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RIDDLES

Can you solve these?

CHAT-UP LINES

What to say in the bar.

BUSINESS SPECIAL

Inventions plus tension.

CHRISTMAS RECIPE

Get into the holiday spirit.



2008

The Best of the Best.

2009

The Best to Come.



CLASSIC FILM REMAKES

A look at some good and bad film remakes.

Can Keanu save the world?

PAUL NEWMAN

The man and his legacy.



FILM REVIEW

The Day the Earth Stood Still



Keanu Reeves The Day the Earth Stood Still classic remakes

70 minute audio cd

PLUS, grammar, error correction, jokes, anecdotes, trivia, slang, phrasal verbs, social English...



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Editor's intro



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

For a start, we have a very special issue this month. There are two new sections we are introducing. The first is riddles. A riddle is a puzzle or joke that seems like it doesn't make sense, but is actually quite clever once you discover the answer. The second new section is a personal favourite of mine. Have you ever met someone in a bar, and you wanted to talk to them, but felt like you didn't have a good opening line? With the new "chat-up lines" section, you will now have something to say. The lines are funny and cute. Let me know how you get on with them.

The film we are featuring this month is called *The Day the Earth Stood Still* starring Keanu Reeves. It is a remake of a 1950's film of the same name. We have also included articles about other classic remakes, and an article about moments in history that made the world "stand still".

As the holiday season is among us, we have included useful Christmas vocabulary as well as celebration-themed useful verbs. One of our Skills Booklet readings is about holiday celebrations around the world. There is also a recipe for egg nog, a typical holiday drink.

Well, I could go on and on about the exciting things we have in this issue, but I guess I should let you read on for yourself.

As always, good luck with your English. And don't hesitate to write in with any feedback. We'll do anything for our devoted readers.

Yours,

Jenna



assisteditor@hotenglishmagazine.com

PS If you are an English teacher, and would like even more great ideas for your classes, the Teacher's Notes are now available for sale. They are informative and have plenty of supplementary activities for our magazine. For more information, e-mail business@hotenglishmagazine.com.
PPS Happy Holidays!

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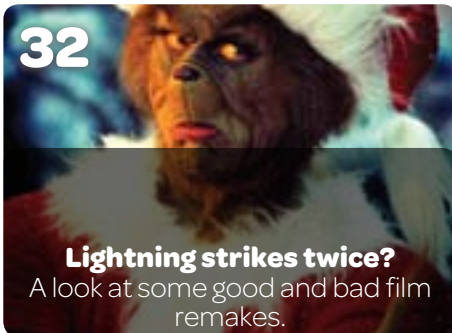
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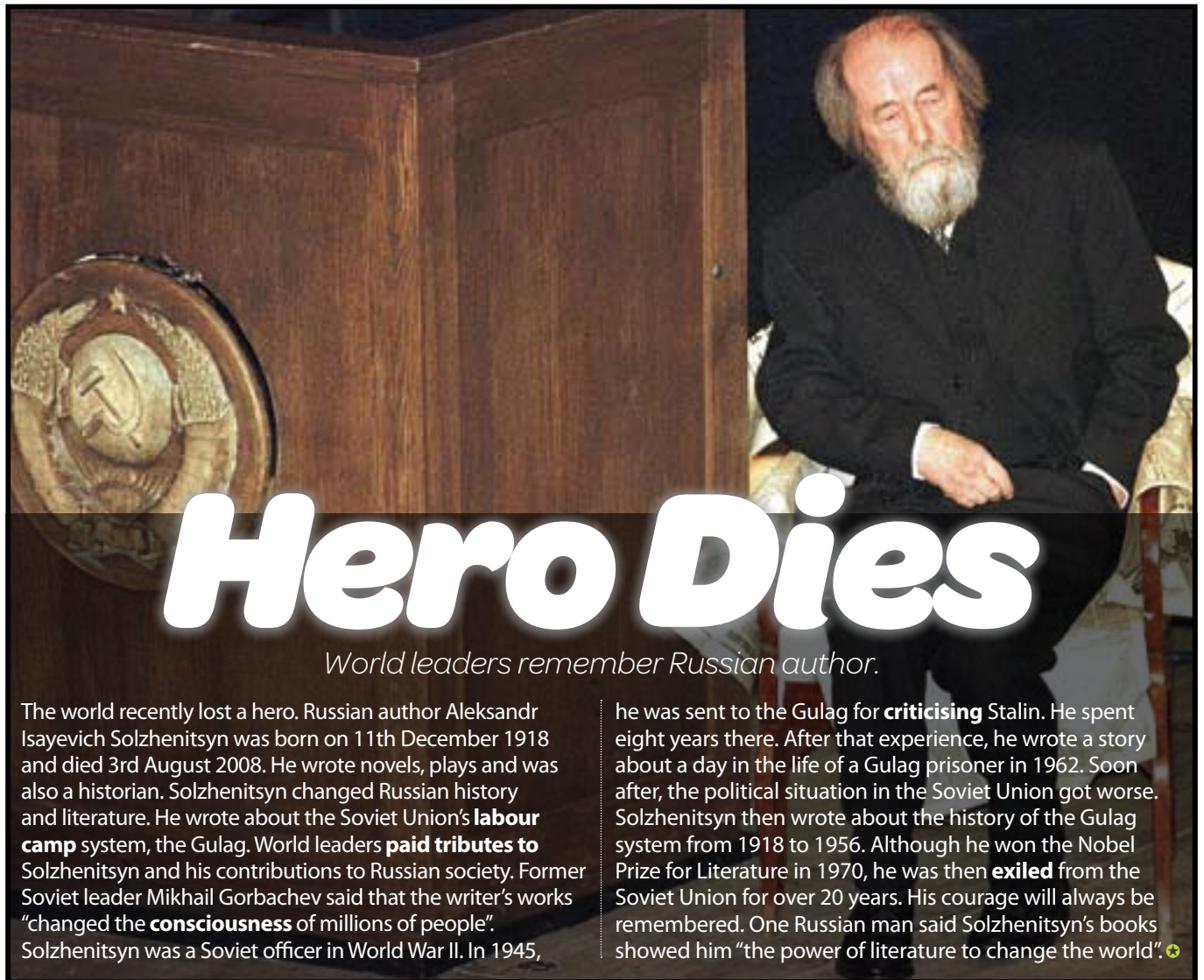


Best of 2008
Hot English looks back on 2008.



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Hero Dies

World leaders remember Russian author.

The world recently lost a hero. Russian author Aleksandr Isayevich Solzhenitsyn was born on 11th December 1918 and died 3rd August 2008. He wrote novels, plays and was also a historian. Solzhenitsyn changed Russian history and literature. He wrote about the Soviet Union's **labour camp** system, the Gulag. World leaders **paid tributes to** Solzhenitsyn and his contributions to Russian society. Former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev said that the writer's works "changed the **consciousness** of millions of people". Solzhenitsyn was a Soviet officer in World War II. In 1945,

he was sent to the Gulag for **criticising** Stalin. He spent eight years there. After that experience, he wrote a story about a day in the life of a Gulag prisoner in 1962. Soon after, the political situation in the Soviet Union got worse. Solzhenitsyn then wrote about the history of the Gulag system from 1918 to 1956. Although he won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1970, he was then **exiled** from the Soviet Union for over 20 years. His courage will always be remembered. One Russian man said Solzhenitsyn's books showed him "the power of literature to change the world".

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre reading

Do you know what these characters have in common? What's your definition of a hero? What do people do to become heroes?



2 Reading I

Read to find out what the person from the article did to become a national hero.

3 Reading II

What do the following dates refer to in the article?

1. 1918
2. 2008
3. 1962
4. 1945
5. 1970

4 Language focus

Look at the following dates and write them in word form. For example, 1st December = the first of December.

1. 31st December
2. 22nd December
3. 23rd December

5 Language focus

1. Can you think of any national heroes in your country? Who? What are they famous for?
2. Do you have a hero / heroine? Who? Why?
3. Can you think of any famous heroes / heroines from literature? Who?



GLOSSARY

a labour camp *n*
a camp for political prisoners, enemies of the government or prisoners of war, where they are forced to do physical labour

to pay tribute to *exp*
to honour someone or something

consciousness *n*
your thoughts and mind

to criticise *vb*
if you "criticise" someone, you say what you think is wrong with that person

to exile *vb*
if someone is "exiled", they are told to leave their country



Seeing Stars

5-year-old music genius.

How many five-year-olds play the piano? Famous Austrian composer Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart could. But now, people are talking about another piano genius. Her name is Yoo Ye-eun of South Korea. She surprised her parents at three-years-old with an amazing talent: she could listen to any song once and then play it perfectly on the piano. "She has perfect **pitch** even though she has never learnt to play. We never taught her," said Ye-eun's mum, Park Jung Soon. Little Yoo gave a concert in May with 7-year-old Connie Talbot, star of *Britain's Got Talent**

Yoo has appeared on several Korean talent shows. Her **performance** on reality show "Star King" won her £500 and **made** the audience **cry**. This child **prodigy** is so popular that she recently played for the Prime Minister of Singapore. She loves the great classical composers, like Beethoven, Mozart and Chopin. Yoo practices every day and says her dream is to be "a great pianist." It looks like this little girl's dream has already **come true**. ❀

Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart

(Austria, 27th January 1756 – 5th December 1791). Still considered one of the greatest classical music composers ever, Mozart played and composed at the age of five. He wrote over 600 pieces in total, and influenced many other classical musicians.

*Britain's Got Talent

Britain's Got Talent is a British television show. Dancers, comedians or any other talented people perform in front of an audience. The show has three judges: Simon Cowell, Amanda Holden and Piers Morgan. The programme premiered in England in 2007 and millions of people watch it.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre reading

Match the famous child prodigies to their description.



- a. played and composed music at age five.
- b. drew before he could speak.
- c. taught herself French and Russian at age four.
- d. was a tap dancer at age five.

2 Reading I

There are two child prodigies mentioned in the article. Who are they?

3 Reading II

True or false? Yoo Ye-eun...

- 1. ... revealed her talent when she was three.
- 2. ... has had piano lessons since she was three.
- 3. ... has never performed for the public.
- 4. ... is a fan of classical music.

4 Language focus

A person who plays the piano is a "pianist". In the same way, we say a "violinist" and a "trombonist". Can you think of any more words like this?

5 Discussion

How good are you at the following? (very good, good, OK, bad, very bad)

- drawing
- painting
- playing music
- dancing
- speaking languages
- other?

GLOSSARY

- pitch** *n*
if you have perfect "pitch", you can sing or play a note accurately
- a performance** *n*
if you give a "performance", you entertain an audience by singing, dancing, or acting on a stage
- to make someone cry** *exp*
if you "make someone cry", you make them sad and cause tears (liquid) to come out of their eyes
- a prodigy** *n*
a person with exceptional talent
- to come true** *exp*
if a dream or a wish "comes true", it happens

The Name Game

THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR SERIES OF FAMOUS NAMES WITH MEANING. MORE NEXT MONTH.



The Wallflowers (American group)
If someone is a "wallflower", they are shy and do not participate in social events.
"Sally stayed in her seat for the whole party without talking to anyone. What a wallflower!"



Vicente Fox (Mexican politician)
A "fox" is a wild animal with reddish-brown fur that looks similar to a dog.
"We saw three foxes on our hiking trip last month."



Stevie Wonder (American musician)
If you "wonder" about something, you think about it deeply.
"I wonder where my book is."



The Flintstones (cartoon program)
"Flint" is a rock used in prehistoric times for making tools.
"Her son found a flint arrowhead in the backyard."
A "stone" is a hard substance often used to build houses.
"They used marble stone to make their kitchen floor."



Kevin Bacon (American actor)
"Bacon" is salted meat from a pig.
"The restaurant had bacon and eggs on their breakfast menu."



Snickers (brand)
If you "snicker", you laugh quietly and disrespectfully at something rude.
"We all snickered when our teacher spilled coffee everywhere."



Risky Business (American film)
If an activity is "risky", it is dangerous.
"Investing in the housing market is a very risky business."



What holiday character are you?

- 1** When do you think Christmas decorations should go up?
 - a. Never. Who wants a huge tree in their house?
 - b. At the end of November. You can never start too early.
 - c. Mine are still up from last year.
 - d. December 28th when all the decorations are on sale.

- 2** What did you do for Thanksgiving in November?
 - a. Nothing. I went to France, because they don't celebrate Thanksgiving there.
 - b. Started writing my Christmas cards and buying presents. I like to plan early.
 - c. Made lots of cranberry pies to send to charity.
 - d. Complained, complained, complained.

- 3** What would you like for Christmas?
 - a. Everyone to be quiet and forget this silly holiday.
 - b. Everyone to have a great holiday.
 - c. I don't need anything. Giving is enough.
 - d. Money.

- 4** What song do you play non-stop at Christmas?
 - a. Silent Night
 - b. Joy to the World
 - c. Do they know it's Christmas?
 - d. Ebenezer Good

- 5** What phrase do you use the most during the holidays?
 - a. Keep the noise down.
 - b. Merry Christmas.
 - c. Ho ho ho.
 - d. Bah humbug.



Results If you answered...

- mostly a's**
You are The Grinch
 You hate the holidays. Your only wish is to escape the noise, relatives and all those decorations. The good news is that they'll be over soon and you'll be left with some presents at least.
- mostly b's**
You are An Elf
 The holidays are a serious matter for you. There is no one else who can organise and plan better than you. But remember to play as much as work... maybe ask for help with the cooking.
- mostly c's**
You are Father Christmas
 The holidays are your favourite time of year. You love all the mistletoe, presents and mince pies. But be careful not to be overenthusiastic around people who may not like the holidays as much as you.
- mostly d's**
You are Scrooge
 You try to take advantage of other people's good spirit during this time of year. Try not to be so mean and do something charitable. You never know, you might enjoy it.

USEFUL VOCABULARY

THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR SECTION ON USEFUL VOCABULARY.
THIS MONTH: CHRISTMAS. ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Match the words

Match the words below to the pictures.

1. presents f
2. elf _____
3. ornaments _____
4. mistletoe _____
5. stockings _____
6. reindeer _____
7. lights _____
8. wreath _____
9. candle _____
10. snow _____



2 Wordsearch

Now find these words in the wordsearch.

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| candle | reindeer |
| elf | snow |
| mistletoe | stockings |
| ornament | wreath |
| present | lights |



3 Guess the word

Think of ways to describe these holiday vocabulary words. From your clues, ask your partner to guess the correct holiday word.



USEFUL VERBS & EXPRESSIONS

THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR SECTION ON USEFUL VERBS AND EXPRESSIONS.
THIS MONTH: CELEBRATING.

HAVE A PARTY

IF YOU "HAVE A PARTY", YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR PREPARING, ORGANISING AND HOSTING A PARTY.



"I AM HAVING A PARTY THIS SATURDAY."

BE A HOST

TO BE THE PERSON WHO PREPARES AND ORGANISES THE PARTY, OFTEN AT HIS / HER HOUSE.



"MANDY IS AN EXCELLENT HOST."

INVITE GUESTS

TO ASK PEOPLE TO COME TO YOUR PARTY.



"THE SISTERS INVITED FIFTY GUESTS TO THEIR PARTY."

GET DRESSED UP

TO WEAR NICE CLOTHING.



"EVERYONE GOT DRESSED UP FOR PAT'S BIRTHDAY."

PLAY GAMES

TO PARTICIPATE IN FUN ACTIVITIES WITH OTHER PEOPLE.



"WE ALWAYS PLAY GAMES LIKE TWISTER AND POKER WHEN WE HAVE PARTIES."

HAVE A GOOD TIME

TO HAVE FUN.



"I THINK EVERYONE IS HAVING A GOOD TIME TONIGHT."

Chugging Along

Famous railway stations.

A relaxing **way of getting around** is to travel by train. Many train stations have grown into impressive structures over the years and are famous for their architecture. Here's a look at some of them.



PADDINGTON STATION

Location: London, England
Built: 1854, but a train stop has existed there since 1838.
Famous for: Paddington Bear.

Paddington was originally a stop for the Great Western Railway. This took people on holiday to resorts in southwest England. The main station was designed by Isambard Kingdom Brunel, a famous engineer. The roof is over 200 metres long. From London Paddington you can get to the **underground** and Heathrow (Airport) Express.

Paddington Bear is a famous children's story character. He got his name from this station. There is a small tourist shop in the station that sells Paddington Bear souvenirs. The station has appeared in films and fiction. In fact, murder mystery writer Agatha Christie wrote a book entitled *4:50 from Paddington*. There was also a **gangster** film that **featured** the station called *The Long Good Friday*.



GRAND CENTRAL STATION

Location: New York City, the United States
Built: 1871
Famous for: Having the most platforms in the world.

There are 44 platforms in Grand Central Station, and there will be 48 once a new Manhattan East access line is finished. Grand Central is the name of a previous station at the site, the **subway** station and a nearby post office.

There have been a number of films with scenes from Grand Central Station. Scenes from *Superman* take place in the station, but are actually filmed in London. In Alfred Hitchcock's classic film *North by*

Northwest (1959), a Madison Avenue advertising executive (played by Cary Grant) **is mistaken for** a government agent, and spies chase him across the country. There is an exciting scene in the film when Grant makes his escape from New York City. The scene was filmed at night inside the real Grand Central station. Another film with scenes from Grand Central Station is *The Untouchables* (1987). In this police crime thriller, there is a famous climatic shoot-out which was filmed inside Grand Central.

The station is home to over 100 businesses and transports 125,000 **commuters** per day. If you ever visit Grand Central, you will be one of 500,000 daily visitors.



STAZIONE DI ROMA TERMINI

Location: Rome, Italy
Built: 1863, finished in 1874.
Famous for: Its location – it is opposite the famous Baths of Diocletian which are Roman baths from the fourth century.

Rome's famous station is one of the largest and most famous in Europe. The station has more than 150 million passengers each year and has 29 platforms. The station is also known for its accessibility to other cities in Europe. There are regular trains to Paris and Munich and several cities in Switzerland. The station has a uniquely curved roof which is why it has the **nickname** "The Dinosaur".

Stazione di Roma has been in films as well. In 1953, the film *Stazione Termini* was released. It was about a love affair between an Italian man and an American woman. The film was only an hour long, but there was a remake made for television in 1998 called *Indiscretion of an American Wife*. 🌟

GLOSSARY

a way *n*
a method
to get around *exp*
to travel or move from place to place
the underground *n*
the train system in London that is under the ground
a gangster *n*
a member of an organised criminal group
to feature *vb*
if something is "featured" in a film, it is included
the subway *n*
the New York train system that is under the ground
to be mistaken for *exp*
if someone "mistakes you for" someone else, they think you are someone else
commuters *n*
people who use public transport everyday to go to work
a nickname *n*
an alternative, often humorous and informal name

1 Pre reading

Match the pictures to the words.

- train
- plane
- bike
- boat
- bus
- subway / underground
- car



2 Reading I

Read the article about famous train stations. Then answer the following questions about each station.

- Where are the train stations?
- What are they famous for?
- Which movies have been filmed in the stations?

3 Reading II

Do you remember what these numbers refer to? Read the article again and make notes in the space provided.

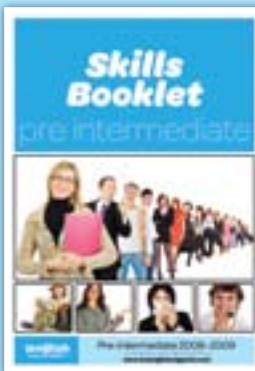
- 44 *number of platforms in Grand Central station.*
- 200 _____
- 150 _____
- 48 _____
- 100 _____
- 125,000 _____
- 29 _____

4 Language focus

Expressions with "get" to talk about travel. Here are two examples. Write a sentence next to each one.

- to get on =
 - to get off =
- Can you find an expression with "get" in the article?

Refer to page 31 in Unit 7 of your Pre Intermediate Skills Booklet for more vocabulary and useful expressions to say at a train station.



Skills Booklets 31

5 Discussion

- What is your favourite form of transport? Why?
- How often do you travel by train / bus / boat?
- Have you ever been to a train station? Which one / ones? What did you think of the stations?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

Story Time

JOKES, ANECDOTES AND STORIES AS TOLD BY NATIVE ENGLISH SPEAKERS.



Nice Offer

Woman: I could go to the end of the world for you.

Man: Yes, but would you stay there?

Witty Response

John: I was born in California.

Martha: Which part?

John: All of me.



Married Man

A: Aren't you wearing your wedding ring on the wrong finger?

B: Yes I am. I married the wrong woman.

3 Wishes

Three men on a desert island find a **magic lantern** containing a **genie**. The genie grants them each one **wish**. The first man wishes he was **off** the island and back home. The second man wishes the same. The third man says, "I'm lonely. I wish my friends were back here."



Talking to God

Man: God, how long is a million years?

God: To me, it's about a minute.

Man: God, how much is a million dollars?

God: To me it's a penny.

Man: God, may I have a penny?

God: Wait a minute...

Hit and Run

A Scotsman was driving home one night, and ran into a car driven by an Englishman. The Scotsman got out of the car to **apologise** and offered the Englishman a drink from a bottle of whisky. The Englishman was glad to have a drink. "Go on," said the Scot, "have another drink." The Englishman drank **gratefully**. "But don't you want one, too?" he asked the Scotsman. "Perhaps," replied the Scotsman, "after the police have gone." ☺

GLOSSARY

a magic lantern *n*

a lamp with special powers

a genie *n*

a spirit who appears and disappears magically often from a magic lantern / lamp

to grant *v*

if a genie "grants" a wish, he / she offers you a wish

a wish *n*

something you really want

off *prep*

if you get "off" an island, you leave it

to apologise *v*

to say you are sorry for something

gratefully *adv*

kindly; appreciatively

BASIC ENGLISH

Sightseeing



money



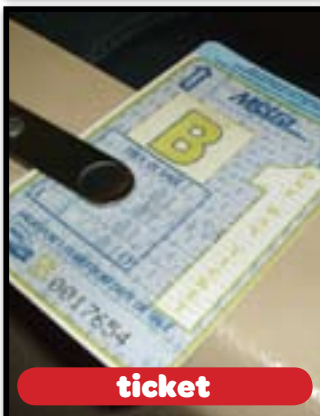
camera



batteries



suitcase



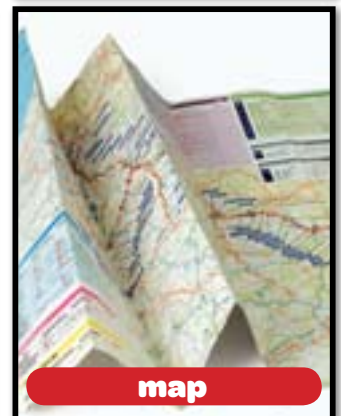
ticket



passport



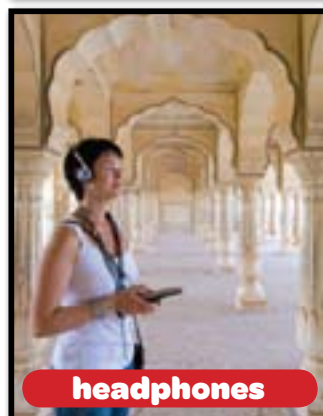
ID card



map



guidebook



headphones



raincoat



monument



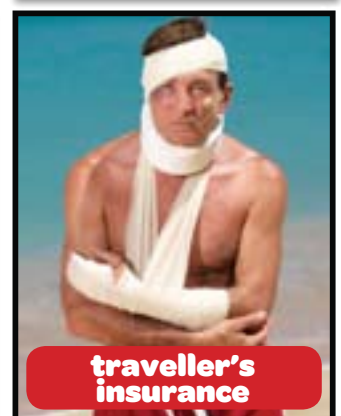
**toothbrush /
toothpaste**



**knapsack /
backpack / rucksack**



wallet



**traveller's
insurance**

SOCIAL ENGLISH

Sightseeing

LISTEN AND REPEAT THESE EXPRESSIONS.

Useful expressions

- I want to go to the zoo.
- How do I get to the church?
- What time do they open?
- What time do they close?
- Is it open today?
- How much is the entrance fee?
- How much is it for students?
- Is there a reduction for retired people?
- How many churches are there here?
- Is that church old?
- What religion is it?
- Are there any monuments nearby?
- What does that one commemorate?
- When was that built?
- How old is that building?
- Are there many statues here?
- Whose statue is that?
- Who was he / she? ✪



Part II

NOW LISTEN TO THE DIALOGUE. IN THIS CONVERSATION, MARGARET AND JANET ARE TOURING ROME.



Janet: So, what do you want to do on our first day in Rome?

Margaret: I want to go to the Trevi Fountain and then see the Spanish Steps.

Janet: OK. I want to go to the Vatican.

Margaret: Is the Vatican open today?

Janet: I think so. And guess what? There's a reduction for EU citizens.

Margaret: Great! You know what, though? I think it's better to see the Fountain in the morning and then go to the Vatican in the afternoon.

Janet: OK. Hey, how many churches are there here?

Margaret: I'm sure there are a lot, especially in the old part of town.

Janet: Yeah, the buildings are so old here, and so beautiful.

Margaret: Do you have the map from the hostel with you?

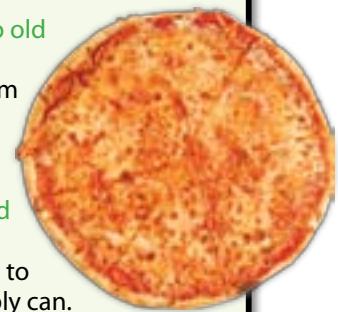
Janet: Yeah, I brought it with me. It's got all of the monuments on it. I circled the ones I want to see.

Margaret: That sounds great. I want to see everything we possibly can.

Janet: Well, before we go sightseeing, do you want to have breakfast first?

Margaret: Yeah, how about some pizza?

Janet: How about pizza for lunch instead? ✪





FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

Making Small Talk



Dialogue:

Casey and Alicia are meeting for the first time at a business reception.

Casey: Hi, I don't think we've met. I'm Casey.

Alicia: Hi, I'm Alicia.

Casey: This weather is just horrible lately.

Alicia: Oh, I know, I'm gonna have to buy a new umbrella and some rain boots if it keeps up.

Casey: You know, I read this article that said people sleep better when they fall asleep to the sound of the rain. What do you think about that?

Alicia: Hmm...I've never thought about it before. But that's true. I have been sleeping better lately.

Casey: Yeah, me too. So, I guess there is a bright side to the rain after all.

Alicia: I guess so. Well, I think the presentation is starting. It was nice to meet you, Casey.

Casey: Yeah, you too, Alicia. I hope to see you soon. ☺

Beginning a conversation

- Hello, how are you?
- I don't think we've met. My name is Adam.
- Isn't this weather lovely?
- So, you're a doctor, aren't you?
- So, what brings you here?
- Your earrings are beautiful. They must have quite a story. I'd love to hear it!



Maintaining a conversation

- So, did you see that news story about...? What do you think about that?
- I read this article in the paper about fashion...
- You're a lawyer, aren't you? How did you get into law?
- So, did you see last night's game?
- What kind of music do you like?
- What kind of books do you like?
- What's your favourite film?
- So, what do you like to do in your free time?
- So, tell me about your childhood...

Ending a conversation

- Well, it was lovely talking to you.
- It was nice to meet you.
- I'm terribly sorry, but I have to go.
- I've really enjoyed talking to you.
- I hope to see you soon.
- It's been a pleasure.





DR FINGERS' ERROR CORRECTION CLINIC

IN THIS SECTION DR FINGERS IDENTIFIES AND CORRECTS TYPICAL ERRORS.



ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Activity

Read the sentences, find the errors and correct the sentences. Then listen to the CD to check your answers. Good luck!

1. I have a free time on Wednesday.

I am free on Wednesday. / I have some free time on Wednesday.

2. Come to here.

3. I am going to home.

4. Someone is at the door. Who is he?

5. Don't worry of that.

PRE INTERMEDIATE LISTENING

Saving Money



ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre listening

Think of three ways to save money.

- _____
- _____
- _____

2 Listening I

Listen to the conversation. Tick off any ideas from your list that you hear in the conversation.

3 Listening II

The speaker mentions three ways to save money. Write notes next to the following prompts:

- driving
- walking
- keeping fit

4 Language focus

When do we use "much" and "many"? Refer to page 36 in Unit 8 of your Pre-Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



Skills Booklets

36

5 Discussion

How much money do you spend on the following?

- the gym
- petrol or public transport
- clothes
- food
- hobbies



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Comida Vegetariana

y algo más

The section that makes grammar easy, interesting, and fun.

GRAMMAR FUN

Confusing Words

IN THIS MONTH'S GRAMMAR FUN SECTION, WE'RE LOOKING AT SOME MORE CONFUSING WORDS.

"know someone" versus "meet someone"

If you "know someone", you have met them previously. For example, "I have known Janie since university."

If you "meet someone", you see them and speak to them for the first time. For example, "Hello, my name is Clara. It's nice to meet you, sir."
You also "meet someone" if you plan to see that person at a later time. For example, "Let's meet at the cinema."



"to feel cold" versus "to have a cold"

If you "feel cold", you are not warm. For example, "She felt cold because she didn't have a jacket."

If you "have a cold", you are sick and you sneeze a lot. For example, "Albert hasn't been at work this week because he has a bad cold."



"alone" versus "lonely"

If you are "alone", no one is with you. For example, "I can't believe that Martin travelled alone through Europe for two weeks."

If you are "lonely", you feel depressed and sad because no one is with you. For example, "Living away from home can be lonely at first."



"desert" versus "dessert"

A "desert" is a large area of sand such as the Sahara. For example, "We walked for two hours in the burning desert sun."

A "dessert" is food that is sweet and often eaten at the end of a meal. For example, "Chocolate cake is my favourite dessert."

1 Exercise

Choose the correct answer.

1. He says he's really ill, but I think he just **has a cold / feels cold**.
2. Hey, don't I **know / meet** you from somewhere? Weren't we at school together?
3. Do you see that man over there? I'm sure I've **met / known** him before.
4. OK, so you want a steak for the main course, but what would you like for **dessert/ desert**?
5. Her parents lived in Zambia when she was younger, and when she went to visit, she often went on the plane **lonely / alone**.
6. Could you come round to my house? I've got no one to talk to and I'm feeling really **lonely / alone**.
7. Could we close the window, please? I am **feeling cold / have a cold**.
8. We almost died as we were travelling through the **dessert / desert** with very little water.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65



TELEPHONE ENGLISH

1 Listening I

Listen once and complete the post-its:

2 Listening II

Correct the mistakes in the following numbers.

1. Extension number: 2394
2. Work number: 7489235
3. Send an e-mail after 2pm



3 Language focus

Here are some useful expressions for Telephone English. "Could" is a word we use to make requests in English. Another word is "can" which is less formal.

- a. **Could** you put me through?
- b. **Could** you hold the line?
- c. **Could** you tell her I called?



Now, make 3 more requests using the word "could".

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____



We know what footprints of bears, deer and mountain goats look like. But these **footprints** didn't belong to those animals. We believe they are from a Yeti," said Kuniaki Shimatani, a member of the Yeti Project Japan. Yetis are mythical creatures from the Himalayan region of Tibet and Nepal. They are described as being half-**ape**, half-man. The Tibetan word is "Meh-teh", which means "man-bear".

Stories of the Yeti first emerged in the 1800s. Since then, there have been numerous sightings of Yetis. The first reliable report of a Yeti was in 1925. The Greek photographer N.A. Tombazi took pictures of what looked like "a large human being eating **bushes**". Years later, in 1986, Italian mountaineer Reinhold Messner claimed he saw a Yeti. After that, he wrote a book about his experiences searching for the Yeti. However, due to lack of **evidence**, it is difficult to say if the Yeti exists or not. Shimatani claims he has pictures of Yeti footprints from when he **hiked** in the Dhaulagiri mountain range in western Nepal. Shimatani added, "If I didn't believe in Yeti, I would never have come." 🌟

Yetis

Yetis are mythical creatures from the Himalayas. They are half-man, half-ape. Another name for the Yeti is the **Abominable Snowman**. A similar **beast** exists in North America. It is known as "Bigfoot".



GLOSSARY

- a footprint** *n*
a shape of a foot from an animal or human
- an ape** *n*
a large monkey
- a bush** *n*
a small tree
- evidence** *n*
anything you see or experience that makes you believe something happened
- to hike** *vb*
to take a long walk in nature
- abominable** *adj*
very bad or unpleasant
- a beast** *n*
if an animal is a "beast", it is a large, dangerous or unusual animal

Film / TV Scripts

THIS MONTH: *IT'S A WONDERFUL LIFE*

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65



It's a Wonderful Life (1946) is a classic Christmas movie about the impact that one individual person can have on the rest of the world.

George Bailey is a man who is **down on his luck** and feels bitter towards



the world. But with the help of an angel-in-training, George gets a **glimpse** of what the world would be like if he had never been born.

This scene is George talking to his angel, Clarence. George feels depressed and says he wishes he had never existed. So, Clarence decides that he will show George a world without him...



The script

George: I suppose it would've been better if I'd never been born at all.

Clarence: What did you say?

George: I said I wish I'd never been born!

Clarence: Ohhh, you mustn't say things like that. You... wait a minute... wait a minute... that's an idea. What do you think? [Looking up to the sky] Yeah, that'll do it. Alright. You got your **wish**. You've never been born. [opens the door] You don't have to make all THAT **fuss** about it!

George: What did you say?

Clarence: You've never been born. You don't exist. You haven't a care in the world. No worries, no **obligations**, no eight thousand dollars to get, and no Potter looking for you with the Sheriff.

George: Say something else in that ear.

Clarence: Sure. You can hear out of it.

George: Well, that's the **doggonedest** thing... I haven't heard anything out of that ear since I was a kid. Must have been that jump in the cold water.

Clarence: Your lip's stopped **bleeding**, too, George.

George: What do you know about that... What's happened? It's stopped snowing out, hasn't it? What's happened here? ☹

1 Exercises

Read the dialogue and then answer the questions below.

1. What is George's wish?
2. How much money did George need to get?
3. Who is looking for George?

2 Definitions

Given the context, what do you think these **bolded** words mean? Choose the best option.

1. **down on his luck**
a. having a series of bad things happen b. looking for good fortune
2. **a glimpse**
a. a dessert b. a momentary look
3. **a wish**
a. something you hope for b. something you eat on
4. **a fuss**
a. a display of anxious activity b. a snowstorm
5. **an obligation**
a. something you have to do b. something you wish for
6. **doggonedest**
a. biggest b. strangest
7. **bleeding**
a. when a body part is injured and gets bruised b. when red liquid comes out of your body



Intermediate reading exercise.

SKILLS BOOKLET READING



Time to Celebrate!

Holiday festivals around the world.

Well, it's Christmastime again, one of the most widely-celebrated holidays in the world. There are lots of customs associated with Christmas, such as opening presents and hanging stockings. But, there are many other holidays throughout the world that people celebrate with their own traditions as well.

The Winter Solstice – (The shortest day of the year)

The Winter Solstice is an important pagan festival. It takes place on the shortest day of the year. This usually happens between the 20th and 23rd December in the northern hemisphere (June in the southern hemisphere). Part of the holiday is for worshipping the sun, moon and zodiac. Many people celebrate The Winter Solstice, including **Pagans** and **Wiccans**.

People around the world celebrate the solstice in unique ways. One special event takes place in an Irish temple that was built for a celebration called Newgrange. Newgrange is a 5,500-year-old grave. During the solstice, the grave lights up in its inner **chamber** for about fifteen minutes, and only a set amount of people are admitted inside to see the spectacular event.

Hanukah – (The Festival of Lights)

Hanukah is a Jewish festival that lasts for eight days. It is celebrated sometime between late November and late December. Hanukah honours the memory of the Maccabean revolt of the 2nd century BC, a Jewish **uprising** against Syrian rule.

Jewish people celebrate Hanukah with several traditions. Each night, they light a new candle and place it on the **Menorah**. Ross from the television programme *Friends* explained the miracle of Hanukah, "The miracle was that the little bit of oil [from the Menorah candles] that should've **lasted** only one day burned for eight days." During Hanukah, family members exchange gifts, and the strict rules of the Bible are more relaxed.

Kwanzaa – (The Pride of Africa)

Kwanzaa began in the 1960s, so it is a relatively new festival. It is a celebration of African culture. Kwanzaa was made official by Maulana Karenga, an African-American political activist. It is celebrated in many countries, including the US, Canada, the Caribbean and Africa. It lasts seven days, from 26th December until 1st January. The holiday name comes from *matunda ya kwanza*, which means "first fruits" in **Swahili**.

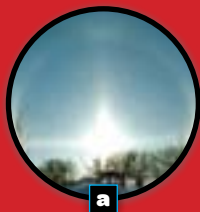
Kwanzaa has several customs. Firstly, it is based on seven principles that value family, community and culture. A common Kwanzaa gift is something inexpensive, such as a book or a candle holder. A typical ritual during Kwanzaa is to decorate houses with objects of African culture and light a *kinara*. A *kinara* is a traditional candleholder that holds red, black and green candles – the colours of black liberation in America.

The holiday season is for having fun and **bringing out** the charitable spirit in people. So, celebrate the way you want, and have a happy holiday! 🎉

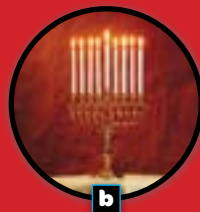
1 Pre reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

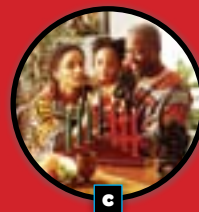
Look at the pictures below. Do you know what these festivals are called? Do you know what happens during the celebrations?



a



b



c

2 Reading I

Read the article to check your ideas.

3 Reading II

According to the article, which celebration(s)...

- ...involves worshipping the moon and sun?
- ...involves hanging up a big sock?
- ...began within the last 50 years?
- ...involves lighting candles?
- ...is celebrated by pagans and wiccans?

4 Language focus The Past Passive

Can you find and underline two examples of the past passive in the article? Can you put the active sentence from the article into the passive? "... Ross from *Friends* explained the miracle of Hanukah..."

For more explanation on the past passive, refer to page 32 in Unit 7 of your Intermediate Skills Booklet.

Skills Booklets 32

5 Discussion

- Which of the festivals mentioned in the article are celebrated by communities in your country?
- What holidays do people in your country typically celebrate? Which of the customs mentioned in the article do you practise in your country?
 - Hanging up a stocking
 - Lighting candles
 - Exchanging presents

Do you practise any others?

Refer to page 30 in Unit 7 of your Intermediate Skills Booklet for more useful expressions about parties and celebrations.

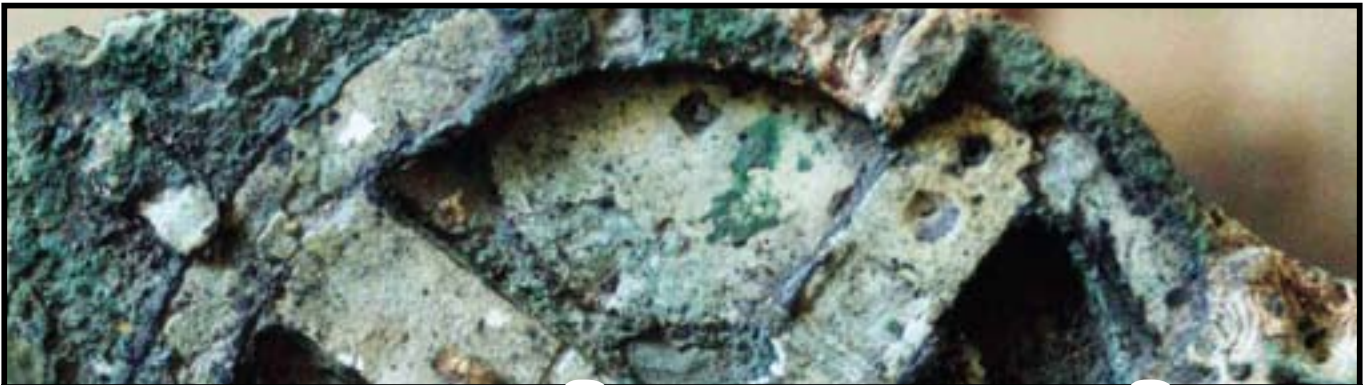


30

Skills Booklets

GLOSSARY

- a pagan** *n*
a person who does not believe in any religion
- a wiccan** *n*
a person who practices Wicca (or witchcraft)
- a chamber** *n*
a windowless room
- an uprising** *n*
an "uprising" happens when a group of people start fighting against their country's government because they want to bring about political change
- a Menorah** *n*
a ceremonial candleholder
- to last** *vb*
to endure
- Swahili** *n*
a widely-spoken language in Africa
- to bring out** *phr vb*
to provoke a positive or negative reaction from a person or animal



Greek Geeks

Ancient computer tracked Olympics.

Did you follow the summer Olympic Games in Beijing? You probably watched the games on the **telly**, but the ancient Greeks **kept track of** the dates of Olympic events on an "Antikythera mechanism." It's a complicated bronze mechanism often called the world's first PDA (personal data assistant). It is even about the size of a **laptop**, but dates back from 150 to 100 BC. It was created over a thousand years before any other similar **device**. Archaeologists first thought it was used primarily for astronomy to **track** the movements of the stars and **heavens** as well as to show the time and date.

But now, researchers found that the names of major Olympic events and sights are **inscribed** on the mechanism. Sports were a major part of life in ancient Greece. In fact, they were even linked to religion. Each major sporting event

honoured a god. The Olympics celebrated the god Zeus, for example. So, it makes sense that the world's first PDA was also used to mark the time and dates of sporting events.

Additionally, each Greek community had its own calendar and names for the months. Scientists believe that the Antikythera mechanism is from Corinth, but say that it may be from Sicily or elsewhere in northwest Greece. It might even be an invention of scientist Archimedes*, who lived in Sicily. Even though its origins are not completely certain, it looks like the world's first technophiles were the ancient Greeks. ☺

Archimedes of Syracuse

(287 BC – 212 BC)

Archimedes was a Greek mathematician, engineer, and astronomer. Although not much about his life is known, he is considered to be one of the leading scientists of his time.



ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre reading

Match the device to its purpose.



1 mobile phone

2 laptop



3 GPS

4 PDA

- used for calling people and sending text messages
- used for giving directions and locating destinations
- a portable device used for storing and creating documents
- a hand-held device used for organizing appointments and remembering data

2 Reading I

Read the article. Which technological device does the article mention?

3 Reading II

- Which countries are connected with the device's origins?
- What is the device made of?
- Which modern day device is it compared to?
- What was it used for?

4 Language focus

The word "look" has different meanings. Here is an example from the text.

"It looks like the world's first technophiles were the ancient Greeks." (Here it means it "seems".) "Look" can also mean "to resemble" or "to see something closely". Can you think of more sentences using the various meanings of the word "look"?

5 Discussion

- What do you know about the ancient Greeks?
- Which period of history are you interested in?
- Which period of history would you like to have lived in?

GLOSSARY

the telly *n inform*

a television

to keep track of *exp*

if you "keep track of" something, you monitor or observe that thing

a laptop *n*

a portable computer

a device *n*

a machine or invention used to do things

to track *vb*

if you "track" something, you follow its movements by using a special device such as a radar or satellite

heavens *n*

the sky or universe as seen from earth

inscribed *adj*

written on a surface

to honour *vb*

if you "honour" someone, you show respect to that person

We're Not Alone

Astronaut defends the validity of UFOs.



HELLO, IS ANYONE THERE?

Is there life outside Earth? US astronaut Edgar Mitchell thinks so. He told a British radio station that he definitely believes there is life on other planets. But can we really know for sure?

78-year-old Edgar Mitchell has spent years devoting his life to studying space. He holds a Bachelor of Science degree and a **doctorate** in aeronautics from the **prestigious** Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Additionally, this Texas native **holds the record** for the longest moon walk from when he was on Apollo 14 in 1971.

Given his extensive professional experience, a UK radio station interviewer was shocked when he asked Mitchell if he believed in life on other planets. "Oh yes," came the

reply. "There's not much question at all that there is life throughout the universe. I'm totally sure we are not alone." But Mitchell didn't stop there. "We have been visited on this planet and the UFO **phenomenon** is real," he claimed. He also insisted that, "It's been **covered up** by governments for the last 60 years or so."

Mitchell has mentioned **extra-terrestrial beings** in the past. He admitted that he had conducted unofficial experiments in **extra-sensory perception (ESP)** during the Apollo 14 mission. NASA, however, does not wish **to associate itself with** Mitchell's opinion. They say, "NASA does not track UFOs. Dr Mitchell is a great American, but we do not share his opinion on this issue." ❌



1 Pre reading Vocabulary

Match the pictures to the words.



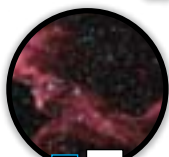
1



2



3



4



6



5

- Space shuttle
- a UFO
- space
- a moon walk
- a planet
- an astronaut

2 Reading I

Answer the questions.

- Who is Edgar Mitchell?
- What does he do?

3 Reading II

True or false?

- Edgar Mitchell believes there is life on other planets.
- Edgar Mitchell studied something completely unrelated to space.
- Edgar Mitchell has been to the moon.
- Edgar Mitchell doesn't think the government tells the truth about extra-terrestrial life.
- NASA supports and agrees with Mitchell's opinion about life on other planets.

4 Language focus

Notice the word "devote" in this sentence of the text, "Edgar Mitchell has spent years devoting his life to studying space."

What does this sentence mean? See if you can guess from the context. How is the word used? What preposition is it used with?

5 Discussion

- Do you believe there is life on other planets? Why? Why not?
- What do you think about Edgar's interest in space?
- Is there something that you would devote your life to? What? Why?

GLOSSARY

a doctorate *n*
the highest degree qualification given by a university

prestigious *adj*
if a job or an institution is "prestigious", it is respected and admired by people

to hold the record for *exp*
if you "hold the record for" something, you are the best at that thing or you achieve the best result in a competition

a phenomenon *n (formal)*
something that happens or exists
to cover up *phr vb*
to hide the truth about something
an extra-terrestrial being *n*
an alien; a living creature said to exist in another part of the universe (not from Earth)

extra-sensory perception *adj*
if you have "extra-sensory perception", you have the ability to know things by using telepathy and you can make predictions about future events

to associate oneself with *exp*
if you "associate yourself with" something, you are connecting yourself with that thing

TRIVIA MATCHING

1 Exercise

SEE IF YOU CAN DO THIS MATCHING EXERCISE. LOOK AT THE LIST OF THINGS (1 TO 12), AND THE PHOTOS (A-L). WRITE A LETTER NEXT TO THE NAME OF EACH THING IN THE LIST BELOW. ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1. apple
2. Eiffel Tower
3. onion
4. Monopoly
5. smiley-face
6. the White House
7. cow
8. Jupiter
9. sugar
10. snail
11. cockroaches
12. watch



WEIRD TRIVIA



THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR MINI-SERIES ON STRANGE FACTS. WHOEVER THOUGHT THE WORLD WAS SO OUT-OF-THE-ORDINARY?

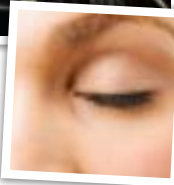


Eighty-four percent of a **raw** apple is water.

The Eiffel Tower has 1,792 steps.



You **blink** about 84,000,000 times a year.



Chewing gum while **peeling** onions will **keep you** from crying.

A cockroach's favourite food is the **glue** on the back of **stamps**.



A snail has about 25,000 teeth.

Abraham Lincoln's ghost is said to **haunt** the White House.



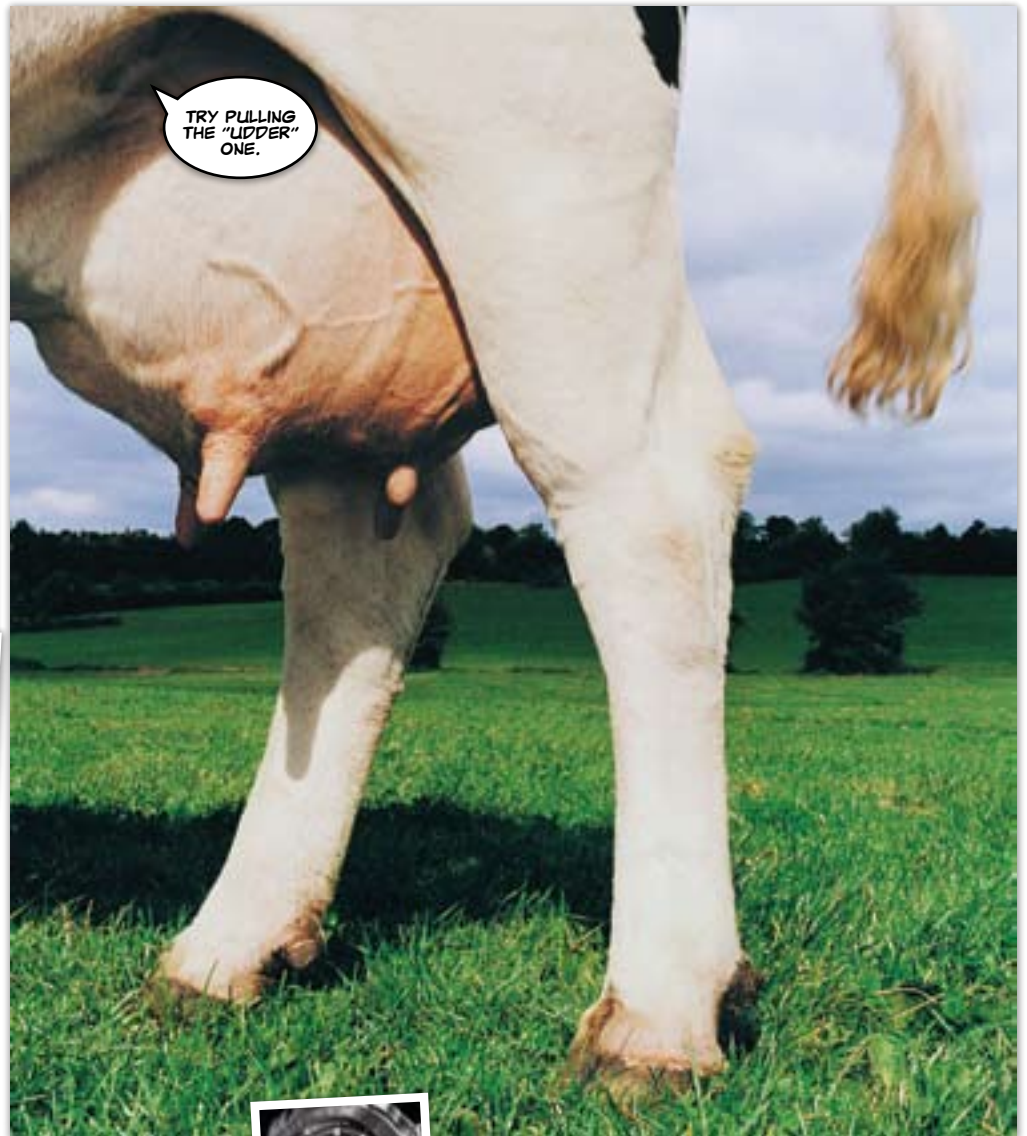
Monopoly is the most popular board game in the world.



Most adult cats are **lactose-intolerant**.



The longest word in the



English language with all the letters in alphabetical order is "almost".



In most advertisements, the time displayed on a watch is 10:10 because it looks like a **smiley-face**.

Adding sugar to coffee is believed to have started in 1715, in the court of King Louis XIV, the French monarch.



The first song to be **performed** in outer space was "Happy Birthday".



It was sung by the Apollo IX astronauts on 8th March 1969.

Almost without exception, cows are milked from the right side. The reason is that most farmers are right-handed, and it's easier for a right-handed farmer to work from the right side.

It is impossible to land on planet Jupiter. This is because scientists believe that below all the gases and

liquid there is a center, (a core), which is made up of small balls of pressurized iron. But, it is impossible to tell for sure. ✨

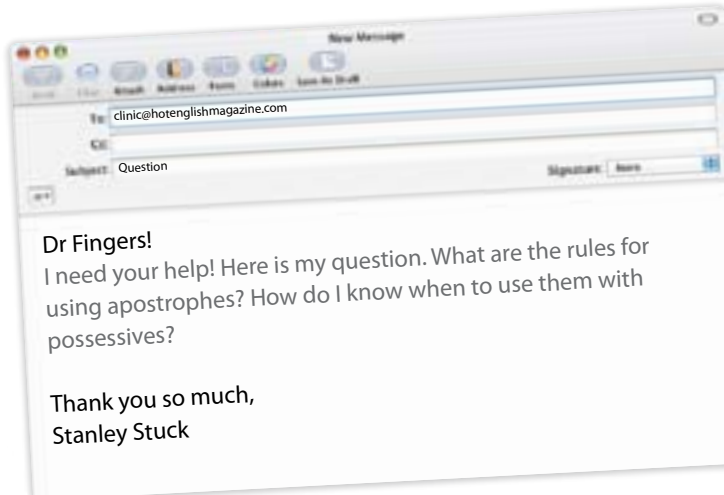
GLOSSARY

- raw** *adj*
uncooked
- to blink** *vb*
to open and close your eyes
- to peel** *vb*
to remove the layers of something
- to keep yourself from** *exp*
if you "keep yourself from" doing something, you stop yourself from doing that thing
- glue** *n*
a substance used for connecting paper and objects together
- a stamp** *n*
a small piece of paper with an amount of money on it that you put on an envelope or parcel before posting it
- to haunt** *vb*
if a ghost "haunts" a place, it regularly appears and frightens people
- lactose-intolerant** *adj*
if a person or animal is "lactose-intolerant", they feel ill after consuming products with milk
- a smiley-face** *n*
an image of a happy human face
- to perform** *vb*
to do something such as singing or dancing in front of an audience

DR FINGERS' GRAMMAR



TODAY, WE'RE
LOOKING AT
APOSTROPHES
WITH
POSSESSIVES..



Dear Mr Stuck,

Thank you for your question. I am more than happy to help. Apostrophes can be complicated because there are a lot of specific rules. Forming possessives is the most complicated use of the apostrophe.

- To form the possessive of a singular noun, add an apostrophe and an "s". For example:
 - This is Mary's book.*
 - I want to drive John's car.*
- To form the possessive of a plural noun such as "managers", add an apostrophe after the "s". For example:
 - The managers' projects were all very similar and boring.*
 - The father made the kids' lunches every morning.*

There are some exceptions such as "men" and "people" which are plural nouns that do not end in "s". They are treated as

singular nouns when forming the possessives. For example:

- The people's favourite was not the same as that of the academy.*
 - The Women's Movement took place in the 1960s.*
- With singular nouns that end in "s", there are two options. You can add an apostrophe to singular nouns that end in "s". For example, **a)** *"He married the boss' daughter."* You can add the apostrophe along with another "s". For example, **b)** *"Arthur went to the movies with Charles's girlfriend."* However, not all experts agree on all grammar rules. So, the best thing to do is choose a style and be consistent with it.
 - If you want to show joint possession (using two or more people or objects), use the possessive form with the last word only. For example:
 - We should all ride in John and Melanie's car.*
 - We had to listen to Tim and Pam's presentation the whole morning.*

Reminder: Do not use an apostrophe to form the possessive of personal pronouns, except the pronoun "one". For example:

- It is really pleasant to take one's time when playing chess.*
- This house is ours. (not "our's")*

Well Stanley, I hope that clears up any doubts you have. Keep the questions coming.

**Yours Sincerely,
Dr Fingers.**

Please send your questions or stories to:
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Corny Criminals

HERE'S ANOTHER PART IN OUR SERIES ON GOOD, BAD AND FUNNY CRIMINALS.



Python on the Road

Man took snake for a walk.

"I was just going for a walk. I don't feel I did anything wrong," said 35-year-old Curtis Majors, who has been **locked up** for taking his snake for a walk. Majors, from New York City, was **spotted** walking down a main street with a Burmese python **wrapped around** his body. He was seen on Montauk Highway, Long Island, by an officer for the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (SPCA) who called the police. Majors has been charged with animal cruelty and failure to protect the public against dangerous wildlife. He is currently being **held in custody**. The 32kg snake will be sent to an out-of-state reptile habitat.

Apparently, Burmese **pythons** need temperatures of at least 7 degrees to survive. SPCA Captain Robert Avery said, "The fact that he was out in the cold weather was not good for the animal." He then added that the snake was "resting comfortably".

A **witness** to the arrest said, "He was just walking by with a snake. He wasn't doing anything wrong. I asked him, 'Is that real?' And he said, 'Yeah.' Next thing I know, he was being arrested."



Only chocolate or lemon!

Girl convinces flatmates to steal sweets.

"I didn't want to steal, but I felt I didn't have a choice," said 23-year-old Qing Min. Qing was arrested for stealing sweets, but claimed that her **flatmate** forced her into committing the crime. Qing said she was forced to **raid** shops for more sweets. And if she didn't, Li said that her **mobster** father would make her "disappear".

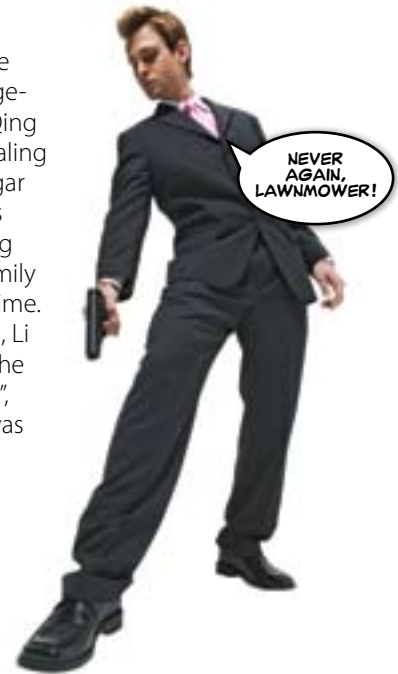
According to Qing, Li put strict **demands** on stealing the sweets. Li said, "I only like lemon, chocolate and orange-flavoured **goodies**." When Qing said she wanted to stop stealing sweets, her flatmate put sugar in her shoes. After two years of being forced to steal, Qing finally moved out. Qing's family hopes that Li will serve jail time. When the police spoke to Li, Li claimed that she made up the mobster stories "only for fun", and that "the whole thing was a joke".

Lawnmower Trouble

Man shoots gardening appliance.

"It's my **lawnmower** and my **yard**, so I can shoot it if I want," 56-year-old Keith Woods told the police. He has been accused of "shooting his lawnmower to death". Woods was charged with the **misdeemeanour** of **disorderly conduct** while armed. According to the criminal complaint, Woods said he was angry because his lawnmower wouldn't start.

A woman who lives near Woods's house reported the incident. She says he was **intoxicated** when the incident took place. Woods could **face** up to an \$11,000 fine and more than six years in prison if convicted. The funny thing is that when police **showed up**, they checked the **gas tank** of the mower and it was empty. So, he didn't have to kill it. All he needed to do was fill it. ☘



GLOSSARY

- to lock up** *exp*
if you "lock someone up", you put them in jail
- to spot** *vb*
to see, to notice
- to wrap around** *exp*
if something is "wrapped around" your body, it goes around your body
- to hold in custody** *exp*
if someone is "held in custody", they are in jail temporarily
- a python** *n*
a large snake
- a witness** *n*
someone who sees a crime or incident
- a flatmate** *n*
someone who shares an apartment with someone else
- to raid** *vb inform*
if you "raid" a shop, you take something from it and eat without paying
- a mobster** *n*
a member of an organised group of violent criminals (the Mafia)
- a demand** *n*
a request for something
- goodies** *n inform*
pleasant, exciting or attractive things
- a lawnmower** *n*
a machine used to cut grass
- a yard** *n*
a piece of land with lots of grass outside of someone's house
- a misdemeanour** *n formal*
a less serious crime
- disorderly conduct** *n*
noisy, rude or violent behavior
- intoxicated** *adj formal*
drunk
- to face** *vb*
if you "face" a problem, you accept that it is true and that you have to deal with it
- to show up** *exp*
to appear
- a gas tank** *n*
the part of the car where the petrol goes



THIS MONTH, WE HAVE TWO RECIPES FOR YOU TO COOK AT HOME.

THE FIRST RECIPE: SAUSAGE AND COURGETTE PASTA. IT IS A VERY DELICIOUS DINNER.

Sausage & courgette pasta

Ingredients

- ½ kilo sausage
- 2 small courgette, **sliced**
- ¼ kilo fresh mushrooms
- 2 cloves garlic
- 2.5 ml basil
- 2.5 ml oregano
- 2.5 ml parsley
- 55 ml white wine
- 40 ml olive oil



Method

- **Sauté** the garlic in olive oil.
- Add the sausage to the oil and sauté until cooked.
- Add courgette, mushrooms, basil, oregano, parsley and wine.
- Cook **covered** until vegetables are soft, or up to one hour.
- Serve over rice or pasta. ☺

OUR SECOND RECIPE OF THE MONTH IS A TYPICAL HOLIDAY DRINK: EGGNOG.

eggnog

Ingredients

- 6 eggs
- 680 ml milk or cream
- 160 ml sugar
- 15 ml vanilla
- 2.5 ml **ground** nutmeg



Method

- In a large bowl, beat the eggs using a **wire whisk**.
- Mix in the milk.
- Then, mix in the sugar.
- Continue to beat the mixture until it gets thicker.
- Add the vanilla and ground nutmeg.
- Cover and refrigerate for about 3 hours until **chilled**. ☺



GLOSSARY

a courgette *n*
a long, thin green vegetable (zucchini, US English)
to slice *vb*
to cut into thin pieces
to sauté *vb*
if you "sauté" food, you fry it quickly in hot oil or butter
covered *adj*
if something is "covered", you place something else over it to hide or protect that thing
ground *adj*
if a substance is "ground" it has been crushed into a fine powder
a wire whisk *n*
a cooking instrument with a long handle that is used to blend ingredients
chilled *adj*
if something is "chilled", it becomes colder but does not freeze



Manners Moment

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre listening Vocabulary

Look at these pictures. How are they related to hosting a party?



1 shopping list



2 candles



4 appetizers



3 music



5 wine

2 Listening I

Listen to the conversation, and compare your ideas from the previous exercise.

3 Listening II

Complete the table below. According to the expert, what are some do's and don'ts involving party planning?

Do's	Don'ts

4 Language focus

The speakers in the conversation used lots of past passives. For example: "I was invited to a dinner party."

What is the past passive? When do we use it? Refer to page 32 in Unit 7 of your Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.

Skills Booklets 32

5 Discussion

Think about the last dinner party you hosted. Answer the following questions.

1. How did you prepare for the dinner party?
2. How many people did you invite?
3. What did you cook?
4. Was it a success? Why? Why not?
5. What do you think is the key to being a good host / hostess?

A Real-Life Stand-Still

IMPORTANT MOMENTS IN HISTORY AND THE MOVIES MADE ABOUT THEM.



11th September 2001: The fall of the World Trade Centre.

The Earth stood still on 11th September 2001. At about 8:45 on a Tuesday morning, there was a series of planned terrorist attacks on the United States.

Al-Qaeda, an Islamic terrorist group, was responsible for the attacks. The group **hijacked** four aeroplanes: two of them were **deliberately** flown into New York City's Twin Towers, one flew into the Pentagon, and the other crashed in Pennsylvania. It was one of the most **devastating** attacks in American history and in world history. More than 3,000 people were killed.

The events deeply affected New York City and the rest of the world. The attacks caused some of the American Stock Exchange to close for the rest of the week, and also hurt the airline industry considerably. Airline security became much more **invasive** than ever before. New York City Mayor Rudy Guiliani helped lead America through the crisis. Guiliani appeared on the American live comedy show *Saturday Night Live* soon after the attacks to show America "it was OK to laugh again".



Flight 93 (2006)

The film *Flight 93* takes place on one of the hijacked planes from 11th September. There was a lot of controversy surrounding the film. The director, Paul Greengrass, said that he received cooperation and approval from the victims' families, but many viewers were nevertheless very upset by the film **trailer**. In fact, the trailer

was taken out altogether from some cinemas.

The movie is filmed from the perspective of the passengers on the plane. It shows their genuine reactions during the flight. The film does not mention Al-Qaeda, Iraq, Iran, or Osama Bin Laden. *Flight 93* only shows the fear and the confusion that people felt on that fateful day in September. The film **switches back and forth** between the inside of the aeroplane, and on the ground at the **air traffic control centre**. The movie showed the heroism and patriotism in people, and received generally positive reviews.



15th April 1912: The Titanic Sinks.

The Earth stood still on 15th April 1912. No one could believe that the **invincible** *Titanic* could sink, but it did. The largest and most **luxurious** cruise ship of its time hit an **iceberg**,

and many people died. *RMS Titanic* had 2,223 people on the ship, and only 706 survived. Statistics show that more

first-class occupants survived than second and third class. Many of the deaths were from **hypothermia** from the -2°C water temperatures. The sinking of the *RMS Titanic* played a large part in **maritime** regulations and ship design. Many people believe the ship was **cursed** because it was never **christened**. The event has gone on to inspire numerous television mini-series, a couple of films, and even a musical.



Titanic (1997)

The film *Titanic* was a box-office blockbuster. *Titanic* stars Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio. The film tells the tale of two lovers from different social classes who meet on the ship. The American Film Institute has given *Titanic* various awards. Leonardo DiCaprio's character Jack Dawson made their list of the most

memorable film quotes when he said, "I'm the king of the world!" and Celine Dion's *My Heart Will Go On* ranked 14th for Best Song in a Film.

Director, co-producer and co-editor James Cameron is very proud of his work on the film. He says the film is about many things, including, "the **juxtaposition** of rich and poor, the gender roles played out unto death (women first), the **stoicism** and nobility of a **bygone** age, the magnificence of the great ship matched in scale only by the **folly** of the men who drove her **hell-bent** through the darkness. And above all, the lesson: that life is uncertain, the future unknowable... the unthinkable possible."



8th December 1980: The Assassination of John Lennon.

The Earth stood still on 8th December 1980. This was the day John Lennon was killed. The English musician was also a songwriter, poet and peace activist. Lennon showed hope for

a better world with songs such as "Imagine" and "Help". John Lennon was shot four times (the fifth shot missed him) in New York City. He was entering his apartment building with wife Yoko Ono when the shots were fired. The police came and **rushed** Lennon to the hospital, but it was too late.

The man who killed John Lennon was Mark David Chapman. He was a **crazed** fan of the Beatles and was especially fascinated with Lennon. Chapman has been in prison since 1981, and has been **denied parole** five times. Yoko Ono sent a letter to the prison **opposing** Chapman's release. Chapman is mostly confined to his prison cell, and has limited interaction with other inmates. Chapman agrees that he does not **deserve** to be released. But, he says, if he could go into the world, he would try to tell people about **the path to Jesus**.

Stand-Still

to hijack *vb*
if someone "hijacks" a plane or other vehicle, they take control of it illegally and forcefully

deliberately *adv*
intentionally

devastating *adj*
very damaging; destructive

invasive *adj*
if a procedure is "invasive", it might be offensive or upsetting

a trailer *n*
a "trailer" for a film is a combination of short extracts which are shown to advertise it

to switch back and forth *exp*
to keep changing or shifting between two different things

air traffic control centre *n*
the place where the air traffic controllers organise the routes for an aeroplane to follow and tell the pilots by radio which routes they should take

invincible *adj*
very strong; cannot be destroyed

luxurious *adj*
very comfortable and expensive

an iceberg *n*
a gigantic piece of ice floating in the sea

hypothermia *n*
if someone has "hypothermia", their body temperature is very low because they have been cold for a long time

maritime *adj*
relating to the sea or ships

curse *adj*
if something is "curse", there may be a supernatural power causing unpleasant things to happen to it

to christen *vb inform*
when you "christen" a person or an object, you give them a name and start calling them that name

juxtaposition *n*
the idea of putting two contrasting objects together to emphasise the differences between them

stoicism *n*
a type of behaviour that a person has when they don't complain and don't show emotions

bygone *adj*
happening or existing a long time ago

a folly *n*
a silly / stupid action

hell-bent *adj*
if you are "hell-bent" on doing something, you are very determined to do it, regardless of the possible consequences

to rush *vb*
if you "rush" somewhere, you go there quickly

crazed *adj*
wild; uncontrolled; possibly insane

to deny *vb*
if you "deny" someone something, you refuse to let them have it

parole *n*
if a prisoner is given "parole", they are released before their prison sentence ends

to oppose *vb*
to disagree; to speak out against something

to deserve *vb*
if someone "deserves" something, you think they should have that thing because of their qualifications or actions

the path to Jesus *n*
a "path" is a movement in a particular direction. In this case, it is going toward believing in Jesus

a debut *n*
the first public performance of a performer, sports player, etc

a train of thought *exp*
a "train of thought" is a person's line of thinking or their thought process

earth-shattering *adj*
very surprising; shocking

to spark *vb*
if one thing "sparks" another, the first thing causes the second thing to happen

lacklustre *adj*
if something or someone is "lacklustre", then they have no brightness or liveliness

a love triangle *n*
a romantic relationship involving three people. Person A loves Person B who loves Person C, etc

to praise *vb*
if you "praise" someone, you say good things about them

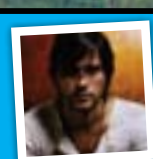


Chapter 27 (2008)
Chapter 27 starred Jared Leto as Mark David Chapman. The film was directed by Rich Chad, and was Chad's directorial **debut**. The film takes place over three days. It focuses on Chapman's mental state and his **train of thought** leading up to the assassination. The film is based on Chapman's biography *Let Me Take You Down* by Jack Jones. The title of the film comes from the fact that Chapman was carrying a copy of JD Salinger's *The Catcher in the Rye* in his coat pocket when he was arrested. Chapman was obsessed with the book, and his character makes many references to it in the film. The novel has twenty-six chapters, and the title *Chapter 27* implies Chapman's desire to be a part of the novel.

The film received mixed reviews, despite Jared Leto's commitment to his starring role. The handsome young actor underwent huge physical changes for the part. Leto gained 67 pounds (30 kgs) to resemble Chapman as much as possible. He said he put on the extra weight by eating pizza and ice cream every night. To make the process of overeating easier on himself, he put the ice cream in the microwave, and drank it as a milkshake. Lindsay Lohan also stars in the film.



Rudy Giuliani
Rudy Giuliani was born on 28th May 1944 in Brooklyn, New York, as the only child of working-class parents. He went on to study Political Science and Philosophy in college, and considered becoming a priest. He eventually decided against this and went to law school instead. After a number of years working in law, he ran for New York City Mayor in 1989, but lost in the closest election in the city's history. He ran again in 1993, and won. He was re-elected in 1997. Giuliani was widely **praised** for his leadership following the 9/11 terrorist attacks.



Jared Leto
Jared Leto is an American actor and musician. He was born in Louisiana on Boxing Day (26th December) in 1971. In 1992, Leto moved to Los Angeles to pursue an acting career. Two years later, he won the lead role in the popular American television show *My So-Called Life*. After the show finished, he went on to act in films such as *Fight Club* (1999), *American Psycho* (2000), and *Alexander* (2004). Leto is also the lead singer and guitarist in the band 30 Seconds to Mars. He formed the band in 1998 with his brother Shannon, and they are currently working on a third album.



7th December 1941: The attack on Pearl Harbour.
The Earth stood still on 7th December 1941. That date marked another **earth-shattering** moment in history, which was the bombing of Pearl Harbour, or the "Hawaii Operation". The attack on Pearl Harbour was a surprise military strike from the Japanese navy against the United States. The Japanese wanted to wage war in Southeast Asia against Britain. They didn't want the US to get involved in the attack, so they bombed the US military base to distract them. These attacks **sparked** the beginning of US involvement in World War II, and 7th December 1941 will always be known as the "day that will live in infamy".



Pearl Harbour (2001)
Pearl Harbour is a film directed by Michael Bay. It stars Ben Affleck, Josh Hartnett, Jon Voight and Kate Beckinsale. Many people criticised the film because of its historical inaccuracies. They also said that Ben Affleck gave a **lacklustre** performance. One of the most famous American film critics, Roger Ebert, said of the film, "It is an unremarkable action movie; Pearl Harbour supplies the subject, but not the inspiration." Ebert then continued to say the film is "more about a **love triangle** than history". Despite the generally negative reviews, the film earned more than \$450 million worldwide, and was one of the biggest money-makers in Hollywood that year. ⭐



Roger Ebert
Roger Ebert is a famous American film critic and screenwriter. He was born in Illinois on 18th June 1942. He began writing in high school, and continued through university and in his professional life. In 1975, he became the first film critic to win a Pulitzer Prize for Criticism. In 2005, he was the first film critic to be awarded a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Ebert's views can often be harsh and direct, as when he reviewed the 1994 film *North*, "I hated this movie. Hated, hated, hated, hated, hated this movie. Hated it."



Life at Craggy

THREE **PRIESTS** ON AN ISLAND. DOES THAT SOUND LIKE A RECIPE FOR A SUCCESSFUL COMEDY SHOW? IT WAS A BIG HIT ON IRISH AND BRITISH TV, AND ITS NAME WAS *FATHER TED*. THE **SITCOM** WAS CREATED BY WRITERS GRAHAM LINEHAN AND ARTHUR MATTHEWS IN 1995.

There are four main characters on *Father Ted*. Ted, the title character, appears to be a normal priest, but there's something not quite right about him. Because of problems with a church charity account, Father Ted is **exiled** to Craggy Island. Ted lives there with Father Dougal, a young and very childish priest. There is also Father Jack, a vulgar, liquor-loving priest. The priests are joined by Mrs Doyle, an elderly and loyal housekeeper obsessed with making tea. They all live together on Craggy Island, a secluded and boring island off the west coast of Ireland.

There are many funny episodes of *Father Ted*, and they often involve the priests of Rugged Island. Rugged Island is close to Craggy Island. Rugged Island is led by Father Dick Byrne. But, Ted and Dick are each other's **nemesis**, so the two groups are often at odds. In one episode, there is a competition to be Ireland's representative for the Eurovision Song Contest. During the episode, both sets of priests are up against each other. Ted and Dougal enter the contest with the song *My Lovely Horse*, an obscure **b-side** that they think no one knows. Ted and Dougal eventually realise the song is better-known than they thought. In the end, they win the chance to compete for Ireland.

Father Ted was a major success. Many Irish comedians appeared on the show, often as bizarre priests. Some of them played **gun-runners** or manically-depressed people. *Father Ted* **parodied** many famous people, including Irish **crooner** Daniel O'Donnell, a very **cheesy** Irish singer. The show also parodied the film *Speed*. In that episode, instead of a bus exploding, Dougal drove a **milk float**. The float was going to explode if the speed dropped below 4 kilometres per hour.

The comedy, which ran for three years, was controversial too. For a start, it **poked fun at** the Catholic Church. One character called Bishop Len Brennan was probably an imitation of real priest Eamon Casey. Casey was the Bishop of Galway. He fathered a child and then stole church money to provide for his secret family. There was also speculation over which real island the fictional Craggy Island represented. Each year, the island of Inis Mór (along with Kilfenora village in County Clare) **hosts** "Tedfest", a *Father Ted* festival. For more info on Tedfest, see www.friendsofthed.org.

Although the show has finished, it continues to be popular. It is repeated regularly on Irish and British TV. It is also very successful in DVD format. Music from the series was composed by the popular Irish band Divine Comedy. So, if you fancy a laugh, watch *Father Ted*. It has some of the strangest **clergymen** you'll ever see. 🍵





Father Ted

Dermot Morgan

Ardal O'Hanlon



Dermot Morgan played the role of Ted in the series. Before the series, he was already a nationwide success in Ireland as a comedian and television star. Born in 1952, he was originally a schoolteacher. He became famous playing various characters on RTE (Radio Television Éire), the national Irish broadcaster. One of these characters, Father **Trendy**, was the basis for Father Ted. Morgan's first major success was a **political satire** show called *Scrap Saturday*. It was controversial, but extremely popular. *Scrap Saturday* was eventually **axed**, supposedly because of political pressure. This was an example of the confrontational side of Dermot Morgan that made him so successful. Later, he criticised RTE for **caving in** to political demands. The company wanted to **fire** him, but couldn't, because he was too popular.

Morgan got his **big break** with Father Ted. It was actually made in Britain, although the writers were Irish. The show was a fantastic success, and won a BAFTA (a British television award). But it seems that Morgan's luck was going to change. After the end of filming the third series of *Father Ted* in 1998, Morgan died of a heart attack at an end-of-recording party. It was a tragedy, because he had finally become an international star. He had been planning a new comedy about two ex-football stars sharing a house. But, he is remembered **fondly**, and fans continue to enjoy *Father Ted*. 🍀

Ardal O'Hanlon played the **inept** Dougal on *Father Ted*. Born in County Monaghan in 1965, Ardal is the son of Rory O'Hanlon, the former speaker of the Irish parliament. Ardal's family is from a strong Irish **Republican** tradition. Apparently, Ardal's grandfather was one of the Twelve Apostles during the **War of Independence**. This was a famous group of high-ranking IRA **hit men** who killed nearly the entire **inner council** of British Intelligence in Ireland in one day.

Ardal himself has opted for a less controversial career. He was a highly successful and award-winning **stand-up** comic, which was why the *Father Ted* creators asked him to play Dougal. Apart from *Father Ted*, he was the star of *My Hero*. On this programme, he played an incompetent superhero. He has even had a novel published, called *The Talk of the Town*. These days, he still continues to perform stand-up comedy. Despite his less-than-political career, he has hosted a show entitled *So, you want to be Taoiseach*. On the show, he gives ordinary people advice about what they should do if they were Ireland's prime minister. He is a hardworking entertainer and has contributed a lot to the world of comedy. 🍀

Gigging Guiri Comedy Club **Special Note:** If you are in Madrid on 14th December, you can laugh along with Ardal O'Hanlon at the Gigging Guiri.

For more information, visit the Gigging Guiri's website: <http://www.comedyinspain.com/madrid>

Father Ted

Father Ted is a British television sitcom about three Irish Catholic priests. They all live together on the fictional Craggy Island, which is off the west coast of Ireland. The show aired for three seasons, from 1995 to 1998. *Father Ted* did lots of parodies of films and people, and had lots of celebrity guest appearances. In 1998, the show won a BAFTA. Many people still love the show and watch the old episodes.

GLOSSARY

- a priest** *n*
a member of the Christian clergy in the Catholic, Anglican, or Orthodox church
- a sitcom** *n inform*
a situational comedy
- to exile** *vb*
if someone has been "exiled", they have been sent away or removed from a place against their will
- a nemesis** *n*
a formidable rival or opponent
- a b-side** *n*
the second song on a chart single
- a gun-runner** *n*
a person who takes or sends guns into a country illegally or secretly
- to parody** *vb*
if someone "parodies" a person, they imitate that person in an amusing and exaggerated way
- a crooner** *n*
a singer of antiquated songs, backed up by an orchestra or band
- cheesy** *adj*
without style
- a milk float** *n*
a lorry for delivering milk
- to poke fun at** *exp*
to make humorous and derisive comments about someone or something
- to host** *vb*
if you "host" an event, you provide the facilities for an event
- a clergyman** *n*
an appointed leader of religious activities for a particular group of believers
- trendy** *adj*
fashionable
- political satire** *n*
a criticism of a politician or political system that uses humour, irony or exaggeration in order to show how foolish or ridiculous something is
- to axe** *vb*
if a television program is "axed", it stops airing and there are no new episodes
- to cave in** *exp*
to surrender
- to fire** *vb*
if you "fire" someone, you take away their job
- a big break** *exp*
an opportunity for fame
- fondly** *adv*
affectionately
- inept** *adj*
incompetent
- a Republican** *n*
in Northern Ireland, if someone is a "Republican", they believe that Northern Ireland should not be ruled by Britain but by the Republic of Ireland
- The War of Independence** *n*
an Irish war from 1919-1921 against the British government by the Irish army
- a hit man** *n*
a person hired to kill someone else
- the inner council** *n*
the most powerful people in a government or organisation
- stand-up (comedy)** *n*
a type of comedy when the comedian is on a stage telling jokes and has an audience
- The Taoiseach** *n (Gaelic)*
the prime minister of the Republic of Ireland

Lightning strikes twice?

THE MOVIE REMAKE IS GENERALLY A **SURE-FIRE** WAY OF MAKING MONEY EASILY IN THE CINEMA INDUSTRY. BUT ARE REMAKES ALWAYS GOOD FILMS? HERE'S A LOOK AT A FEW CLASSIC REMAKES.



Planet of the Apes

This 1968 film starred Charlton Heston* and Roddy McDowall. It tells the story

of a group of astronauts **stranded** on a planet where evolution is completely reversed. On this planet, humans are primitive and without intelligence, while apes are highly-developed and rule the planet. There were subsequently four **sequels**. The original was remade in 2001 and featured Mark Wahlberg, Tim Roth and Helena Bonham Carter. The storyline was quite different from the first film, but it features most of the same characters. It did very well at **the box office**, and was well-received by critics.



Poseidon

The Poseidon Adventure is a classic disaster movie from the 1970s. It starred Gene Hackman*

as a **priest** guiding his **flock** to safety. His "flock" is a group of passengers on a **capsized** luxury **cruise liner**. The film won an Oscar for its visual effects, and is still regularly shown on television. There was also a less successful sequel called *Beyond the Poseidon Adventure* (1979). It was one of a series of successful disaster movies at the time including classics such as *Airport* (1970) and *The Towering Inferno* (1974). The 2006 remake *Poseidon*, however, was a literal disaster. It received mostly negative reviews and was a commercial failure. In fact, it was nominated for a Golden Raspberry* for Worst Remake or **Rip-off**.



How The Grinch Stole Christmas!

The Grinch is a cartoon character created by animator Dr

Seuss. The Grinch is **bad-tempered**, **mean-spirited** and hates Christmas. His story was made for television in a half-hour special in 1966. In this, the Grinch attempted to ruin Christmas for the folks in the village of Whoville.

The Grinch dressed up as Santa Claus and stole all of the presents in the village. The story was extended and redone for **the big screen** in 2000 with Jim Carrey starring as the Grinch. It was commercially successful, but many critics disliked it. Having said this, The Grinch would probably be quite happy. ☆



Charlton Heston

Born John Charles Carter on 4th October 1923 in Evanston, Illinois. He died 84 years later on 5th

April 2008 in Beverley Hills, California. Heston was well-known for playing heroic roles such as Ben-Hur, Moses, El Cid and Michelangelo. One of his most famous roles was as George Taylor in *Planet of the Apes* (1968). Later in his life, he was known for his strong views on gun ownership, as the president of the National Rifle Association.



*Gene Hackman

Eugene Allen Hackman was born on 30th January 1930 in California. Hackman went on to win two Academy Awards for his acting in *The French Connection* (1971) and *Unforgiven* (1992). Hackman has had a long career, spanning from his first film role in 1961 to the present day.

*The Golden Raspberries

The Golden Raspberries are **tongue-in-cheek** awards that give prizes to the worst movies of the year. They are commonly referred to as Razzies. The Golden Raspberries were created in 1980 by John Wilson, an American publicist. Famous former winners include Halle Berry for her "God-awful" film *Catwoman* (2004) and Ben Affleck, who has won several Razzies. The actor with the most Golden Raspberries is Sylvester Stallone. He has won 10 of them.



GLOSSARY

- sure-fire** *adj*
certain; definite
- to be stranded** *vb*
if you "are stranded", you are prevented from leaving a place
- a sequel** *n*
a book or film that is a "sequel" continues the story of an earlier film
- the box office** *n*
the ticket office at the front of a cinema
- a priest** *n*
a member of the Christian clergy in the Catholic, Anglican or Orthodox church
- a flock** *n*
a group led by a Christian holy person
- capsized** *adj*
when a boat "capsizes", it is in an upside-down position in the water
- a cruise liner** *n*
a very big holiday ship
- a rip-off** *n*
a "rip-off" of something original is an exact copy of that thing with no originality
- bad-tempered** *adj*
someone who is "bad-tempered" is angry and impatient
- mean-spirited** *adj*
unkind to others
- the big screen** *n*
the world of cinema, literally, it is the big rectangle that shows the film
- tongue-in-cheek** *adj*
if a remark is "tongue-in-cheek", it is ironic and not meant to be serious, although it may seem serious

Movie Mania

HOW DO YOU CLASSIFY A FILM? WHAT CONSTITUTES A **BIG-BUDGET** MOVIE? AND HAVE YOU EVER HEARD OF A B-MOVIE? HERE IS A **BREAKDOWN** OF FILM CLASSIFICATIONS TO HELP ANSWER THOSE QUESTIONS.

A-movies

A-movies are big-budget films. Typical A-movies are ones that Hollywood produces. They can be extravagant and typically feature the world's most famous actors. Most of the films that appear in cinemas are A-movies. Some recent popular A-movies are:

No Country for Old Men (2007).

This film was based on a book, and it won four Oscars including Best Film and Best Director. The film was directed by the Coen Brothers, and won four Academy Awards. Generally, A-movie directors have to prove themselves first with a more limited budget before achieving A-movie status.

The Chronicles of Narnia: Prince Caspian (2008).

This is an adaptation of C.S Lewis' book and the sequel to the film *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* (1950). Fantasy or historical films are major **staples** of the A-movie industry, and many cinema-goers enjoy them, because they provide a bit of escapism for a few hours.

B-movies

B-movies are films made with a smaller budget than A-movies. Directors have to be more **resourceful** and **innovative**, which is why many are very well-directed. The **genre** has a **cult following** from people who like this **quirkier** method to directing. Some examples of B-movies are:

The Raven (1963). This is an adaptation of the famous horror story by Edgar Allen Poe. The film stars Vincent Price and Boris Karloff, two legends of classic horror movies. The film also features a **youthful** Jack Nicholson in one of his first **roles**. This is a good example of how a cheaply-made movie can attract superstars.

Blood Simple (1985). This was the first film directed by the Coen Brothers. They're now A-Listers because of the **ingenuity** they showed as low-budget movie-makers. *Blood Simple* was a difficult movie to

classify, and was defined by one critic **as such**, "Too **gory** to be an art film, too **arty** to be an exploitation film, funny but not quite a comedy."

C-movies

C-movies are basically B-movies, but with an even smaller budget. They generally air on **cable TV** to fill **gaps** in the schedule. They are never released in the cinema. One example is *The Psychotronic Man* (1980). This movie was filmed almost entirely illegally. The filmmakers couldn't get permits in Chicago, where it was filmed. Later, the name *Psychotronic* became a term to describe underappreciated cult films.

There is also a television programme that **poked fun at** low-budget films. From 1988-1999, the cult classic show *Mystery Science Theater 3000* was a huge success on the comedy channel in the United States. In the show, a man is trapped in space with robots, and is forced to watch low budget sci-fi films. The man and the robots make hilarious comments about the films.

Ronald Reagan

Ronald Reagan was born 6th February 1911 in Tampico, Illinois and died 5th June 2004 in Bel Air, California. He was originally a B-Movie actor. He appeared in over 60 films and dozens of TV shows during his 30-year acting career, starting in 1937. During this time, he also became involved in politics. He registered as a Democrat, but gradually became more **right-wing**. Reagan served as a Republican president of the United States between 1981 and 1989.



Z-movies.

Z-movies are the lowest section of the film industry. They are cheap and **tacky** with **off-the-wall plotlines**. Arthouse Cinema* isn't included in this classification. Director Edward Wood is famous as being a Z-Movie **maestro**, and was voted the Worst Director of all Time. Some examples of Z-movies are:

Plan 9 from Outer Space (1959). This film was voted the Worst Movie of all Time. It paradoxically made director Edward Wood famous (or **infamous**, maybe) for terrible films. If you are looking for a laugh, it's a **must-see**.

Bikini Cavewoman (2004).

This is a semi-pornographic comedy, and has many of the **over-the-top** attributes of the Z genre. It is the type of film generally shown on late-night TV. To quote Homer Simpson, Z-movies are watched by "angry **loners** and the **unemployable**". ❄

*Arthouse Cinema

Another type of low-budget cinema is called Arthouse Cinema. Arthouse films are made for a very specific audience. This type of film appeals to the **avant-garde**. It is nearly impossible for people involved in these projects to receive any major **funding**.

GLOSSARY

- big-budget** *adj*
a "big-budget" film is one that is made with a lot of money
- breakdown** *n*
a "breakdown" of something is a list of its separate parts
- a staple** *n*
a thing that appears regularly or that is very important
- resourceful** *adj*
a "resourceful" person is someone who is good at finding ways to fix a problem
- innovative** *adj*
new and original
- a genre** *n*
a type of film, literature or music
- a cult following** *n*
a small but dedicated group of followers
- quirky** *adj*
strange, but interesting or nice
- youthful** *adj*
young
- a role** *n*
a part in a film
- ingenuity** *n*
creativity; having the skills to work out how to achieve something or invent something new
- as such** *exp*
like this
- gory** *adj*
a "gory" film shows people being injured in horrible ways
- arty** *adj*
relating to artists or art
- cable** *n*
"cable" television has channels that you pay to see
- a gap** *n*
an empty space in between two things
- to poke fun at** *exp*
to laugh and make jokes about something in a way that makes it seem ridiculous
- tacky** *adj*
cheap and without style
- off-the-wall** *exp*
weird, strange
- a plotline** *n*
same as plot; the story of a book or film
- a maestro** *n*
a person who is skilled in his or her particular field of work
- infamous** *adj*
well-known because of something bad
- a must-see** *exp*
something so entertaining that it is recommended that people watch it
- over-the-top** *exp*
very crazy or done in an exaggerated way
- a loner** *n*
a person who prefers to be alone rather than in a group and often has underdeveloped social skills
- unemployable** *adj*
someone who is "unemployable" does not have a job and can't get one because they do not have the skills or abilities an employer might want
- avant-garde** *n*
people who are "avant-garde" are those who introduce new and modern ideas ahead of their time
- funding** *n*
money to finance a project
- right-wing** *adj*
conservative; traditional



THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL

THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL (2008) IS THE LATEST MOVIE WITH THE SAME NAME. IT WAS BASED ON A SHORT STORY CALLED 'TROUBLE' WHICH DEALS WITH THE INHUMANITY OF MANKIND, AND THE DANGER THEY POSE TO THEMSELVES. THIS TIME, THE NUCLEAR THEME HAS BEEN REMOVED. IT STARS KEANU REEVES.

The original movie tells the story of Klaatu, an alien messenger. Klaatu is sent to Earth to **warn** its inhabitants to change their ways or face the consequences. When his **flying saucer** lands in Washington, he is shot by a nervous soldier. Klaatu is taken to a military hospital, but escapes to learn more about Earth. He meets Helen and her son Billy who are **sightseeing** in Washington. At the Abraham Lincoln Memorial, Klaatu reads the Gettysburg Address* and realises there is still hope for Earth after all. He eventually admits to Helen that he is an alien who has come to warn **earthlings** of the danger they **pose** to themselves. He informs her that they must work together to help save the planet, because trouble is ahead.



'Trouble' comes in the form of a giant robot named Gort. He emerges from his ship and destroys all the nearby weapons including tanks and guns. It seems the robot has caused this destruction quite easily, without using the full capacity of his powers. With Helen's help, Klaatu hopes he can save planet Earth and aims to stop the indestructible robot.

The 2008 version **draws from** both the short story and the original film. This time though, the alien machines are slightly different. The machines are more biological than mechanical, because director Scott Derrickson thought it seemed more logical. For this film, Keanu Reeves was selected to play Klaatu as a little less human than the original actor, Michael Rennie. Derrickson met with the director of the original film, Robert Wise. Derrickson wanted Wise's input on helping to modernise the film.

The Day the Earth Stood Still comes from the classic age of Hollywood cinema, and contains a positive message of **brotherhood** and **unity**. So, look to the stars this month – our galaxy co-inhabitants may be trying to tell us something. ✨



KEANU REEVES

Keanu Reeves has had an interesting life. He was born in Beirut to an American mother and a father of Chinese-Hawaiian ancestry. His father abandoned the family when Keanu was 13, and they apparently don't speak to one another now. Keanu **grew up** mainly in Toronto, Canada, though his family moved all around the world during his childhood. In 1989, he **got his big break** as an actor in *Bill and Ted's Excellent Adventure*. He later starred in many Hollywood **blockbusters**. He has appeared in very successful films such as *Point Break* (1991), *Speed* (1994) and *The Matrix* (1999). He also received excellent reviews for his **portrayal** as the lead role in Shakespeare's play *Much Ado about Nothing* (1993).

He has also had some success as a musician, too. He plays bass guitar for the grunge rock band *Dogstar*. Reeves met his band mate Robert Millhouse in a supermarket while talking about ice hockey (Reeves is an **avid** ice hockey fan). *Dogstar* went on to have some limited success in the 1990s. They appeared with Bon Jovi in 1995 in Australia.

It's hard to say what nationality Keanu Reeves is. Although he was born in Lebanon, he isn't a Lebanese citizen. He has also lived in Canada, the US and Australia. He has both UK and US citizenship. His life has been a bit of a **rollercoaster**, but he has found stability in his **steady** acting career. ✨



THE EARTH STOOD STILL

LONG-AWAITED REMAKE OF THE FAMOUS 1951 FILM OF THE SAME NAME, *THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL* IS A MODERN TAKE ON THE CLASSIC. THE STORY OF THE COMING OF THE POTENTIALLY-DESTRUCTIVE NUCLEAR WAR IS UPDATED TO A HUMAN-VERSUS-NATURE CONCEPT. STARRING KEANU REEVES AND JENNIFER CONNOLLY.

*The Gettysburg Address

The Gettysburg Address is a famous speech made by American President Abraham Lincoln. It is one of the most quoted speeches in the history of America, despite being only 10 sentences long. The speech was delivered on Thursday 19th November 1863, during the American Civil War. The speech was based on the ideas of human equality and "the new birth of freedom".



JENNIFER CONNOLLY

Jennifer Connolly is the leading actress in the film *The Day the Earth Stood Still*. She first entered show business as a child model. She became relatively well-known as an actress in 1986 when she starred alongside David Bowie in the children's fantasy film *Labyrinth*. She was in many other children's and teenage films over the coming years, but her career really **took off** in 2000. That year, she played a nearly-insane heroin addict in *Requiem for a Dream*, an adaptation of a book of the same name. She then starred alongside Russell Crowe in another book adaptation, *A Beautiful Mind* (2001). This role earned her an Oscar and a Golden Globe.

More recently, she has starred with Leonardo DiCaprio in *Blood Diamond* (2006), and was in yet another adaptation of a book called *Reservation Road* (2007). Viewers are awaiting her appearance in two other new films apart from her new sci-fi outing. One of these is *9*, an animated film in which she does the voice for a clever **rag doll**. She has

a varied and impressive CV, and is now **on top of her game** as the leading actress of this film.

Apart from her acting work, she is **the face of** the Spanish fashion house Balenciaga. She is married to Paul Bettany, an English actor, and has two sons. She is fluent in French and Italian. ✪



Keanu Reeves

Keanu Reeves was born on 2nd September, 1964 in Beirut, Lebanon. The word "Keanu" is a Hawaiian name which means "cool breeze over the mountains". Reeves' hobbies include surfing and horse-riding, both of which he learnt for film roles, and he learnt over 200 martial arts moves for *The Matrix* (1999). He is left-handed, but he learnt to play bass using his right hand. He plays in a band called Dogstar. Reeves was nicknamed "The Wall" in high school because he played goalie for his ice hockey team. He later had a job sharpening ice skates.

Jennifer Connolly

Jennifer Connolly was born on 12th December 1970 in Catskill Mountains, New York. In three of her films – *Dark City* (1998), *Requiem for a Dream* (2000), and *House of Sand and Fog* (2003) – there is a **striking** image of Connolly standing alone at the end of a **pier**. Apparently this is entirely coincidental. Connolly starred in *A Beautiful Mind* (2001) with Russell Crowe and earned a Golden Globe and an Oscar. Connolly speaks French and Italian.

GLOSSARY

- to deal with** *vb*
if a film or book "deals with" a particular thing, it has that thing as its subject
- mankind** *n*
"mankind" refers to all human beings when considering them as a group
- to warn** *vb*
if you "warn" someone about a problem, you tell them about it so they are aware of it
- a flying saucer** *n*
a round alien spaceship
- sightseeing** *n*
when a tourist travels around a city and looks at monuments, museums, etc
- earthlings** *n*
a Hollywood sci-fi term for humans
- to pose** *vb*
if something "poses" a problem or danger, it is the cause of that problem or danger
- to draw from** *exp*
to take knowledge and inspiration from certain things
- brotherhood** *n*
the affection and loyalty that you feel for people in which you share something in common
- unity** *n*
the state of different groups or areas being joined together to form a single country or organisation
- to grow up** *exp*
when a child "grows up" he or she gradually changes into an adult
- to get your big break** *exp*
if you "get your big break" in the entertainment industry, you obtain a role that makes you famous
- a blockbuster** *n*
a very successful film
- a portrayal** *n*
an actor's "portrayal" of a character in a film or play is the way that actor plays the character
- avid** *adj*
very enthusiastic
- a rollercoaster** *n*
if you say someone has a "rollercoaster" of a life, you mean that they go through many dramatic changes in a short time
- steady** *adj*
stable; constant
- to take off** *exp*
if a career "takes off", it becomes successful
- a rag doll** *n*
a children's toy that is a soft doll made of cloth
- on top of your game** *exp*
at your most successful; in control; at your best
- the face of** *exp*
the most important model in a corporate advertising campaign
- striking** *adj*
very noticeable; unusual
- a pier** *n*
a platform sticking out into the water, which people can walk on to get on and off boats

2008 Best of



Best Baby Name

It seems like every year celebrities name their children really, really weird names. In 2008, we welcomed the birth of twins Knox Leon

Jolie-Pitt and Vivienne Marcheline Jolie-Pitt to "Brangelina" (Brad Pitt and Angelina Jolie). Actor Matt Damon also became a father to the strangely named Gia Zavala Damon. But without a doubt, the winner of Hot English's Best Baby Name of 2008 goes to the celebrity baby who is the son of **proud** parents Gwen Stefani (singer of *No Doubt*) and Gavin Rossdale (*Bush* front man), the very adorable and oddly-named... Zuma Nesta Rock Rossdale.



Best Film

2008 was an exciting year for films. New additions to established series were especially popular. The fourth Indiana Jones film, *The Kingdom of the Crystal*

Skull, became a huge success. James Bond put on his **tuxedo** once more in *Quantum of Solace*. Superhero movies were also big in 2008, including *Hancock*, *Iron Man* and the **parody** *Superhero Movie*. Meanwhile, musicals and "**dansicals**" continued their success, as we danced in our seats to *Step Up 2: The Streets* and the Abba **tribute** *Mamma Mia*. But Hot English's winner for 2008's Best Film is a film with all the necessary elements of greatness, including plenty of action, adventure, the fabulous Christian Bale, and a sociopath Joker... *The Dark Knight*.



Best Story

2008 was a scandalous year for young female celebrities. Television star Jamie Lynn Spears, younger sister of internationally-famed

singer Britney Spears, announced she was pregnant. The scandal? She was only 16-years-old, which is below the legal age of consent in California. Another bit of controversy was a provocative photo published in *Vogue* magazine of 15-year-old pop star and actress Miley Cyrus. Cyrus was wearing only a **bed**

sheet. She is considered a **role model** to thousands of teens across America. So, who is our scandalous winner for the year? Hot English gives the title to the moose-hunting, expensive suit-wearing, Caribou Barbie, Governor of Alaska... Sarah Palin.



Best Olympian

Wow! What a year it has been for sports. The United States' Michael Phelps left the 2008 Olympics with a record-breaking number of medals. He was the first

athlete to ever win eight gold medals in a single Olympics, which is an amazing achievement. Indeed, if Michael Phelps had been a country, he would have ranked fifth in the medals table. Usain Bolt is another record-breaker. The Jamaican **sprinter** is the first man in history to break the world records in the 4x100 metres relay, 100 metres, and the 200 metres all in a single Olympics. It's no surprise he earned the nickname "Lightning Bolt". But Hot English's winner is a different Olympian swimmer – the all-star, 9-time medallist, and 41-year-old mother swimming dynamo... Dana Torres.



Best Book

This year, the Pulitzer Prize for Fiction was awarded to Junot Diaz for *The Brief Wondrous Life of Oscar Wao*.

The novel is about the immigrant experience of a Dominican-American. The Man Booker Prize was awarded to Aravind Adiga for *The White Tiger*. It is a complicated story of one man's insight into the world of the upper class in India. But these aren't the only books that everybody is talking about. Another splendid book is a novel from the fantasy series *Twilight*. The series has been a huge success, has been translated into 20 languages, and has sold 50 million copies around the world. A film is currently being produced about the "vampire romance" tales. The series is about a young teenager who falls in love with a vampire. But Hot English's winner is a novel in the 4-part series that was released this year to the delight of fans everywhere. The nationally-and internationally-recognised book... *Breaking Dawn* by Stephanie Meyer. ❖

Miley Cyrus

Miley Cyrus (born Destiny Hope Cyrus) is an American actress and singer-songwriter, born on 23rd November 1992 in Tennessee. She gained the nickname "Miley" because she constantly smiled as a child ("Smiley"). Cyrus shot to stardom when she won the lead role of Hannah Montana on the Disney Channel programme of the same name. On the show, she plays a schoolgirl who is also a pop star. Coincidentally, her real-life father plays her screen father. With the help of her show, Cyrus has released a number of "Hannah Montana" albums, and starred in "Hannah Montana: The Movie".



Stephanie Meyer

Stephanie Meyer was born on 24th December 1973 in Connecticut, in the United States. She has recently achieved phenomenal success as the author of the *Twilight* series, which focuses on the relationship between Bella Swan and the vampire Edward Cullen. Meyer says that the idea came to her in a dream. She released her first novel within three months after that dream.



GLOSSARY

- proud** *adj*
if you feel "proud", you feel good about something you've done or about something you have
- a tuxedo** *n*
a black or white suit worn by men at formal events, such as a wedding
- a parody** *n*
a humorous piece of writing, drama or music that imitates a well-known person or situation
- a dansical** *n*
a fictional word used to describe a film that features many dance scenes and only a little or no singing
- a tribute** *n*
a film / programme that shows admiration and respect for someone
- a bed sheet** *n*
a large piece of cloth that you sleep on or cover yourself with in a bed
- a role model** *n*
if you are a "role model", many people admire you and try to imitate you
- a sprinter** *n*
a person who runs in short, fast races
- brief** *adj*
something that only lasts for a short time

The Best to Come 2009

SO, WHAT'S GOING TO HAPPEN IN 2009? HOT ENGLISH HAS HEARD SOME EXCITING RUMOURS FOR THE NEW YEAR.

2009 Music

2009 looks like an interesting year, musically speaking. The airwaves will be filled with the new sounds from your favourite bands...



● Coldplay



● Bruce Springsteen



● U2

And, also some new albums from...



● Ryan Adams



● Lily Allen



● Sonic Youth

2009 Films

Here are some upcoming films for 2009 that are sure to entertain audiences everywhere.

● *Fame* – a remake of the 1980 musical about students at the New York Academy of Performing Arts.



● *Confessions of a Shopaholic* – a comedy about a recent university graduate who gets a job as a financial journalist so that she can support her out-of-control shopping habit.



● *The Imaginarium of Doctor Parnassus* – a fantasy film about a travelling theatre group who gives the audience a terrific thrill.



Big News for 2009

New US Presidential Administration

The 44th US President Barack Hussein Obama will be inaugurated on 20th January 2009. The ceremony will take place in Washington, D.C. Obama's inauguration signifies the beginning of his term as President, and marks the end of the Bush administration.



The most anticipated film for 2009 is *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. The film stars Daniel Radcliffe as Harry Potter. Potter begins his 6th year at Hogwarts, and finds a potions book with the phrase "Property of the Half-Blood Prince" written on every page. He is intrigued by the book, and it helps him learn many secret and dangerous potions to defeat his foes. When interviewed about the Harry Potter film, Radcliffe says, "If this doesn't get you exhilarated, then nothing in life will excite you."

As you can see, there is a lot to look forward to for next year. Prepare yourself... ✨



Face to Face



Infernal Affairs VS The Departed

THIS MONTH, WE'RE LOOKING AT THE HONG KONG FILM *INFERNAL AFFAIRS* AND ITS AMERICAN REMAKE *THE DEPARTED*. THEY WERE BOTH SUCCESSFUL AND ORIGINAL IN THEIR OWN WAYS.

Infernal Affairs (2002) had a **star-studded** cast of prominent Chinese actors. It also **revived the fortunes of** the Hong Kong movie world. The Chinese name for the film was a reference to the Buddhist concept of **Hell**. The title was translated into English as *Infernal Affairs*, which is a **play on words**, mixing the name **Internal Affairs** with the Latin word for Hell, ("Inferno").

The plot for *Infernal Affairs* is quite complex. Chan Wing-Yan (played by Tony Leung Chiu-Wai) is a **cop**. He **works undercover** for the police. It is his responsibility to **infiltrate** the Triads, (the Chinese Mafia). Another character in the film is Lau Kin-Ming (played by Andy Lau). He is a member of the Triads. He joins the police. Eventually, Chan is trying to find the **infiltrator** in the police; and Lau is trying to find the

infiltrator in the Triads. They don't realise it, but they are both looking for one another. Interestingly, the film has two alternative endings, which appear on the DVD.

The Departed (2006) is similar to *Infernal Affairs*. However, it has its own original component. Director Martin Scorsese based his film on the Boston-Irish **mob**. Scorsese, a master of the Italian Mafia **genre**, switched cultures to **portray** the Irish experience in America. He did this by telling the story of real-life gangster Whitey Bulger from the 1970s until the 1990s.

Scorsese's complicated story follows Billy (Leonardo di Caprio). Billy is a **rookie** cop who infiltrates the Irish mob. Billy's life **falls apart** as he tries to remain sane in his job. Meanwhile, Costello (Jack Nicholson), the leader of the

Irish mob, has infiltrated the State Police. He has instructed Colin (Matt Damon) to become a police officer. Colin becomes the successful leader of an anti-crime task force, all the while supplying Costello with information. Both Billy and Colin are aware of the other's existence, though they don't know the other's identity. The story evolves into a race against time for one to find the other first. The film was well-received, and it won Scorsese the Oscar for Best Director. In total, the film won four Oscars.

Both films have shown remarkable originality, and it is testimony to Martin Scorsese's skill as a director that he remade a great movie with an extra unique touch. Both films have received rave reviews, despite their complex stories. So, the winner is... *Infernal Affairs* = 9/10; *The Departed* = 9/10. It's a tie! ★

James and Billy Bulger

James "Whitey" Bulger was born in 1929 in Dorchester, Massachusetts. He was the most prominent **mobster** in the Boston **underworld** from the 1970s until his escape from justice in 1994. James was accused of numerous felonies, including murder, and is still on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted List along with Osama Bin Laden. James' brother Billy was a powerful politician in Massachusetts for many years. It has been alleged that Billy Bulger (the politician) conspired with or at least **sheltered** his older brother from justice.



GLOSSARY

- star-studded** *adj*
with many famous people involved
- to revive the fortunes of** *exp*
when something's "fortunes are revived" their luck is better because they are becoming successful again
- Hell** *n*
in some religions, "hell" is the place where the devil lives or where wicked people go after they die
- play on words** *exp*
a clever and amusing use of a word or phrase with more than one meaning
- Internal Affairs** *n*
the anti-corruption unit within the police
- a cop** *n slang* a police officer
- to work undercover** *exp*
if a police is "working undercover", he or she is doing secret police work
- to infiltrate** *vb*
if someone "infiltrates" an organisation or place, they enter it secretly to spy or to influence it
- an infiltrator** *n*
the person who infiltrates an organisation or place
- the mob** *n inform*
"the mob" are the people involved in organised crime
- a genre** *n*
a type of film, music, or literature
- to portray** *vb*
to show; to demonstrate; to explain
- a rookie** *n*
a police officer who has just graduated from a police academy
- to fall apart** *phr vb*
if someone's life "falls apart", it becomes disorganised, difficult and unmanageable
- a mobster** *n*
a gangster; an organised criminal
- the underworld** *n*
the "underworld" in a city is the organised crime there and the people involved in it
- to shelter** *vb*
if you "shelter" someone, you try to protect them



CHARMING. GOOD-LOOKING. GENEROUS. THESE ARE JUST SOME WORDS TO DESCRIBE PAUL NEWMAN, THE LEGENDARY ACTOR WHO SADLY DIED OF LUNG CANCER ON 26TH SEPTEMBER 2008.

Paul Newman tried several things before becoming an actor. His first performance was when he appeared in a school production of Robin Hood as the court **jester**. After high school, he joined the Navy Air Corps with the hope of becoming a pilot. However, tests revealed that he was **colour blind** and unfortunately could not be a pilot. So, he served as a radio operator for three years instead. After this time, he attended Kenyon College in Ohio and graduated in 1949. As well as playing football, he also acted in many plays. Paul **indulged** his interest by acting in small theatre productions for a few years, to the displeasure of his father, who believed that acting wasn't a "real" career.

It seemed as though his destiny was to be a star. He had problems getting some parts in TV shows, but eventually Hollywood **knocked on his door** in 1954. He was chosen to star as a Greek slave in the film *The Silver Chalice*, but later commented that he thought this was the worst film he ever made. This experience caused him to **turn his back** on Hollywood for a while and return to theatre.

But he couldn't ignore Hollywood for long. His first Oscar nomination for Best Actor was in 1958 for the film version of Tennessee Williams' *Cat on a Hot Tin Roof*. This film was about an alcoholic son (played by Newman) who reflects on his life when he finds out his father is dying of cancer. Three years later, he was nominated

again for his part in *The Hustler* (1961), where he proved he was more than a **pretty boy** idol. After 10 nominations, he finally won his first and only Academy Award for Best Actor in Martin Scorsese's *The Color of Money* (1986) where he played a **pool shark** opposite Tom Cruise.

Acting wasn't his only passion though. He was very interested in politics, and was a **keen** supporter of liberal issues. In 2006, he reportedly ran as a Democratic Senatorial candidate in Connecticut, and also actively fought for gay rights and same-sex marriage. Also, a lesser-known fact about Newman is that he was a **humanitarian** and an active **entrepreneur**. He invented a salad dressing called "Newman's Own" and established a policy that all proceeds would go to charity. He generously gave every penny of the profits, which added up to over 250 million dollars.

History will surely remember Paul Newman as a cinema icon, but he was far more than an actor. He once said, "I'd like to be remembered as a guy who tried... tried to be part of his times, tried to help people communicate with one another, tried to find some decency in his own life, tried to extend himself as a human being. Someone who isn't **complacent**, who doesn't **cop out**". Apart from his films, his generosity of spirit and commitment to worthy causes will be remembered and continue to inspire others. ✨

Paul Newman
Born in Ohio on 26th January 1925, and died aged 83 on 26th September 2008. Newman is an American actor whose film credits include the title roles in *Cool Hand Luke* (1967) and *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid* (1969). The actor wrote of himself that he, "purely by accident had fifty-one films and four Broadway plays" to his credit. He set up a salad dressing business called "Newman's Own", and donated all the money to charity.



Paul Newman quotes

"You only grow when you are alone."

"If you don't have enemies, you don't have character"

"Show me a good loser and I will show you a loser."

"If you're playing a poker game and you look around the table and can't tell who the sucker is, it's you."

"You can't be as old as I am without waking up with a surprised look on your face every morning: 'Holy Christ, whaddya know - I'm still around!' It's absolutely amazing that I survived all the booze and smoking and the cars and the career."

GLOSSARY

- a jester** *n*
during Medieval times in Europe, a "jester" was the person who did silly things to make people laugh
- colour blind** *adj*
someone who is "colour blind" cannot see the difference between colours, especially between red and green
- to indulge** *vb*
if you "indulge" in something, you allow yourself to do something that you know you will like
- to knock on someone's door** *exp*
if something "knocks on your door", it comes to you or approaches you
- to turn one's back** *exp*
to abandon
- a pretty boy** *exp*
a good-looking guy
- a pool shark** *exp*
someone who is very good at billiards
- keen** *adj*
if you are "keen" on something, you are enthusiastic about it or very interested in it
- a humanitarian** *n*
a "humanitarian" wants to prevent other people from suffering or to help those who are suffering
- an entrepreneur** *n*
a person who starts their own business
- complacent** *adj*
if you are "complacent", you are satisfied with yourself and your achievements, and you are often unaware of any potential problems or dangers
- to cop out** *exp*
if you think something is a "cop out", you think that it is a way for someone to avoid doing something that they should do



LITTLE JOKES GRAFFITI

MATCH EACH JOKE BEGINNING (1 TO 8) WITH ITS ENDING (A-H). THEN, LISTEN TO CHECK YOUR ANSWERS. ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1. Did you hear about the shoe factory that **burnt down**?
2. Did you ever hear the story about the broken pencil?
3. What driver doesn't have a **licence**?
4. Why do French people eat **snails**?
5. Customer: Waiter, this food tastes **funny**!
6. How do you keep an idiot amused for hours?
7. Why was the Egyptian boy worried?
8. What kind of pet did Aladdin have?



- a. Nevermind, it's **pointless**.
- b. Give him a piece of paper with "please turn over" written on both sides.
- c. Waiter: Then why aren't you laughing?
- d. 200 **soles** were lost.
- e. Because his daddy was a mummy.
- f. A **screwdriver**.
- g. A flying car-pet!
- h. Because they don't like fast food.

GLOSSARY
to burn down *exp*
 to destroy by fire
a licence *n*
 an official document that gives you permission to do or use something
a snail *n*
 a small animal that moves very slowly and has a spiral-shaped shell
funny *adj*
 if food tastes "funny", then it tastes strange or bad
pointless *adj*
 a) without a sense or purpose
 b) with no sharp point at the end of a pencil
a sole *n*
 the "sole" of a foot or a shoe is the part underneath it
a screwdriver *n*
 a tool used for turning screws

HERE ARE SOME MORE EXAMPLES OF BRITISH TOILET GRAFFITI.

REMEMBER THAT YOU ARE ABSOLUTELY UNIQUE. JUST LIKE EVERYBODY ELSE.

IF RELIGION WERE BASED ON CHEESECAKE, I WOULD BE THE MOST DEVOTED FOLLOWER EVER.

I HAD A HANDLE ON LIFE, BUT IT BROKE.

LAST NIGHT I LAY IN BED LOOKING UP AT THE STARS IN THE SKY AND I THOUGHT TO MYSELF, WHERE THE HECK IS THE CEILING?

WHEN YOU'RE IN LOVE, AN HOUR SEEMS LIKE A SECOND. HOWEVER, WHEN YOU SIT ON A RED-HOT CINDER, A SECOND SEEMS LIKE AN HOUR. THAT'S RELATIVITY.

GLOSSARY
a devoted follower *n*
 a loyal person who supports a cause, group or belief
to have a handle on something *exp*
 to have something under control. Literally, a "handle" is something you hold to pick up an object
the heck *exp inform*
 an expression used for emphasis or exaggeration
a cinder *n*
 a piece of blackened material left after something burns

ELEPHANT BY DANIEL COULTONE



Misheard Lyrics

HERE ARE SOME MORE OF THOSE DIFFICULT-TO-UNDERSTAND SONG LYRICS. SEE IF YOU CAN IDENTIFY THE CORRECT ONES. ANSWERS ON PAGE 65



GLOSSARY
a casbah *n*
 a palace or castle in northern Africa
a shimmy *n*
 if you "shimmy", you dance in a way that involves shaking your hips and shoulders from side to side

1 The title of a Britney Spears' song is...
 a. Oops, I'm living again.
 b. Oops, I did it again.



5 Def Leppard wrote a song called...
 a. Awesome **shimmy**, André.
 b. Pour some sugar on me.



2 What are the correct lyrics for this Beatles song?
 a. We all live in a yellow submarine.
 b. We all love to yell at some marine.



6 There is a Bee Gee song called...
 a. More Than a Woman.
 b. Bald-Headed Woman.



3 Oasis wrote a song called...
 a. Don't look back in anger.
 b. Don't look back at angels.



7 U2's song is actually titled...
 a. Sunday, Bloody Sunday.
 b. Someday, Buddy, Someday.



4 The name of a famous song by The Clash is...
 a. Rock the **Casbah**.
 b. Rock the Catbox.



8 What is the correct title to the Blink 182 song?
 a. Where's my Asian friend?
 b. What's my age again?





READING I

Do you **get scared** easily? Your reaction to a scary movie is more about your genes than your **courage**, researchers now say. Psychologists at Germany's University of Bonn conducted a study to see why some people are frightened when they see a horror movie and others are not. Their results help explain anxiety, and what causes some people to be more anxiety-**prone**. It **comes down to** a gene, called COMT. There are two different "versions" of the COMT gene. If a person has one copy of both types of the COMT gene, they are less likely to be afraid, or "**startled**" when seeing unpleasant images. However, people with only one type of the COMT gene **scare** more easily. These people are more anxious and "find it harder to **keep their emotions in check**," say researchers.

Researchers tested 96 women for this "startle effect". The group of women had different variations of the COMT gene. Three types of pictures were shown to the women:

"emotionally pleasant" images, "neutral" images, and "**aversive**" images.

Women with two copies of one type of the COMT gene were much more startled by the "aversive" pictures than those women with one copy of both

types. Psychologist Christian Montag, from the University of Bonn, says the "anxiety version of the gene may help survival by creating **wariness** – it is an advantage to be more anxious in a dangerous environment." ❖



It's a scream!

Why movies scare.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre reading

What scares you? Rank the following from 1 (most frightening) to 6 (least frightening).

- horror films
- staying home alone
- walking down a dark alley way at night
- spiders
- bridges
- clowns and dolls

2 Reading I

Why do you think people get scared when they watch horror films? Do you think there is a scientific explanation? Read the article and check your ideas.

3 Reading II

In your own words, explain the following words / expressions from the article.

1. COMT
2. anxiety
3. genes
4. the "startle effect" test

4 Language focus

In English, "get" is a very common verb and is often used with adjectives. For example, in the sentence, "Do you get scared easily?", the meaning is "to become". Answer the questions below for more practise.

5 Discussion

Here are some more questions using the verb "get".

1. Do you get scared easily? When?
2. How often do you get really angry? Why?
3. Do you get tired at work? What is the most tiring moment of the day / week for you?

GLOSSARY

- to get scared** *exp*
to become frightened
- courage** *n*
if someone has "courage", they do something difficult even if they are afraid
- prone** *adj*
if someone is "prone" to something, they have a tendency to do that thing
- to come down to** *exp*
if a problem or question "comes down to" a particular thing, that thing is the most important factor involved
- to startle** *vb*
if something "startles" you, it frightens or surprises you
- to scare** *vb*
to frighten
- to keep in check** *exp*
if you "keep in check" something, you control it and prevent it from having too much power
- aversive** *adj*
unfavourable; negative
- wariness** *n*
cautiousness; the act of being careful



Trouble in Paradise

Matrimonial nightmares.

Ready to say "I do"? American marriages have a 50% success rate, according to recent statistics. So, nowadays, it's common to have a **pre-nuptial agreement**. It **outlines** the **assets** for each **spouse** so that both parties get what they want out of the marriage in the event of a divorce. US matrimonial lawyer Raoul Fender says people are including some **pretty weird** clauses, though, just in case.

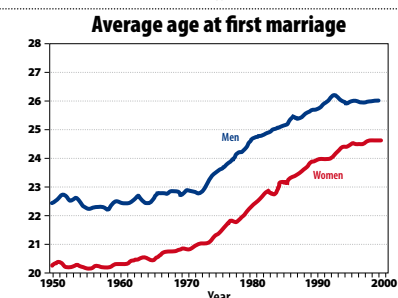
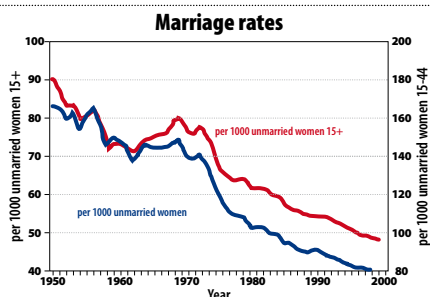
There is a wide range of clauses, but money is usually the main topic of a pre-nup. Often couples will state who

gets what if the marriage ends in divorce. Some people also include a "**chores**" clause, which outlines who will do things like take out the rubbish and do the **laundry**. Then there are the "no smoking in the house" clauses, for spouses of smokers. Sometimes spouses even specify who gets **frequent flyer miles** or opera tickets. Last, there is the question of cheating. Rich grooms sometimes put in clauses such as, "If I **cheat on** you and we divorce, you get X amount of dollars. But if you cheat on me, you get a lot less." How's that for taking the romance out of marriage? ☹

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre reading

Look at the diagrams below. What do they tell you about marriage trends?



2 Pre reading II

1. What do you think the success rate of marriages is in your country? Estimate a percentage.
 2. How about in the USA? Before reading the article, guess what percentage of marriages are successful.
- Now, read and check.

3 Reading I

Note down four examples of pre-nuptial clauses from the article.

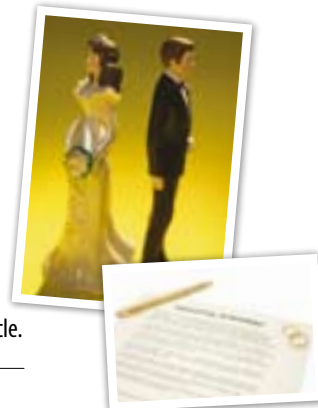
1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____

4 Phrasal Verb Focus

We have lots of interesting phrasal verbs to talk about relationships in English. Can you find one in the article which means to have a relationship with someone other than your partner?

5 Discussion

1. What do you think about the pre-nuptial agreements from the article? Do you agree with them? Why? Why not?
2. How has the concept of marriage changed over the years?
3. Why do you think divorce rates are rising?
4. What do you think makes a successful marriage?



GLOSSARY

a pre-nuptial agreement *n*
a contract that couples can sign before marriage

to outline *vb*
to explain something in a general way

an asset *n*
your "assets" are all the possessions that you own

a spouse *n*
your husband or wife

pretty weird *exp*
very strange or very unusual

a chore *n*
a boring or unpleasant task that you must do

laundry *n*
clothes that are about to be washed or were just washed

frequent flyer miles *n*
if an airline gives you "frequent flyer miles", it gives you points every time you fly. After flying often,

clients can use their points to buy airline tickets.

to cheat on *exp inform*
if you "cheat on someone", you have a romantic relationship with someone other than your partner



HERE ARE SOME COMMON WORDS, OBJECTS OR PEOPLE THAT YOU WILL SEE AT A RESTAURANT.



Chef – a person who cooks the food in a hotel or

restaurant.



Waiter / waitress – a man / woman who works in a

restaurant and serves food and drinks to the customers.



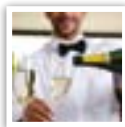
Host / Hostess – a man / woman who greets the

customers in the restaurant and then takes them to a table.



A menu – a list of the food and drinks available in the

restaurant.



Bartender – a person who serves drinks behind a bar.



A booth – a small area separated from a larger public

area. The booth has thin walls or screens so people can dine privately.



A pitcher – a jug or large container that holds water or another beverage.



Appetizers / starters – the first course of the meal that

is generally a small amount of food.



A napkin – a square piece of cloth or paper that you

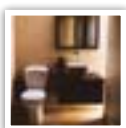
use when you are eating to protect your clothes, or to wipe your mouth and hands.



A coaster – a small mat that you put underneath a

glass to protect the surface of the table.

Toilet (“restroom” in US English) – a place where you go use the toilet,



often in a public place.



The main course (“entrée” in US English)

– the principal plate of food at a restaurant or formal banquet. It is often meat or fish.



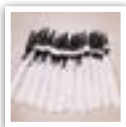
A dessert

– something sweet that you eat at the end of the meal, such as a pie or pudding.



A tablecloth – a piece of fabric that covers a

table at a restaurant.



Cutlery (“utensils” in US English)

– the knives, spoons and forks with which you eat your food.

A cash register – a machine in a bar or



restaurant that is used to add up and record how much money people pay, and is also used to store the money.



An oven –

an electrical appliance in a kitchen. It consists of a box with a door that cooks and heats food.



A frying pan – a metal pan with a long handle that a cook uses to fry food.



A bill – a piece of paper that you receive after you finish eating that says the price of the meal.



A tip – extra money you give to a waiter / waitress to say thanks for their services. In the US, it is customary to leave an additional 15-20% for the waiter / waitress. ✪



(NOT SO) TYPICAL DIALOGUES

The Restaurant

IN THIS DIALOGUE, JOSEPH GOES TO A RESTAURANT.

Joesph: Good afternoon.
Waitress: Good afternoon.
Joesph: A table for one, please.
Waitress: Sure, right this way. Have a seat. Now, what can I get you?
Joesph: I'll have a steak, please.
Waitress: Very well. Here you go.
Joesph: No, not a cake. A steak. I want a steak.
Waitress: Oh, I'm sorry.
Joesph: I would like a steak... with **chips**.
Waitress: No problem. I'll be right back with your order. *[five minutes later]*
Joesph: What are these?
Waitress: Chips.
Joesph: No, they aren't.
Waitress: Aren't they?
Joesph: No, they're clips.
Waitress: **Clips?** That cook. He's **useless**. I'll tell him. *[to the cook]* Hey, Benny, you gave this guy clips. He wants chips! *[to Joseph]* Sorry, he gets confused sometimes. *[The waitress goes away and comes back with a plate of food.]* Here's your real order.
Joesph: Well, thanks for the steak, but there still aren't any chips. Can't you get a better **chef**?
Waitress: Well, we could. But we like him. He can make **balloon animals**. The customers really like that. But he can't even make chips. It's easy.
Joesph: Is it?
Waitress: Yes, you just get some potatoes...
Joesph: Yes, you just get some potatoes...
Waitress: Wait, let me write this down. OK.



Ready.
Joesph: So, you get some potatoes.
Waitress: OK... potatoes...
Joesph: Yes, and you cut them up.
Waitress: With a knife?
Joesph: Yes, with a knife.
Waitress: OK. And then?
Joesph: And then, you **fry** them in some oil.
Waitress: Is that all? That sounds simple enough. Thanks a lot. I'll just go and tell the chef.
Joesph: Will he make me some chips, then?
Waitress: Well, I don't know. He's a bit slow.
Joesph: OK. I'll be here. Waiting. For my chips.
Waitress: OK, well, good luck. And, hey, thanks for the **recipe**.
Joesph: No problem.
Waitress: Oh, and the cook told me to give you this. It's a balloon dog for you to play with while you wait.
Joesph: Great, thanks. ✪

GLOSSARY

chips *n*
long, crunchy pieces of potato that are usually served hot with a meal

useless *adj*
if someone is "useless", they are not helpful

chef *n*
a cook in a restaurant or hotel

balloon animals *n*
animals made from small, thin rubber bags filled with air

to fry *vb*
to cook food in a pan that contains hot fat or oil

a recipe *n*
a list of instructions that explain how to cook something

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DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC

starting something

THIS MONTH, WE ARE LOOKING AT SOME EXPRESSIONS TO DESCRIBE STARTING SOMETHING.



hit the ground running
TO BEGIN A TASK WITH LOTS OF ENTHUSIASM AND ENERGY.
"Jonathan has hit the ground running on that marketing project. He already found five sponsors!"



start the ball rolling
TO START SOMETHING HAPPENING.
"I've started the ball rolling by making a few phone calls."



be in business
TO BE ABLE TO START SOMETHING BECAUSE YOU ALREADY HAVE SOMETHING PREPARED.
"As soon as I get the files out, we're in business."



get off/start off on the wrong foot
TO BEGIN BADLY.
"We had an argument after just one week – we really got off on the wrong foot."



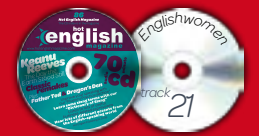
from the word "go"
FROM THE VERY BEGINNING.
"I knew from the word go that we weren't going to get on."



wipe the slate clean
TO GIVE SOMEONE ANOTHER CHANCE AND OVERLOOK PAST INDISCRETIONS / CRIMES / TROUBLE..
"Once the students were punished, the slate was wiped clean."



start from scratch
TO START SOMETHING AGAIN FROM THE BEGINNING WITHOUT USING ANYTHING THAT HAS BEEN PREVIOUSLY USED.
"Starting to build the home from scratch was both challenging and rewarding."



RIDDLES &

quirky news



Fusionman

Flying like a bird.



// If I calculate everything right, I will land in Dover. But if I get it wrong, I take a bath," said Yves Rossing. Rossing is from Britain, and he calls himself "Fusionman". This 47-year-old is already a pilot, but said that he wanted "to show that it is possible to fly a little bit like a bird". So Yves flew across the English Channel only using a **jet pack**. He is the first person ever to do this.

Yves took just 13 minutes to fly from France to England, and travelled at over 190kmph. The jet pack was **custom-made** for him. The only problem was that he had nothing to use for **steering** the jet pack. So, Yves had to use his head and his body to change direction.

Yves has big plans for the future. His next voyage will be flying over the Grand Canyon. *

A Drafty Ride

Nude flights for naturists.

// I wish I could say we thought of it ourselves, but the idea came from a customer," said Enrico Heston, the managing director of the travel agency. Now, his travel agency's website is offering a trial **nudist** day trip from Erfurt to the Baltic Sea resort of Usedom.

The holidaying nudists will be able to **strip down** on the plane on the way to their destination.



"It's an unusual **gap in the market**," Heston admits.

"The 55 passengers must remain clothed until they **board**, and dress again before **disembarking**." However, Heston specifies, the crew will remain clothed throughout the flight for safety reasons. Naturism, or "free body culture" as it is known in Germany,



was very popular before the Second World War. However, once the war began, naturism was **banned**. The **trend** has **blossomed** again in recent years, and the travel agency wants to celebrate this liberty. "I don't want people to **get the wrong idea**. It's not that we're starting a mid-air **swinger club** or something like that," said Mr. Heston. "We're a perfectly normal holiday company." *

GLOSSARY

- a jet pack** *n*
a jet-powered backpack used typically by astronauts in space
- custom-made** *adj*
if something is "custom-made", it is designed specifically for someone
- to steer** *vb*
if you "steer" something, you move controls so it turns
- a nudist** *n*
a person who participates in organized activities without clothes
- to strip down** *exp*
to take off clothing
- a gap in the market** *exp*
an opportunity to sell something because there is a demand for it
- to board** *vb*
to enter an aeroplane, boat, etc.
- to disembark** *vb*
to get off of a boat, aeroplane, etc.
- to ban** *vb*
if you are "banned" from doing something, you are officially prevented from doing that thing
- a trend** *n*
if someone or something "sets a trend", they do something that becomes fashionable and popular
- to blossom** *vb*
to develop successfully
- to get the wrong idea** *exp*
to have an inaccurate impression or perception of something
- a swinger club** *n*
a club or bar where single people go to meet other people

Riddles

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

- 1** Take me out of a box, and scratch my head. What now is black, once was red. What am I?
- 2** What is once in a minute, twice in a moment, but never in a second?
- 3** A woman who is pushing her car stops outside a hotel and immediately goes bankrupt. Explain how. *

Breathing Fire

IMAGINE YOU **CAME UP WITH** A GREAT INVENTION OR INGENUOUS BUSINESS IDEA. NOW, THE ONLY THINGS YOU NEED ARE THE RIGHT CONTACTS AND ENOUGH MONEY. WELL, THE IDEA BEHIND THE TELEVISION PROGRAMME *DRAGONS' DEN* IS TO PROVIDE THESE RESOURCES... THAT IS, IF YOU CAN SURVIVE IN THE DEN.



The show gives a unique opportunity to potential **entrepreneurs**. Anyone, from an inventor to a housewife to a kid, can **pitch** a business idea to a group of investors (the Dragons). The Dragons have the option to **hand over** their hard-earned cash for a percentage in the prospective company.

The idea for the programme has been around for several years. The original version was called *Money Tiger*, which started in Japan in 2001. It was the first of its kind dealing with investments. It has gone on to have many similar versions around the globe including in the United Kingdom, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, Israel (*The Sharks*) and Finland (*Lions' Den*).



It is difficult to gain support from the Dragons, because they see many flawed ideas. The contestants inevitably **fall into the trap** of being **overambitious** in valuing their idea. They often have inaccurate



turnover figures, miscalculated **budgets**, or an underdeveloped idea that would never work. The "angels" quickly **turn into** "dragons" if they see that the contestant hasn't **thought out** his or her idea properly.

So, who are these fire-breathing investors?



Deborah Meaden (49) – Born in Somerset. One of her first jobs was as a model in a fashion house. She later went to business school and took over her family's holiday park business. She sold it for £33m, and then invested in a **market research** company. She is known on the show as being **harsh** towards contestants and is the only female investor.



Duncan Bannatyne (57) – A Scottish entrepreneur, and the most humanitarian of all the Dragons. He has received an OBE (Order of the British Empire) for his investment in charities. His first venture was an ice cream business which he bought for £400 and later sold for £28,000. After this, he founded a nursing home business and later sold it for £46 million. He now spends his time running his chain of health clubs. He is always portrayed as the bad guy, but is honest about which ideas interest him. They generally do not include anything involving technology.



Peter Jones (42) – Brought up in Maidenhead, England. At just 16-years-old, he set up his own tennis academy. He then took an interest in computers and set up a telecommunications firm worth over £200m. His **trademark** is having regular conflicts with Duncan over business deals on the show.



Theo Paphitis (49) – Originally from Cyprus, but brought up in London. His first job was as a **tea boy** at an insurance company. In the past, he was chairman of Millwall FC, but nowadays he owns a group of stores which have a turnover of £350m. He is **frank** and funny, and his most commonly used line is, "And I should give you some of my kids' inheritance because...?" His motto in business is "KISS" (Keep It Simple Stupid) and he is known for his common sense.



James Caan (48) – British, but of Pakistani origin from Lahore. He changed his name to James Caan, (after an actor who starred in *The Godfather*). The fact that he changed his name to a famous person **opened many doors** for him in the business world. He moved into HR, and now runs a private equity company which specialises in real estate. His passions are vintage cars and flying planes. He is **laid-back** and quiet, but shows his excitement quickly when he sees an idea with potential.

The investors have a tendency to support practical and logical pitches. To succeed on the show, it's important to value your business at a realistic price, and to know your product **inside-out**. If you come up with a new invention, it's essential to have a patent for it, and to do lots of research in advance. And lastly, it never hurts to be environmentally-friendly. So, do you have what it takes to enter the den? ✨

Dragons' Den

Dragons' Den is a television programme that began in Japan in 2001, and has since spread around the world to countries such as Australia, Canada, and New Zealand. In the UK, the series began in 2005 and has aired six series to date, not including the charity edition called *Junior Dragons' Den*. In the show, candidates present business ideas to the "Dragons" (a group of investors), and try to persuade these business tycoons to invest in their proposals.



A closer look at Dragons' Den inventions.

There have been many ideas on the show that have caused **bidding wars** amongst the dragons and are true success stories. Check out these "tops" examples.



Reggae Reggae Sauce

"Put some music in your food" is the catch phrase for the Jamaican jerk sauce pitched to the Dragons in 2007. Invented by Levi Roots (ex-reggae singer) and previously only sold at the Notting Hill Carnival, it got a £50,000 investment from the Dragons. It **ended up** being sold in major supermarkets and restaurants around the UK.



The Rapstrap

The Rapstrap is a reusable piece of plastic used to secure cables, plants etc. This clever invention avoids **waste**, and the cut-off part can be re-used. The inventor, Andrew Harsley, spent over 20 years perfecting the strap, and it seems like his hard work **paid off**. The Rapstrap went on to become the show's biggest success story after securing a £36 million contract.



Igloo

The first millionaires on the show were two ex-schoolmates. They successfully sold their idea of a frozen food delivery service. They raised their **start-up** cash by **remortgaging** their houses. After their sales pitch, they got a £160,000 investment after much battling in the Den. Their company is now valued at approximately £4 million.



Flops in the Den

Most of the business ideas are **turned down** in the den. However, here are some rejected den ideas that have gone on to achieve success in the business world.



Air Oasis

Turning air into drinking water? Sounds impossible, right? Well, that's probably why a pair of inventors from Shoreham,

UK failed to impress the Dragons with their dehumidifying device. However, the inventors have managed to secure deals elsewhere, especially in the Middle East. It also looks like this idea could really **take off**, as it is an environmentally-friendly alternative to bottled water.



Destination London

Invented by an ex-taxi driver and mother of two, this board game allows you to pretend you are a taxi driver as you pick up **fares** travelling around the city. The Dragons were not interested, but the inventor continued developing her "Destination" board game. When it was launched in 2004, the game sold more than *Monopoly* in Hamley's (a famous toy shop in London).



Disposable Toilet Seat Covers

These elasticised seat covers developed for women were turned down by the Dragons.

The ex-teacher had developed a fluffy toilet seat cover for cold nights which was laughed at by the investors. However, she is determined to make a go of her ideas, and has attracted attention from other investors. You never know, you might be sitting on one of these the next time you use a public **loo**.



The Dragons' Den inventions can be anything practical, trendy or innovative. So, if you have a good idea for an invention, go ahead and contact the show.

But, make sure you have done your research, because the Dragons can be pretty cruel to those who haven't done their **homework** properly. ✖

GLOSSARY

to come up with *exp*

if you "come up with" a plan or an idea, you think of it or suggest it

a den *n*

a "den" is the home to certain types of wild animals such as foxes or lions

an entrepreneur *n*

a person who sets up a business and works for that business

to pitch *vb*

if you "pitch" an idea, you present that idea to a group of people

to hand over *exp*

if you "hand something over", you give control of that possession to one person or group

to fall into the trap *exp*

if someone "falls into the trap", they do something they shouldn't do

overambitious *adj*

an "overambitious" person has an unhealthy desire to be rich, powerful and successful

turnover *n*

the value of goods and services sold during a particular time period

a budget *n*

the amount of money you have available for spending

to turn into *exp*

to become; to change into something else

to think out *exp*

if you "think something out", you consider all aspects and details of it before doing something or making a decision

market research *n*

if you do "market research", you find out what people want, need and buy

harsh *adj*

"harsh" actions or speech are unkind and show no sympathy

a trademark *n*

if something is a "trademark" of a particular person or place, you mean it is characteristic of them or associated with them

a tea boy *n*

a "tea boy" or a "tea girl" is a person who serves people tea in an office

frank *adj*

straightforward; direct; honest

to open doors for *exp*

if someone has the "doors opened for" them, they receive a lot of new opportunities

laid-back *adj/inform*

a "laid-back" person behaves in a calm way and appears not to worry about anything

inside-out *adj*

if you know something or someone "inside-out", you know that person or thing extremely well

a bidding war *n*

a situation in which there is competition amongst buyers to buy something – buyer A offers X amount and buyer B offers Y amount

to end up *exp*

if something or someone "ends up" somewhere, they arrive there, often by accident

waste *n*

material which has been used and is no longer needed or usable

to pay off *exp*

if an action "pays off", it is successful or profitable after a period of hard work

start-up *adj*

the "start-up" costs of something such as a new business or product are the costs of starting to produce it

to remortgage *vb*

a "mortgage" is an amount of money the bank lends you to buy a house. If you "remortgage" your house, you increase or decrease the amount of money the bank has lent you

to turn down *exp*

if you "turn down" an idea, you refuse it or reject it

to take off *exp*

if an idea "takes off", it becomes successful quickly

a fare *n*

the money you pay for a journey you take in a bus, train or taxi

the loo *n/inform*

the toilet

to do your homework *exp*

if you have "done your homework" on something, you have found out what you need to know about a product or a situation

SKILLS BOOKLET READING

Positive Energy

Feng shui in the office.



What's the ideal office? One with plants? One with windows? One on the first floor? One on the 100th floor? Who knows? But the answer may lie within feng shui.

Feng shui is an ancient system of **aesthetics**. People who believe in feng shui stress the importance of creating positive energy and good **balance**. This combination of energy and balance is called Qi (pronounced "chi"). Some basic ways to add "Qi" to a space include getting rid of **clutter** and increasing the flow of air in a room. It can also involve re-arranging furniture and decorations in a room or space.

Feng shui started over 3,500 years ago. And some techniques even go back to the late Stone Age in China. People traditionally used feng shui (literally translated as "wind-water") to decide on a place to live or to find a **burial ground**. Nowadays, people apply the theories of feng shui at home, in public buildings or in the office.

Experts offer countless **tips** on how to use feng shui in the office. For instance, a picture on the wall of a lake or waterfall represents a flow of energy and productivity. Also, a curved desk promotes more creativity than a square desk. Another important rule for office feng shui is to never have your back to the door or someone else in the office. Also, it is not a good idea to have a room with one door on each side of a room. Apparently, the two doors allow the Qi to

get in and out quickly from the room.

Many of the basic rules for office feng shui are based on common sense. For example, people who believe in feng shui say that simplifying a workspace helps people focus better. And when people can focus on one task, they are less stressed. They say that having uncompleted tasks on a desk distracts a worker. Also, if people have more space to move around, they will feel more creative and free.

Feng shui ideas sound logical, but it does have its critics. Some people can't understand how moving objects around in a room can create harmony and balance. In the past, feng shui has been compared to sorcery; and at various times it has been discouraged and even **banned** in China because it is "a feudalistic superstition". Others criticise feng shui for being inconsistent. They argue that if feng shui is a science, it should have a consistent method.

Whether you agree or disagree with feng shui, you can at least admit that its basic principles could make you more comfortable in the office. ★

GLOSSARY

- aesthetics** *n*
a philosophy that is concerned with the study of beauty
- balance** *n*
a situation or combination of things in which all the different parts and elements are equal and fit well together
- a burial ground** *n*
an area where dead people are buried (placed in holes in the ground)
- clutter** *n*
if a space has lots of "clutter", it has a lot of unnecessary things that are arranged in a messy and untidy way
- a tip** *n*
a useful piece of advice
- banned** *adj*
prohibited

1 Pre-reading

In pairs or groups, brainstorm ideas for the perfect office. Consider the following points: space, decoration, location, colleagues, etc.

2 Reading I

What do you know about feng shui? Read the article to check your answers.

1. Where is it from?
2. What does it mean?
3. What is it the study of?
4. How can its principles be applied to the office?

3 Reading II

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

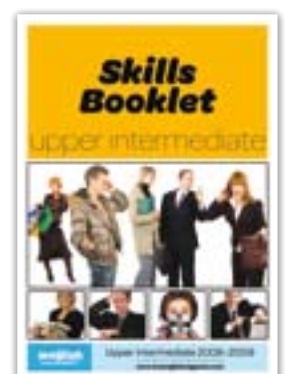
1. Find 3 pieces of practical advice on applying feng shui to the office.
2. Find 3 things that critics have said about feng shui.

There are several examples of "get" in this article. Refer to page 32 in Unit 7 of your Upper Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises on the use of the verb "to get".



Skills Booklets

32



Marketing

Marketing English

Lights, Camera, Action!

A history of smoking in films.



We all know that smoking is bad for you. In fact, Cancer Research UK says that smoking is the single biggest cause of cancer in the world. Many

people used to **blame** films for making smoking popular, but now this is becoming less and less of an excuse.

In the 1950s, smoking in films was "cool". In fact, many of the classic images from the most famous films of the time feature smoking. These include *Casablanca*, *Breakfast at Tiffany's*, and *Rebel Without A Cause*. In these films, it was common for the main stars to smoke. The **sleek** James Dean or the attractive Ingrid Bergman would frequently **puff away** throughout their films.

At one point, actors were even being paid to smoke in films. In the 1980s, Sylvester Stallone received \$500,000 to smoke a particular brand of cigarettes while shooting a film. But these days, things are different. Bridget Ahrens, a leading researcher for Norris Cotton Cancer Center, once said, "We have no idea how cigarettes got in films... but we need to answer the question of why they are there."

These days, Hollywood is changing the face of smoking. Results from recent research from the American College of Chest Physicians conclude that more villains smoke in films now than good guys. Perhaps, if the unfavourable characters smoke in films, smoking will be viewed as a habit only "bad guys" have. Either way, the perception of smoking has changed over time both in films as well as in society.

Interested in finding out more? The book *Thank You For Smoking* by Christopher Buckley has recently been made into a comic film starring Aaron Eckhart. Eckhart plays the spokesman for a big tobacco firm who defends smoking. Incidentally, they don't smoke a cigarette in the entire film. *

Famous Villains who smoked in Movies



Sharon Stone in *Basic Instinct*, (1992). Catherine

Tramell (Sharon Stone) is a crime novelist and girlfriend of a recently-deceased and brutally-murdered rock star. Catherine proves to be a very clever and manipulative woman, and although Detective Nick Curran (Michael Douglas) is more or less convinced that she is the murderer, he is unable to find any evidence. Stone smokes frequently in the movie, especially during the intense police interrogations.



Al Pacino in *The Devil's Advocate*, (1997). In this film, Al Pacino plays the

devil. His name is John Milton and he is a partner in a law firm. He recruits a young successful lawyer, Kevin Lomax (Keanu Reeves), to work for him. We later learn that Kevin Lomax is the son of John Milton. Throughout the film, we learn unusual things about Milton, such as his ability to speak Spanish and be in two places at once. He frequently smokes throughout the film.

GLOSSARY

to blame vb to say that someone or something else is at fault
sleek adj suave
 smooth
puff away exp to smoke

UPPER INTERMEDIATE LISTENING



Nightmare hotel experience

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre listening

What are some problems or complaints you might have when staying in a hotel? Use the following prompts: the bed, the bathroom, the restaurant and the reception.

2 Listening I

Listen and write down three complaints from the conversation.

- _____
- _____
- _____

3 Listening II

Listen again and choose the correct word in each sentence.

- The reservation is in the name of **Baldwin / Darwin**.
- The customer booked a **single / double** room.
- The booking was done by **fax / e-mail**.
- The **bed / bathroom** is filthy.
- In the end, the customer wants the room for **one / two** nights.

4 Language focus

Did you notice the use of the passives in the conversation? Compare these two expressions.

- It was booked for two nights.
- ...the bed hasn't been made.

What do we call these passives? When do we use this type of passive?

5 Discussion

- Have you ever had any nightmare hotel experiences? What happened?
- Which complaint from the conversation would you consider the most / least serious?
- What are the hotels like in your country? Which one do you go to most often? Why?

To learn more about writing a complaint, refer to page 35 in Unit 8 of your Upper Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



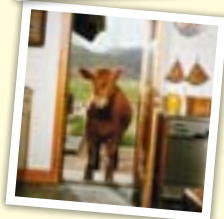
Skills Booklets 35





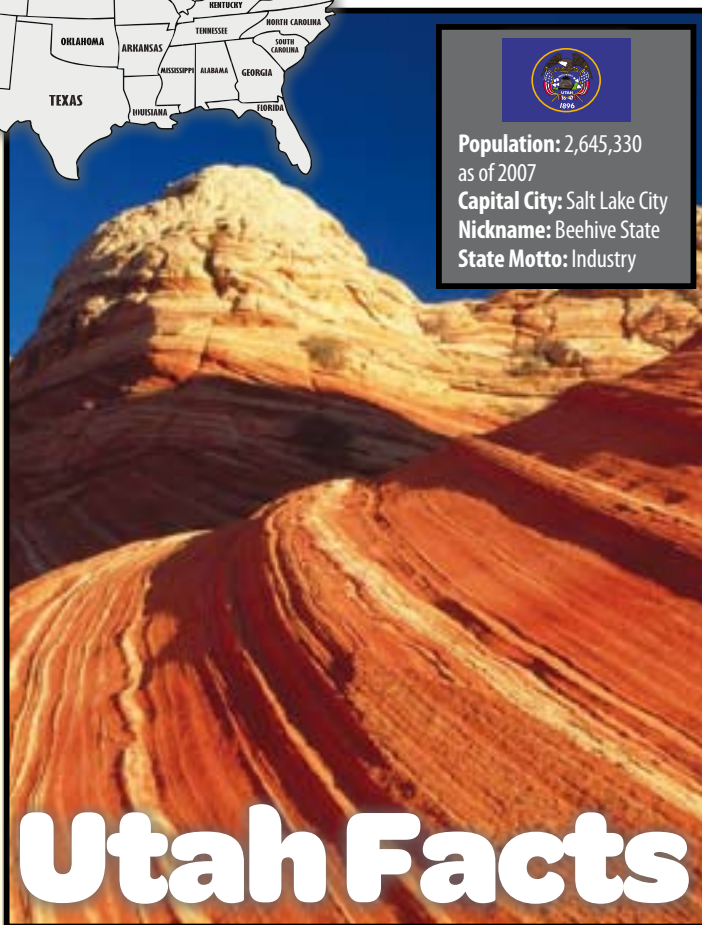
HERE ARE SOME MORE CRAZY LAWS FROM THE US. (US ENGLISH SPELLING) THIS MONTH: UTAH.

- ⚡ Alcohol may not be sold during an emergency.
- ⚡ Biting during boxing matches is not allowed.
- ⚡ It is considered an offense to **hunt whales**.
- ⚡ It is illegal to cause a **catastrophe**.
- ⚡ It is against the law to fish from **horseback**.
- ⚡ It is illegal *not* to drink milk.
- ⚡ Birds have the **right of way** on all **highways**.
- ⚡ Throwing snowballs will result in a \$50 fine.
- ⚡ You must have identification to enter a **convenience store** after dark.
- ⚡ Pharmacists may not sell **gunpowder** to **cure headaches**.
- ⚡ You're not allowed to sell **beverages** containing more than 3.2% alcohol.
- ⚡ It is illegal to **detonate** any nuclear weapon. You can have them, but you just can't detonate them.
- ⚡ It is legal for restaurants to serve wine with meals, but only if you ask for the wine list. (Repealed)
- ⚡ Daylight must be visible between partners on a dance floor.
- ⚡ Persons are only allowed to keep one cow on their property.
- ⚡ A husband is responsible for every criminal act committed by his wife while she is in his presence.
- ⚡ No one may walk down the street carrying a paper bag containing a violin.
- ⚡ **Auctions** may not be advertised by **hiring trombone** players to play on the street.
- ⚡ It is a **felony** to persistently **treed on the cracks** between the **sidewalk** of a state highway. ⚡



GLOSSARY

to hunt *vb*
to chase and kill animals for sport
a whale *n*
a large mammal that lives in the sea
a catastrophe *n*
an unexpected event that causes great suffering or damage
horseback *adj*
if you do an activity on "horseback", you do it while riding a horse
right of way *exp*
when someone has the "right of way", they can continue along a particular route and others must stop for them
a highway *n*
a main road that connects towns or cities
a convenience store *n*
a shop that sells mainly groceries and is open until late at night
gunpowder *n*
an explosive substance used to cause explosions or make fireworks
to cure *vb*
to make someone well again after an illness or injury
a headache *n*
a pain in your head
a beverage *n*
a drink
to detonate *vb*
if something "detonates", it explodes
an auction *n*
a public sale where goods are sold to the person who pays the most
to hire *vb*
if you "hire" someone, you give them a job
a trombone *n*
a large musical instrument with two long oval tubes
a felony *n*
a very serious crime
to tread on *vb*
to walk on
a crack *n*
a narrow gap between two things
a sidewalk *n* US
a path with a hard surface next to a road where people can walk. "Pavement" in British English




Population: 2,645,330 as of 2007
Capital City: Salt Lake City
Nickname: Beehive State
State Motto: Industry

Utah Facts

- ⚡ The name Utah means people of the mountains.
- ⚡ Utah is the 11th largest state in the United States.
- ⚡ Utah has the highest mountain peaks in the United States.
- ⚡ Salt Lake City is the largest city in Utah.
- ⚡ Utah contains the famous Great Salt Lake.
- ⚡ The tallest building is the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints office building.
- ⚡ The state animal is the rocky mountain elk.
- ⚡ Utah was the 45th state to be admitted into the United States.
- ⚡ 58% of the population is part of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints (also known as Mormon).
- ⚡ Brigham Young established most of the state as well as the Mormon religion.
- ⚡ A large part of Utah's economy comes from mining.
- ⚡ Utah contains Brigham Young University, as well as many other private universities. ⚡

Famous People from Utah:

-  **Donny Osmond** – singer and teen idol, born in Ogden. Had an American variety show with his sister Marie.
-  **The Osmond Family** – musical group featuring Alan, Wayne, Merrill, Jay, Marie, Jimmy, and Donny Osmond. All except Jimmy born in Ogden.
-  **Roseanne Barr** – comedienne and actress, born in Salt Lake City.
-  **Butch Cassidy** – outlaw, bank and train robber, born in Beaver. Inspiration for film *Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid*.
-  **Walter Frederick Morrison** – invented the Frisbee, born in Richfield.

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CINEMA

RENOIR PLAZA DE ESPAÑA Martín de los Heros, 12 28508 MADRID	PRINCESA Princesa, 3-5 28508 MADRID	RENOIR MAJADAHONDA Avda. de España, 51 (zoco de Majadahonda) MAJADAHONDA, MADRID	RENOIR FLORIDA BLANCA C/Florida Blanca, 135
RENOIR PRINCESA Princesa, 3-5 Paseo Martín de los Heros 28508 MADRID	RENOIR LES CORTS Eugeni D'Ors, 12 08028 BARCELONA	RENOIR PALMA C/Emperatriz Eugenia, 6 07010 PALMA DE MALLORCA	
RENOIR CUATRO CAMINOS Reinanda Félix Villaverde, 10 28003 Madrid	RENOIR RETIRO C/Rosario, 42 28009 MADRID	RENOIR AUDIORAMA C/los Bermejales 10 50009 ZARAGOZA	



DICTIONARY OF SLANG

HERE WE'VE GOT SOME EXAMPLES OF HOW TO SAY THINGS IN DIFFERENT SITUATIONS.

Situation	Formal	Relaxed	Informal
A family member is bothering you and you want them to stop.	I would greatly appreciate it if you would please refrain from being a nuisance.	Please leave me alone.	Get off my back; Lay off.
You tell a friend you really need to go the bathroom.	Excuse me, but I just need a moment to use the absolute facilities.	I need to go to the toilet.	I need to go to the loo; Where's the bog? I'm gonna powder my nose. (US English)
You need to ask someone for help.	Excuse me, but would you mind assisting me with this task?	Could you help me?	Hey, could you lend me a hand? (US English) Could you help me out with this?
You see someone whom you strongly dislike.	I have developed a severe and passionate distaste for her.	I don't like that girl at all.	I can't stand her; I hate her guts.
You just finished an easy exam.	That examination was incredibly simple.	That test was easy.	That test was a piece of cake; I knocked that test out of the park. (US English)
You have to do something, but you don't want to do it.	I am sincerely dreading this duty.	I don't want to do this.	What a drag; What a pain; What a bore.

FREE COFFEE WITH HOT ENGLISH

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DR FINGERS' ERROR CORRECTION CLINIC

IN THIS SECTION DR FINGERS IDENTIFIES AND CORRECTS TYPICAL ERRORS.



1 Exercise

Read the following sentences. Can you correct them? Then listen to check. ANSWERS ON PAGE 65.

1. My throat is swallowed.
My throat is swollen.
2. She was very interesting in the subject.
3. According with the manual, we need four nails.
4. I thought in everything he said.
5. History repeats.
6. You don't know what did she say.

Chat-up Lines / Pick-Up Lines (US English)

HERE ARE SOME CLASSIC LINES FOR CHATTING SOMEONE UP.

- 1 -Can I take your picture?
-Why?
-Cos I need to show Santa Claus what I want for Christmas.
- 2 -Are your feet tired?
-No, why?
-Cos you've been running through my mind all day!
- 3 -Did it hurt?
-What?
-When you fell from heaven.
- 4 -Are you a parking ticket?
-No, why?
-Because you've got **FINE** written all over you!
- 5 Hi there. You know, if I could rearrange the alphabet, I'd put **"U"** and **"I"** together. *

GLOSSARY

fine *f*
if someone is "fined", they must pay a sum of money because they have broken a rule or done something illegal. If someone is "fine", they are very attractive

"U"
letter in the alphabet pronounced like the word "you"

"I"
letter in the alphabet that means "me"

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A monthly look at things from the month.

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

December

CELEBRATE THE MONTH WITH US IN OUR SERIES ON ANNIVERSARIES.
THIS MONTH: DECEMBER.



2nd December 1971

Six small Middle Eastern **emirates** along the side of the Persian Gulf join together to form the United Arab Emirates.



2nd December 1976

Fidel Castro officially becomes the President of Cuba. Many critics claim that Osvaldo Dorticós Torrado, the man Castro replaced, was a **figurehead** without real power. Despite this, it is said that Castro was actually responsible for much reform and **moderation** when he was president.



4th December 771

Carloman, co-ruler of the Franks dies, leaving his more famous brother Charlemagne as undisputed king.



6th December 1921

The Anglo-Irish Treaty is signed between Irish and British leaders. On the same day one year later, the Irish Free State, a partially independent state, comes into existence.



9th December 1987

One day after a traffic accident involving an Israeli tank transporter in which four Palestinian civilians were killed, the first Intifada begins. The Intifada (an Arabic word which means "shaking off" or "uprising") lasts for five years. The result was to give international attention to the plight of the Palestinians and hope for future statehood.



14th December 1819

The southern state of Alabama joins the fast-growing United States of America. It becomes the 22nd state in the union.



15th December 1891

James Naismith introduces a new game at Springfield College in Massachusetts, USA. Using peach baskets for **goals**, basketball is born.



15th December 1939

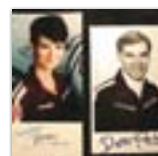
Movie classic *Gone with the Wind* premieres in Atlanta, Georgia. It eventually wins ten

Oscars, a record **unrivalled** for twenty years. "Frankly my dear, I don't give a damn."



17th December 1903

Three days after their first try, the Wright Brothers successfully fly an aeroplane. The historic event happens in Kitty Hawk, North Carolina.



23rd December 1986

Pilots Jeana Yeager and Dick Rutan successfully fly non-stop around the globe in the aeroplane *Voyager*. The flight lasts nine days.



25th December 1991

Mikhail Gorbachev **steps down** as leader of the USSR. The next day marks the end of the Soviet Union as a country.



25th December 2006

The 73-year old "Godfather of Soul", James Brown dies. "The hardest working man in show business" as he was also known, finally retires. ♣

Events for December

10th December

The UN-sponsored International Human Rights Day.



20th December

Uri Gellar's birthday. Gellar, 62, is a world famous psychic who claims to be able to bend spoons with the power of his mind. However, many critics believe that he's a **fraud**.



21st December

The Winter Solstice. The celebration of the shortest day of the year is celebrated by followers of many ancient religions.



31st December

Hogmanay, the final day of the year is celebrated in Scotland. Nowadays it's combined with the New Year celebrations and is one of the biggest parties in the world that night.



GLOSSARY

- an emirate** *n*
a type of Middle Eastern state ruled by an emir, a kind of Arab nobleman
- a figurehead** *n*
a publically acknowledged leader who lacks real power or authority
- moderation** *n*
reasonable actions or behaviour
- the goals** *n*
a scoring zone in various sports
- unrivalled** *adj*
undefeated or unequalled
- to step down** *phr vb*
to resign or retire
- a fraud** *n*
a person who isn't genuine; a cheater

TABLE IDIOMS



THIS MONTH WE ARE LOOKING AT SOME "TABLE" IDIOMS.



Under the table (US and Australian)
IF YOU ARE PAID UNDER THE TABLE, YOU RECEIVE MONEY NOT DECLARED BY TAXES.
"A lot of people who work overtime receive extra money under the table."



Turn the tables
TO REVERSE THE POSITION OR TO GAIN ADVANTAGE OVER AN OPPONENT.
"During the debate, the President used his political skills to turn the tables on his opponents."



Put something on the table
TO PRESENT SOMETHING AT A MEETING TO BE DISCUSSED.
"We can finally make our decision, now that all the options have been put on the table."



Lay your cards on the table
TO SPEAK OPENLY ABOUT YOUR FEELINGS; TO SAY WHAT YOU REALLY WANT.
"We're going to lay our cards on the table and be very clear about our position."



Drink someone under the table
IF YOU CAN "DRINK SOMEONE UNDER THE TABLE", YOU CAN DRINK A LOT MORE ALCOHOL THAN THEY CAN.
"I like to have a few beers, but Ralph can drink me under the table any time."



Table a motion
IF A MOTION IS TABLED, IT WILL BE DISCUSSED AT A LATER DATE.
"We don't have all the facts for the motion, so we should table it for next time."

SKILLS BOOKLET READING

Keep Talking

The use of the filibuster in American government.

Wouldn't it be nice if you could delay a decision just by talking? And maybe even change someone's mind in the process? A filibuster is a persuasive tool that senators use in American government.

A filibuster is the act of extending debate on a bill before the Senate votes on it. It is often used in the United States government. One senator, or a group of senators, can postpone the voting process on a bill simply by talking as long as they want about any subject. However, once 60% (a "super majority") of Senators call for **cloture**, the debate ends and the Senate must move forward and vote immediately. The first time Senate used cloture was in 1919 to end a filibuster against the Treaty of Versailles.

Filibusters have been used throughout American history. In the 1930s, Senator Huey Long used the filibuster frequently when he thought bills were favouring the rich over the poor. To allow for longer debate, he used to wear people down by reading **passages** from Shakespeare and recipes from cookbooks. Filibusters were used often by Southern senators to block **civil rights** and anti-**lynching** legislation. In 1957, South Carolinian Senator Strom Thurmond set the record for the longest filibuster. To stop the vote on the **Civil Rights Act** of 1957, he spoke for 24 hours and 18 minutes. Years later, more southern senators refused to back down, and filibustered for 57 days against the Civil Rights Act of 1964. More recently, Republicans used filibusters so that Democrats couldn't vote against President George W. Bush's Supreme Court nominations. In 2007, the Senators who proposed the Levin-Reed Amendment hoped for a filibuster. The amendment stated that the American soldiers would not be in Iraq indefinitely, and asked that President George W. Bush reduce the number of troops placed in Iraq. The Levin-Reed Amendment was put down by the Senate.

These days, a filibuster can be understood in a more figurative than literal sense. Senate Rule 22 allows for a "procedural filibuster". A "procedural filibuster" permits a senator to call for a filibuster without having to go through the process of continuous talking. This procedure still stops Senate from going forward with other business.

The motion must either be withdrawn or receive enough votes for cloture. Senators now use this procedure more often, and the traditional filibuster has become increasingly scarce. However, the Senate Majority Leader (Currently, Democratic **Senior Senator** Harry Reid from Nevada) has the option to request an actual filibuster if he chooses.



A famous film which shows the drama of filibustering is **Mr Smith Goes to Washington** (1939). This American classic was directed by Frank Capra and stars Jimmy Stewart. Stewart plays Jefferson Smith, a **junior senator** from an unnamed state. Smith starts the film with an innocent and idealistic perception of government, but soon realises his colleagues participate in unethical activities. He decides to push forward with his ideals, and must filibuster to pass an important bill. **Mr Smith Goes to Washington** caused lots of controversy when it was released because it depicted a corrupt American government. The film made Jimmy Stewart a star.

A filibuster is a tactic that Senators use to remind the government to **think through** key legislation. This rule is important to American government because it allows for more consideration of the Senate's constituents. In other words, filibusters were designed with the American people in mind. ☺

GLOSSARY

cloture *n*
in parliamentary procedure, "cloture" is a motion or process that closes a debate or brings it to a quick end

a passage *n*
a "passage" from a book or speech is a section of it

civil rights *n*
a movement to protect the human rights so that people receive equal opportunities, regardless of race, gender or religion

to lynch *vb*
if a crowd of people "lynch" someone, they kill that person by hanging them

a Civil Rights Act *n*
a proposed bill in the Senate in favour of civil rights

a senior senator *n*
of the two senators per state, the "senior senator" is the senator who has served longer

a junior senator *n*
of the two senators per state, the "junior senator" is the senator who has served less time in the senate than the senior senator

to think through *exp*
if you "think through" a situation, you consider it thoroughly, with all the possible effects or consequences

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre reading

Look at the list below. What actions would you take to prevent these situations?

- you are being relocated to a different city for your job
- the city is going to build a pub next to your house
- the city is going to knock down the main shopping centre
- a rock band is moving into the house next door to you
- a topic of your choice

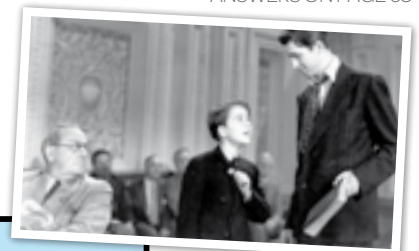
2 Reading I

What is a "filibuster"? How does it work? Read the article to check your ideas. Whilst you read, highlight any important references, such as people, places or things.

2 Reading II

In your own words, comment on what the article says about the following:

- The Treaty of Versailles
- Senator Huey Long
- Senator Strom Thurmond
- George W. Bush
- "Procedural filibuster"
- Mr Smith Goes to Washington*



4 Language Focus

Highlight all the phrasal verbs with "forward" and "down" from the article. Can you work out their meaning from the context? Refer to page 36 in unit 8 of your Advanced Skills Booklet for a good definition of some of these phrasal verbs.

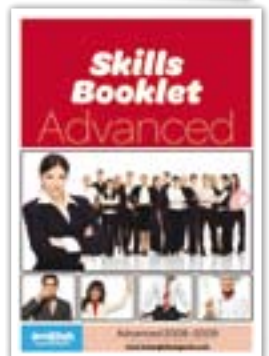


Skills Booklets

36

5 Discussion

- Do you know of any other political strategies to push ideals or ideas forward? Give some examples.
- In discussions, do you fight your point aggressively, or do you tend to back down? Why? In what way?
- How can politicians make the world a better place?



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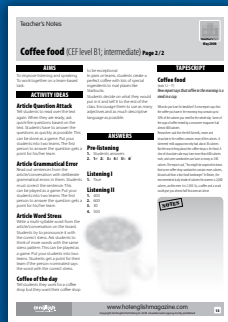
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Not Kosher

The books we weren't supposed to read.

What do "The Satanic Verses" by Salman Rushdie, "Gone With The Wind" by Margaret Mitchell, and "Lady Chatterley's Lover" by D.H. Lawrence all have in common? While the selection may seem random, all of these books have been at the centre of censorship scandals.

Salman Rushdie's novel "The Satanic Verses" caused immediate **controversy**. Its publication in 1988 **sparked** violence throughout the world. In the novel, Rushdie depicts the prophet Muhammad. Muslims all over the world were extremely offended. In fact, Rushdie received numerous **death threats**. And, the Indian author claims that every 14th February, he receives a "sort of **Valentine's Day** card" from Iran as an annual reminder of their **vow** to kill him.

"Gone with the Wind" is a different case altogether. Margaret Mitchell wrote the book in 1936, but it was not banned until much later. There was even a film of the same name released in 1939. However, because of the **racial slurs**, some high schools in some states banned the book in 1978. The school systems in California thought the language was offensive to African-Americans.

D.H. Lawrence's work was not even printed in the UK until nearly thirty years after its publication. Originally published in Florence in 1928, the book finally came out in the UK in 1960. "Lady Chatterley's Lover" caused a huge scandal with its **explicit** sexual descriptions as well as its **profanity**. The romantic relationship between social classes (a working-class male and an upper-class female) caused additional controversy.

Every year, The American Library Association **releases** a list of the "most challenged" books. Some people believe that censoring or banning books **deprives** the world of literature. Others say that literature should be approved before being sold. This topic of discussion is almost as scandalous as the books that make the list. 🌱

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre reading

Match the photo of the author to his / her great classic novel. Have you read any of these books? Which ones? If not, do you know any of the storylines?



1 Margaret Mitchell



2 Salman Rushdie



3 D.H. Lawrence



a



b



c

2 Reading I

What do you think these classics have in common? Now read and check.

3 Reading II

Match the title with its supposed offence as mentioned in the article.

1. *Lady Chatterley's Lover*
2. *The Satanic Verses*
3. *Gone with the Wind*

- a. racism
- b. blasphemy
- c. sexual explicitness

Now, summarise their censorship cases in your own words.

4 Phrasal Verb Focus

Can you find the phrasal verb in the text which means "to appear on the market"? It is used for books and films.

5 Discussion

1. Are you a "book worm"? What is your favourite type of book and why?
2. Have you read any great classics? Do you like classics or do you prefer other genres of literature? Which genres?
3. What are some best-selling novels from your country? Which ones are your favourites?
4. Do you think censoring literature is a good idea? Why? Why not?

GLOSSARY

controversy *n*
a lot of discussion and argument about something

to spark *vb*
to cause

a death threat *n*
a promise to kill someone

Valentine's Day *n*
every 14th February. It is a commercial holiday that people celebrate by buying flowers and sweets for friends and lovers

to vow *vb*
if you "vow" to do something, you make a promise or decision to do it

a racial slur *n*
an insulting remark against a particular race of people

explicit *adj*
very open; direct; clear

profanity *n formal*
swear words; taboo words

to release *vb*
if a company or organisation "releases" a list, the list becomes available to the public

to deprive *vb*
if you "deprive" someone of something they want or need, you take that thing away from them or prevent them from using it



Good Deed Undone

I HOPE I DON'T GET CAUGHT!

Car stolen from good Samaritan.

Who says a good deed doesn't go unpunished? We all know that doing the right thing is hard enough. But is it fair that something bad happens to you when you try to help someone else?

Marianne Bailey was only trying to do the right thing. Bailey, a doctor, was driving on the road, and saw an injured man on the side of the street. She got out of her car to help the man. However, she was in such a hurry that she left the keys in the **ignition** of her car. A **callous** thief stole her car while she was providing emergency roadside assistance.

Once she noticed her car was gone, Bailey immediately

contacted the police. Police Chief Jim Keifer was "**appalled**" at the thief, and said the theft was "pathetic". Keifer says he promises to catch the **culprit**. "It's unthinkable why someone would steal someone's car when they are just trying to help a man who has been seriously hurt." Keifer continues, "This woman's **compassion** has been totally taken advantage of by a pathetic opportunistic thief, and we are determined to catch whoever was responsible." The injured **pensioner** was taken to the hospital in a critical condition suffering a serious head injury. They say the man is recovering slowly but surely. Bailey, however, is still waiting for her car to **turn up**. We can only hope that the criminal will feel bad enough that he will **turn himself over** to the police. ❏

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre reading

What do you think a "good deed" is?
Have you ever helped an old person across the road?



2 Reading I

Look at these words. What do you think this article is going to be about? Read the article. Use the words below to write up a quick news bulletin with a partner.

Samaritan

good deed

Bailey

doctor

injured man

car

keys

hurry

pensioner

a callous thief

police

appalled

compassion

3 Reading II

Summarise the "true" version of the story with the same words from the previous exercise.

4 Phrasal Verb Focus

Did you notice the use of "turn" in two phrasal verbs from the text? Compare the phrasal verbs in these two examples.

- Bailey, however, is still waiting for her car to **turn up**.
- We can only hope that the criminal will feel bad enough that he will **turn himself over** to the police.

Which phrasal verb is intransitive and which is transitive? How do you know?

5 Discussion

- Are you a "do gooder"? What is the nicest thing you have ever done for someone?
- Has anyone ever done a good deed for you? When? What did he / she do?
- Do you think people are generally good Samaritans? Why? Why not? Give examples.



GLOSSARY

an ignition *n*
inside a car, the "ignition" is the part where you turn the key to start the engine

callous *adj*
a "callous" person or action is very cruel and does not care for other people or their feelings

appalled *adj*
if you are "appalled" by something, you feel disgusted or disgraced

a culprit *n*
a person who commits a crime

compassion *n*
a feeling of pity and understanding for someone who is suffering

a pensioner *n*
a person who receives pension (money paid by the state to retired people)

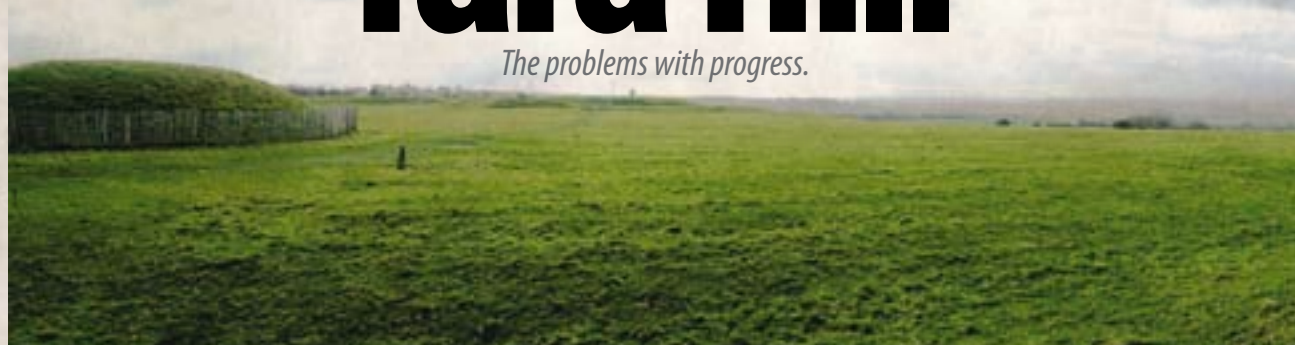
to turn up *exp*
to appear

to turn himself over *exp*
if you "turn yourself over", you admit voluntarily to the police that you have committed a crime

Business English

Tara Hill

The problems with progress.



Is progress always a good thing? In Ireland, the rapidly-improving economy is causing problems to some of the country's most important monuments.

Ireland's economy has undergone spectacular changes. In the 1980s, unemployment **blighted** the country. But now, the economy is doing well and the country has a large middle class living well. Many well-off Dubliners live in the scenic County Meath area and work in Dublin. They have a long journey to work every day. This heavy amount of movement creates traffic problems, as the road to work goes through several villages. So, what's the solution? The government is planning to upgrade the road and to build a **bypass**.

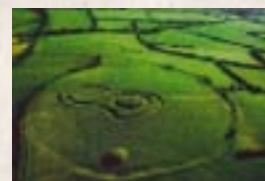
Unfortunately, the bypass runs close to Tara Hill – one of Ireland's most important historical sites. Tara Hill was the one-time seat of the High Kings, the island's ancient rulers. In terms of national importance, Tara Hill is comparable to Stonehenge (in England) or Machu Picchu (in Peru). Tara was also the original home of the Stone of Scone, which later was moved to Scotland. This stone was used for the coronation of Irish and Scottish kings. It was placed under the throne and, according to legend, roared when the coronation was completed. It was stolen by an English king in the 13th century. It was kept in Westminster Abbey, in London, for 700 years, before it was returned to the Scots. Tara Hill was also the site of excavations by archaeologists in the early 20th century who believed that the **Ark of the Covenant** was buried there.

The proposed changes to the road have caused a political storm. The Green Party has been accused of **backtracking** on the issue. The Greens are an environmentalist political party. They originally opposed the road and were involved in the campaign to save the hill. But now that they are in coalition government alongside **Fianna Fáil**, they have reversed their **stance**.

Supporters of the road say that it will be integrated into the environment with heavy tree planting along the side of it. They also say that the bypass is actually further away than the existing road. Many local residents are also in favour of the road. But opponents in Tarawatch, an environmental group **set up** to protect the hill, say that noise pollution will destroy the serene quality of the area. Also, archaeological sites will be destroyed. In fact, many have already been destroyed by work on the road.

The hill is also important for Ireland's economy. Ireland earns lots of money from tourism. The campaign to save the hill has said that the preservation of tourist sites is now important to the well-being of the economy. And if the multinationals leave Ireland and set up in eastern Europe or Asia, who is going to use the road anyway? Unemployment may just paradoxically solve the congestion problems of County Meath.

So, what does the future look like for Tara Hill? A few years ago, popular protests in Peru stopped a proposed development around Machu Picchu. Machu Picchu was subsequently declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site. Tarawatch wants the hill to be designated a World Heritage Site as well. This would give it legal and international protection. But if the hill remains unprotected, Tara Hill will become another sad casualty of modernity and progress – the progress of a faster, but probably not better, world. ✪



GLOSSARY

to blight *vb*

to cause serious harm to

bypass *n*

a "bypass" is an alternate and shorter road that people can take

The Ark of the Covenant *n*

a sacred box that held the Holy Scriptures given to Moses by God

backtracking *n*

reversing an opinion or stance

Fianna Fáil *gaelic*

"Soldiers of Destiny"; the largest Irish political party and ideologically centre right

a stance *n*

a publicly known opinion on an issue

to set up *phr vb*

if an organisation is "set up", it is designed for a specific purpose or cause

UNESCO *acronym*

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation

PHRASAL VERB THEMES

Relationships (part 1)

THIS MONTH WE ARE LOOKING AT SOME PHRASAL VERBS TO TALK ABOUT RELATIONSHIPS. THIS IS THE FIRST OF A TWO-PART SERIES.

GET ON / ALONG WITH SOMEONE

IF YOU "GET ON" WELL WITH SOMEONE, YOU HAVE A GOOD RELATIONSHIP WITH THEM.



"ABBIE AND ZACH GET ON REALLY WELL."

FALL FOR SOMEONE

IF YOU "FALL FOR" SOMEONE, YOU START TO BE ATTRACTED TO THAT PERSON.



"AMBER FELL FOR SAM'S CHARM AND GOOD LOOKS."

HIT IT OFF

IF TWO PEOPLE "HIT IT OFF", THEY BECOME FRIENDS AFTER MEETING ONE ANOTHER.



"ROSIE MET MAX LAST NIGHT AND THEY REALLY HIT IT OFF. THEY'RE GOING TO THE CINEMA TOMORROW."

GO FOR

IF YOU "GO FOR" A PARTICULAR TYPE OF PERSON, YOU LIKE THAT TYPE OF PERSON.



"I DON'T THINK YOU'RE HER TYPE. SHE GOES FOR TALL, DARK, HANDSOME MEN."

CHAT SOMEONE UP

TO TALK TO SOMEONE IN A WAY THAT SHOWS THAT YOU ARE INTERESTED IN / ATTRACTED TO THEM.



"JIM WAS TALKING TO ME LAST NIGHT. I THINK HE WAS TRYING TO CHAT ME UP, BUT I'M NOT REALLY INTERESTED."

FALL OUT

IF TWO PEOPLE "FALL OUT", THEY STOP BEING FRIENDS.



"LIBBY USED TO BE MY BEST FRIEND, BUT WE FELL OUT OVER A GUY AT WORK."

SPLIT UP / BREAK UP

TO STOP GOING OUT WITH SOMEONE.



"THEY HAD BEEN GOING OUT FOR ABOUT TEN YEARS BEFORE THEY DECIDED TO BREAK UP."

MAKE UP

TO BECOME FRIENDS AGAIN AFTER AN ARGUMENT.



"THEY HAD A BIG ARGUMENT LAST WEEK, BUT THEY'VE MADE UP NOW."

Tapescripts

Saving Money (Track 8)

Interviewer: Here in the studio we are talking to financial expert Stacey Kemply. Welcome, Stacey.
Stacey: Thank you.
Interviewer: So, in these difficult times, how much money can we really save?
Stacey: Well, in two words, a lot! And you don't even have to change your lifestyle too dramatically.
Interviewer: So, what's your advice?
Stacey: Well, you start with little things. You don't want to go from having everything to nothing – that would be too depressing. Can you give us a few specific examples?
Interviewer: Well, I bet there are times when you take the car unnecessarily. Try and walk as much as you can – especially if you live in the city. Walking saves money, and also keeps you fit. That brings me to my next point. How many of us pay for a gym subscription?
Interviewer: Well, I must admit, I do spend a lot of money there. My gym charges me £80 a month.
Stacey: Well, exactly. If you walk everywhere, you don't have to go to the gym. And, you are saving on petrol. You see, this way you are killing two birds with one stone.
Interviewer: I see. Yeah, I suppose it's just common sense.
Interviewer: Well, I'm afraid that's all we have time for now, but that was very helpful. Thank you very much, Stacey.
Stacey: Thank you for having me.

Telephone English (Track 9)

Receptionist: Hello, Dunlop and Sons Accountants. How may I help you?
Martha: Hi, Martha Simmons speaking. Could you put me through to extension 2395, please?
Receptionist: Certainly. Could you just hold the line, please?
Martha: Of course.
Simon: Hello, Jane Morton's office. Simon speaking.
Martha: Hello. Could I speak to Jane, please?
Simon: I'm sorry, but I'm afraid she's in a meeting at the moment. Would you like to leave a message?
Martha: Yes, please. Could you tell her that Martha from Stanley Construction called, please? Also, could you tell her to phone me on my work number? My mobile is broken at the moment.
Simon: And what's the number, ma'am?
Martha: It's 7498325. Have you got that?
Simon: I think so. It's 7-4-9-8-3-2-5, Right?
Martha: Yes, that's right. By the way, do you know around what time the meeting will finish?
Simon: I suppose a couple of hours. She's giving a presentation to an advertising agency.
Martha: Oh, OK. Well, if she finishes after 4:00, tell her to send me an e-mail.
Simon: Will do. Anything else I can help you with?
Martha: No, that's it. Thanks a lot.
Simon: No problem. Bye.

Manners Moment (Track 14)

Interviewer: Hello, everybody, and welcome to today's edition of Manners Moment. Today we are talking about how to be a hostess with the mostess! Joining us in the studio today is etiquette expert Patricia Klein. Welcome, Patricia.
Patricia: Good morning.
Interviewer: So, are you the hostess with the mostess?
Patricia: Well, not quite, but I do try to learn and improve with every party I host.
Interviewer: So, everything you learn, you keep in a manual.
Patricia: That's right. It's mostly obvious things, but some are easy to overlook when you are caught up in preparing a party. The key thing for me when hosting a party is to minimise the stress.
Interviewer: And how can we minimise stress?
Patricia: That's easy – by being well-prepared. I can't emphasise this enough. Prepare everything before-hand: write a list of everything you need, do the shopping and cooking the day before, make the place look nice – these kinds of things are very important. And if you leave them for the last day, it could be disastrous. The main thing is you don't want to be running around like a mad person when your guests arrive. There is nothing worse.
Interviewer: It sounds like you're talking from experience.
Patricia: I am. I remember once, I was invited to a dinner party. The hostess was completely unprepared when we arrived. There were only a few of us, and she was completely distracted and obviously very stressed. You could see she wasn't relaxed, and that put us all on edge. But that type of situation can be easily avoided.
Interviewer: I see. And do you have any tips for us to remember on the day of the party?
Patricia: Well, if you're well-organised, everything should run quite smoothly on the night of the party. But yes, there are some do's and don'ts.
Interviewer: For example?
Patricia: Think about lighting and background music. Be cool and calm and let your guests help. Most people make the mistake of refusing help, but there is no need. Guests want to help. Some people don't feel comfortable just watching their host running around for them. Give people jobs to do. For example, ask someone to pour the wine or put the appetizers out – it takes the pressure off you, and that's the key to an enjoyable and stress-free evening – for everyone!
Interviewer: Well, those are some great tips, Patricia. Thanks so much for stopping by. Let us know how your next party goes.
Patricia: Will do. Thank you for having me.

British Bar Chat (Track 22)

Louise: Hey Jessica, I've got my ticket to go to England.
Jessica: Oh, brilliant!
Louise: Yeah, do you know it was-it was only twenty five pounds.
Jessica: Well that's really, really good.
Louise: It's ridiculously cheap, isn't it?
Jessica: Oh, I can't believe that.
Louise: Do you know, I'm, I've bought this ticket to go to England, but I don't really like flying. Do you like flying?
Jessica: Oh, I love it! I think it's brilliant.
Louise: Really?
Jessica: Yes, I just love looking out of the window and seeing myself in the clouds. I can't get over that.
Louise: But don't you feel scared?
Jessica: No, not at all.

Louise: Why not?
Jessica: Well, you can get hurt, or killed doing anything-it's like-flying is just as much a danger as anything else, and it's more fun. I suppose you're right, I mean they do say flying is the most-is-they do say flying is the safest mode of transport. But even so, do you know, I have a problem with claustrophobia. I really don't like being shut in a plane, and the minute they close the door, I can feel my heart pounding, thinking "I wanna get out of here!" and I have to stay there, and...
Jessica: Mmm.
Louise:...you know, bite my tongue and, and live with it really.

US Bar Chat (Track 23)

Sarah: Look out the window! did you see that?
Rachel: What?
Sarah: That old lady walking her dog.
Rachel: Oh, the one with the Christmas sweater on?
Sarah: Erm, yeah!
Rachel: That dog has a Christmas sweater on.
Sarah: And it's ugly.
Rachel: Why do people dress their animals up?
Sarah: I don't know. I mean, I know people get into the holiday spirit, but really, your dog?
Rachel: Yeah, and they already have fur. It's not like they're cold.
Sarah: Exactly. What is that gonna do?
Rachel: I don't know.
Sarah: Do you know anyone that does that?
Rachel: Well, I've thought, you know, grandmas they knit sweaters, but I always thought they knitted them for their kids. I didn't know all this time they were knitting them for their pets.
Sarah: Well, I guess maybe if they don't have kids they knit them for their pets?
Rachel: I don't know, but – woa! There's a Santa hat on it!
Sarah: What!
Rachel: Okay, the sweater is one thing, but the hat and accessories quite another. Wow. Alright. I guess everyone has a way to celebrate.
Sarah: Yeah. Hey, whatever!

Story: The Shop – Episode 3 (Track 24)

Carol: Where's Mr Burns?
Jim: He's at a meeting.
Carol: Great. Where's the key to the secret room?
Jim: What? We can't go in there. Mr Burns said...
Carol: Come on. Just a quick look. Where's the key?
Jim: It's under the table.
Carol: Which one is it?
Jim: The silver one. It's the biggest one.
Carol: OK. Got it. Now bring that knife too.
Jim: The knife? Why?
Carol: You'll see. This is the strangest shop in the world. Come on! Mr Burns says we mustn't go down there.
Jim: You aren't scared, are you? There might be a monster down there. Ohhh!
Carol: Very funny.
Jim: Come on. We're just going to have a quick look.
Carol: OK. But we must be quick. (*They start walking downstairs.*)
Jim: (*She opens the door.*) Wow! Look at all those boxes.
Carol: There must be at least 200 in here. I didn't realise this room was so big. It's much bigger than the upstairs area.
Jim: Right. Give me the knife.
Carol: What are you going to do?
Jim: Open this box. It isn't as big as the other ones.
Carol: You can't do that. Mr Burns might come back. It's too dangerous.
Jim: Well, I... (*There's a noise upstairs.*) What's that?
Carol: It's Mr Burns, I think.
Jim: Oh, no.

Nightmare Hotel Experience (Track 25)

Receptionist: Good morning, sir. How can I help you?
Customer: I have a reservation under the name Baldwin.
Receptionist: Baldwin... (*flicks through an old notebook*) Baldwin, let's see... I can't seem to find you... erm... Baldwin, ah yes, here you are. A single for the night, is that right?
Customer: Well, no actually, it was a double room and it was booked for two nights. I'm expecting someone later on this afternoon. I explained all of this in the e-mail reservation.
Receptionist: Oh really? I don't think I saw that.
Customer: Well, you did, because you replied. In fact, I have a print out here. Receptionist: Oh, I see. Well OK, here's your key card.
Receptionist: Right, Thanks.
Customer: Oh, I see. Well OK, here's your key card.
Receptionist: Right, Thanks.
Customer: Excuse me.
Receptionist: Yes, what seems to be the problem?
Customer: Well, how long have you got... everything seems to be the problem.
Receptionist: Anything in particular, sir?
Customer: Well, for starters, the bed hasn't been made.
Receptionist: Now really, surely you know how to make a bed? Can't you do it yourself?
Customer: Excuse me? Is this some kind of joke?
Receptionist: Well, OK, I'll send someone up.
Customer: And another thing, the bathroom is filthy.
Receptionist: Honestly, a little dirt won't hurt. In fact, they say it's important to live with some bacteria. If not, you have...
Customer: Look, I don't really have time to listen to your speech on hygiene. I need to be somewhere. Maybe it would be better if I speak to your manager.
Receptionist: Manager?
Customer: Yes, the manager.
Receptionist: Oh, there's no need for that. I'll send someone up to sort it out straight away.
Customer: Right, and one more thing...
Receptionist: Yes?
Customer: Can you send some towels up?
Receptionist: Oh dear, did you forget yours? What a shame, that's the first thing I pack when I go away. Never mind, I'm sure we can find one lying around. It's amazing how much guests leave in the rooms. In fact, between you and me, I make a point of going around all the rooms to see what goodies have been left. Do you know, once I found a...
Customer: Please, stop. It's OK. Forget it, just send someone up to sort the bathroom out. And change my reservation. I think I'll be needing just the one night after all.

Travelling Through (Track 32)

A memorable travelling experience... mm... let's think. Ah OK, I know. Well, I was 20 at the time, and it was my first summer break after my freshman year at Uni! I went travelling, of course. That was the fashionable thing to do back then. I guess it still is. Anyway, I was travelling with my best friend, Shereen. We had saved up doing various summer jobs. I think I actually had three at once, but it was all part of the fun. We were saving for an inter-rail pass across part of Europe – again the typical thing to do as students.

We mapped out our route, and the first port of call was France. My mum and dad dropped us off at Dover, and off we went on the beginning of an adventure. Looking back, I guess it was the beginning of the adventure of adult life as I had never known it. We were waved off, and as soon as the oldies were out of sight, there was this incredible feeling of freedom. There we were; on a boat with nothing more than the shiny new rucksacks on our backs and heaps of anticipation. As the Americans say, it was awesome. We travelled through Holland and France, but the drama really started when we got on a night train to Algeciras where we were to catch the ferry to Africa.

So, it was three weeks into the trip, and the novelty of sleepers, crummy hostels, dry bread and cheap cheese and beer had worn off. It turned out we weren't the robust travellers we fancied ourselves to be. On board, we settled down into our sleepers, and I fell asleep to the motion of the train leaving the station. I vaguely recall Shereen saying she would be at the café at the far end of the train... something about not being able to sleep. To be honest, I didn't pay too much attention. I was mumbled agreement and must have fallen asleep. The next thing I knew, it was morning and wow, what a breathtaking morning it was. The scenery was utterly beautiful. I looked around to comment and share my appreciation with my travel companion, but Shereen's bunk was still made up. She hadn't slept there. Assuming she had fallen asleep in the café, I got up and put my shoes on to go and look for her. Just as I went to slide the carriage door open, the ticket inspector appeared.

"Miss Brown," he said in a thick Andaluz accent.

"Si," my Spanish was non-existent in those days.

"Your friend..."

"Yes, Shereen, what's the matter?"

"No problem, your friend in Malaga."

"Oh," I replied a little confused. "Well, where am I?"

"Granada- final stop."

I suppose you can guess the rest; the train had split in the early hours of the morning. Both oblivious, we had parted and gone in very different directions. Eventually, we found each other though, and everything turned out OK.

Off the Cuff (Track 33)

So, what's your favourite thing about the holidays?

Off the Cuff A

Oh, there's so many things I could say. There's nothing really that I don't like about the holidays. You can spend all day doing exactly what you want. And, if you're me, exactly what you want means sitting in bed all day with a big pile of books, a big pile of chocolates, and no one bothering you and telling you to do the washing up. And you don't have to go shopping. You can just laze around and do exactly what you feel like doing. Of course, different holidays, different plus points. See, Christmas is really good because you get presents. Easter is really good because of the chocolates. And, summer is really good because of the sunshine and the fact that you can play outside, and laze around, and sit in the pub for hours, and the time just flies.

Off the Cuff B

What do I like about holidays? Wow, where do I start? Let me think. Erm, first of all, not going to work and getting in bed. That's the first thing, not having to worry about what time you you stay out of bed. So that's the first thing. Erm, I suppose just having day upon day with nothing in particular to do. And just thinking, "Oh what shall I do now? Do you know, I really don't know and I really don't care." So, I quite like the idea of that. Having no obligations I suppose is what I'm trying to say. And then going on holiday, of course, is a different situation: planning the holiday, "oh, where shall we go", going on the internet, checking out the flights, checking out the campsites or the hotels. Trying to work all that out that, that planning process, is almost as – erm – that planning process is almost as important as the holiday itself. I find. And of course: getting there, once you've arrived there, checking in, checking out the scene, all that stuff. It's all new, it's all exciting, Erm, and I suppose after a while holidays can become boring. After about three or four weeks you might actually think, do you know, I wouldn't mind going back to work. Because at the end of the day, I think really all of us like some kind of discipline in our day. So I think holidays need to be short, sharp bursts, erm, in which involve having a great time and then back to work. But lots of short, sharp bursts. That, for me, is important.

Answers

page 4 Hero Dies

Reading 1

They are all super heroes.

A man admired for his achievements and noble qualities and one that shows great courage.

Reading 1

He wrote literature about Russian history that some people say changed the minds of many. He was sent to prison for criticising Stalin and his courage was an inspiration to the Russian people.

Reading II

1. The year he was born

2. The year he died

3. The year he wrote a story about being a Gulag prisoner

4. The year he was sent to the Gulag for criticising Stalin

5. The year he won the Nobel Prize for Literature

Language focus

1. Thirty-first 2. Twenty-second 3. Twenty-third

Page 5 Seeing Stars

Pre reading

1c 2a 3b 4d

Reading I

Mozart and Yoo Ye-eun

Reading II

1T 2F 3F 4T

Page 8 Useful Vocabulary



1f 2b 3g 4e 5a 6j 7c 8h 9i 10d

Page 11 Chugging Along

Pre reading

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

- London; New York City; Rome
- Paddington Bear; having the most platforms; its location
- The Long Good Friday; North by Northwest; The Untouchables; Indiscretion of an American Wife

Reading II

- number of platforms in Grand Central Station.
- length in metres of Paddington Station's roof
- million passengers each year in Stazione di Roma
- platforms that will be in Grand Central Station after additions
- businesses in Grand Central Station
- daily commuters in Grand Central Station
- number of platforms in Stazione di Roma Termini

Language Focus

Possible Answers

- It is time to get on the boat.
- When do we get off the train?
- You can get to both the underground and Heathrow Airport. A relaxing way of getting around is to travel by train.

Page 15 Dr Fingers Error Correction

- I am free on Wednesday. I have some free time on Wednesday.
- Come here.
- I am going home.
- Someone is at the door. Who is it?
- Don't worry about that.

Page 15 Saving Money

Listening I

- Driving – Use your car less and walk. It also saves on petrol.
- Walking – Walking keeps you fit and you save money on a gym membership.
- Keeping fit – If you walk everywhere, you keep fit.

Page 16 Grammar Fun

1 cold 2 know 3 met 4 dessert 5 alone 6 lonely 7 feeling cold 8 desert

Page 17 Telephone English

Listening I

Caller: Martha. Company: Stanley Construction. Message: Martha's mobile is broken. Call her at work on 7498325, or send an email after 4pm.

Listening II

1 2395 2 7498325 3 after 4pm

Page 18 Film / TV Scripts

- He wishes he had never been born
- 2,000 dollars
- Potter and the Sherriff

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

Page 19 Christmas Festivals

Reading I

- The Winter Solstice
- Hanukah
- Kwanzaa

Reading II

- The Winter Solstice
 - Christmas
 - Kwanzaa
 - Hanukah
 - The Winter Solstice
- Language focus**
Was built and was made.
The miracle of Hanukah was explained by Ross from Friends.

Page 20 Greek geeks

Pre reading

1a 2c 3b 4d

Reading I

The Antikythera mechanism

Reading II

- Greece and Sicily
- Bronze
- A PDA
- To make a note of and record major Olympic sights and events.

Page 21 We're not alone

Pre reading

Vocabulary

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

Reading I

- He is a US astronaut.
- He has dedicated his life to studying space and he conducted experiments in ESP during his Apollo 14 mission.

Reading II

1T 2F 3T 4T 5F

Page 22 Trivia Matching

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

Page 27 Manners Moment

Listening I

Do's – Make a shopping list, be cool and calm, let your guests help, be well-prepared
Don'ts – Be stressed, refuse help from your guests.

Page 40 Jokes

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

Page 41 Misheard Lyrics

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

Page 42 It's a Scream

Reading I

It's genetic. People who are more frightened have a gene. The person who is more scared has one copy of both types of the COMT gene.

Reading II

- COMT is a gene.
- Anxiety is a state of uneasiness and apprehension, as about future uncertainties.
- Genes are hereditary units consisting of a sequence of DNA that occupies a specific location on a chromosome.
- The startle effect is when something frightens us and makes us wary.

Page 43 Trouble in Paradise

Reading I

- Money
 - Chores
 - Smoking
- Opera tickets
Phrasal Verb focus
Cheat on

Page 47 Riddles

- a match
- The letter "M" appears once in the word "minute",

twice in the word "moment", but never in the word "second".
3. She is playing the game Monopoly and is using the "car" game piece.

Page 50 Positive Energy

Reading I

- late Stone Age China
- "wind-water"
- aesthetics, and creating positive energy and good balance
- simplifying a workspace helps people focus better which means they are less stressed, having uncompleted tasks distracts the worker, if people have more space to move around they will feel more creative and free.

Reading II

- have a picture of a lake or waterfall on the wall to represent the flow of energy and productivity, have a curved desk to promote creativity, never have your back to the door or someone else in the office, do not have a room with doors on two opposite sides of the room as this allows Qi to get in and out of the room quickly.
- how does moving objects around a room create harmony? Feng shui has been compared to sorcery and feudalist superstition. It is inconsistent.

Page 51 Nightmare Hotel

Listening I

- the bed hasn't been made
- the bathroom is filthy
- there are no towels

Listening II

- Baldwin
- double
- e-mail
- bathroom
- one

Page 55 Dr Fingers Error Correction

- My throat is swollen.
- She was very interested in the subject.
- According to the manual, we need four nails.
- I thought about everything he said.
- History repeats itself.
- You don't know what she said.

Page 58 Keep Talking

Reading I

A filibuster is the act of extending debate on a bill before the Senate votes on it. A Senator, or a group of Senators, can speak as long as they want about any topic.

Page 60 Not Kosher

Pre reading I

1.b 2.a 3.c

Reading I

They have all been involved in cases of censorship.

Reading II

1.c 2.b 3.a
Phrasal Verb Focus
to come out

Page 65 Travelling Through

Listening I

- France
- Holland
- Spain

Listening II

1.a 2.c 3.c



Travelling Through

ANSWERS ON PAGE 65

1 Pre listening

Have you ever travelled around Europe? Through your country? To any exotic places? Who did you go with? How much did you spend? How long was your trip?

2 Listening I

Listen and write down the countries the girls visited.

- _____
- _____
- _____



3 Listening II

Listen again and choose the correct option.

- The girls were...
 - ... finished with their first year of university.
 - ... graduating that summer.
 - ... still at school.
- On the day of their departure...
 - ... they were late for the ferry.
 - ... both their parents were there to see them off.
 - ... they were very excited about the experience.
- On the night train...
 - ... they both went to the cafe.
 - ... they both fell asleep in the cafe.
 - ... Shereen left her friend in the carriage.

4 Language focus

Did you notice the use of the past forms in the conversation? How many did you hear? Look at the following examples of the three main past forms and explain the difference between them.

- I was 20 at the time.
- I was travelling with my best friend, Shereen.
- We had saved up.

5 Discussion

- Have you ever had any nightmare travel experiences? What happened?
- Do young people travel in your country? How? Where do they go?
- Have you ever travelled with a good friend? Where did you go? Was it a positive experience? Why? Why not?

WORD OF THE MONTH

Newbie

THIS MONTH, WE'RE LOOKING AT THE WORD "NEWBIE", AND OTHER WORDS WITH A SIMILAR MEANING.

A "newbie" is the newest member to a group. It can be used descriptively or in a more derogatory way. The term started being used in the Vietnam War, and was commonly used in the navy, especially on submarines. In the case of the navy, it is used **derogatorily**. Newly-arrived sailors were considered useless until they had **learned the ropes**. After that, they were described as Non-Useful Bodies or N.U.Bs. So, when the acronym was pronounced as a



word, it became "Newbie". Descriptively, the word is not offensive at all, but is used informally. Here are some examples of its usage in each sense:

- a) We're having an **induction** session for the newbies on Monday morning before they begin their jobs in the afternoon. (*descriptive*)
- b) Try to avoid working with the newbies, because it's very time-consuming to explain the job to them. (*derogatory*)

There are other expressions you can use for a newcomer. "Greenhorns" or people who are "green", is another word for an inexperienced person. Literally, "greenhorn" is a word for young animals such as deer. Deer have undeveloped **antlers** which are green, hence the word "greenhorns". Another expression that implies extreme youth and immaturity is "being wet

behind the ears". This is in reference to a child being so young that they are still wet from childbirth. It originated in the United States, and there is also the opposite phrase of having a "dry back of the ears". This expression signifies maturity, but its usage is less common. Here are some examples of these expressions:

- a) Let's send the greenhorn to close the sale so she can practise negotiating.
- b) He's a little wet behind the ears now, but he will probably be our top salesman in two or three years.

The expression "Johnny-come-lately" has a couple of meanings. Firstly, it means someone who is a late or recent arrival to a place. "Johnny-come-lately" can also imply that someone is "new money". For example, "Established families like to hold themselves above the Johnny-come-latelies." The popular American country rock band *The Eagles* has a song entitled *Johnny-Come-Lately* (*The New Kid in Town*), which is a **tune** about a popular guy who is new in town. ☆



GLOSSARY

- derogatory** *adj*
if you make a "derogatory" remark about someone or something, you express a low opinion of them
- to learn the ropes** *exp*
to understand a new process
- an induction** *n*
an information session for new employees or members of an organisation
- antlers** *n*
a type of animal horn that falls off creatures such as deer during the summer
- a tune** *n* *inform*
a song

next month in
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Ricky Gervais
Ghost Town

The Office

uk VS us

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