mountains in southern



Poland. "The **pay** is more than enough, and now I have even married a Pole, Kamila. I don't see why I should ever go back. Life in Britain is very expensive, but here you can live very comfortably on a bus driver's **wage**." Paul's new boss, Stanislaw Herbert, said, "Paul passed all the exams, he can **handle** the route, he's **hardworking**, and the passengers don't complain about him." A bus driver **earns** between 330 and 470 euros a month in Poland. ☺

## Poles in Britain

According to government figures, about 800,000 people have come to work in the UK from the eight countries which joined the European Union in 2004 (including Poland). More than half of these are Polish.



# Dangerous Art

Work of art causes controversy in modern art museum.

It's 167 metres long. It cost about £300,000 to produce. It took more than six months to complete. And it covers an entire hall in London's Tate Modern art museum. *Shibboleth 2007* is the **latest** work of art by Colombian artist Doris Salcedo. And it's provoking all sorts of reactions, plus a couple of **injuries**.



The work consists of a long **crack**. Salcedo said the crack symbolises **racial hatred** and division in society. "I always try to relate my work to tragedy," she said. "It represents borders, the experience of

immigrants, the experience of **segregation**, the experience of racial hatred. It is the experience of a Third World person coming into the heart of Europe."

Salcedo spent more than five weeks installing the work in the Tate. Unfortunately, a couple of visitors have been injured. And one person fell into the hole and **hurt** her foot.

A museum spokesperson said the hole would be filled when the exhibition comes to an end. However, the **scar** will remain forever. ☹



## GLOSSARY

- a Pole** *n*  
a person from Poland
- a bus driver** *n*  
a person whose job is to drive a bus
- to be fed up of something** *exp*  
to be tired of something or angry about something
- Polish** *adj*  
from Poland
- pay** *n*  
money you receive for the work you do
- a wage** *n*  
the money you receive for the work you do
- to handle** *vb*  
if you can "handle" something, you can do that thing
- hardworking** *adj*  
with an ability to work a lot
- to earn** *vb*  
to receive money for the work you do
- latest** *adj*  
the most recent
- an injury** *n*  
if you have an "injury", you have broken a leg/arm, etc or hurt yourself
- a crack** *n*  
a line that appears on a surface when something is damaged
- racial hatred** *n*  
not liking people because of their race (black, white, etc)
- segregation** *n*  
separating people on the basis of their race
- to hurt** *vb*  
if something "hurts" you, it causes you pain
- a scar** *vb*  
a mark on your skin after a cut has healed/cured



# NURSERY TIMES



CD track 5  
English child

This is another part in our series on nursery rhymes and their fascinating origins. This month:

## Hush a Bye baby

This rhyme is also known as a lullaby (a song for making babies go to sleep). The words come from America. It was the practice of some Native Americans to place a baby in a tree. The movement of the wind **rocked** the child to sleep. The words to Hush a Bye Baby were first published in 1765.

**Hush a bye baby**, on the tree top,  
When the wind blows the **cradle** will rock;  
When the **bow** breaks, the cradle will fall,  
And down will come baby, cradle and all.



### GLOSSARY

- to rock** *vb*  
to move from side to side with regular movements
- to hush** *vb*  
if you "hush" someone, you tell them to be quiet
- a bye baby** *exp*  
a baby who is about to sleep (this is not a common expression)
- a cradle** *n*  
a bed for babies
- a bow** *n*  
a large, thick branch (stick) on a tree
- a finger rhyme** *n*  
a rhyme/song that children say/sing while they are making movements with their fingers
- manual dexterity** *n*  
a good ability to do things with your hands and body
- a spout** *n*  
a long, hollow (empty) tube through which liquids can travel
- to dry up** *phr vb*  
to become completely dry (not wet)
- notorious** *adj*  
famous for something bad
- a candle** *n*  
a stick of hard wax (a soft substance) with a piece of string in it. You burn it and it gives you light
- to leap** *vb*  
to jump
- a fair** *n*  
an event (often outside) with games, competitions, food, prizes
- burning** *adj*  
that has fire on it
- nimble** *adj*  
with an ability to move your hands, feet or body very quickly
- a candlestick** *n*  
a metal object with a hole in it for placing a candle

## Itsy Bitsy Spider

This song is used to create a "finger rhyme" for children. The movements and actions of the rhyme help children improve their **manual dexterity**. Children do the movements as they repeat the words of the song. When the spider goes up, children make their fingers go up into the air. When the rain comes down, children make their fingers come down. And when the sun comes out, they make a circle in the air.

**Itsy Bitsy spider** climbing up the **spout**,  
Down came the rain and washed the spider out,  
Out came the sun and **dried up** all the rain,  
Now **Itsy Bitsy spider** went up the spout again.




**Jack be nimble**,  
Jack be quick,  
Jack jump over,  
The **candlestick**.

## Jack be Nimble.

Many people believe that the "Jack" in the rhyme is Black Jack, an English pirate. He was **notorious** for escaping from the authorities in the late 16th century. There is also a reference to the old tradition and sport of "candle leaping". This was practised at **fairs** in England. Candle leaping consists of jumping over a **burning** candle. ☆





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CD track 6 -  
US man & US woman

# Story Time

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

## Patient hope

A patient is talking to his doctor hours before having a big operation. "Doctor, will I **be able to** play the piano after the operation?" the patient asks. "Yes, of course," the doctor replies. "Oh, great!" the patient says. "Because I never could before."

## Clever teacher

A school teacher sends this **note** to the parents of all her **pupils** on the first day of school.

"If you promise not to believe everything your child says happens at school, I promise not to believe everything your child says happens at home."



## Poor communication

Three English language students are walking down the road **on their way to** their listening class.

"It's **windy**," says the first student. "No it isn't. It's **Thursday**," says the second student. "Me too," says the third student. "Let's go for a drink!"

## Grammar obsession

The **headmistress** of a secondary school is walking along the corridor. All of a sudden, she sees a teacher coming out of the bathroom with a **thick marker pen** in his hand. Curious, the headmistress goes in to have a look. To her horror, the walls are covered in graffiti. The next day, the headmistress

calls the teacher into her office. "Mr Jones. You have been teaching English with us for twenty years now," the headmistress explains. "We've been very pleased with your work here, however, the other day I saw you coming out of the toilets with a marker pen in your hand. You know that writing graffiti on school property is a serious offence." "Oh, no, I didn't write those things," the teacher said. "I was just correcting the grammar." ❌



### GLOSSARY

**to be able to** *exp*  
this is the future of "can"  
**a note** *n*  
a message, often written on a piece of paper  
**a pupil** *n*  
a student at a school  
**on their way to** *exp*  
if you are "on your way to" a place, you are going to that place  
**windy** *adj*  
with a lot of wind (fast moving air)  
**Thursday** *n*  
one of the students says "Thursday" (the day), but the other one understands "thirsty" (with a desire to drink)  
**a headmistress** *n*  
the female director/manager of a school  
**a thick marker pen** *n*  
a pen that makes a thick (wide) mark, and that can be used to write on walls



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This month: meeting someone again.

**A:** How are you?  
**B:** Fine thanks.

**A:** How's it been going? (informal)  
**B:** Oh, not too bad.

**A:** Haven't we met somewhere before?  
**B:** Yes, I think so. / No, I don't think so.

**A:** I think we met in the conference last year, didn't we?  
**B:** Oh, yes, that's right. Now I remember.

**A:** It's nice to see you again.  
**B:** Nice to see you too.

**A:** How's it going?  
**B:** Fine thanks.

**A:** Hey, Jane. It's me. Sam.  
**B:** Oh, hi Jane. It's been a while.

**A:** Hello, Mrs Hand. What a pleasant surprise!



**B:** Hi, Bob. How are you?

**A:** Hi, Paula! How's it going?  
**B:** Not too bad. **Busy** as ever.

**A:** I'm sorry but I didn't catch your name.  
**B:** It's Sally. Sally Jones.

**A:** So, what have you been up to?  
**B:** Oh, not much.

**A:** You're from Germany, aren't you?  
**B:** Yes, that's right. I was born in Cologne, but I live in Frankfurt.

**A:** It's Ms Saunders, isn't it?  
**B:** Yes, that's right. Please, just call me Mary. ☺



#### GLOSSARY

**functional language** *n*  
language used for a particular purpose: to say sorry, to say hello, to say goodbye, etc

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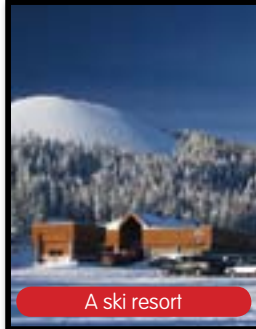
# Basic English



Ski boots



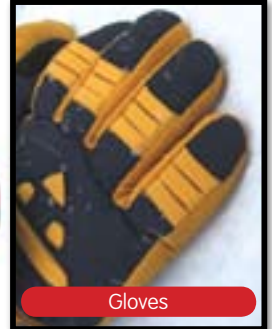
A chairlift



A ski resort



Ski goggles



Gloves



Skis



Ski sticks/poles



A ski hat



An anorak / a jacket



A scarf



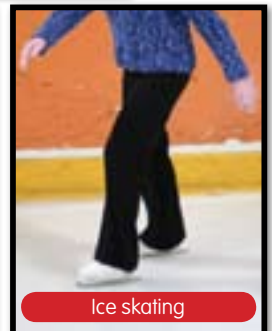
A ski rental shop



Snowboarding



A snowboard



Ice skating



A ski slope



A skier



Figure skating



A ski suit



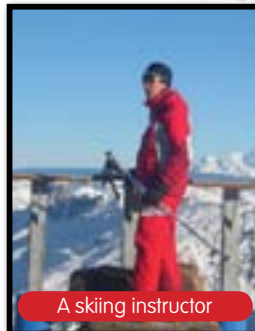
Ice skates



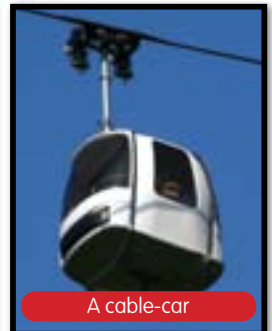
Snow



Ear muffs



A skiing instructor



A cable-car



CD track 8 -  
US woman & US man

# The ski rental shop

## Social English



This month: the ski rental shop. Listen and repeat these expressions.

### What you say

- I'd like to **rent** some skis and ski boots, please.
- Can I have one size bigger, please?
- Have you got any longer skis?
- I'd rather have some shorter skis, please.
- Have you got a snowboard?

- Do you rent out ski clothing?
- The boots are a bit **tight**.
- I take a size 42.
- Where can I get a ski pass?

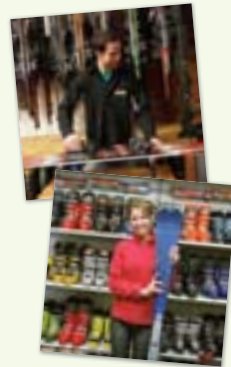
### What you hear

- How long do you want to rent them for?
- What's your shoe size?
- Does that fit OK?

- How does that feel?
- Stand up, please.
- Sit down, please.
- Take off your shoes, please.
- **Try these on.**
- Are you a good skier?
- These sticks should be all right for you.
- I'll just need to adjust them for you. ⚙️

**Part II** Now listen to this social English dialogue. In this conversation, Sally is in the ski rental shop talking to the shop assistant.

**Sally:** Hi, I'd like to rent some skis and ski boots, please.  
**Assistant:** What's your shoe size?  
**Sally:** Forty.  
**Assistant:** OK. Try these. *(Sally tries the boots on.)*  
**Sally:** Erm, they're a bit tight.  
**Assistant:** *(He gives her a bigger size.)* How about these?  
**Sally:** Oh, yes, that's much better. I can get my thick socks on now.  
**Assistant:** Are you an experienced skier?  
**Sally:** I've been a few times before.  
**Assistant:** These skis should be OK for you. *(He takes some skis from the ski-rack.)* They're short, so they're easier to control. Can you stand up a **sec**, please? *(Sally stands next to the skis.)* Yes, that's fine. Right. I need your ski-boots, so I can **fit** them to the skis.  
**Sally:** Here you are. *(She gives him the boots.)*  
**Assistant:** Perfect. *(He fits the boots to the skis.)* You'll have to **fill out** this form and I need to **swipe** your credit card?  
**Sally:** Yes, here you are...



### GLOSSARY

**to rent** *vb*  
to pay money in order to use something for a limited period of time  
**tight** *adj*  
if clothing is "tight", it is very close to your body  
**to try on** *phr vb*  
to put on clothing to see if it is the right size  
**a sec** *n inform*  
one second  
**to fit** *vb*  
if clothes "fit" you, they are the right size for you  
**to fill out** *phr vb*  
to complete  
**to swipe** *vb*  
if you "swipe" a credit card, you put it in a machine that reads its details

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# Headline News

Headline News N° 2

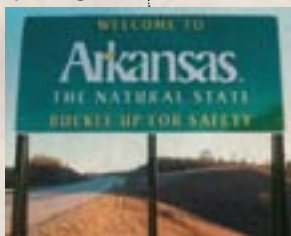
The voice of the people

London 2008

## Arkansas Anger

*Linguists get serious over spelling.*

"I've been fighting against this all my life," said Professor Winscombe, after he managed to convince authorities to introduce a law on the spelling of the possessive form of "Arkansas". "According to the rules of grammar," the professor explained, "all words ending in 's' should have an apostrophe 's' added to show **ownership**. So, the possessive form of Arkansas should be Arkansas's. But the possessive form is often written as Arkansas'. This is wrong, and now, thankfully, the authorities have introduced the



Arkansas's Apostrophe Act." A representative of the government said, "Yes, there are more **pressing matters** we could be **dealing with**, but Professor Winscombe has been asking me to do this for **decades**. With so many English, Dutch and French explorers passing through the state in its early years, Arkansas has been spelled and pronounced at least seventy different ways over the centuries, but now we have a definitive **ruling**." ❖

### The Anglo Saxon Genitive

We normally use an apostrophe "s" to indicate possession. For example:

- a) This is Mary's bed.
  - b) That is John's bike.
- However, when someone's name ends in "s" (Charles, Simmons, Jesus, etc) there are two options (despite what Professor Winscombe says):
- a) To add an apostrophe after the "s" = This is Charles' room (pronounced "Charl ziz").
  - b) To add an apostrophe and another "s" = This is Charles's room.

## Sing Song

*English singer at centre of controversy.*

"I abhor racism," said English singer Morrissey, who had to defend himself after a controversial article appeared in the music magazine NME (New Musical Express).

It all started with an interview between the singer and a journalist from the newspaper, Tom Jonze. The interview seemed to go well. However, an article based on the interview made Morrissey appear to be racist. Some of the sensational extracts included the following, "Morrissey refuses to live in the UK because of immigration explosion."

But in an article on his blog, the ex-singer of the *Smiths* said he merely commented on the way that Britain had changed over the past few years. Morrissey, who is the son of Irish immigrants, added, "I grew up

NO MORE INTERVIEWS.



a believer in the New Musical Express. But last week, I was the victim of the magazine's **agenda** to **cook up** a sensational story."

Many see this as a perfect example of the way that some **unscrupulous**

editors will alter people's words in order to sell copies. Morrissey, a native of Manchester who now lives in Rome, explained, "Racism is beyond **common sense** and I believe it has no place in our society. To anyone who has shown or felt any interest in my music in recent times, you know my feelings on the subject and I am writing this to **apologise unreservedly** for **granting** an interview to the NME." ❖

### Morrissey (Moza)

Steven Patrick Morrissey was born on 22nd May 1959 in Manchester, England. He is famous for being the lead singer of the band, The Smiths. His website is [www.morrisseymusic.com](http://www.morrisseymusic.com)

#### GLOSSARY

- ownership** *n*  
the state of possessing or having something
- a pressing matter** *n*  
an important topic that needs a solution
- to deal with** *phr vb*  
to try to find a solution to
- a decade** *n*  
ten years
- a ruling** *n*  
an official/legal/formal decision
- an agenda** *n*  
a list of objectives; a philosophy
- to cook up** *phr vb inform*  
to invent
- unscrupulous** *adj*  
with no sense of morality
- common sense** *n*  
your natural ability to make good decisions
- to apologise unreservedly** *exp*  
to say you are really sorry (with no conditions or exceptions)
- to grant** *vb*  
to give



# Cyber Criminal

Boy arrested for virtual robbery.

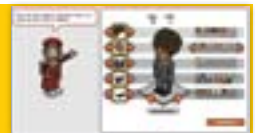
It's the first time it's happened, but it probably won't be the last. A Dutch teenager has been arrested for stealing **virtual furniture** from rooms in a **virtual hotel**. The 17-year-old is accused of taking tables, beds and chairs worth more than 4,000 euros. The furniture had been bought with real money and was kept inside **Habbo Hotel\***, a popular online game. As part of the game, users can spend money on furniture, which they can use to decorate their rooms.

Apparently, the teenager **tricked people into revealing** their passwords. This allowed him to steal the furniture from their rooms and take it to his own. Six million people in more than 30 different countries play Habbo Hotel each month. "Virtual theft is a growing problem," said one of the software developers. ✪



## Habbo Hotel\*

Habbo Hotel is a virtual community operated by the Sulake Corporation. It is aimed at teenagers, and combines two concepts: a chat room and an online game. In the game, "Habbos" (virtual representations of the members) can buy furniture with credits which are bought with real money.



# Chocolate Lorry

Experts excited by "sweet" fuel.

Scientists in England have tested a vehicle that **runs on...** chocolate. The idea of the project is to create a new type of fuel that reduces **carbon emissions**. They also hope to **raise awareness of global warming**. The vehicle, a **lorry**, will be **powered** by all sorts of popular chocolate bars. Eventually, a team of drivers hope to drive the lorry from England across the Sahara desert to Timbuktu.

The idea for the chocolate lorry has been developed by Ecotec. Their managing director, Chris Elvey, said, "This isn't new technology. During the Second World War the Germans did lots of research on bio-fuels. You can make it yourself at home in just 20 minutes. And it's cheap, safe and **environmentally-friendly**". The lorry is expected to leave England very soon. ✪

## GLOSSARY

- virtual furniture** *n*  
tables, chairs, etc that only exist on a website
- a virtual hotel** *n*  
a hotel that only exists on a website to trick someone
- into doing something** *exp*  
to convince someone to do something for you by making them think you are honest/genuine
- to reveal** *vb*  
to show
- to run on** *phrvb*  
if a vehicle "runs on" chocolate, it uses chocolate to give it energy/power
- carbon emissions** *n*  
the CO<sub>2</sub> (carbon dioxide) that is produced when a machine is working
- to raise awareness** *exp*  
to make people know about something or understand more about it
- global warming** *n*  
the theory that the world's temperature is increasing because of pollution
- a lorry** *n*  
a large vehicle for transporting goods
- to power** *vb*  
if a vehicle is "powered" by chocolate, it gets its energy from chocolate
- environmentally-friendly** *adj*  
that does not harm/damage the environment (the earth, air, water, etc)

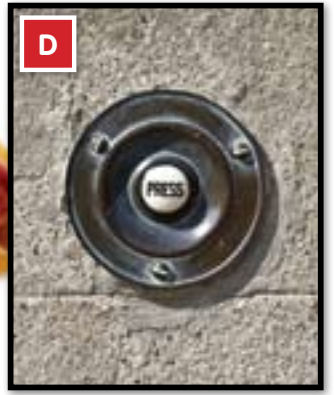
# TRIVIA MATCHING

## Exercise

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

Answers on page 42

1. A Christmas tree
2. A hot dog
3. A skunk
4. A target
5. A tooth
6. An ice hockey puck
7. A bear
8. A shark
9. A doorbell
10. Chopsticks
11. A typewriter
12. Honey
13. Shoes







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

Christmas trees are edible.  
Did you eat yours?

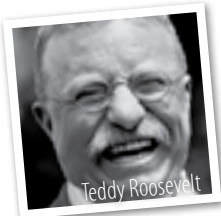
Pinocchio was made of pine.



The **doorbell** was invented in 1831.

The **porpoise** is the most intelligent animal on the planet (not including ourselves, of course!).

Skunks can **hit a target** as far as 3 metres away. So, if you ever see one turn its back on you, run.



President Teddy Roosevelt died from an infected tooth.

An ice hockey **puck** can travel up to 190 km/h.

In the English parliament, the **"Speaker" of the House** is not allowed to speak.

A group of bears is called a **sleuth**.

The **cruise liner** Queen Elizabeth II needs a gallon of diesel to move 18cm.  
China is the biggest consumer



and producer of **chopsticks**.  
Where else?

American actor Tom Hanks collects old **typewriters**.



**made his living** drawing pictures of shoes for advertisements.

Italian mathematician Geronimo Cardano was famous for his accurate predictions. However, he wasn't too good at predicting his own death. He claimed that he was going to die on a certain day in 1576. However, on the day in question, Cardano was still very much **alive and kicking**. So, rather than **lose face**, Cardano killed himself, thus **fulfilling** his own prediction. ☺



### GLOSSARY

- a doorbell** *n*  
a button on a door that you press and that makes a sound
- a porpoise** *n*  
a type of dolphin
- to hit a target** *exp*  
to hit the thing you are trying to hit
- a puck** *n*  
a small, round object that is used in a game of hockey / ice hockey
- the Speaker of the House** *exp*  
a person in parliament who controls the debate/discussion
- a sleuth** *n*  
a detective
- a cruise liner** *n*  
a large ship which takes passengers on a long, pleasant journey visiting many places
- chopsticks** *n*  
thin sticks that some Asian people use for eating food
- a typewriter** *n*  
a machine for writing text
- to make a living** *exp*  
the thing you do to "make a living", is the job you do to earn money
- alive and kicking** *adj*  
alive (definitely not dead)
- to lose face** *exp*  
to do something that causes others to think less of you, or to laugh at you
- to fulfil** *vb*  
if you "fulfil" your own prediction, you do what you said you were going to do

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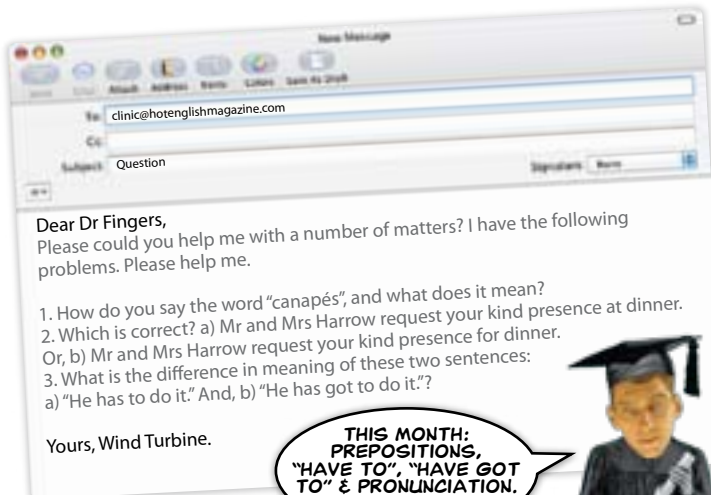
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# DR FINGERS' GRAMMAR CLINIC



THIS MONTH:  
PREPOSITIONS,  
"HAVE TO", "HAVE GOT  
TO" & PRONUNCIATION.



Dear Wind Turbine,

Of course, I would be delighted to help you. OK, here goes.

**1.** Basically, "canapés" are crackers (small, thin pieces of bread or toast) with something on top such as a bit of cheese, pâté, ham, etc. They are often served as an appetiser (a bit of food that you eat before the main meal). The word is from the French "canapé", which means "couch" (sofa). The accent that goes over the "e" ("é") makes the letter sound like the pronunciation of the letter "a" ("ea" in phonetic script). So we say "canapay". There are other words with accents at the end, such as "café" (pronounced "cafay") and "pâté" (pronounced "patay").

**2.** There is a subtle difference between "at dinner" and "for dinner". Basically, we might use "at" as a preposition of place, to indicate the position of the person. For example:

- a) Where was he at 9pm?
  - b) He was at dinner. (Sitting at a table eating dinner.)
- And we would use "for" to indicate the purpose. For example:
- a) Why was he at the hotel?
  - b) For the dinner.

**3.** There is no real difference of meaning between these two sentences. Both "have to" and "have got to" can be used to refer to an obligation. For example:

- a) We have to leave now. = We must leave now.
- b) We have got to leave now. = We must leave now.

However, "have got to" is more common in British English. Also, there is a subtle difference in use in British English. We often use "have to" to talk about general obligation. For example:

- a) I have to work on Sundays.
- b) I have to wear a suit to work.

And we use "have got to" to refer to an obligation on a specific occasion. For example:

- a) I have got to work next Sunday 3rd January.
- b) I have got to wear a suit to work next week because there is an important meeting.

Well, Wind Turbine, I hope that has helped you.  
**Yours, Dr Fingers.** Please send your questions or stories to:  
[clinic@hotenglishmagazine.com](mailto:clinic@hotenglishmagazine.com)

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# Corny Criminals

CD track 15 - Englishwoman & Englishman



Here's another part in our series on good, bad and funny criminals.



## Bear Necessities

*Bear demonstrates driving abilities.*

"We've heard of animals breaking into houses, but this is the first time an animal has taken a car," said a police spokesperson after a **bear** was suspected of stealing a car and driving it along a road. Police found the car by the side of the road near a town in New Jersey. The passenger window had been broken. "We're **fairly sure** that it's a bear because of all the bear hair inside," the police officer explained. "He must have **released** the

**hand brake** and allowed the vehicle to move 10 or twenty metres." Police believe the bear was attracted by some sweets inside the car.

## K9 Theft

*Dog loses his identity.*

You've probably heard of **online identity theft**, but this is the first case involving an animal. Zappy, a dog from North Wales, has become the first victim. Details of the two-year-old **poodle** were **posted** on the internet by owner Betty Month. But a thief copied the details from

the site and pasted them into his own site, claiming the dog was his. On the web page, the thief described how "his" dog had given birth to puppies, and that they were on sale to potential buyers for 1,500 euros each. The **scam** was **spotted** by a woman who was looking for a poodle on the internet. She became suspicious after noticing that photos of Zappy revealed that he was in fact a **male**. Police are investigating.



## Terror Alert

*Ex-terrorist seeks employment.*

The director of a **job-networking website** contacted the police after noticing the following **classified** on his internet site. "During terrorist training in Afghanistan, I gained experience of other cultures working inside major international organisations. I also have a lot of experience in co-ordinating projects, and I've gathered valuable experience in building connections in Europe and the USA for many years. I would be willing to **take up work** in Poland as soon as possible." ❄

## GLOSSARY

- a bear** *n*  
a large mammal that lives in forests and likes eating honey. Winnie the Pooh was one
- fairly sure** *exp*  
almost certain
- to release** *vb*  
to free
- a hand brake** *n*  
a lever in a car that you control with your hand and that you use to stop the car from moving
- online identity theft** *n*  
stealing personal and private information about someone from a website
- a poodle** *n*  
a type of dog with thick, curly hair (hair with little circles)
- to post** *vb*  
to put text or images on a website
- to paste** *vb*  
to put text or information into a document that you have copied from another document
- a scam** *n*  
a trick in order to get money illegally or dishonestly
- to spot** *vb*  
to notice or see
- a male** *n*  
a man
- a job-networking website** *n*  
a website in which you can find jobs or offer work
- a classified (ad)** *n*  
a small piece of publicity offering something or asking for something
- to take up work** *exp*  
to agree to do a job; to accept a job



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Wacky but absolutely true emergency calls. Celebrating 70 years of stupid calls.



CD track 16 - Englishmen

# TELEPHONE 999

Here's another part of our mini-series on ridiculous but real emergency phone calls.



## Call I – Salmon Sandwiches

**Operator:** Hello, police.  
**Caller:** Hello, is that the police.  
**Operator:** Yes.  
**Caller:** Oh, it's just that my wife has left me two salmon sandwiches...  
**Operator:** This is an emergency number...  
**Caller:** ...which were left over from last night, and I'm sat here in the chair and she's out there **doing the gardening**. She won't put any food on or anything for anybody. I don't know what to, erm...  
**Operator:** I'm sorry but I really can't take this. It's not an emergency because your wife won't give you anything to eat.  
**Caller:** But do you think I should eat the salmon sandwiches. They might have **gone off** or something...  
**Operator:** Thank you for your call.

## Call II – Wasp Attack

**Operator:** Police.  
**Caller:** Hello, is that the police?  
**Operator:** Police. What's the nature of your call?  
**Caller:** Well, my neighbour's just come in and she's **in a dreadful state**. We're **elderly** and she's just **tapped** her ceiling. She thought there was a bird in there or something like that. But she made a hole in the **ceiling** and all these **wasps** have just come out...  
**Operator:** What?  
**Caller:** Wasps. The room is full of wasps. Can you help us?  
**Operator:** You'll have to call a **pest control agency**.  
**Caller:** A pest what?  
**Operator:** I'm going to give you another number. You're on a life or death emergency number. You need to ring another number. Call this number: 01275 81 4582.  
**Caller:** I beg your pardon.  
**Operator:** Thank you for your call.

### GLOSSARY

**to do the gardening** *exp*  
to do jobs in the garden: to cut the grass, to water the plants, etc  
**to go off** *phr vb*  
if food "goes off", it becomes bad  
**in a dreadful state** *exp*  
frightened, confused, disoriented  
**elderly** *adj*  
old; over 65  
**to tap** *vb*  
to hit gently  
**a ceiling** *n*  
the top part of a room – opposite the floor  
**a wasp** *n*  
a black and yellow insect that can sting you (bite you)  
**a pest control agency** *n*  
a company that kills insects, rats, etc  
**I beg your pardon** *exp*  
what? (the polite form)

## RECIPE

# PORRIDGE

Here's another recipe to try at home. This month: porridge. This is the perfect way to start the day. Very nutritious!

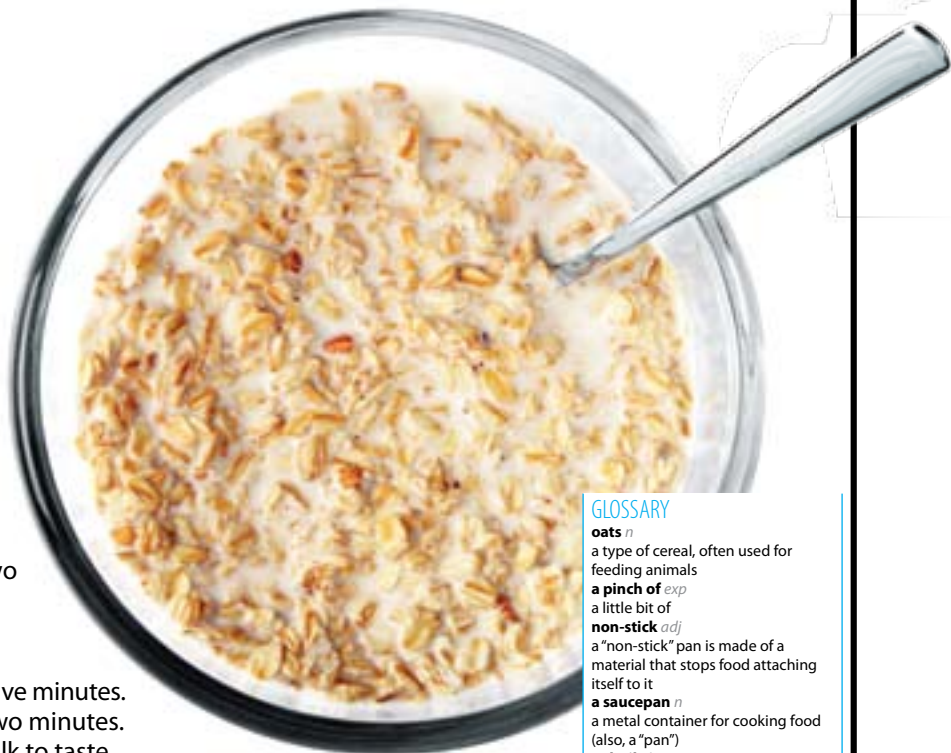
### Ingredients

- 50 grams of **oats** per person.
- 100 grams of milk or water per person.
- **A pinch of salt** and sugar.

### Method

- Put the oats and milk (or water) into a **non-stick saucepan** (one part oats, for two parts milk/water).
- Allow to **boil**, **stirring** all the time.
- Add the sugar and salt.
- Reduce the heat and allow to **simmer** for five minutes.
- Turn off the heat and allow to **stand** for two minutes.
- Pour into bowls and add extra sugar or milk to taste.
- Serve with either whipped cream, jam, honey, cinnamon, or chocolate sauce.

Delicious! ☺



### GLOSSARY

**oats** *n*  
a type of cereal, often used for feeding animals  
**a pinch of** *exp*  
a little bit of  
**non-stick** *adj*  
a "non-stick" pan is made of a material that stops food attaching itself to it  
**a saucepan** *n*  
a metal container for cooking food (also, a "pan")  
**to boil** *vb*  
water boils when it gets to 100°C  
**to stir** *vb*  
to move food around and around in a circular movement  
**to simmer** *vb*  
to cook slowly and on a low heat  
**to stand** *vb*  
if you leave food to "stand", you take it off the heat and leave it on the kitchen table

DR FINGERS' BLOG

For an easy-to-follow video on how to make porridge, visit our blog: [www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog)



# DR FINGERS' GRAMMAR FUN



The section that makes grammar easy, interesting and fun.

**"A" AND "THE"** In this month's grammar fun section we'll be looking at the use of "a" and "the".



## The indefinite article

The indefinite article (a/an) is used with singular, countable nouns to refer to a thing or an idea, often for the first time.

For example:

- a) We have a horse.
- b) There's a bank in the high street.

The indefinite article (a/an) is also used with professions.

For example:

- a) She's a doctor.
- b) He's a nurse.

"A/an" can also be used with some expressions of quantity.

For example:

- a) I'd like a pair of trousers, please.
- b) There is a little sugar in

the bowl.

- c) We need a couple of eggs.
- d) They have quite a few chairs.

We also use "a/an" with exclamations with "what".

For example:

- a) What a nice day!
- b) What a horrible boy!

## The definite article

The definite article ("the") is often used when the object has been mentioned before.

For example:

- a) I have a horse. **The** horse is ten years old.
- b) There is a bank down the road. **The** bank is only open until 2pm.

The definite article is also used before seas, rivers, hotels, pubs, theatres, museums and newspapers. For example: The Pacific, The Tate Modern, The Guardian, The Excelsior.

It is also used if there is only one of something. For example:

The moon, the sun, the queen, the government, the prime minister, the president.

We also use "the" with some geographical areas, and with some forms of entertainment when we are referring to those things in general. For example:

- The beach, the mountains, the country, the sea, the seaside, the cinema, the theatre, the radio, the internet, the television, etc.
- a) I'm going to the beach for a week.
- b) I love the mountains.
- c) She was listening to the radio.

There is no article before plural and uncountable nouns when we are talking about things in general. For example:

- a) I like dolphins.
- b) She likes rice.

And no article before countries, towns, streets, languages, meals (breakfast, lunch, dinner, etc), specific airports and stations. For example:

- a) She had lunch with me.
- b) I took her to Heathrow airport.
- c) They live in Portugal.

And no article before some places and with some forms of transport. For example: at home, in bed, to work, to school/university, by bus, by plane, by car, by train, on foot.

- a) They go to work by train.
- b) She goes to school on foot.
- c) They stay in bed all Sunday.

## A summary

This is a very complicated area of grammar, with many exceptions. The best thing is to remember these three simple rules:

1. Do not use "the" when talking about things in general: Dolphins are intelligent.
2. Use singular "a/an" with singular countable nouns: an apple, a table, etc.
3. Use "an/an" with professions: a teacher, an opera singer, etc.

## "a" versus "an"

We use "an" if the word that follows has a vowel sound. For example, we say, "an uncle, an accountant, an elephant", etc.

However, be careful as some words that start with a vowel do NOT have a vowel sound ("a uniform, a one-man band", etc). And some words that start with a consonant actually have a vowel sound (an MP, an honest man", etc). ☺



# 24 PHRASAL VERBS

The 24 most common phrasal verbs. Learn them and impress your friends.

**Call off** – to cancel:

"They called off the concert because the lead singer was sick."

**Check in/out** – to inform a hotel manager/receptionist of your arrival/departure:

"We checked out of the hotel at 09:00."

**End up** – to be something/somewhere in the end:

"We ended up at Sharon's house."

**Fill out (a form)** – to complete (a form):

"Please fill out the form with your full name."

**Find out** – to discover something:

"Did you find out who took your money?"

**Get on/off** – to enter/leave a bus/train, etc:

"I got on the bus."

**Get up** – to stand up; to stop lying down:

"I got up at 7 in the morning."

**Give up** – to stop doing something:

"She gave up smoking."



**Hang up** – to stop a telephone conversation by putting the phone down:

"She dialled the number then hung up without speaking to him."

**Look up** – to find a word in a dictionary / the internet, etc to discover its meaning:

"If you don't know what it means, look it up in the dictionary."

something.

"We've run out of sugar."

**Set off on a journey** – to start a journey:

"We set off at six."

**Throw away** – to dispose of something; to put rubbish in the bin:

"We threw away the old sofa."

**Turn on/off** – to connect/disconnect something to the electricity:

"Please turn off the television when you've finished watching the programme."

**Turn/show up** – to arrive:

"What time did you turn up last night?"

**Turn into** – to convert into:

"We turned the living room into a gym."

**Turn up/down** – to increase/decrease the volume:

"It's too loud. Turn down the volume, please."

**Tell off** – to speak angrily to someone about something bad that they have done:

"She told me off for arriving late."

**Wake up** – to stop sleeping:

"I woke up at six in the morning." ☺

**Look after** – to care for someone:

"I looked after my little brother when he was sick."

**Make up** – to invent:

"I made up the story."

**Pass out** – to lose consciousness:

"They passed out when they saw the blood."

**Put off** – to delay:

"They put the game off because of the bad weather."

**Put on** – to put an item of clothing on:

"I put on a coat."

**Run out of** – to have no more of



# SLEEP WHEN

WE HAVE GOT UP TO ISSUE NUMBER 77 OF HOT ENGLISH MAGAZINE. SOURCES SUGGEST THAT 77 YEARS OF AGE IS THE AVERAGE LIFE EXPECTANCY FOR MEN IN THE UNITED STATES. THEREFORE WE THOUGHT THAT IT WOULD BE A GOOD IDEA TO CREATE A LIST OF 77 THINGS THAT EVERYONE SHOULD DO OR EXPERIENCE DURING THEIR LIFETIME. HERE IS THE HOT ENGLISH "77 THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU DIE" LIST. TICK THE BOXES.



### 1. CLIMB THE EIFFEL TOWER.

The Eiffel Tower is quite possibly one of the most recognisable structures in the world. It has come to represent not just Paris, but also France; and since its completion in 1889, it has been visited by millions of people. It has also been used as the backdrop for some of the most memorable photography of all time, including the French celebrations as their national football team won the FIFA World Cup in 1998. A trip to the top to see the views of Paris will be remembered for the rest of your life.



### 2. HAVE BREAKFAST AND DINNER IN THE TWO DIFFERENT HEMISPHERES OF THE WORLD.

Modern technology has been making the world smaller and smaller for the last hundred years. The Wright Brothers probably did not know what they

were starting when they managed to make their kite hover in the air for various seconds 106 years ago. However, for us today, everything is possible. London to Bangkok will take you only about 12 hours, so you could be eating roast beef in London for lunch and green curry in Bangkok for dinner.

### 3. WALK AROUND THE ACROPOLIS OF ATHENS IN THE MIDDAY SUN.

It is good to remember that modern society is only a product of what went before it and one



of the greatest civilisations to grace earth was that of the Greeks. You can still get a taste of the power and **might** of Ancient Greece by taking a trip to the acropolis that stands over the city of Athens. The Greeks were fundamental in the evolution of humankind, and a trip to Athens will remind you of their achievement and give you a good appreciation of time and history.



### 4. WATCH BOCA VS. RIVER IN LA BOMBONERA IN BUENOS AIRES.

There is nothing in the world that can fill you with excitement in quite the

same way as the atmosphere that hangs around a passionate **football derby**. There are many to choose from, including Rangers vs. Celtic, Milan vs. Inter, Madrid vs. Barcelona or Everton vs. Liverpool. However, the passion for the game shown in Argentina really has to be seen to be believed. Boca, the gritty working class team of Maradona, take on their posh neighbours River Plate twice a year, and it is certainly not one to be missed.



*"Live as if you were to die tomorrow.  
Learn as if you were to live forever."*

MAHATMA GANDHI.



*"Experience is the child of thought,  
and thought is the child of action."*

BENJAMIN DISRAELI.



# YOU'RE DEAD



## 5. DRINK A BOTTLE OF COBRA BEER OVERLOOKING THE TAJ MAHAL. □

The Taj Mahal offers a **backdrop** of truly spectacular proportions.

Often referred to as the jewel of Indo-Muslim architecture, the Taj Mahal dates back to the 17th century. To catch it at the perfect time of day, with the red sun **dipping** beneath its pointed **domes** is a beautiful treat that can be enjoyed perfectly in a relaxed manner with a bottle of India's evocative beer, Cobra.



## 6. WITNESS THE MIGRATIONS IN THE SERENGETI. □

To get a sense of perspective of the natural world, there is nowhere better to start than the

Serengeti. This area straddles northern Tanzania and Kenya and is bursting with natural life in one of the areas that has not been extensively populated by mankind. The annual migrations will **stun** you with their sheer size as thousands of wildebeest test their luck in a frantic charge across a number of crocodile-infested rivers.

## 7. VISIT THE PYRAMID'S AT GIZA. □

The Giza plateau stands about 20km south west of central Cairo and offers us some of the best examples of ancient building. The area is full of pyramids, it contains the Great sphinx and a number of other architectural gems and it is only a short distance from one of the most romantic rivers in the world: the River Nile.



## 8. SAIL PAST THE STATUE OF LIBERTY ON YOUR WAY TO MANHATTAN. □

There's some debate over whether New York City

or London best represent the world's capital. However, one thing for sure is that the symbolic statue that welcomes people to the American continent offers a far more **iconic** entrance than London can offer. Donated by the French in the late 19th century, the Statue of Liberty has come to be a symbol of America and the rights of freedom and liberty that it offers all of its citizens.



## 9. ENJOY SOME SEAFOOD AT A BEACHSIDE RESTAURANT IN ZANZIBAR. □

The Indian Ocean carries with it a special romance and Zanzibar is probably amongst its most beautiful islands.

Alongside some of the very best crystal white beaches in the

world there are a number of beautiful beachside bars and restaurants. And it's here that you can enjoy some of the very best seafood in the world: red snapper, swordfish and kingfish served fresh from the sea.

## 10. LEARN A FOREIGN LANGUAGE. □

With more and more people travelling around the world, it is likely that before long you are going to meet someone from a different culture who speaks a different language. One of the best ways to exercise your mind and create a sense of achievement is to learn how to speak to someone else in a different language from your own. It could open a whole new world for you. ♻

### GLOSSARY

- might** *n*  
power
- a football derby** *n*  
a football game between two football clubs from the same city or area
- posh** *ad*  
sophisticated, expensive, fashionable
- a backdrop** *n*  
the "backdrop" to an object is what you can see behind that object
- to dip** *vb*  
to go to a lower position
- a dome** *n*  
a round roof of a building
- bursting with** *exp*  
full of
- to stun** *vb*  
to shock; to surprise; to impress a lot
- iconic** *adj*  
an important or impressive image that seems to symbolise something (freedom, in this case)



*"We are all inventors, each sailing out on a voyage of discovery, guided each by a private chart, of which there is no duplicate. The world is all gates, all opportunities."* RALPH WALDO EMERSON.

# SLEEP WHEN

AND HERE ARE THE REST OF THE HOT ENGLISH 77 THINGS TO DO BEFORE YOU'RE 77. TICK THE BOXES NEXT TO THE ONES YOU HAVE ALREADY DONE.

- 11. Wander the old streets of the Biblical city of Jerusalem.
- 12. Climb the Inca **trail** to Machu Picchu, Peru.
- 13. Go scuba-diving in the Great Barrier Reef, Australia.
- 14. Ride a horse through a forest surrounded by **mist**.
- 15. Go parachuting in Norway.
- 16. Swim with dolphins in the Indian Ocean.
- 17. Visit the Cook Islands.
- 18. See an opera in Salzburg.
- 19. Go whale-watching in New Zealand.
- 20. Dive with sharks off the South African coast.
- 28. Walk along the Great Wall of China.
- 29. Bungee jump off an Australian bridge.
- 30. Fly in a helicopter over the Grand Canyon, Colorado, USA.
- 31. Take the Orient Express from Venice to London.
- 32. Take a photo of the ancient complex of Chogha Zanbil in Iran at **sunset**.
- 33. Ride the Nemesis **rollercoaster** at Alton Towers in England.
- 34. Drive along Route 66, USA.
- 35. Ride a motorbike around the Italian countryside.



- 21. Visit the ruins of Teotihuacán in Mexico.
- 22. Fly in a hot air balloon over the British countryside.
- 23. See the **Northern Lights** in Alaska.
- 24. Climb Sydney Harbour Bridge, Sydney, Australia.
- 25. Visit Walt Disney World, Florida, USA.
- 26. Drive a powerful car around the Nuremburg racing track.
- 27. Walk across the rope bridge at Carrick-a-Rede in Northern Ireland.
- 36. Have a go at cowboy ranching in Nebraska.
- 37. Eat sushi in a Tokyo restaurant.
- 38. Visit the Terracotta Army near Xi'an in China.
- 39. Go **white-water rafting** on the Futaleufú River, Chile.
- 40. Drink a pint of Guinness in a Dublin bar.
- 41. **Trek** through the rainforest surrounding the Amazon.
- 42. Explore the Galapagos Islands.



*"Imagine every day to be the last of a life surrounded with hopes, cares, anger and fear. The hours that come unexpectedly will be much the more grateful."* HORACE

# YOU'RE DEAD

- 43. Visit the fortress of Alhambra in Granada, Spain.
- 44. Ride the Rocky Mountaineer train, Canada.
- 45. Take the Trans-Siberian Railway from Moscow to Vladivostok.
- 46. Catch the sunset over Uluru (Ayers Rock), Northern Territories, Australia.
- 47. Climb Mount Kilimanjaro, Africa.
- 48. Drive a **husky sled** across the snows of Lapland.
- 49. Hike up the Franz Josef Glacier in New Zealand.
- 50. Visit Las Vegas, Nevada, USA.
- 51. See the **Pope** deliver a  **blessing** from the balcony of the Vatican in Rome.
- 59. Complete the London Marathon.
- 60. Have a book published.
- 61. Celebrate a New Year's party in the **ski resort** of Chamonix in the French Alps.
- 62. Attempt the Mongol Rally – an automobile rally that goes from London to Ulan Bator, Mongolia.
- 63. Sit in the **pews** of the church of San Augustin in the Philippines.
- 64. Sing karaoke in a Japanese bar.
- 65. Drink vodka in a Moscow bar.
- 66. Memorise a poem and recite it to someone.
- 67. Hold a tarantula calmly in the palm of your hand.
- 68. **Hug** a tree in the woods close to your family home.



- 52. See orang-utans in Borneo.
- 53. Experience the atmosphere of the Buddhist ruins of Takht-i-Bahi in Pakistan.
- 54. Go polar bear watching in the Arctic.
- 55. Play a round of golf at St Andrews in Scotland.
- 56. Travel along the Carrao River to see the Angel Falls in Venezuela.
- 57. Watch mountain gorillas in Uganda.
- 58. Become famous for five minutes on YouTube.
- 69. Watch a **storm** at sea.
- 70. Stay up all night long and see the sun rise.
- 71. Watch a **meteor shower**.
- 72. **Bet** on a winning horse.
- 73. See a total eclipse.
- 74. Walk across the Golden Gate Bridge.
- 75. Take a canoe trip that lasts more than 2 days.
- 76. Get your picture published in a newspaper.
- 77. Spend a lazy afternoon on one of Puerto Rico's crystal white beaches.  ☆

## GLOSSARY

- to wander** *vb*  
if you "wander" somewhere, you walk there in a casual manner
- a trail** *n*  
a small path or rough road in the country, a forest or a mountain
- mist** *n*  
a large number of drops of water in the air
- the Northern Lights** *n*  
bright and colourful lights in the sky caused by atomic oxygen molecules
- a sunset** *n*  
if there is a "sunset", the sun disappears behind the horizon and it becomes night
- a rollercoaster** *n*  
a ride in a fun fair that consists of a train that travels very fast
- white-water rafting** *n*  
going down a very fast river on a raft (a type of floating platform)
- to trek** *vb*  
if you "trek" somewhere, you go on a difficult journey often on foot
- a husky** *n*  
a strong dog that comes from snowy regions and that is used for pulling a sledge
- a sled** *n*  
an object used for travelling over snow. It consists of a board and two strips of wood or metal. Also, a "sledge"
- the Pope** *n*  
the head of the Catholic Church
- a blessing** *n*  
a prayer (words you say to God) asking God to be kind to people
- a ski resort** *n*  
an area in the mountains with hotels, restaurants and ski areas
- the pews** *n*  
the long seats in a church where you can sit
- to hug** *vb*  
to hold someone in an emotional way
- a storm** *n*  
a period of violent weather with lightning (flashes in the sky) and thunder (loud sounds)
- a meteor shower** *n*  
if there is a "meteor shower", you can see a number of meteors in the sky
- to bet** *vb*  
to play games for money

DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO ADD TO THE LIST? WRITE IN WITH YOUR SUGGESTIONS TO [ANDYC@HOTENGLISHMAGAZINE.COM](mailto:ANDYC@HOTENGLISHMAGAZINE.COM)

"One way to get the most out of life is to look upon it as an adventure." WILLIAM FEATHER.

# Headline News

Headline News N° 3

The voice of the people

London 2008

# Airplane Terror

*Calypso band in terrorist incident.*

They were just musicians. But they were **escorted off** a plane as suspected terrorists. Now, an innocent Calypso band are **suing** an airline after passengers accused the musicians of being a gang of terrorists.

It all started when one passenger told the pilot that he was concerned about the behaviour of the band (members of the Caribbean Steel International Orchestra). The passenger claimed to be a psychology **lecturer** from London University and said that he could see from the behaviour of the men that they were terrorists. He told the pilot that he had noticed the group in "high spirits" in the terminal building, but that they had sat separately and quietly **on board**. He also believed that one of the musicians who was wearing dark glasses was just "**pretending to be blind**".

The passenger then told the pilot he would leave the flight with his family if the band members were not **removed**. As tensions **rose**, two other families also said they

would get off if the men weren't removed. Eventually, all five musicians, who were returning from a music festival on the island of Sardinia, were taken off the flight.

Once in the airport, the Italian police checked the identity of the men and discovered that they were in fact just musicians. But the pilot **refused** to let the musicians back on because the passengers were still "anxious". In the end, the musicians were **left stranded** in Sardinia and spent the night there before the airline put them on a free flight to Liverpool the next day. Once in Liverpool, they had to **sleep rough** in the city's bus station after missing their bus to London. They didn't arrive home until 2nd January after a "miserable" journey.

During a recent court case, the captain of the plane was asked, "Do you accept you made a terrible mistake?" to which the captain replied, "No, sir, I do not. We did the very best we could... It's a very difficult position to be in." The case continues. ✪



## GLOSSARY

- to escort someone off** *exp*  
if you are "escorted off" a place, they accompany you and take you away from that place
- to sue** *vb*  
to start a legal process against someone in order to get compensation
- a lecturer** *n*  
a professor who gives formal talks at a university/college
- on board** *exp*  
on the plane
- to pretend** *vb*  
to act as if something is true even if it isn't
- blind** *adj*  
with no ability to see
- to remove** *vb*  
to take away; to make someone leave
- to rise** *vb*  
to increase
- to refuse** *vb*  
to say that you won't do something
- left stranded** *exp*  
if you are "left stranded", you are trapped in a place with no means of getting away
- to sleep rough** *exp*  
to sleep on the floor/ground (not in a bed)
- to despise** *vb*  
to hate a lot
- a parody** *n*  
a piece of drama in which the actors imitate people or make fun of them
- to spread gossip** *exp*  
to tell people stories about the private lives of another person
- to bother** *vb*  
to annoy; to irritate
- to suck** *vb US informal*  
to be bad

# Hate You

*A nasty alternative to Facebook.* By Rebecca Kern



Hate your boss? **Despise** your neighbors? Can't stand your workmates? If that's the case, then Hatebook's the website for you. This social networking website was created as a **parody** of **Facebook**\*, the popular social networking website. Right now, it's proving to be very popular. Basically, Hatebook allows users to publish lies, **spread gossip** about enemies or friends, post nasty videos and photos on hate profile, and get hate points for **bothering** people. Users can also fill out personal information about themselves such as "Why I'm Better than You" and "Things that **Suck**". In addition, users can join "Hate-Clans," groups where users talk about a topic they all hate, such as "I hate my colleagues," "I hate U2" or "Let's smoke the smokers to hell". ✪

## \* Facebook

Facebook is a social-networking website that allows people to communicate with their friends and exchange information. It was launched and founded in 2004 by Mark Zuckerberg, a former Harvard student. There are



now 50 million active members

worldwide. Users of Facebook can create photo albums, send messages, write on the "walls" of other users, join and create groups, post videos and give virtual gifts. Many people use Facebook as a way of getting in touch with ex-classmates or university/college friends.

# Little Jokes



CD track 18 - Englishmen

Match each joke beginning (1 to 8) with its ending (A-H). Then, listen to check your answers. Answers on page 42

1. Why are you eating those electric **bulbs**?
2. How do you know when a kangaroo is angry?
3. Why did the **undertaker** lose his job?
4. Doctor, my hair keeps falling out. What can you give me to keep it in?
5. If swimming is so good for your **figure**...
6. Why should you never swim **on a full stomach**?
7. Teacher: "I never **punish** people for things they don't do."
8. Why do cows have bells?



## GLOSSARY

**a bulb** *n*  
a glass object that lights when it is connected to the electricity

**an undertaker** *n*  
a person who arranges funerals for dead people

**a figure** *n*  
the shape of your body

**on a full stomach** *exp*  
with your stomach full of food

**to punish** *vb*  
to do something bad to someone because they have done something bad/illegal

**a grave mistake** *n*  
a very serious mistake or error

**a horn** *n*  
a) an object in a car that makes a sound when you press it;  
b) the hard, sharp objects on the head of an animal such as a bull or a goat

**a light lunch** *n*  
a small lunch with a small amount of food, or food that is not fattening

**a whale** *n*  
the largest mammal in the sea

**hopping mad** *n*  
very angry. To "hop" is to jump

- A:** Because he made a **grave mistake**.
- B:** Because their **horns** don't work.
- C:** Because it's easier to swim in water!
- D:** Because I'm having a **light lunch**.
- E:** This box.
- F:** Pupil: "Good, because I didn't do my homework."
- G:** ...how do you explain **whales**?
- H:** Because it gets **hopping mad**.

# GRAFFITI



CD track 19 - Englishman & Englishwoman

Here are some more examples of British toilet graffiti.

**NEVER TAKE LIFE SERIOUSLY. NOBODY GETS OUT ALIVE ANYWAY.**

**IF BARBIE IS SO POPULAR, WHY DO YOU HAVE TO BUY HER FRIENDS?**

**THERE ARE NO STUPID QUESTIONS, JUST STUPID PEOPLE.**

**GIRLS ARE LIKE PHONES. WE LOVE TO BE HELD AND TALKED TO, BUT IF YOU PRESS THE WRONG BUTTON, YOU'LL GET DISCONNECTED.**

**MEN ARE LIKE BANK ACCOUNTS. WITHOUT A LOT OF MONEY THEY DON'T GENERATE A LOT OF INTEREST.**

**I TOLD MY WIFE THAT A HUSBAND IS LIKE A FINE WINE: HE GETS BETTER WITH AGE. THE NEXT DAY, SHE LOCKED ME IN THE CELLAR.**

## GLOSSARY

**to get disconnected** *exp*  
if you "get disconnected", the phone line is interrupted

**a fine wine** *n*  
a very good quality wine

**to lock** *vb*  
to close a door with a key

**a cellar** *n*  
the room at the bottom of a house under the ground

## BUS PASSENGER BY DANIEL COLITOLINE





# Gun Dog

Man in bizarre incident with a dog.



WHAT SHALL I SHOOT TODAY?



A dog may be a man's best friend, but he can also be his worst enemy, as James Harris found out. Harris was out **hunting** in Iowa when he was shot in the leg. Minutes before the accident, Harris, 37, put his gun on the ground so he could **pick up** a dead **pheasant**. But just then, a dog from the **pack** that was accompanying the hunters came along and **stepped**

on the **trigger** causing more than 120 **pellets** to hit Mr Harris in the leg **at short range**. Fortunately, the injury wasn't **life-threatening**. "It isn't uncommon for hunters to be shot by their dogs," said Alan Foster, a spokesman for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources. "I hear about it a couple times a year. But if this guy had been a bit more careful, this

wouldn't have happened." Mr Harris was treated at a medical centre and later they had him **airlifted** by helicopter to the University of Iowa Hospitals in Iowa City, where he will be staying for a few days. An investigation into the accident is under way, but so far there have been no arrests. ❖

# Litter Mystery

The mystery of the bits of paper.



Police in Wales are appealing for support to help them solve a curious crime. In a press conference the police spoke of the growing problem of **litter** that is appearing around the town of Caerlŷn, near Newport. "At least 10 times in the last two years, massive amounts of paper have been **dumped** in the area," a police officer explained. "But we don't know why. We think that it is one individual who is responsible for this crime, but we have no idea why he wants to fill the local area with rubbish."

Days earlier, a man was **spotted** dropping bits of paper by neighbours, but he was never caught. The police think he may have been the person responsible for the crimes. He is described as white, in his mid-to-late 30s, and was last seen wearing a **baseball cap**. Welsh police have said, "This is not causing any damage, but it is very annoying, and it is the local people who have to **clean up** the **mess** afterwards. It has to stop now." ❖

## GLOSSARY


- hunting** *n*  
the sport of catching or killing wild animals
- to pick up** *phr vb*  
to take in your hands from a surface / the ground, etc
- a pheasant** *n*  
a bird with a large tail. They are often shot for sport
- a pack** *n*  
a group of dogs that hunt/live together
- to step** *vb*  
if you "step" on something, you put your foot on it
- a trigger** *n*  
the part of the gun that you pull with your finger in order to fire the gun
- a pellet** *n*  
a small piece of metal that comes out of a gun when you shoot it (often with many other pellets)
- at short range** *n*  
from a very short distance
- life-threatening** *adj*  
that may lead to your death; that may kill you
- to airlift** *vb*  
to take someone out of a place by helicopter or airplane (often during an emergency)
- litter** *n*  
rubbish; old things that you throw away
- to dump** *vb*  
to throw/put/place in a casual way
- to spot** *vb*  
to see; to notice
- a baseball cap** *n*  
a hat with a visor (a part of the hat that protects your face from the sun)
- to clean up** *phr vb*  
to clean a place so there is no more mess/dirt
- a mess** *n*  
if there is a "mess" on the floor, there is dirt and rubbish on the floor


# FEBRUARY





Come and celebrate February with us in our series on anniversaries. This month: February. By Mark Pierro.


 **February 4th 1862**  
One of the world's largest rum producers (Bacardi) is **founded** as a small **distillery** in Santiago de Cuba, Cuba. Thirsty pirates in the Caribbean were **delighted**.


 **February 5th 1885**  
King Leopold II of Belgium establishes the Congo Free State as his personal possession in Africa. Of course, it isn't "free" for the inhabitants.


 **February 6th 1840**  
The British and the **Maori sign** the Treaty of Waitangi after years of violence. This leads to the foundation of modern-day New Zealand. Of course, the Maori had been there for hundreds of years before the British arrived with their little bits of paper to sign.


 **February 9th 474**  
Zeno is **crowned** as the co-emperor of the Eastern Roman Empire. Seven-year-old Leo II was supposed to be king, but they thought he was a bit too young to rule. **Wise** decision!


 **February 10th 1258**  
Hulagu Khan and the Mongols **sack** and burn Baghdad, a cultural and commercial centre of the Islamic world at the time. Of course, this wouldn't be the last time a violent, **money-grabbing lunatic** would destroy Baghdad.

 **February 12th 1818**  
Chile **proclaims** its independence from Spain. The victorious Chileans were led by the revolutionary leader Bernardo O'Higgins, who was the son of a Spanish officer of Irish descent. Incidentally, there's a statue of him in London (in Richmond), and **plaques** to commemorate him in Spain, Ireland and Chile.

 **February 15th 1989**  
The Soviet Union officially announces that all of its troops had left Afghanistan. If the USSR had to do that, what chance does NATO have?


 **February 16th 1923**  
Howard Carter **unseals** the burial chamber of the Egyptian pharaoh, Tutankhamen. Carter also releases an ancient **curse**, which kills a number of people.


 **February 18th 1861**  
Victor Emmanuel II of Piedmont, Savoy and Sardinia assumes the title of King of Italy under a newly-unified Italian state.

 **February 22nd 1997**  
Scientists at the Roslin Institute in Scotland announce the birth of the cloned sheep Dolly.

 **February 23rd 1997**  
Dolly is voted "Cutest Sheep of the Year" in an online survey.


 **February 24th 1946**  
Colonel Juan Perón is elected President of Argentina.

 **February 25th 1946**  
Eva Perón, Juan's wife, prepares herself for a life of stardom, which includes being the inspiration for the musical, Evita.

 **February 25th 1986**  
Corazon Aquino is inaugurated as President of the Philippines, as Ferdinand Marcos **flees** the nation after 20 years of rule and much of the country's wealth spent on his wife's collection of shoes.

 **February 26th 1991**  
The world's first **web browser**, WorldWideWeb, is introduced.

 **February 27th 1991**  
The world's first **hacker** hacks into the world's first web browser.

 **February 29th 1988**  
South African archbishop Desmond Tutu is arrested along with 100 clergymen during a five-day anti-apartheid demonstration in Cape Town. Apparently, the priests had become tired of praying for an end to discrimination and decided to take action themselves. ✪

## Events for February 2008

**February 3rd**  
Super Bowl XLII held at University of Phoenix Stadium in Glendale, Arizona.

**February 6th** Waitangi Day (New Zealand)

**February 7th**  
Spring Festival (China)

**February 14th**  
Valentine's Day

**February 24th**  
The 80th Academy Awards (the Oscars) will take place at the Kodak Theatre in Hollywood, California.

### GLOSSARY

**to found** *vb*  
to establish

**a distillery** *n*  
a factory for making alcohol

**delighted** *adj*  
very happy

**the Maori** *n*  
the native people of New Zealand

**to sign** *vb*  
to write your name on a document/contract/form, etc

**to crown** *vb*  
if someone is "crowned" king, they become king. The "crown" is the King's "hat"

**wise** *adj*  
intelligent and clever

**to sack** *vb*  
to destroy completely

**money-grabbing** *adj*  
with a desire for lots of money and wealth

**a lunatic** *n*  
a mad/crazy/insane person

**to proclaim** *vb*  
to say formally and officially

**a plaque** *n*  
a piece of metal fixed to a wall with information on it (often about a famous person)

**to unseal** *vb*  
to open something that has been closed hermetically (so no air can get in/out)

**a curse** *n*  
an evil, bad, supernatural power

**to flee** *vb*  
to run away; to escape

**a web browser** *n*  
a programme used to find web pages (Internet Explorer, for example)

**a hacker** *n*  
a person who enters the secure area of a website illegally

Famous people fight it out in our monthly competition.

# FACE TO FACE



## The Beatles vs The Rolling Stones

### The Beatles

It was at the St. Peter's **church hall fête** in Woolton on 6th July 1957 that Paul McCartney first met a young rock 'n' roller called John Lennon. Before long, McCartney and Lennon had **struck up a friendship** and McCartney convinced Lennon to allow his young friend George Harrison to join the band (which by this time was known as The Silver Beatles). Over the next few years, the group played at the Cavern Club in Liverpool and spent time in the German city of Hamburg. In 1963, the band recruited the **drummer** Ringo Star and recorded their first album *Please Please Me*, which instantly turned the band into a global phenomenon and its members into media celebrities. During the mid-1960s, Beatlemania swept the world and The Beatles went from success to success. Lennon and McCartney's song writing partnership became known as one of the best in the history of popular music, and they were responsible for classic songs such as *A Hard Day's Night*, *Love Me Do*, *I Feel Fine*, *I Wanna Hold Your Hand* and *Hey Jude*. In 1967,

they released the album *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* which has consistently been voted as one of the top albums of all time. The Beatles are regarded as one of the most innovative bands ever: they were the first group ever to record **guitar feedback**, the first group to print the **lyrics** of their songs on the back of the **record sleeve**, and one of the first to use **distortion**.

### The Rolling Stones

The Rolling Stones were formed by Brian Jones in London during 1962. Before long, the leadership of the band was taken over by the singer Mick Jagger and the guitarist Keith Richards. Much of the band's early music was dominated by early American rock and roll, and the song which led to their worldwide fame *Can't Get No Satisfaction* is a good example of this. Two of their albums, *Beggars Banquet* and *Let it Bleed*, are generally considered to be two of the best rock and roll releases of all time. In 1969, Brian Jones died in mysterious circumstances and he was replaced by a number of different guitarists over the next few decades.

However, The Rolling Stones continued to enjoy popular success. In 2002, they released a "Best-of" album which covered their work from the past forty years. It became one of the biggest-selling albums of the year in both the US and the UK. The Rolling Stones never stopped **touring** and you can still see them **playing live** around the world.

### The Verdict

While The Rolling Stones are a great band, they **fall a little short of** The Beatles. The Beatles enjoyed a greater deal of popularity and had a huge influence on music as an art form. Also, all the members of The Beatles have made an impact in areas of society outside of music (John Lennon for his humanitarian work, and McCartney for championing animal rights). Whilst The Rolling Stones have undoubtedly influenced musicians, Jagger and Richards have never become iconic individuals in the same way as McCartney and Lennon. Therefore our scores are as follows: The Beatles 10/10; The Rolling Stones 09/10. ✨

### The Beatles

Formed during the late 1950s in Liverpool. Founding members include Paul McCartney and John Lennon. Most famous songs include *A Hard Day's Night* and *Love Me Do*.



### The Rolling Stones

Formed in London in 1962. Founding members include Mick Jagger and Keith Richards. Most famous songs include *Can't Get No Satisfaction*.



### GLOSSARY

- a church hall** *n*  
a church building with a large room that is used for meetings/parties, etc
- a fête** *n*  
an outdoor party often held in a village
- to strike up a friendship (with)** *exp*  
to start being friends with
- a drummer** *n*  
the person who plays the drums (the percussion instruments) in a band
- guitar feedback** *n*  
the loud noise produced when a guitar is held near a guitar amp (amplifier) with the volume turned up high
- the lyrics** *n*  
the words to a song
- a record sleeve** *n*  
the paper or cardboard "envelope" for a record or CD
- distortion** *n*  
the loud, rough sustained tone that a guitar can produce
- touring** *n*  
travelling to many different countries/cities in order to do concerts
- to play live** *exp*  
to play music in front of an audience
- to fall short of X** *exp*  
not to be as good as X





## Hard to be happy

by Wall

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[www.myspace.com/garrettwall](http://www.myspace.com/garrettwall)

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Each morning starts just the same,  
A day in the life lies before me,  
So easy to feel nothing.

**Rushing** to catch the right train,  
**Squeezing between empty faces**,  
So hard not to lose something.

The feeling grows till it **overflows**,  
And all I can do is just wait and see.  
Stand in the rain as it **pours down** on me,  
When it comes down to it finally,  
Nothing is what it might seem to be.

Walking these streets **in a daze**,  
Everything once so familiar,  
But now I'm a stranger too.  
Fumbling for some loose change,  
To put in the hand out before me,  
My eyes to the ground as I do.

The feeling grows till it overflows,  
And all I can do is just wait and see.  
Stand in the rain as it pours down on me,  
When it comes down to it finally,  
Nothing is what it might seem to be.

Is just wait and see?  
I try to relate to the world around me,  
It's never easy, it's not supposed to be,  
Everything changes so suddenly.  
When it comes down to it finally,  
Nothing is what it might seem to be,  
These days.



### GLOSSARY

**to rush** *vb*  
to go somewhere quickly  
**to squeeze between** *exp*  
to push your body between two things/people, etc  
**an empty face** *n*  
a face with no expression  
**to overflow** *vb*  
if a feeling "overflows", it becomes too strong to contain or control  
**to pour down** *phr vb*  
if it is "pouring down", it is raining a lot  
**in a daze** *exp*  
in a state of confusion

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# VOCABULARY

## THE LIBRARY



Learn some useful words and expressions to use in the library.



**A library** – a place where you can borrow books.

**A librarian** – someone who works in a library.

**A user** – a person who borrows or reads books in a library.

**A library card** – a card with information about the user or book.

**A bookshelf** – a piece of furniture with shelves (flat pieces of wood/metal, etc) for putting books on.

**An aisle** – a space between bookshelves in a library where you can walk.

**A return-date** – the date on which you must return a book.

**A fine** – money you must pay if you return a book late.

**To borrow a book** – to have permission to take a book out of a library for a limited period of time.

**To return a book** – to take a book back to the library.

**To browse** – to look at books casually or to look for information in a casual way.

**An information desk** – an area in

the library (usually a table) where you go to ask questions about books.

**To stamp a book** – to put a stamp (a mark) in a book with information about when you must return the book.

**To renew a book** – to get permission to have a book for a longer period of time.

**Overdue** – if a book is “overdue”, you have not returned it on the correct date.

**ISBN (International Standard Book Number)** – a unique number for a book in order to identify the publisher, title and edition. Magazines and periodicals have an ISSN (International Standard Serial Number).

**Catalogue** – a list of all the books or other material in the library. You can search for things by keyword, author, title or subject.

**E-book** – an electronic (or digital) version of a book.

**Reference books** – books that are used for finding information, such as dictionaries or encyclopaedias.

**On loan** – if a book is “on loan”, it is being used by someone else.

# TYPICAL DIALOGUES

## THE LIBRARY

Listen to this dialogue and learn some useful vocabulary and expressions.

In this conversation, Bob is at the library making enquiries about a certain book.

**Bob:** Hi, I've just **registered** as a new user. How long I could have this book for? (*He puts a book on the counter.*)

**Librarian:** You can have it for up to two weeks.

**Bob:** And how many books can I take out at any one time?

**Librarian:** You can have up to three books.

**Bob:** OK. Thanks. Then I'd like to take this book out, please. (*He gives the librarian his card.*)

**Librarian:** (*He swipes the user's library card.*) Hey, wait a minute. I remember you.

**Bob:** What?

**Librarian:** I never forget a face. You borrowed book here while ago and didn't return it.

**Bob:** What?

**Librarian:** Yes, it was you. Give me your library card. I'm **confiscating** it right now.

**Bob:** But this is the first time I've ever been here.

**Librarian:** Yes, that's what they all say. (*Shouting to a colleague.*) Sandra, call security.

**Bob:** You can call all the security you want. Call the police if you like. I haven't done anything wrong. I just came here to borrow a book.

**Librarian:** Come on! I'm not stupid. Where's the book?

**Bob:** What book?

**Librarian:** You know what I'm talking about. (*The security guard arrives.*)

**Security:** What's going on here?

**Librarian:** This man stole a library book.

**Bob:** I did not.

**Security:** Right, come on. Hand it over. Give us back the book.

**Bob:** I don't have any book.

**Security:** Right, hold him down while I hit him. (*The librarian and security guard grab Bob.*)

**Bob:** What? What are you doing? This is **preposterous**. Ow! Stop! This is Britain. I am a British citizen. I have rights you know.

**Librarian:** No you don't. You're a thief. You're a library thief. (*To the guard.*) Go on, hit him.

**Security:** (*hitting Bob*) Where's the book! Where's the book! Where's the book! Where's the book! Where's the book! ♡

### GLOSSARY

**to register** *vb*  
to put your name on an official list so you are part of an organisation  
**to confiscate** *vb*  
to take something away from someone as a form of punishment  
**preposterous** *adj*  
ridiculous; stupid; absolutely not true

# DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC: SURPRISES



CD track 25 -  
Irishwoman & US woman



Here are some more useful and interesting expressions for you to learn. This month we are looking at surprises.



### That's a turn up for the books

We use this expression to describe something very surprising and unusual.  
"You here! At the office at 8 in the morning! That's a turn up for the books."



### Out of the blue

If something happens "out of the blue", it happens quickly and it surprises you.  
"We were sitting at home when Amanda arrived out of the blue."



### There is more to something/somebody than meets the eye

Something is more complicated and complex than it appears to be.  
"I don't trust him at all. I think there's more to him than meets the eye."



### Raise a few eyebrows

To surprise people.  
"His new haircut really raised a few eyebrows."



### That's news to me

This is something you can say when you hear something new and surprising.  
"Susan is going to America? That's news to me. I thought she was really happy here."



### Get a load of that! (informal)

This is something you can say when you see something surprising.  
"Get a load of that! That's Sarah with Steve. I thought she was going out with Jim"



### It's a small world

This is something you can say when you meet a friend somewhere far from home.  
"Guess what? I met Sam in a tiny village in the north of Cambodia. It's a small world."



### Catch somebody in the act

To surprise someone doing something illegal/immoral/bad/naughty.  
"Sally walked into her office and found Bob there reading her e-mails. She really caught him in the act."

**GLOSSARY**  
an eyebrow /ɪ/  
a line of hair above your eye

The world's most badly-behaved girls.

# St Trinian's

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



WHAT TIME'S HISTORY CLASS?

**T**he 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, girls playing pool, girls smoking and 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 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".



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*.

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, and 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." ☘



## St Trinian's Films

The latest film, *St Trinian's*, brings the **franchise** up to the 21st century. It is directed by Oliver Parker and stars 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?



### 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*  
that 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 the ball
- a merciless world** *n*  
a cruel, heartless, unkind 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

## 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/searlehome.htm](http://www.kinglybooks.com/searlehome.htm)





CD track 26 -  
US man & US woman

# Quirky News

Unusual news stories from around the world.

## Monster Lurking

*The search for a monster.*

Residents in the Chinese town of Hongxian were convinced they had their very own Loch Ness Monster. "There were strange sounds at night coming from the **lake**," one local explained. "And we were frightened to walk along the **banks** of the **reservoir**." After numerous complaints, officials from the town council decided to investigate. They found nothing, but the residents continued to complain. Eventually, the council decided to do something about it, so they **drained** the reservoir. But there was nothing there except a few **pebbles** and a couple of old washing machines. "We were sure there was a monster there," another resident explained. "Maybe he went away when he saw what we were doing to his water. He'll probably come back now." ❖



YOU WON'T CATCH ME!

## Gun Shot

*Man injures himself in bizarre incident.*

"I was just trying to change the wheel," said Sam Blast after he managed to shoot himself whilst repairing his car. At the time, Blast was attempting to **loosen** a **nut**. He had tried **grease** but it wouldn't help. So, he went to fetch his **shotgun** and fired two shots at the wheel just outside his home. Unfortunately, Blast hadn't **counted on** the **ricochet** and he was hit by **pellets**. Blast was taken to hospital with severe, but not life-threatening, injuries. ❖



NOW, WHERE'S MY GUN?

## Body Alert

*Hotel workers get unusual advice.*

There were more than 400 recorded cases last year, and now it's **on the rise**. One of the big problems for hotels these days is **naked, sleepwalking** guests. And now, many hotel managers are having to **train** staff to deal with the problem. Typical cases involve a guest walking naked into the reception area and asking for a newspaper, or demanding to **check out**. One naked guest was even arrested after he was **locked out of** the hotel. As part of the training, hotel staff are taught how to **preserve a guest's dignity**. In order to help with that, a good **supply of** towels is kept under the reception desk. "We have seen an increase in the number of cases over the years, so it is important that our staff know how to help sleepwalkers," said a hotel manager. Medical experts say that sleepwalking can be triggered by a stressful lifestyle, sleep deprivation, alcohol abuse or not breathing properly during the night. ❖



HAS ANYONE SEEN MY KEY?

### GLOSSARY

- a lake** *n*  
an area of fresh water (not sea water)
- the banks of (a river)** *n*  
the land by the side of a river
- a reservoir** *n*  
a large area of water that is used for supplying water to homes
- to drain** *vb*  
if a lake is "drained", the water is taken out of it
- a pebble** *n*  
a small, round, smooth stone
- to loosen** *vb*  
to make less tight
- a nut** *n*  
a small piece of metal with a hole through it
- grease** *n*  
a substance made from animal fat or oil
- a shotgun** *n*  
a gun that shoots many little pellets (small pieces of metal) when you fire it
- to count on** *phr vb*  
to consider; to take into account
- ricochet** *n*  
if there is "ricochet", a bullet hits a surface and changes direction
- a pellet** *n*  
a very small piece of metal that comes out of gun when you fire it
- on the rise** *exp*  
increasing
- naked** *adj*  
with no clothes on
- sleepwalking** *n*  
walking while you are sleeping
- to train** *vb*  
to teach
- to check out** *phr vb*  
to inform the hotel receptionist that you are leaving the hotel
- to lock someone out of a place** *exp*  
to close the door with a key so someone cannot enter again
- to preserve someone's dignity** *exp*  
to make sure someone doesn't lose their dignity (their self-respect)
- a supply of something** *exp*  
an amount of something

# Mad Dogs

More and more Brits are leaving the country.

Have you ever thought of living or working **abroad**? These days, more and more British people are choosing to leave home and go to another country. And a recent study found that there are about 5.5 million **expat Brits** – about 10% of the population. Why? And where are they going?

**A**ccording to a recent survey, the number of British citizens who chose to go permanently abroad **doubled** from 53,000 in 2001 to 107,000 in 2006 – some 2,000 people a week. So, where do they go? Most choose to live in Australia, Spain, the US and other English-speaking nations. But, in all, some 41 countries have at least 10,000 permanent British **residents**. And according to the research, those most likely to leave Britain are young workers without families, plus those who want to **retire**.



The big question is, why are they leaving? Dan Smith, a leading expert, says it's because of the UK's economic strength. A strong economy **encourages** Brits to **broaden their horizons**. "Two-thirds of Britons who leave do so to seek employment abroad – and are replaced by skilled professionals from elsewhere in the world. When the going is good, the Brits get going," he said.

At the same time, Britain is experiencing its biggest **wave of immigration** since 1066 (when the Normans came over in large numbers). At present, some 300,000 immigrants are coming in every year, most of them from Eastern European countries.

So, what do Brits living abroad most **miss** about their country? Part of the survey found that what most British expats miss are friends, family, the British sense of humour, pubs and British food (particularly British-Indian food). Also, more than 60% said they wanted their children to go to a British university as they felt the standards were much higher. ☺

## Mad Dogs and Englishmen (song)

Mad Dogs and Englishmen is a song written by Noël Coward in 1931. It is all about English expats and their **eccentric** ways. It's a bit dated, but quite funny and, like most stereotypes, based on a certain degree of truth. Here are the lyrics.

In tropical climes there are certain times of day,  
When all the citizens retire,  
To tear their clothes off and **perspire**.  
It's one of those rules that the greatest **fools** **obey**,  
Because the sun is much too **sultry**,  
And one must avoid its ultra-violet ray.

The natives **grieve** when the white men leave their huts,  
Because they're obviously definitely **nuts!**

Mad dogs and Englishmen,  
Go out in the midday sun,  
The Japanese don't care to,  
The Chinese wouldn't **dare** to,  
Hindoos and Argentines sleep firmly from twelve to one.  
But Englishmen **detest** a siesta.

In the Philippines, there are lovely screens,  
To protect you from the **glare**.  
In the Malay States, there are hats like plates,  
Which the Britishers won't wear.  
At twelve noon, the natives **swoon**,  
And no further work is done,  
But mad dogs and Englishmen,  
Go out in the midday sun.

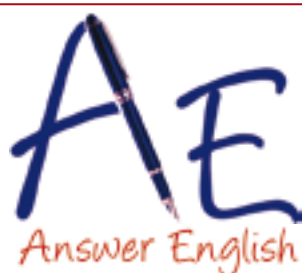
## DR FINGERS' BLOG

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### GLOSSARY

- abroad** *adj*  
in another country
- an expat** *abbr*  
an expatriate – someone who lives in another country (not his/her own country)
- a Brit** *n inform*  
a British person
- to double** *vb*  
to increase by 100%
- a resident** *n*  
the "residents" of a country are the people who live there
- to retire** *vb*  
to stop working voluntarily, often because you are 60-65 years old
- to encourage** *vb*  
to try to persuade or motivate someone to do something
- to broaden your horizons** *exp*  
to get more experience
- a wave of immigration** *n*  
a large number of people who go to live in another country
- to miss** *vb*  
if you "miss" something, you are sad because you don't have that thing
- eccentric** *adj*  
with strange and unusual habits
- to perspire** *vb*  
to sweat (to lose liquid from your body because you are hot)
- a fool** *n*  
an idiot; a stupid person
- to obey** *vb*  
to do what the law or the authorities tell you to do
- to grieve** *vb*  
if you are "grieving", you are sad because of a death
- nuts** *adj inform*  
crazy; insane
- to dare** *vb*  
if you "dare" to do something, you do that thing even though it is dangerous
- to detest** *vb*  
to hate a lot
- the glare** *n*  
the brightness of the sun
- to swoon** *vb*  
to faint; to lose consciousness



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# 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 is 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. Basically, 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" (the runners) 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,

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 monotonous 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 upon it, which is what hashers shout when they have found the trail. ☺



Cecil Lee, Frederick "Horse" Thomson, Ronald "Torch" Bennett, and Albert Stephen Ignatius Gispert (a British accountant of Catalan descent) would

**GLOSSARY**

- to stick together** *phr vb*  
to go to the same bars, clubs, etc as other people who are similar to you
- 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 someone leaves in order to show a route
- to get rid of something** *exp*  
to eliminate something; to throw something away
- the excesses** *n*  
the "excesses of the weekend" refers to all the heavy drinking and eating
- a bachelor** *n*  
a man who isn't married
- hash** *n*  
a dish made of meat, onions and potato
- an elbow** *n*  
the joint in the middle of your arm
- a nickname** *n*  
an informal name

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CD track 29 - US woman & US man



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Here are some more crazy laws from the US. (US English spelling)

It is illegal to wear a **bullet-proof vest** while committing a murder. (New Jersey)



It is against the law for a man to **knit** during the fishing season. (New Jersey)



It is against the law to **frown** at a police officer. (New Jersey)

In an attempt to **foster kindness**, the month of May is designated Kindness Awareness Month. (New Jersey)

If you have been convicted of driving while **intoxicated**, you may never apply for **personalized license plates** again. (New Jersey)

You may not **slurp** your soup. (New Jersey)



It is illegal to **delay** or **detain** a **homing pigeon**. (New Jersey)

**Handcuffs** may not be sold to minors. (New Jersey)

All motorists must **honk** before passing another car, bicyclist, skater, and even a skateboarder. (New Jersey)

It is illegal to **frown** as the town is a "Frown-Free Town Zone". (New Jersey)

You may not dance or wear shorts on the main avenue. (New Jersey)



I JUST WANT TO WEAR SHORTS.

All cats must wear three **bells** to warn birds of their whereabouts. (New Jersey)

It is illegal to use the Crystal Lake Pool without first obtaining a bathing tag from the township clerk. (New Jersey)

No one may annoy someone of the opposite sex. (New Jersey)

It is illegal to offer whiskey or cigarettes to animals at the local zoo. (New Jersey)

It is illegal to sell ice cream after 6pm, unless the customer has a note from his doctor. (New Jersey)



**Pickles** are not to be consumed on Sunday. (New Jersey)

**GLOSSARY**

**a bullet-proof vest** *n*  
a piece of clothing you wear to protect the upper part of your body from bullets (small pieces of metal that are fired from a gun)

**to knit** *vb*  
to make clothing by using long pieces of wool (sheep hair) and knitting needles (long, thin pieces of metal used to join the wool)

**to frown** *vb*  
when you "frown", lines appear on your forehead and your eyebrows go close together

**to foster kindness** *exp*  
to create a nice feeling of helpfulness and kindness

**intoxicated** *adj*  
drunk (with too much alcohol)

**a personalized license plate** *n*  
a "license plate" is the series of numbers and letters at the back of a car. A "personalized" one is one that you buy or create

**to slurp** *vb*  
if you "slurp" a liquid, you make a lot of noise as you are drinking it

**to delay** *vb*  
to cause someone/something to be/happen later than planned

**to detain** *vb*  
if you "detain" something, you prevent it from continuing on its journey

**a homing pigeon** *n*  
a "pigeon" is a fat, grey bird that often lives in cities. A "homing" pigeon can fly back to its home

**handcuffs** *n*  
round, metal objects the police put around suspects' wrists when they arrest that person

**pickles** *n*  
pieces of vegetable that have been preserved in vinegar



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CD track 30

# DICTIONARY OF SLANG

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

## Situation



Formal



Relaxed



Informal

A friend comes into your office. You invite her to sit down.

Please seat yourself here and rest your **weary** feet.

Sit down here.



Park yourself down; take a **load** off.



THEY PAY PEANUTS.

Your football team lost a game. You are very disappointed.

It was most discouraging.

It was really disappointing.

It was a real downer.



IT ALL WENT PEAR-SHAPED.

You organised a party, but no one came and it was a complete failure.

It was a disaster.

It was terrible.

It all went pear-shaped.



I WAS THERE PRETTY SHARPISH, HE WASN'T.

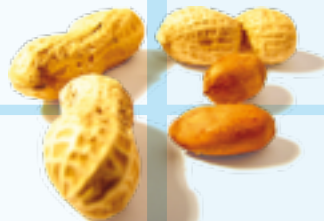


You have bought some tickets for the theatre. You tell a friend that it is important to arrive on time.

It is imperative that you are most punctilious.

You have to get there on time.

Be there pretty **sharpish**.



IT WAS A REAL DOWNER.



The company where you work pays its staff very badly.

The salary is of an insufficient amount.

They pay really badly.

They pay **peanuts**.

### GLOSSARY

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

- weary** *adj*
- tired
- a load** *n*
- an amount
- sharp** *adj informal*
- a) punctual (informal); b) with a point at the end
- peanuts** *n*
- small, round nuts
- sincere** *adj*
- honest

A friend has just passed an important exam. You congratulate her.

I wish to offer you my **sincerest** congratulations on your recent success.

Well done; congratulations.

Nice one; good on yer; good job.



### Answers

- Dance Health page 6**
- 1G 2D 3F 4A 5E 6B 7C 8K 9J 10H 11I
- Trivia Matching page 16**
- 1E 2C 3G 4A 5B 6I 7J 8M 9D 10L 11K 12F 13H
- Little Jokes page 29**
- 1D 2H 3A 4E 5G 6C 7F 8B

# HOUSE IDIOMS



CD track 33 -  
Englishmen

This is the start of a new series of "house" idioms.

## GLOSSARY

**to double-lock** *vb*  
to turn the key twice when you lock  
a door



### On the house (a drink)

If food or drink is "on the house", it is provided free by a bar or restaurant.

"Don't worry. These drinks are on the house."



### A house of cards

An organisation or plan that is very weak and that can easily be destroyed.

"The organisation appeared to be solid, but it turned out to be a house of cards."



### Eat someone out of house and home

To eat most of the food that someone has in their house.

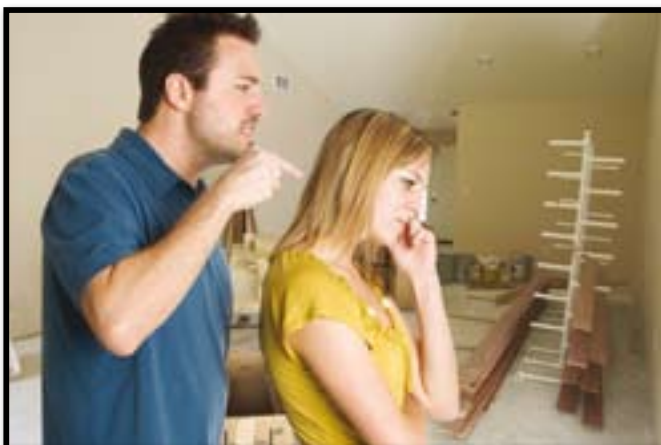
"Sam has only been back for three days, but he's already eaten us out of house and home."



### Get on like a house on fire

If two people "get on like a house on fire", they get on very well.

"I was worried that Pete and Sam weren't going to like one another, but they get on like a house on fire."



### Get / put your house in order

To solve your own problems.

"Before you start criticising the way we do things here, you ought to put your own house in order."



### Be as safe as houses

To be very safe.

"Don't worry, I closed all the windows and **double-locked** the doors. Your bag will be as safe as houses in there."

Two killers and a film.

# LONELY HEARTS

He was abused as a child. He became a spy for the British. But then he started killing. This is the story of Raymond Fernandez, who, together with his lover, Martha Beck, became known as the Lonely Hearts Killers.

**R**aymond (Ray) Fernandez was born in Hawaii in 1914. Ray was jailed at the age of 15 for stealing. Shortly after leaving jail, he went to Spain where he married Encarnación Robles. They had a child together. During the Spanish Civil War (1936-1939), Ray joined the Nationalists (Franco's army). After Franco's victory, Ray did mostly manual work, including working as a gardener and a rubbish collector.



When World War II started (in 1939), Ray saw an opportunity to make some money. He went to Gibraltar and set up an ice-cream stall, selling ice creams to British soldiers. One day, he was **approached** by a member of British Intelligence and **recruited** as a spy. A British report on him later said, "Raymond Fernandez was entirely loyal to the Allied cause and carried out his **duties**, which were sometimes difficult and dangerous, extremely well."

After the war, Ray went to work on a ship where he had an accident that would change his life forever. One day, he was coming up onto **deck**, when a **hatch cover smashed down** on his head. After the accident, Ray suffered severe headaches and a personality change, becoming much more irritable and violent. Shortly afterwards, he returned to America. And in order to earn more money, he turned to crime again. This time, he used a **scam**. The idea was simple: Ray would choose a victim from a lonely-hearts club (a club for single people who are looking for a partner). Then, Ray would write letters to them. Once they agreed to meet him, he would rob them.

In 1947, Ray began writing to Jane Thompson. Thompson's marriage had recently failed. Ray's letters impressed her. They met and Jane soon fell in love with Ray. Things seemed to be going well, and they both went to Spain. But one day, Ray and Thompson had an argument in a hotel room. The next morning, Thompson was found dead. Police suspected Ray, but were unable to question him because he took the first boat back to America. Once back in the States, Ray continued writing to lonely-hearts club members and stealing

money and jewellery from them. Things continued like this until one day when he met a lonely, dark-haired nurse called Martha Beck. Martha was born in Florida on 6th May 1920. She had had an unhappy childhood, and was even abused by her brother. She eventually found work in a nursing home in California, where she married and had two children, but her husband abandoned her. When Ray found out she was poor, he didn't mind because he had fallen in love with her. He told her about his scam and she agreed to help him, sending her children away to a home.

Together, they robbed many women, always introducing Martha as Ray's sister. Janet Fay was one of their victims. She **fell for** Ray's charm, and in January 1949 she agreed to give him all her cash, bonds, and jewellery. The three of them rented a little apartment. But one day, Martha and Janet had an argument and Martha killed Janet with a hammer. Ray and Martha then put Janet's body in a hole in the basement, filling it over with cement, and leaving the area as quickly as possible. There were many other victims, but the last one was 41-year-old Delphine Downing, who was a **widow** with a two-year-old daughter. After months of correspondence, Ray and Martha went to live with Delphine in her house. There are various accounts of how Delphine died, but the story seems to be that during an argument Martha told Ray to shoot Delphine, which he did. Later, they killed her daughter too.



Shortly afterwards, the police arrived at the home, alerted by neighbours who hadn't seen Delphine for a while. At the time, the police were investigating the death of Janet Fay, whose body had been discovered. During one of the police interrogations, Ray told investigators, "I'm no average killer! I have a way with women, a power over them." The pair went on trial in August 1949, and on 22nd August, Judge Pecora sentenced Raymond Fernandez and Martha Beck to death in the electric chair. ✪

## LONELY HEARTS – THE FILMS

There have been a number of films about the story: *The Honeymoon Killers* (1970); *Deep Crimson* (1966); and *Lonely Hearts* (2006 – starring Salma Hayek (as Martha), Jared Leto (as Ray), James Gandolfini (a police officer) and John Travolta (a police officer).



## THE LONELY HEARTS KILLERS

Raymond Fernandez was born in Hawaii in 1914. Martha Seabrook was born in Florida on 6th May 1920. They became known as The Lonely Hearts Killers, killing more than 20 women. They were executed on 8th March 1951.

## GLOSSARY

**to approach** *vb*  
if you are "approached" by someone, that person goes to where you are

**to recruit** *vb*  
to select someone for a job or work

**duties** *n*  
the things you must do as part of your job/work

**deck** *n*  
the floor at the top of a ship where you can walk in the open air

**a hatch cover** *n*  
a metal object that covers a "hatch" (a hole in a ship with a ladder leading up to it)

**to smash down on** *exp*  
to hit with a great amount of force

**a scam** *n*  
a trick designed to get money

**to fall for someone** *exp*  
to start to love someone; to be attracted to someone

**a widow** *n*  
a woman whose husband has died

# PHRASAL VERB THEMES: TRAVEL

This month we are looking at some phrasal verbs you can use to talk about travelling.

## CHECK IN / CHECK OUT

TO ARRIVE AT A HOTEL, TO SAY WHO YOU ARE, AND TO TAKE THE KEY TO YOUR ROOM. THE OPPOSITE IS TO CHECK OUT.



## GET IN / ON (A CAR/BUS/PLANE/TRAIN)

TO ENTER A CAR/BUS/PLANE/TRAIN, ETC. THE OPPOSITE IS TO "GET OUT OF".



## PULL IN (A TRAIN)

IF A TRAIN "PULLS IN" TO A STATION, IT ARRIVES AT THAT STATION. THE OPPOSITE IS TO "PULL OUT".



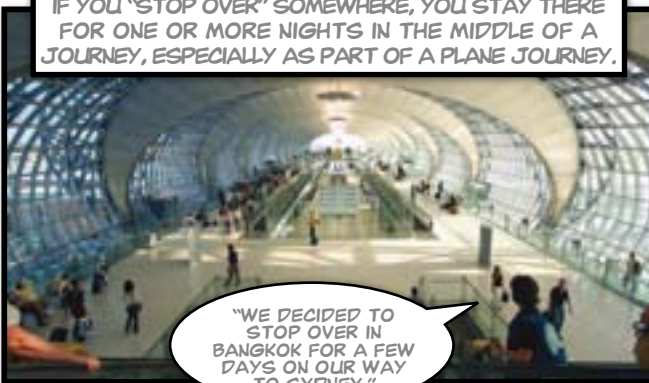
## TAKE OFF

IF A PLANE "TAKES OFF", IT LEAVES THE GROUND IN A CONTROLLED MANNER. THE OPPOSITE IS "TO TOUCH DOWN" OR "TO LAND".



## STOP OVER

IF YOU "STOP OVER" SOMEWHERE, YOU STAY THERE FOR ONE OR MORE NIGHTS IN THE MIDDLE OF A JOURNEY, ESPECIALLY AS PART OF A PLANE JOURNEY.



## STOP OFF

IF YOU "STOP OFF" SOMEWHERE, YOU STOP THE CAR SO YOU CAN DO SOMETHING IN THE MIDDLE OF A JOURNEY.



## SET OFF

TO START A JOURNEY.



## SEE SOMEONE OFF

TO ACCOMPANY SOMEONE TO THE AIRPORT / TRAIN STATION, ETC IN ORDER TO SAY GOODBYE TO THEM.



# Headline News

Headline News N° 4

The voice of the people

London 2008

## Really Rich

*How the super-rich just get richer.*

"The rich get richer and the poor get poorer." This famous expression has never been truer as mega-successful musicians, singers and sports personalities are taking advantage of a phenomenon known as the "Superstar Premium".

Economist Sherwin Rosen developed the idea of the Superstar Premium in the early 1980s to explain why some musicians were earning so much money. Before technology and the internet, even the most popular musicians had their **earnings** limited by the number of people who could hear them **perform live**.

However, these days, with the internet, the most popular artists can **reach** a much wider audience, and therefore earn much more money from doing the same amount of work.

Vanessa-Mae is a typical example. She is the world's most popular violinist, and she has

a global fan base. She has been able to take advantage of the Superstar Premium. "The exposure that you get around the world is only thanks to technology," she says. "If I had to sell my albums 50 years ago, it would have taken me five years to promote one album. But new technology has allowed me to sell more than 10 million records world-wide."

Footballers are also benefiting from the "Superstar Premium". Television means that many of the top footballers are also economic superstars. During the 1960s, the England football captain earned about £100 a week. Today's England captain, John Terry, earns over £130,000 a week. And the top players don't just get **huge** salaries for their performance on the **pitch**. Their famous faces are found on advertising **billboards** across the globe - adding even more to their incomes. A prime example is David Beckham, who earned over £11m from **endorsements** last year. ☺



IT'S A WHOLE DIFFERENT BALL GAME.

### GLOSSARY

- earnings** *n*  
the money you receive for the work you do
- to perform live** *exp*  
to act/sing in front of an audience
- to reach** *vb*  
if you "reach" many people, those people have access to your music/articles, etc
- huge** *adj*  
very big
- a pitch** *n*  
an area of ground where people play football
- a billboard** *n*  
an advert on a large board in the street
- an endorsement** *n*  
if a celebrity gives a product his/her "endorsement", he/she promotes that product
- a satnav** *n*  
an electronic device that tells you which way to go/drive
- to the annoyance of many drivers** *exp*  
something that is annoying/irritating for many drivers
- the dashboard** *n*  
the area in a car where the controls are - often just in front of the driver
- a device** *n*  
an object that has been invented for a particular purpose
- a lane** *n*  
a narrow (not wide) road
- a ferry** *n*  
a boat that takes passengers from one point on land to another
- in the vain hope of** *exp*  
with the expectation that
- a heavy-goods vehicle** *n*  
a large vehicle for transporting goods
- to reverse** *vb*  
to drive backwards
- narrow** *adj*  
not wide

## Wrong Direction

*Satellite navigation system confuses drivers.*

The days of studying maps, asking for directions and getting lost are over supposedly. With the advent of **satnav**, you should be able to get anywhere without even stopping once to look at the map... or can you?

**To the annoyance of many drivers** in England, satnav systems are pointing drivers to a bridge that has never existed. According to the **dashboard device**, it is possible to drive down a country **lane** to cross the River Severn at the town of Hampton Loade. But at the end of the road there is no bridge - just a **ferry** for foot passengers.



The local government has had to erect a large sign at the top of the lane warning: "Walk-on ferry only (Sat-Nav error)." But despite these warnings, and a sign on the main road that leads onto the lane, many drivers are still

going down to the river **in the vain hope of** crossing it over a bridge that only exists on satnav devices. It's even worse for **heavy-goods-vehicle** drivers. One lorry driver had to spend more than 5 hours

**reversing** up the **narrow** lane. In another recent case, a satnav took a coach-load of tourists to Lille in Belgium instead of Lille in France. ☹

# Pure Porridge

Cooking champion named.

What's your favourite breakfast food? For many people it's porridge.

Porridge is famous around the world. And lots of celebrities eat it, including Nelson Mandela, Bill Gates, Demi Moore, Kate Moss, Calista Flockhart and Jane Fonda. So, the first question is, what exactly is porridge? Basically, porridge consists of **oats** that are cooked with milk, and which are often served with sugar or honey. There are lots of reasons for eating porridge. Here are a few. Porridge is ideal for **slimmers** as it's quite **filling** and therefore helps reduce your desire to eat. Eating porridge for breakfast also gives you enough energy for the first half of the day, helping you avoid those mid-morning **snacks**. There are also lots of medical benefits to porridge. It stabilises blood sugar levels, and can help reduce the risk of Type 2 (adult onset) diabetes. Porridge also helps digestion, and, unlike bran, is gentle on the stomach.

Experts also say that a diet rich in fibre (which porridge provides) may help prevent heart disease, and helps reduce blood cholesterol.

On the psychological side, eating porridge helps the brain to produce serotonin, which **keeps your spirits up**. It can also help prevent **SAD** (Seasonal Affective Disorder) when sunlight is low during the winter months. And finally, Porridge is also great if you're doing a lot of sport, and is traditionally the food of mountain climbers and explorers as it gives a slow release of energy.

Porridge is particularly popular in Scotland. And just recently, a Scottish guesthouse owner won the top prize in the annual porridge-making championship. A dozen cooks from across Britain gathered in Carrbridge, in Scotland, for the contest. **Judges** marked the entrants on their porridge's appearance, consistency and taste, before deciding on a champion.



Maria Soep



The winner of this year's Golden **Spurtle** was Maria Soep from Kilchrenan, Scotland. She said she used some special oats from Oban, on Scotland's west coast. "I **soaked** them overnight, added a bit of salt and some good water," she said. "It feels great to have won – I am delighted." Al Beaton from Inverness was named the "speciality" porridge champion. His winning **concoction** consisted of porridge with apple, cinnamon, raisins, whipped cream and chocolate. A spokesman for the competition's sponsor, Hamlyn's Oats of Scotland, said, "The standard was incredibly high and the final was very tense." Will you be trying some porridge? 🍷

## Make your own porridge DR FINGERS' BLOG

Want to make your own porridge? See our recipe of the month for our top tips on how to make it; or visit our blog ([www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog)) for an easy-to-follow video on making porridge.

### GLOSSARY

- oats** *n*  
a type of cereal, often used as food for animals (and making porridge)
- a slimmer** *n*  
a person who is trying to lose weight
- filling** *adj*  
food that is "filling" makes your stomach feel full
- a snack** *n*  
a small amount of food that you eat between meals (lunch, dinner, etc)
- to keep your spirits up** *exp*  
to make you happy and to stop you from being depressed
- SAD** *abbr*  
Seasonal Affective Disorder – a feeling of depression during the long, dark days of winter (when there is no sunlight)
- a judge** *n*  
a person who chooses the winner in a competition
- a spurtle** *n* *Scotland*  
a stirrer – a type of spoon for mixing food
- to soak** *vb*  
to leave food in a bowl of water for a period of time
- a concoction** *n*  
food or drink that consists of a mixture of various things

# Book Bug

What makes us want to read a book?



Ever wondered why some books sell well and others don't. Is it the writing? The style? Or something else? A new market study reveals the secrets to the successful book.

## Word of mouth

The number one reason for choosing a book seems to be through **word of mouth**. The real people we seem to **trust** are our friends, family and colleagues. A recent survey showed that 25% of respondents had bought their last book on the basis of a recommendation from a friend.

## The book group

A big part of the word of mouth network is the **reading group**. Friends often decide the fate of novels over cheese, snacks and a glass of wine... and then they tell their friends about the book, and so on.

## Author

Many people buy the latest book from their favourite author. The new John Grisham or Stephen King novel is guaranteed to sell because of the name of the author. "The author as brand has become ever more important," an industry expert said.

## The cover

The cover can make or break a book, which is why many publishing houses are **investing** heavily in book-cover designers.

## In-store marketing

Many bookstores find that the **bargain-book bin** really does work; and

many of their sales come from books with a **3-for-2 sticker** on the book. Also, position within the book shop is important, and in many cases, if your book isn't near the entrance on the ground floor or in the shop window, your book won't sell.

## Book prizes

There is nothing better than free publicity and this is what the literary prizes offer. In Britain, the three main book prizes are the MAN Booker Prize, the Orange Prize (for female authors) and the Costa Book Awards. These can all create a bestseller.

## Unusual titles

Who isn't tempted to have a **flick through** books with titles such as *Salmon Fishing in the Yemen* or *A Short History of Tractors in Ukrainian*? These days, **wacky** titles definitely help sell a book.

## Reader reviews

Once upon a time, the book critic was king. But these days, many people base their decisions on **reader reviews** from internet sites such as Amazon.

## Newspaper serialisation

**Serialisation** is win-win for the author: if the attention brings sales, then great. If it doesn't, the author still gets a big **fee** from the newspaper. ❖

## Best selling books of all time

	Holy Bible	
	Quotations from Chairman Mao	
	The Koran	
	Don Quijote (Miguel de Cervantes)	
	Xinhua Dictionary (a Chinese dictionary)	
	Book of Common Prayer (Thomas Crammer)	
	The Pilgrim's Progress (John Bunyan)	
	Foxe's Book of Martyrs (John Foxe)	
	Book of Mormon (Joseph Smith Jr.)	
	Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone (JK Rowling)	
	And Then There Were None (Agatha Christie)	
	The Lord of the Rings (JRR Tolkien)	
	Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (JK Rowling)	
	Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire (JK Rowling)	
	Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince (JK Rowling)	
	The Da Vinci Code (Dan Brown)	
	The Catcher in the Rye (JD Salinger)	
	Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban (JK Rowling)	
	Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix (JK Rowling)	
	Heidi's Years of Wandering and Learning (Johanna Spyri)	



BUY HARRY!  
BUY HARRY!  
BUY HARRY!

## GLOSSARY

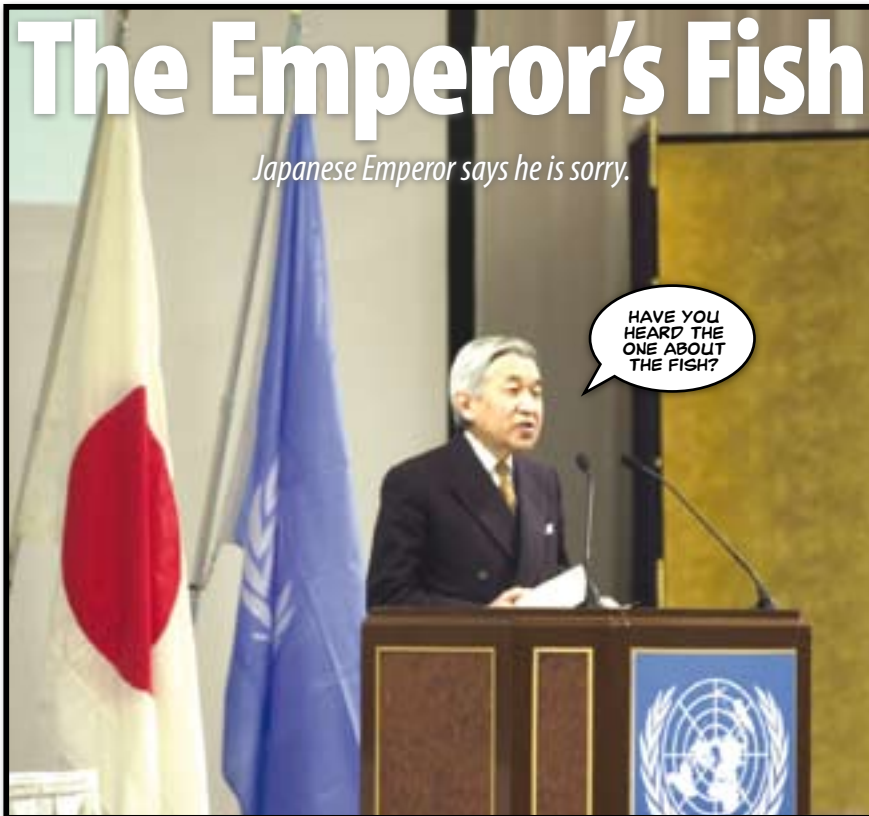
- word of mouth** *n*  
if you hear something by "word of mouth", someone tells you that thing verbally
- to trust** *vb*  
to believe
- a reading group** *n*  
a club whose members read books and discuss the books afterwards
- the fate of something** *exp*  
what is going to happen to something; something's destiny
- to invest** *vb*  
if you are "investing" in something, you are spending money on that thing with the hope that it will bring you a profit
- a bargain-book bin** *n*  
a container in a shop that is filled with cheap books
- 3-for-2** *n*  
get 3 things for the price of 2 things (you get one free)
- a sticker** *n*  
a small piece of paper with information on it. You can attach the sticker to something else
- to flick through** *phr vb*  
if you "flick through" a magazine, you look at the pages casually without paying much attention
- wacky** *adj*  
strange and unusual
- a reader review** *n*  
a piece of text about a book by someone who has read the book
- serialisation** *n*  
publishing one chapter of a book every day/week/month in a newspaper or magazine
- a fee** *n*  
an amount of money you receive for a service/job





## The Emperor's Fish

*Japanese Emperor says he is sorry.*



It was a present to the emperor more than 50 years ago. But now it's causing a lot of trouble. Back in the 1950s, Japanese emperor Akihito was presented with several bluegill fish by the mayor of Chicago. The emperor, who was crown prince at the time, passed the fish onto a **research facility** next to Lake Biwa, Japan's largest lake. Scientists there wanted to investigate whether the fish could provide an abundant **food source** during a period of protein **shortage** in Japan following the Second World War. However, the action was a disaster as the bluegill fish proved to be very aggressive. They soon **spread** into the wild where they destroyed large stocks of domestic fish. But just recently, Emperor Akihito has spoken of his **regret** for having accepted the fish, and for introducing them into the **food chain**. And he is urging scientists to find a way to **eradicate** the bluegill fish. But one expert says that this could be "impossible". "I feel personally responsible. I wish I hadn't accepted them," the emperor said. ☹

## Flaky Employees

*US business to start new war.*

A new term has been created by business experts for a special type of worker: the flaky employee. So, what is a "flaky employee"? Basically, it's the type of person who is very creative and full of useful ideas, but who never has the **drive to see a project through to completion**. A typical flaky employee, they say, is someone who as a student **excelled in** art, music, drama and creative writing, although their inability to finish a project by its **due-date** kept them at a steady **"C" average**.

**Business gurus** say that this problem needs to be **countered**; and the best way to do this is by creating an environment in which an employee's creativity and initial enthusiasm is further encouraged. "Small bonuses, more responsibility and a more individualistic approach to employee-boss relationships is crucial," an industry expert explained. "And the **key** lies with bosses. It is their job to **draw people away from updating** their MySpace profile every day." Experts say that this could help eradicate the growing problem of unproductivity, which is costing US businesses millions of dollars each year. ☹



### GLOSSARY

- a research facility** *n*  
a place where scientists investigate something
- a food source** *n*  
food that is used to feed the population
- a shortage** *n*  
if there is a "shortage" of something, there is not enough of that thing
- to spread** *vb*  
if a disease "spreads", more and more people catch it
- to regret** *vb*  
to feel bad about something that has happened
- a food chain** *n*  
a series of living things which are linked because each thing feeds on the one next to it in the series
- to eradicate** *vb*  
to eliminate
- drive** *n*  
energy and commitment
- to see a project through to completion** *exp*  
to complete a project
- to excel in** *phr vb*  
to be the best in; to do very well at
- a due-date** *n*  
a time when something must be completed
- a "C" average** *n*  
in many schools/universities the marking system is A (the best grade), B, C, D, E, and F (fail)
- a business guru** *n*  
a business expert or leader
- to counter** *vb*  
if you "counter" a problem, you find a solution to it
- the key** *n*  
the answer
- to draw people away from something** *exp*  
if you "draw someone away from something", you convince them to do something else or you make them stop using that thing
- to update** *vb*  
if you "update" something, you put the most recent information in it

# Expression of the month: the Pareto principle

This month's expression is "the Pareto principle". It's a very useful expression, and understanding it will help you organise your life more efficiently. Find out how.

The Pareto principle (also known as the "80-20 rule") says that for many things, 80% of the effects come from 20% of the causes.



Vilfred Pareto

The original observation was in connection with **income** and **wealth**. Vilfred Pareto, a French-Italian philosopher (1848-1923) noticed that 80% of Italy's wealth was owned by 20% of the population. He then carried out surveys on a variety of other countries and found that a similar distribution applied.

These days, the Pareto principle can be applied to a number of different scenarios. In business, directors often use the Pareto principle to analyse the company. For example, they may find that 80% of the sales come from 20% of their clients; or that 20% of the workforce creates 80% of the company's wealth; or that 20% of their **stock** takes up 80% of their **warehouse** space.

The principle can be applied on a personal level too. For example, 80% of your results at work come from just 20% of your time; or that you wear 20% of your clothes 80% of the time; or that you spend 80% of your time with just 20% of the people you know; or that 80% of your problems may come from 20% of the people you know; or that 20% of the food you are eating is giving you 80% of your fat intake.

So, how can the Pareto principle help you? Well, for a start it can help you to focus on the



20% that really matters. Of all the things you do during the day, only 20% really matters. Identify and focus on those important things and you could find big improvements in your life. So, will you be applying the 80/20 format to your lifestyle? You should! ☺



## GLOSSARY

**income** *n*  
money that is received by a person/company

**wealth** *n*  
if you have "wealth", you are rich

**stock** *n*  
the goods a company owns; the products that have been produced and that are waiting to be sent out

**a warehouse** *n*  
a large building where stock can be kept

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