

60 MINUTE CD INSIDE

Have a laugh with... hot

# english magazine

## SARCASM

Learn how to be sarcastic in English.

## TEXTBOOK TERMINATION

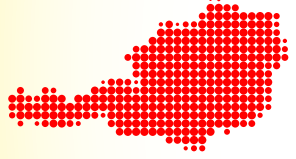
Arnie's e-solution to learning.

## PHRASAL VERBS: Time.



## VISIT AUSTRIA

Europe's paradise on earth.



## USEFUL WORDS & EXPRESSIONS:

The office.



## HUMOUR SCHOOL

The secrets to a good joke.

## ROBERT DOWNEY JUNIOR

A life of ups and downs.



## MJ

A Michael Jackson tribute.

# Funkyzeit with Brüno!



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

CURSOS DE INGLÉS - EMPRESAS/PARTICULARES

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# Editor's intro

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This symbol tells you that the article is recorded on the CD.



Hi, and welcome to another issue of Hot English Magazine, the fun magazine for learning English. First of all, we hope you had a great summer. My summer consisted of some relaxing by the beach and a bit of culture in Italy. Did you go anywhere nice? Did you practise your English? We hope so!

Well, now it's time to put your learning hat on again and start studying. Just to keep you happy, we're focussing on comedy in this month's issue. And as part of the special feature, we're looking at one of Britain's most controversial comedians: Sacha Baron-Cohen. His latest film is *Brüno*. You can find out all about the film and the man behind it. One particular form of humour that the British are particularly good at is sarcasm. You can learn how to be sarcastic in a few easy steps in this month's Word of the Month section. And to complement that, we've got some famous insults from the rich and famous that you can learn.

But it's not all fun and games. You can find out about a very "green" form of packaging from a British cosmetics company, a school programme in the States that's teaching kids how to be stock market experts and all about a top European destination that is designed to satisfy your need for culture.

Well, I hope you have fun reading this issue. Good luck with your English and we'll see you all next month.

Yours,

*Jenna*



PS Don't forget, Hot English also does company classes. So, if you work for a company that has or needs classes, why not recommend us? Then, if your company does start classes with us, all the students in your company will get the magazine for FREE!

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**Advertising**  
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The latest advertising technique for toilet paper.



## 1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Think of 3 ways to promote a brand of toilet paper.

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. Were any of your ideas similar to this one?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and complete the information.

1. Name of the story:
2. Setting for the story:
3. Time it takes to read the story:
4. Author of the story:
5. Genre of story:



## 4 The Present Perfect Simple

"He has written books about fatherhood..."

Why has the writer used this tense here? Can you find any more examples of the Present Perfect Simple?

## 5 Discussion

1. Would you like to read this story? Why? Why not?
2. Do you like reading short stories? What's the best short story you've read?
3. Where/When do you like to read?

Where's the best way to promote a **range of toilet paper**? A company from Japan has an original idea – they've printed a short story on the paper!

The story is called *Drop*, and it's set in a public toilet. "The story is on about one metre of toilet paper and can be read in a few minutes," said company executive Niko Shimatani of Hayashi Paper, a Japanese paper company.

The author behind the story is Koji Suzuki. Many people refer to him as the Japanese Stephen King. He has written books about **fatherhood** and has even translated children's books. Before *Drop*, he wrote a novel called *Ring* in 1991. The novel was made into a feature film of the same name and was very popular in Japan and in Hollywood.

So, what's the short story on the toilet rolls about? It's a horror story based on a Japanese **superstition**. In many old Japanese houses, the toilets were often at the back of the house, in a dark corner. There was a myth that a ghost lived in the toilet bowl. Very often, parents told their children that a big hand would pull them into the dark toilet bowl if they were **naughty**. As a result, many children grew up **frightened** of "the ghosts in the toilets".

One day, *Drop* may be made into a film. But will we have to watch it in the toilet? ✨

## Weird Ways to Advertise

Here are some unusual ways that companies have advertised.

1. A Dutch environmental group used "cowvertising". This involved dressing cows in coats with their slogan on, asking the government to protect rural areas from industrial pollution.



2. In New York, IKEA (a Swedish furniture shop) advertised their new furniture by installing sofas and tables at bus shelters.



3. A Flemish TV company got into trouble when it tried to promote the action series "24". They told their employees to dress up in biohazard suits and to distribute leaflets to commuters in the central station reading, "Warning! There's a deadly virus in the city! Keep your doors and windows closed and turn on your television at 8pm."



## GLOSSARY

- a range** *n*  
a "range" of things is a number of different types of the same general kind
- toilet paper** *n*  
thin paper wrapped around a roll of cardboard for cleaning yourself. Used in the bathroom
- fatherhood** *n*  
the state of being a father
- a superstition** *n*  
a belief in things that are not real
- naughty** *adj*  
disobedient; badly behaved; rebellious
- frightened** *adj*  
anxious or afraid of something

# Work Before Play

What to do when you retire.



## 1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Think of six things you could do when you retire.

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. Did they mention any of the things you thought of?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. Where did Ed work before he retired?
2. What does he do now?
3. How long are the tours?
4. Who convinced Doug to become a comedian?
5. What is Doug's working name?

## 4 Language focus Parts of Speech

Complete the parts of speech.

1. verb: To retire
2. noun: \_\_\_\_\_
3. adjective: \_\_\_\_\_

## 5 Discussion

1. What hobbies would you like to do when you retire?
2. Where would you like to retire?
3. What would you definitely not like to do when you retire?



What do you want to do when you **retire**? Sit on a beach somewhere? Buy a house in a quiet village? Take up golf? Play bingo? Here are two original ways to spend your retirement.

"I couldn't be happier," says Ed Carpenter, who is enjoying his retirement. Before retiring, Ed worked in public relations at Boston University. But these days, the 64-year-old **diehard Red Sox\* fan** is giving tours of Fenway Park, the baseball stadium for the Boston Red Sox. "I have Fenway Park as my office and I **share** my love of the Red Sox with people from all over the world every day," he says. The tours are about one hour long, and many people say he is an amazing tour guide. "He's a natural – he has such a memory for detail and it's obvious he's really lives this game," said Patricia Fielding, who went on the tour with her husband.

Doug Griffin is enjoying his retirement, too. After he retired, he decided to make a job out of his **hobby** – making people laugh. His family always told him he should have been a comedian. So, when Doug retired, he took a clowning class which was advertised in the local newspaper. And now, Doug is working as Lucky the Clown. He works **part-time** near his home in Ohio, and **entertains** children at parties.

So, what are you going to do when you retire? \*

## \* Red Sox

The Boston Red Sox team was founded in 1901 and rapidly became one of America's most famous baseball clubs. They have won seven World Series championships. Just recently, they won the title in 2003 and 2007. The team was called Boston Red Sox because of their first uniform, which included bright red socks. They currently play at Fenway Park, in Boston, which has been their home stadium since their first game.



## GLOSSARY

**to retire** *vb*  
to stop working, usually because you are 65 years old

**diehard** *adj*  
if you are a "diehard" fan of something, you really like it

**a fan** *n*  
if you are a "fan" of a famous person or a club, you like them and are very interested in them

**to share** *vb*  
if you "share" something, you give part of it to another person

**a hobby** *n*  
an activity that you do in your free time

**part-time** *adj*  
if someone works "part-time", they only work for part of each day or week

**to entertain** *vb*  
if someone "entertains" you, they amuse you / play games with you / make you happy, etc.

# THE NAME GAME

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

# STORY TIME

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



**Robin Hood** (English hero)  
A "HOOD" IS A PART OF A JACKET THAT CAN COVER YOUR HEAD.  
"She put her hood up because it was cold and raining."



**Bryan Ferry** (English singer)  
A FERRY IS A TYPE OF SHIP THAT CAN TAKE PEOPLE/VEHICLES ACROSS A RIVER OR PART OF A SEA.  
"The ferry can take you across the harbour in about ten minutes."



**Paul Newman** (US actor)  
IF SOMETHING IS "NEW", IT ISN'T OLD. A MAN = NOT A WOMAN.  
"I've got a new car. I'm a lucky man!"



**Jack Lemmon** (US comic actor)  
A "LEMON" (WITH ONE "M") IS A YELLOW CITRUS FRUIT.  
"I love salad dressing made with olive oil and fresh lemons."



**Gap** (clothing store)  
IF THERE IS A "GAP" BETWEEN TWO THINGS, THERE IS A SPACE THERE.  
"Be careful when you get off the train – there's a gap between the train and the platform."

## Wedding Talk

A little girl goes to a **wedding** for the first time. She **whispers** to her mum, "Why is the **bride** dressed in white?" Her mum answers, "Because white is the colour of happiness, and today is the happiest day of her life." The little girl thought about this for a moment. Then, she said, "So, why is the **groom** wearing black?"



## The Tooth Fairy

After losing another **tooth**, young Timmy became more curious about the **Tooth Fairy**. Finally understanding, he asked his mum, "Mum, are you the tooth fairy?" She thought her son was old enough to hear the truth, so she said, "Yes, Timmy, I am." Timmy accepted this quite well. But as he went to the door, he looked back at his mum with a curious look on his face and said, "Wait a minute, mum. How do you get into the other kids' houses?"



## Printing Problems

I'd been doing **technical support** for a printing company for about a month when I had a call from an employer with a problem. He couldn't print yellow. All the other colours would print **fine**. This confused me because the only colours used for printers are **cyan**, **magenta** and yellow. For instance, green is a combination of cyan and yellow, but green printed without any problems. Every colour printed fine except for yellow.



I changed the **ink cartridges**. I **deleted** and reinstalled everything. Nothing worked. I asked my co-workers for help; they offered no new ideas. I was about to tell the customer to send the printer to get repaired when he asked quietly, "Should I try printing on white paper instead of this yellow paper?" ☺

### GLOSSARY

- a wedding** *n*  
a ceremony in which two people are married
- to whisper** *vb*  
to speak very softly and quietly
- a bride** *n*  
the woman who is going to get married at a wedding
- a groom** *n*  
the man who is going to get married at a wedding
- a tooth** *n*  
the hard, white objects in your mouth that you use for eating
- the Tooth Fairy** *n*  
an imaginary person who gives children money in exchange for their teeth that fall out
- technical support** *n*  
assistance and help dealing with problems with electrical goods: the computer, a camera, mobile phone, etc.
- fine** *adj*  
OK
- cyan** *n*  
a sort of blue colour
- magenta** *n*  
a sort of purple colour
- an ink cartridge** *n*  
an object you put in a printer that has coloured ink (a liquid substance) in it
- to delete** *vb*  
to eliminate; to get rid of

# Have you got a sense of **humour**?

CAN YOU LAUGH AT YOURSELF? DO YOU FIND MOST JOKES FUNNY? DO OUR QUIZ AND FIND OUT WHETHER YOU HAVE A SENSE OF HUMOUR OR NOT.



## Results If you answered...

### mostly a's Mr/Mrs Angry

We seriously recommend an anger management course before you explode.

### mostly b's Mr/Mrs Analytical

You do have the capacity to laugh at yourself at times, but you should try to **lighten up** a bit. Stop taking life so seriously!

### mostly c's Mr/Mrs Hilarious

You can't help but see the funny side of life. You're a true comedian.



- 1** You accidentally leave the house with different coloured socks on. What do you do?
  - a. I **rush** home and change the socks.
  - b. I **pop into** the nearest shop and buy a new pair.
  - c. Nothing. I think it looks quite good.
- 2** Someone tells an innocent joke about people from your country. What do you do?
  - a. I report them to the Race Relations Board.
  - b. I leave the room.
  - c. I tell another joke about people from my country.
- 3** A colleague **pins up** a photo of you on the **staff noticeboard**. You're pulling a funny face on the photo and you look a bit silly. What do you do?
  - a. I **rip it down**.
  - b. I pin up another picture of me looking really cool.
  - c. I paint a moustache on my face in the photo.
- 4** There's a funny TV programme with home videos of people falling down accidentally. What do you think of it?
  - a. I am not amused!
  - b. What's so funny?
  - c. I laughed so much I nearly cried.
- 5** How do other people react when you tell a joke?
  - a. I don't tell jokes.
  - b. They don't usually laugh.
  - c. They roll about on the floor in hysterics.
- 6** A work colleague glues your phone to your desk as a **practical joke**. When you go to answer the phone, you can't **pick it up**. How do you react?
  - a. I **smash** their phone **to pieces** with a baseball bat.
  - b. I report them to the manager.
  - c. I laugh. Later, I'll play a joke on them.
- 7** A friend does an imitation of the way you run. Everyone laughs about it. What do you do?
  - a. I **challenge** the joker **to a fight**.
  - b. What's so funny about my run?
  - c. I run around the room to make them laugh even more.
- 8** You decide to have an **afternoon nap**. You set the alarm for 4 pm – one hour later. However, while you're sleeping, your sister changes the time, and the alarm rings 3 hours later. What do you do?
  - a. I phone the police and report the incident.
  - b. I throw my sister's alarm clock down the toilet.
  - c. I go back to bed. ★

## GLOSSARY

- to rush** *vb*  
to go somewhere quickly
- to pop into** *phr vb*  
to enter a place quickly and for a short period of time
- to pin up** *phr vb*  
to stick on a board / the wall with a drawing pin (a small sharp object for sticking paper, etc.)
- the staff noticeboard** *n*  
a piece of wood/cork/metal, etc. attached to the wall with information for employees
- to rip something down** *exp*  
to take down quickly/violently, etc.
- a practical joke** *n*  
a joke/trick that is designed to make someone look silly/ridiculous, etc.
- to pick up (the phone)** *exp*  
to take the phone in your hands in order to answer it because it is ringing
- to smash something to pieces** *exp*  
to completely destroy something by hitting it many times
- to challenge someone to a fight** *exp*  
to tell someone that you want to have a fight with them
- an afternoon nap** *n*  
a little sleep in the afternoon (usually about one hour)
- to lighten up** *phr vb*  
to relax; to be less tense and serious

# USEFUL VOCABULARY

THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR SECTION ON USEFUL VOCABULARY.  
THIS MONTH: THE OFFICE. ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

## 1 Match the words

Match the words below to the pictures.

1. Stapler
2. Highlighter
3. Folder
4. Sellotape ("Scotch tape" US English)
5. Scissors
6. Bin ("trashcan" US English)
7. Diary
8. Paper clips
9. Sticky notes / Post-it notes
10. Hole puncher



## 2 Wordsearch

Now find these words in the wordsearch.

- |             |              |
|-------------|--------------|
| Stapler     | highlighter  |
| folder      | sellotape    |
| Scotch tape | bin          |
| trashcan    | diary        |
| paper clips | sticky notes |
| hole punch  |              |



## 3 Guess the word

Think of ways to describe the words above. See if your partner can guess the word from the clues.





# USEFUL VERBS & EXPRESSIONS

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

## TO BE LATE FOR WORK

TO ARRIVE TO WORK AFTER THE TIME YOU ARE SUPPOSED TO ARRIVE.

"BETTY IS LATE FOR WORK EVERY DAY. WE START AT 9:00, BUT SHE ALWAYS COMES IN AT 10:00."



## TO MAKE A PHOTOCOPY

TO MAKE A COPY OF A PIECE OF PAPER / DOCUMENT, ETC. BY USING A PHOTOCOPIER.

"COULD YOU MAKE A PHOTOCOPY OF THIS REPORT, PLEASE?"



## TO RUN AN ERRAND

IF YOU "RUN AN ERRAND FOR SOMEONE", YOU GO SOMEWHERE (USUALLY SOMEWHERE CLOSE BY) IN ORDER TO DO A LITTLE JOB.

"HE OFTEN RUNS ERRANDS FOR US SUCH AS BUYING OFFICE SUPPLIES AND POSTING LETTERS."



## TO TAKE A DAY OFF ("TO PULL A SICKIE" INFORMAL/SLANG)

IF YOU "TAKE A DAY OFF", YOU DON'T GO TO WORK.

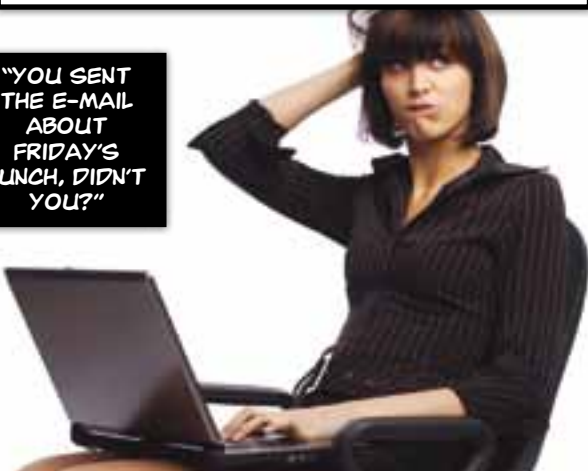


"PAUL TOOK LAST FRIDAY OFF BECAUSE HE WENT TO AN INTERVIEW."

## TO SEND AN E-MAIL

TO WRITE A MESSAGE TO SOMEONE ELSE USING ELECTRONIC MAIL.

"YOU SENT THE E-MAIL ABOUT FRIDAY'S LUNCH, DIDN'T YOU?"



## TO MAKE A (PHONE) CALL

TO USE THE TELEPHONE/MOBILE TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE.

"I'VE BEEN MAKING CALLS ALL MORNING."



# HUMOUR DICTIONARY

WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE TYPE OF HUMOUR? IS IT ONE OF THESE?

## OBSERVATIONAL

Observational humour is based on comments about everyday life. Comedians who use this type of humour often start by saying, Have you ever noticed how...? Then, they make funny comments about everyday things such as work, marriage, children, etc. This **trend** began in the 1970s with US comedians such as Bill Cosby and Jay Leno.



## SLAPSTICK

Slapstick humour is very physical. It involves characters falling down, hitting people or crashing into things. This type of comedy is very common in cartoons such as *Tom and Jerry* and was a favourite of comedy actors from programmes such as *The Three Stooges*, Charlie Chaplin and Laurel and Hardy.



## SELF DEPRECATING HUMOUR

Self-deprecating humour involves making jokes about yourself or drawing attention to your faults. George Costanza from the comedy series *Seinfeld* uses a lot of self-deprecating humour, often making jokes about his lack of hair, his weight and his **shallow personality**. Comedians such as Chris Farley, Conan O'Brien, David Letterman and Woody Allen also use self-deprecating comedy.



## TOILET HUMOUR

Toilet humour often focuses on the noises and functions of the body. It's often viewed as rude, impolite and childish, although many people find it very funny. There's a hilarious scene involving toilet humour in the film *Along Came Polly*. Reuben (Ben Stiller) is invited back to Polly's apartment (Jennifer Aniston). After dinner, Reuben accidentally blocks the toilet. In an attempt to unblock it, he uses her hand-embroidered towel (a gift from her grandmother) and an expensive **loofah**. Eventually, the toilet **overflows**, leaving Reuben with no option but to leave.

## SATIRE

Satire is a complex form of humour which is often used to attack or **ridicule** someone or something. Forms of satire can include **parody**, **irony** and **sarcasm**. Modern examples of this genre can be found in newspapers such as *The Onion*, and TV Shows such as *South Park* or *Family Guy*.



## SITUATIONAL COMEDY (SITCOM)

This genre of comedy started on the radio in the 1920s. These days, "sitcoms" are usually TV programmes that focus on a group of characters who find themselves in funny situations. The sitcom originated with shows such as *I Love Lucy*, and developed into programmes such as *Friends* and *Will and Grace*.



## GLOSSARY

- a trend** *n*  
a fashion
- a shallow personality** *n*  
someone with a "shallow personality" is not serious and perhaps dishonest
- to ridicule** *vb*  
to humiliate; to make fun of
- a parody** *n*  
an imitation of something in order to make fun of it
- irony** *n*  
a subtle form of humour that involves saying the opposite to what you mean
- sarcasm** *n*  
a form of humour that involves saying things that humiliate or hurt others
- a loofah** *n*  
a type of sponge for washing the body. It is made from the dried part of the loofa fruit
- to overflow** *vb*  
if a container "overflows", there is too much liquid in it and the liquid falls out



MY FRIENDS THINK I'M FUNNY.



# Souvenirs



a flag



a paperweight



a key ring



a magnet



a teddy bear



a snow globe



a bookmark



a mug



an apron



playing cards



a spoon



a T-shirt

LISTEN AND REPEAT THESE EXPRESSIONS.

## Going through customs

### Useful Expressions

#### What you hear

- Do you have anything to declare?
- Is this your first time in the UK?
- What's the purpose of your visit?
- Are you here for business or pleasure?
- Did you purchase any perishables?
- How long do you plan to stay in the country?
- What's your final destination?
- Can you open your bag for me, please?
- Did you pack the bag yourself?
- Can you come through here, please?



#### What you say

- I'm staying here for two weeks.
- I'm here on business.
- I'm visiting friends.
- I'm studying in a college in London.
- I haven't got anything to declare.
- This is my first time in England. ✪

## Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, PETRA IS GOING THROUGH CUSTOMS IN THE UNITED STATES.

- Customs Officer:** Welcome to the United States. May I see your passport, please?
- Petra:** Yes, here you go.
- Customs Officer:** Where are you coming from?
- Petra:** Heathrow Airport in London.
- Customs Officer:** OK, and what's the purpose of your visit?
- Petra:** I'm visiting my uncle in Denver.
- Customs Officer:** And how long do you plan on staying?
- Petra:** I'll be here for 15 days.
- Customs Officer:** Where will you be staying?
- Petra:** I'll be staying at his house for the whole time.
- Customs Officer:** Have you ever been to the US before?
- Petra:** Yes, I came three years ago for a month, and then last summer for an internship.
- Customs Officer:** Do you have anything to declare?
- Petra:** No.
- Customs Officer:** OK, thank you, ma'am. Enjoy your stay. ✪



Watch this video about two men trying to get past US customs:  
[http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C\\_oLtdVPjig](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C_oLtdVPjig)



# FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

THIS MONTH, COMING BACK FROM HOLIDAY.

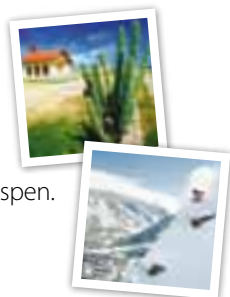
## Seeing someone after their holiday

- **A:** How was your holiday?
- **B:** Great, how was yours?
- **A:** Wonderful. My family and I went to the beach in Florida. What did you do?
- **B:** I went hiking in the Appalachian Mountains.
- **A:** Did you have a nice holiday?
- **B:** Yes, it was lovely, but not quite long enough!
- **A:** Welcome back from your holiday!
- **B:** Thank you, my holiday was amazing.



## Talking about your holiday

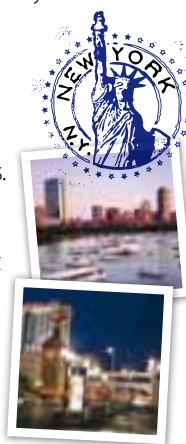
- I had a great time.
- We had a wonderful time.
- I wish we'd stayed longer.
- It's good to be back.
- My husband and I went to Aruba.
- My sisters and I rented a chalet in Aspen.
- I got back on Sunday evening.
- It was great to get away.
- I've been back for two weeks.



## Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, NANCY AND ROBERTA ARE TALKING ABOUT THEIR HOLIDAY.

- Nancy:** I can't believe the holidays are already over!
- Roberta:** I know. It's all over too fast.
- Nancy:** So, what did you do?
- Roberta:** Well, I went to Paris with my best friend for two weeks. We had a great time. What about you?
- Nancy:** I went on a road trip with 3 friends. It was great.
- Roberta:** Oh, really? Where did you go?
- Nancy:** We travelled down the east coast of the United States for about 10 days. We started in Boston, and then went to New York City, and then Atlantic City to the casinos there.
- Roberta:** Wow – that sounds great. I've always wanted to see the east coast.
- Nancy:** Yeah, it was really good fun. But now, I'm back at work. It's tough!
- Roberta:** I know how you feel! Paris was fantastic, but all that sightseeing! I think I need another holiday to get over that one – you know, a couple of weeks lying on the sofa reading or watching TV.
- Nancy:** Oh, yes, I know what you mean. There's no place like home.
- Roberta:** Mm-hmm, sometimes you have to go away to really appreciate how great it is to be in your own home.
- Nancy:** Yeah. ☺



How to tell a joke. by Emma Weinbren

Experts have identified three parts to the average joke: the **set-up**, the **punch-line** and the reaction. In order to see how this works, let's look at a typical joke.

the man chooses his original shoes. And now comes the part that all comedians **dread**: the reaction. This can be anything from hysterical laughter to uncomfortable silence.

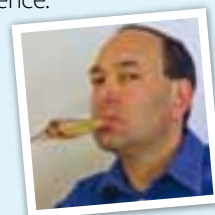
### The Shoes

One day, a man goes into a shoe shop to buy some shoes. He tries on many pairs but can't find any that **fit**. The saleswoman is starting to get **fed up**, but finally the man finds a pair that he likes. "Why didn't you show me these before?" the man asks angrily. And the saleswoman replies, "Because, sir, these are your shoes."



Did you laugh? Anyway, first of all, we have the set-up. This is the part that prepares the audience for the funny part. In this case, we hear that a man is looking for a new pair of shoes but he can't find any that fit. This provides a perfect setting for the punch-line when we discover that

So, how can you make sure that your punch-line doesn't **fall flat**? Stand-up comedian Shaun Eli has written a book called *Don't Step on your Laughter: A Pro Comic Shares his Secrets*. In it, he gives advice on how to tell the perfect joke. He advises the joke teller to understand the audience and find out about their likes and dislikes. He also says that it is important to practise a joke before telling it for the first time and to work on the timing and the intonation. But if the recipient of your joke is still not laughing after that, Eli's advice is simple: Take them to a comedy club. ☺



### GLOSSARY

- a set-up** *n*  
the main part of the joke that gives details and explains the story
- a punch-line** *n*  
the final, funny part of a joke
- to fit** *vb*  
if shoes "fit" you, they are the right size for you
- fed up** *adj*  
tired and angry
- to dread** *vb*  
to fear; to be afraid of
- to fall flat** *exp*  
if a joke "falls flat", no one laughs at it



# DR FINGERS' ERROR CORRECTION CLINIC

IN THIS SECTION, DR FINGERS IDENTIFIES AND CORRECTS TYPICAL ERRORS.

## SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



### 1 Activity

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

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

- I call to thank you for the gift.  
*I am calling to thank you for the gift.*
- What time you get here?
- I call you when I get home.
- I've never been hearing this type of music before.
- We made some research for the project.
- I do a lot of mistakes when I speak English.



# Cracking Up

The last thing that made you laugh.

### 1 Pre-listening

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

You are going to listen to four people talking about things that make them laugh. Look at the prompts below and try to imagine what they are going to say.

- An accident
- A dog
- A comedian
- A 3-year-old child

### 2 Listening I

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

### 3 Listening II

Listen again. Who says it? Person 1, Person 2, Person 3 or Person 4?

- Eventually, I found them. Spot was eating them. *Person 2*
- Earlier this morning, we went to a shop... \_\_\_\_\_
- I went to answer the phone. \_\_\_\_\_
- The shop assistant was quite surprised at first... \_\_\_\_\_
- He has a strong Scottish accent which makes him funnier. \_\_\_\_\_
- I was trying to do a hundred things at once. \_\_\_\_\_
- Anyway, he was describing a time when he was smoking in a bar. \_\_\_\_\_
- The other week, I bought some beautiful new shoes. \_\_\_\_\_

### 4 Language focus Pronunciation

Look at this sentence from the conversation.

"Anyway, he was describing a time when he was smoking in a bar."

What are the key words (the words that are stressed)? Mark them, then listen again to check.

### 5 Discussion

- What was the last thing that made you laugh?
- What makes you laugh in general?
- What's your favourite comedy film?

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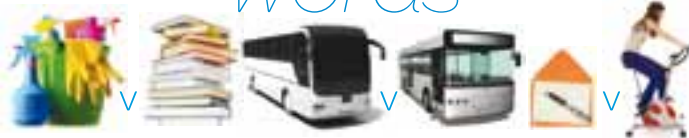
The section that makes grammar easy, interesting, and fun.



# GRAMMAR FUN

THIS MONTH, WE'RE LOOKING AT MORE EASILY-CONFUSED WORDS.

## easily-confused words



### 1. "Housework" versus "homework."

"Housework" is a noun that refers to the work you do in your house: washing the dishes, cleaning the house, doing the vacuuming, etc. For example:

- a) I always do the housework at the weekend.
- b) Shirley never does any housework.

"Homework" is work you do outside the classroom – work that you take home with you. For example:

- a) I haven't done my homework yet. My teacher is going to be angry.
- b) If you do your homework, you'll learn a lot faster.

### 2. "Coach" versus "bus."

A "bus" is a form of public transport. For example:

- a) Do you drive or get the bus to work?
- b) Getting the bus is the cheapest way to get round the city.

A "coach" is a bigger, more comfortable bus that is often used for longer journeys. For example:

- a) The National Express coach service goes to many European cities
- b) The coach trip from London to Paris is about ten hours.

### 3. "Stationary" versus "stationery"

"Stationary" is an adjective which refers to something/ someone who doesn't move. For example:

- a) Stationary cars in traffic jams cause a lot of pollution.
- b) The train remained stationary for over two hours.

"Stationery" is a noun which refers to material for office supplies or writing implements. (pens, pencils, writing paper, envelopes, etc.) For example:

- a) Parents have to spend a lot of money on stationery for their children at the start of the school year.
- b) We need to order some more stationery for the staffroom.

### 1 Exercise

Choose the correct answer.

1. The **bus/coach** ride to St Petersburg took more than twelve hours.
2. About the **homework/housework**: I'll do the cleaning if you wash the dishes. OK?
3. How much **stationery/stationary** do we need for the office?
4. I always get one of those open-top tourist **coaches/buses** when I visit a new city – it's the best way to see the sights.
5. I've got so much **homework/housework** to do: 3 pages of Geography, a Science exam to revise for...
6. The traffic was terrible - the car was **stationery/stationary** for 40 minutes.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

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# Candid Camera



## Allen Funt

Allen Funt hosted or co-hosted the programme until a stroke in 1993. Allen's son, Peter, is now the producer and host of the format. Woody Allen wrote for the show in the 1960s. A British version of Candid Camera began in 1960 and ran for seven years. You can see clips from the original Candid Camera series on YouTube.



**Hidden** camera shows are popular all over the world. But the original concept started way back in the 1940s with Candid Camera.

Candid Camera was created and produced by Allen Funt. It started out on radio in 1947, but **ended up** on TV in 1948. The idea for the show was simple. Hidden cameras would film ordinary people in unusual situations. When the joke was **revealed**, the victims would be told the show's catch phrase, "Smile! You're on Candid Camera." The humour was based on putting real people in **fake** situations. There have been many versions of the show since then, including *Just For Laughs Gags* and *Trigger Happy TV*, but Candid Camera was the original.

## Hidden camera pranks

Here are some typical hidden camera pranks.

A man grabs jewellery through the window of a jeweller's and gives it to a **passerby**.

An angry lady is cleaning the streets and won't let people pass.

Every time a waitress serves drinks in a bar, her skirt falls down.

A man dressed as a police officer writes fake parking tickets after removing a sign that says it's OK to park there.

In a first-aid class, students are learning how to do **mouth-to-mouth resuscitation** on a **dummy**. Suddenly, the "dummy" (which is actually a real person) wakes up.

A big hole is dug in a forest along a trail where people go **jogging**. The hole is filled with water and unsuspecting joggers fall into it.

A drunken man outside a public toilet tells people not to go down the stairs to the toilet because there's a lion there. No one believes him, but they soon find out that he is actually telling the truth.

A man flying a remote controlled plane asks the victim to hold the controls because he needs to go to the toilet. The plane (which is really being controlled by someone else who is hiding) starts attacking the victim.

LOOK INTO MY LENS.



There was bad news for the show in 2001. Philip Zelnick, 35, one of the victims of the show, **filed a lawsuit** against Peter Funt (the son of the founder). Zelnick claimed he was **injured** during one of the show's **pranks**. As part of this **gag**, Funt was **posing as** a security guard at an airport. He instructed passengers to go through a fake X-ray machine. While Zelnick was getting off the **conveyor belt**, he received a **bruise** to his leg. The **jury** awarded Zelnick a total of \$300,000, with Peter Funt and the show ordered to pay \$150,000 each. 🌟

## GLOSSARY

- hidden** *adj*  
if something is "hidden", you can't see it
- to end up** *phr/vb*  
if something "ends up" in a place, it is there eventually
- to reveal** *vb*  
to show
- fake** *adj*  
not real
- to file a lawsuit** *exp*  
to start a legal process against someone in order to get compensation
- injured** *adj*  
hurt; damaged
- a prank** *n*  
a joke that involves tricking/humiliating someone
- a gag** *n*  
a joke
- to pose as** *exp*  
if you pose as something, you pretend to be that thing by wearing different clothes, etc.
- a conveyor belt** *n*  
a continuously moving strip of rubber which is used for moving objects
- a bruise** *n*  
a blue/black mark on your body where you have been hit
- a jury** *n*  
a group of 12 people who decide if someone is innocent or guilty in a court case
- a passerby** *n*  
someone who is passing by in the street when something happens
- mouth-to-mouth resuscitation** *n*  
if you give an unconscious person this, you open their mouth and breath into them in order to make them conscious again
- a dummy** *n*  
a model of a person
- to jog** *vb*  
to run as a form of exercise

# READING I

## Terminating Textbooks

California comes up with a solution to its problems.



### Arnold Schwarzenegger

Arnold Schwarzenegger was born 30th July 1940 in Thal, Austria. He won his first Mr Universe title at age 20. One year later, he emigrated to America and won 12 more bodybuilding titles. He went to Wisconsin University to study Business and became an official American citizen in 1983. Shortly afterwards, he starred in his first Terminator film, which made him an international star. He married journalist Maria Shriver (JFK's niece) in 1986 and has four children. In 2003, he became the 38th Governor of the state of California.



### 1 Pre-reading

Look at the title of the article. What do you think the article is about?

### 2 Reading I

Read the article once to check and compare your ideas from the Pre-reading exercise.

### 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. What does Arnold Schwarzenegger think about school textbooks?
2. What has he decided to give California's students to replace their textbooks?
3. What does the average textbook cost?
4. Is this more or less than its digital equivalent?
5. What 3 objections did one high school teacher have to the scheme?

### 5 Discussion

1. What do you think of this idea?
2. Would you like to read books on an e-Reader? Why? Why not?
3. Do you think paper books will disappear one day? Why? Why not?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

California is in trouble. It's **running out of** cash and is facing a \$24 billion **budget deficit**. But Arnold Schwarzenegger, the state governor, thinks he has a solution.

"Textbooks are **outdated**, in my opinion," Schwarzenegger explained. "For so many years, we've been trying to teach kids exactly the same way. But our kids get their information from the internet **downloaded** onto their iPods, and in Twitter **feeds** to their cell phones... Basically, kids are feeling as comfortable with their **electronic devices** as I was with my pencils and crayons. So, why are California's students still forced to use antiquated, heavy, expensive textbooks?" As a result, the governor has decided that California's students will be given **e-Readers** to replace their **textbooks**.

California is the first American state to use digital textbooks. The use of the machines could save hundreds of millions of dollars, according to the governor. State officials say the average textbook costs \$75 to \$100 – far more than its digital equivalent. As part of the move, school students would also use online texts approved by academic boards and devices such as the Sony Reader or Amazon's Kindle, which can **store** the same amount of information as 160 books. He also wants to use a new Apple application that allows users to buy books and e-mail large **chunks of** text.

However, not everyone is in favour of the idea. "Using digital textbooks **places** poorer students **at a disadvantage**," a high school history teacher complained. "Also, it costs money to get materials and train teachers. On top of that, only one out of three students that go to my school has a computer. So, what are those students supposed to do after school?"

But the governor has **made up his mind**. "It is time to terminate the textbooks," he said. ♣



### GLOSSARY

**to run out of** *exp*

if something "runs out", there is no more of it

**a budget deficit** *exp*

if a state/country, etc. has a "budget deficit", they have spent more money than they have received

**outdated** *adj*

old-fashioned; not useful or relevant

**to download** *vb*

to take from the internet and to put on your computer

**a feed** *n*

the movement of information/text/video, etc. from the internet to a device (a computer / mobile phone, etc.)

**an electronic device** *n*

an electronic machine that does a job (an MP3 player, a mobile phone, etc.)

**an e-Reader** *n*

a device that stores books that you can read

**a textbook** *n*

a book that children use at school to learn about different subjects

**to store** *vb*

if you "store" information, you keep it in a file or on a computer

**a chunk of** *exp*

a large amount of

**to place someone at a disadvantage** *exp*

to put someone in an inferior position

**to make up your mind** *exp*

to decide



# READING II

# Dinnertime

Different dinners around the world.



## 1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

What kind of food do you buy every week? How much do you spend on...

- meat?
- fish?
- fruit and vegetables?
- fast food?

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. How does your shopping compare with the shopping habits of the families in the article?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and say what the numbers refer to.

- |             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| 1. 30       | 5. \$500    |
| 2. 24       | 6. \$1.23   |
| 3. \$75     | 7. \$155.06 |
| 4. \$341.98 | 8. \$9.17   |

## 4 Language focus: Prepositions

Complete the expressions with the correct prepositions.

- Spend money \_\_\_\_\_ something
- Eat something \_\_\_\_\_ dinner
- Look \_\_\_\_\_ something (examine/analyse)

## 5 Discussion

- Do you eat a healthy, balanced diet? Give details.
- What would you like to eat more/less of?
- Which foreign food do you like the most?

What do you usually eat for dinner? What do you think people in other countries eat? That's what husband and wife team Peter Menzel (a photographer) and Faith D'Aluisio (a writer) wanted to know. Here are some of their findings.

The results of their research can be found in the book *Hungry Planet: What the World Eats*. It's a photographic study of 30 families from 24 different countries from all over the world including Egypt, Ecuador and China. The authors, Faith and Peter, looked at what families eat in an average week, giving a breakdown in various categories including the amount the families spent on dairy products, meat, fish and eggs, and fruit and vegetables.

The results are fascinating. They show some differences but also many similarities between countries. Not surprisingly, the family from the US spends the most on fast food (\$75 a week), spending a total of \$341.98 a week on food in general. However, they weren't the biggest spenders. The German family spends \$500 a week, buying twice as much fruit, vegetable and nuts as the American family. The family from Chad spends an incredible \$1.23 on food for a week. And the Chinese family spends \$155.06 a week, including \$9.17 on fast food (primarily at Kentucky Fried Chicken).

So, how much do you spend a week on food? What category do you spend the most money on? 🌱

### GLOSSARY

- a finding** *n*  
the information that someone concludes from research
- research** *n*  
investigation
- a breakdown** *n*  
a list of the separate parts that form something
- dairy products** *n*  
food that is made from milk, such as cheese and butter
- fast food** *n*  
inexpensive food, such as hamburgers and fried chicken, prepared and served quickly
- a spender** *n*  
a person or group who uses (or spends) a lot of money
- twice** *adj*  
if you spend "twice" as much money, you spend double the amount

# AMERICAN C

AMERICAN TV COMEDY SHOWS HAVE BEEN ENTERTAINING AUDIENCES AROUND THE WORLD FOR DECADES. HERE'S A LOOK AT SOME OF THE MOST FAMOUS ONES. DO YOU KNOW ANY OF THEM?

## THE MUNSTERS (1964-1966)

The Munsters was a black and white 1960s television **sitcom**. It was about the home life of a family of monsters. The show was a **satire** of both traditional monster movies and popular family entertainment of the era. It **ran** at the same time as another series about a strange family, The Addams Family. The difference was that the Munsters were more **blue-collar**.



## ALL IN THE FAMILY (1971-1979)

The central character in this sitcom was Archie Bunker, an **outspoken** WWII veteran. He lived in a house with his wife Edith, daughter Gloria, and daughter's husband Michael. The show often **touched on** many issues that were controversial for the time such as feminism, homosexuality and racism. Much of the humour came from the conflict between the **bigoted** Archie and his more liberal son-in-law.



## THE COSBY SHOW (1984-1992)

This was one of the first sitcoms to feature an African-American family. It **paved the way for** other shows of its kind such as *The Fresh Prince of Bel-Air* (starring Will Smith). The series focused on the Huxtables, who lived in Brooklyn, New York with their five children. The programme was very popular, and often dealt with many **issues** of the day.



## BEWITCHED (1964-1972)

Bewitched was a popular American sitcom which lasted for eight **seasons**. It followed the lives of a young couple in **suburbia**. The **twist**? The wife was a witch. Elizabeth Montgomery played Samantha Stephens and Dick York (later Dick Sargent) played advertising executive Darrin Stephens. When Samantha married Darrin, she vowed to live as an average American **housewife**. However, she found that she couldn't resist using her magical powers to solve their problems, often with disastrous consequences. The show was hugely popular, winning several awards.



## HAPPY DAYS (1974-1984)

This sitcom was **set in** the 1950s. It focused on the lives of the Cunningham family and friends. Initially, Richie was the main focus of the series, but the real star soon turned out to be high school **drop-out** Arthur "Fonzie" Fonzairelli – the Fonz. The series sparked several **spin-offs**, including *Joanie Loves Chachi*.



## CHEERS (1982-1993)

This show centred on Sam, a retired baseball player and the owner of the bar, Cheers. Cheers was known as the bar where everybody knows your name. Sam was joined by several colorful characters, including a whole host of ex-girlfriends and the neurotic psychiatrist, Frasier Crane. The show ran for several years and produced a spin-off, *Frasier*.



# COMEDY SERIES

## SEINFELD (1989-1998)

This "show about nothing" became a sensation as audiences quickly realised it was a "show about everything". The show was set predominantly in an apartment block on New York City's Upper West Side, and featured a host of Jerry's friends and acquaintances. These included Elaine, Jerry's ex-girlfriend, and Kramer, who was constantly in Jerry's apartment eating his food, and George who has to **come to terms with** his increasing **baldness**.



## THE SIMPSONS (1989-PRESENT)

The Simpsons is an animated sitcom created by Matt Groening. The Simpsons is a middle class family which consists of Homer, Marge, Bart, Lisa and Maggie. The show is set in the fictional city of Springfield and **lampoons** American culture, family life and many aspects of the human condition. It's one of the most successful shows in the history of television.



## FRASIER (1993-2004)

Frasier ran for eleven seasons. In the show, psychiatrist Frasier Crane (originally from *Cheers*) lived at home with his dad, Martin Crane, Martin's dog, Eddie, and Martin's English **homecare helper**, Daphne Moon. A lot of the humour came from the conflict between Frasier, Niles and Martin. The two sons, with their taste for fine wine and top-quality tailoring, had a high opinion of themselves, and they often **clashed with** the more down-to-earth ex-**cop**, Martin.



## FRIENDS (1994-2004)

Friends revolved around a group of friends in the area of Manhattan, New York City. They occasionally lived together, often went out together, sometimes fell in love with one another and were always there for one another during the good times and the bad times. Over the years, these six friends made audiences laugh with their unique combination of **charm**, **wit** and love.



## JACKASS (2000-2002)

Jackass was an American television series that was originally shown on MTV. It featured people performing various dangerous, crude and ridiculous **pranks**. Since 2002, two *Jackass* films have been produced. It was one of MTV's most popular shows and sparked several spin-offs including *Viva La Bam*, *Wildboyz*, *Homewrecker*, *Dr Steve-O* and *Blastazoid*.



### GLOSSARY

- a sitcom** *n*  
a comedy television series about a group of people
- a satire** *n*  
a show that makes fun of something
- to run** *vb*  
if a show "runs" for 10 years, it exists for 10 years
- blue-collar** *adj*  
working class (not high/upper class)
- a season** *n*  
a period of time during which a show is on television. It typically consists of 9 months (excluding the summer months)
- suburbia** *n*  
the areas outside a city with many residential areas
- a twist** *n*  
a difference
- a housewife** *n*  
a woman who stays at home to do the cooking/cleaning, etc.
- outspoken** *adj*  
if someone is "outspoken", they say what they think
- to touch on** *phr vb*  
to include; to deal with
- bigoted** *adj*  
with strong, extreme views
- set in** *exp*  
if a programme is "set in" a place, it happens in that place
- a drop-out** *n*  
someone who leaves school before taking all their exams
- a spin-off** *n*  
a show that includes some characters from a previous show
- to pave the way for something** *exp*  
to prepare things for something else to happen
- an issue** *n*  
a complex/controversial topic
- to come to terms with something** *exp*  
to accept something
- baldness** *n*  
losing your hair
- to lampoon** *vb*  
to make fun of
- a homecare helper** *n*  
a person who lives in someone's house and whose job is to care for someone
- to clash with** *exp*  
to fight with
- a cop** *n inform*  
a police officer
- charm** *n*  
if you have "charm", you are nice, intelligent, kind, etc. and other people like you as a result
- wit** *n*  
intelligence in the way you speak; saying intelligent/funny things quickly
- a prank** *n*  
a joke that is designed to humiliate someone



# Wonderful

Beautiful architecture. Spectacular mountains. Wonderful cities. Austria has so much to offer.

**A**ustria has been described as one of the most beautiful countries in the world. And it often comes up top in lists of the best cities to live in. Just recently, a renowned organisation conducted a worldwide search for the best places to live and visit. They looked at 40 different indicators including stability, healthcare, culture, environment, education and **infrastructure** and Vienna (the capital of Austria) was in the top four. With its rich history and culture, Austria is well worth a visit.

Top of your list for your tour of Austria has to be Vienna. The capital is a city of art, culture and rich history. It was once the centre of the vast **Austro-Hungarian Empire**, but today it's a modern city with historic roots. It's got music, museums, shopping and fine **dining** and there's so much to see. One way to start your tour of the city is to go on a **tram** ride around the Ring, a series of roads that go round the old city (the Innere Stadt). Along the route, you can see the Hofburg (Imperial Palace), the Museum of Natural History, the Kunsthistorisches Museum (Museum of Fine Art), the Burgtheater, the State Opera House and Vienna's City Park.

The Hofburg (the Imperial Palace) is spectacular. You can go on a tour of the Imperial Apartments or visit the Treasury, where you can see the **crown jewels**. Also in central Vienna is the Spanish Riding School with its famous Lipizzaner stallions. You can see a **performance** of these fantastic horses and riders or view one of the morning training sessions. The Kunsthistorisches Museum (Museum of Fine Arts) has an incredible collection of art. And if you want to do a bit of shopping, you can go to Mariahilferstrasse, the **trendiest** shopping area in Vienna.

The gardens at Schonbrunn, the summer home of the imperial family, are magnificent. You can go on a tour of the palace and see some of the **lavish rooms**, including the Hall of Mirrors, where six-year-old Mozart once gave a concert for Queen Maria Theresa. Music is everywhere in Vienna. You can hear the famous Vienna Boys Choir in the chapel at the Hofburg, or visit The State Opera House, the Volksoper Wien, the Musikverein or the the Konzerthaus. Finally, you can't leave Vienna without having coffee at one of Vienna's famous coffee houses. There are many to choose from, but the most famous is probably the Café Sacher, home of the deliciously rich Sacher cake. ☺



# Austria

## Outside Vienna

If that isn't enough for you, here are a few other things that you can do in Austria outside Vienna.

Visit the Alps. This mountain range constitutes approximately 60% of Austria's surface area. In the winter, you can enjoy winter sports such as skiing, snowboarding and tobogganing. And in the summer, you can go **trekking**, horse riding or mountain biking.



Go on a tour through one of Austria's wine-growing regions, such as Lower Austria, Southern Styria and the Burgenland.



Visit the annual Lederhosen Festival in Windischgarsten, where you can enjoy good beer, **hearty food** and the latest in leather fashion.



Enjoy a bit of culture at the Salzburg Festival. There is opera, singing, classical music and theatre, all set in a city that is famous for its **Baroque architecture**.



## Famous people from Austria



**Franz Joseph Haydn** (1732-1809)  
musician and composer.



**Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart** (1756-1791)  
musician and composer.



**Ludwig van Beethoven** (1770-1827 born in Germany, but lived in Austria)  
musician and composer.



**Franz Schubert** (1797-1828)  
musician and composer.



**Johann Strauss II** (1825-1899)  
musician and composer.



**Sigmund Freud** (1856-1939)  
psychoanalyst.



**Gustav Mahler** (1860-1911)  
musician and composer.



**Ludwig Wittgenstein** (1889-1951)  
philosopher.



**Arnold Schwarzenegger** (1947)  
actor and US politician.



**Niki Lauda** (1949)  
Formula One racing driver.



**Hermann Maier** (1972)  
Olympic skier.

## Austria Facts

**Capital city:** Vienna.  
**Population:** 8,210,281 (total country).  
**Population of Vienna:** 1,664,146.  
**Life expectancy:** 79.5.  
**Total Area of Austria:** 83,870 sq km.  
**Languages:** German (official nationwide), Slovene (official in Carinthia), Croatian (official in Burgenland).  
**Currency:** the euro.  
**GDP:** \$325 billion.



### GLOSSARY

- infrastructure** *n*  
the basic facilities in a country: transport, roads, power supply, buildings, etc.
- the Austro-Hungarian Empire** *n*  
a monarchy of central Europe consisting of Austria, Hungary, Bohemia, Moravia, Slovakia, and parts of Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Croatia, and Italy. It was formed in 1867 and lasted until 1918
- dining** *n*  
eating
- a tram** *n*  
a type of electric train that travels along tracks in cities
- the crown jewels** *n*  
the gold/silver earrings, necklaces, crowns, etc. that belong to a royal family
- a performance** *n*  
if there is a "performance" of a show, you can see that show in a theatre, etc.
- trendy** *adj*  
fashionable
- lavish rooms** *n*  
with a lot of decoration
- trekking** *n*  
walking in the mountains for fun/sport
- hearty food** *n*  
healthy food that fills you and makes you feel good
- Baroque architecture** *n*  
a style of architecture developed in Europe from the early 17th to mid-18th century

# Funkyzeit with

**H**e's young. He's Austrian. And he's ever so controversial. Brüno is an Austrian fashion correspondent. He speaks English, but with a **thick** German **accent**. He dresses in **tight-fitting clothes** and he is the voice of fashion. But now he's lost his job.

The plot for the film is quite simple. Brüno (played by the British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen) has just been **fired** from his television show, Funkyzeit, after an incident in a top fashion show involving Brüno's new Velcro **jumpsuit**. Soon afterwards, Brüno **heads to** the US to become "the most famous Austrian since Hitler". He travels around with his microphone and cameraman interviewing people from the fashion industry and causing a scandal.

There are some hilarious moments in the film. In one scene, Brüno goes into a shopping mall in search of a **locksmith**. He's trapped in a **bondage suit** with another man and they've lost the key. An angry security guard tells them to get out. In another scene, Brüno tells some **chat show** guests that he gave his adopted baby a traditional African name, OJ. He also informs them that he **swapped** the baby for an iPod. In another scene, he tries to **seduce** one-time US presidential candidate Ron Paul. And there's a part in which he persuades Latoya Jackson to eat sushi off a **naked** gardener. This was later deleted out of respect for the death of her brother, Michael Jackson.

Some interviews seem to put Brüno in considerable danger. In one scene, he's on a camping trip with some **redneck** hunters. As they sit around the campfire, Brüno looks up at the sky and says, "Makes you think of all the hot guys in the world, doesn't it?" This is followed by 20 seconds of absolute silence. Later, Brüno tells them that they are "just like the Sex and the City girls". In another scene, Brüno sets up a meeting between a **hard-line** Israeli and his Palestinian opposite, with Brüno in the role as **peacemaker**. During the interview, Brüno manages to confuse Hamas (the political organisation) with hummus (a type of food made from chickpeas). He ends up singing a peace song and tries to get the enemies to join hands.



During the recent MTV Movie Awards Brüno made quite an entrance. He appears over the audience in a **revealing** Cupid costume. All of a sudden, the rope seems to break and he falls onto rapper Eminem, who **makes a swift exit** from the ceremony, muttering a number of expletives under his breath.

So, what do the Austrians think of Brüno? Alfons Haider is in two minds. He's one of Austria's best-known television presenters, and the host of the Austrian version of Strictly Come Dancing. Many say that he is the model for Brüno. "There are only two similarities between him and me," Haider recently said during an interview, "I'm Austrian and I'm openly gay." When asked if he was **upset** at being linked to Brüno, he smiled and said, "It's wonderful! Sacha Baron Cohen is showing me my hidden Brüno."

Ordinary Austrians seem to be pleased with the film. Georg, a musician, said he was **looking forward to** the film. "I think the Austrians have enough self-esteem to take it the way it is supposed to be. We're **used to** people making fun of us." And 22-year-old Katherine said that although she hadn't liked Borat, she thought that Austrians might actually come to feel **proud of** Brüno. Florian, a bartender, said, "I wouldn't say it is an honour that he is playing an Austrian but it is funny."

But there are some who find the film offensive. "Some people in our community may like this movie, but many are not going to be OK with it," said Rashad Robinson of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. "Sacha Baron Cohen's well-meaning attempt at satire is problematic in many places and **outright** offensive in others." And a spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign, the largest gay lobbying organisation in the US, said, "We strongly feel that Sacha Baron Cohen and Universal Pictures have a responsibility to remind the viewing public right there in the theatre that this is intended to expose homophobia."

Whatever the reaction, Brüno is sure to cause a controversy. And there's no doubt that the film looks set to be a **huge box office hit**, with Baron Cohen jokingly describing it as "the most important movie starring a gay Austrian since *Terminator 2*". 🍌



# Brüno



## Brüno Quotes

"The rise of club music, the fall of **apartheid** – coincidence or not?"

"Look at the evil people in the world, Saddam Hussein, Hitler, Stalin what do they all have in common? Moustaches!"

"Is it a coincidence that all the good people have long hair, like Jesus, and like hippies and, you know, Rod Stewart."

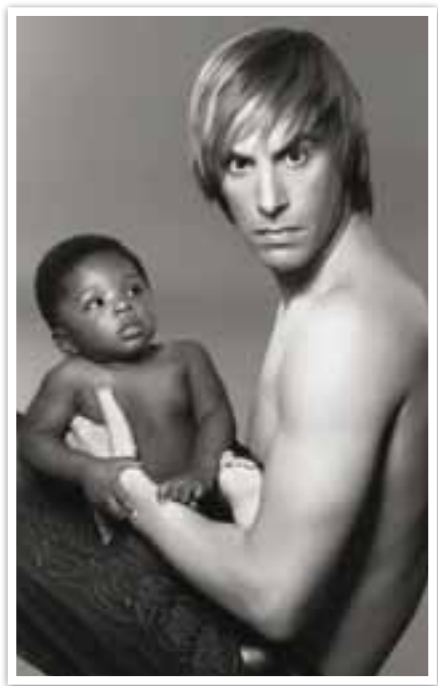


"A lot of the style gurus in Austria are saying like Osama Bin Laden is the best-dressed guy. Do you think so?"

"Fashion saves a lot more lives than doctors."

"Angelina's got one, Madonna's got one.

Now Bruno's got one." (Bruno talking about his adopted African baby.) ☺



## Film Information

**First Name:** Brüno.  
**Surname:** undisclosed.  
**Age:** 30-35.  
**Language:** German and English.  
**Nationality:** Austrian.  
**Build:** slim (Bruno thinks he's too fat).  
**Hair:** Short hair with a long bleached Mohawk.  
**Piercings:** Left eyebrow.  
**Occupation:** Fashion and celebrity news reporter for the OJRF TV network in Austria.  
**Hobbies:** Being fabulous. **Cheerleading.** Having showers with men.  
**Sexuality:** Brüno has said he is not gay but he does have a boyfriend called Diesel.



## Brüno

Brüno (sometimes written as Bruno) is a fictional gay Austrian fashion reporter. He interviews unsuspecting guests about topics such as fashion and makes them say silly things. The man behind the character of Brüno is British comedian Sacha Baron Cohen.



## GLOSSARY

- a thick accent** *n*  
a strong/heavy accent
- tight-fitting clothes** *n*  
clothes that are very close to the body
- to fire** *vb*  
if someone is "fired", they lose their job
- a jumpsuit** *n*  
a piece of clothing in the form of a top and trousers in one continuous piece
- to head to** *phr vb*  
to go to
- a locksmith** *n*  
a person whose job consists of working with locks and keys
- a bondage suit** *n*  
a tight-fitting piece of clothing often made of leather. Often worn by people who enjoy pain and pleasure
- a chat show** *n*  
a TV programme in which an interviewer and guests discuss things
- to swap** *vb*  
to exchange: A gives B one thing, B gives A another thing
- to seduce** *vb*  
if A "seduces" B, A persuades B to kiss, etc.
- naked** *adj*  
with no clothes on
- a redneck** *n*  
a poor white person from rural areas of the southern states of the US
- hard-line** *adj*  
with strict or extreme attitudes
- a peacemaker** *n*  
someone who tries to make two enemies come together
- revealing** *adj*  
that shows a part of the body
- to make a swift exit** *exp*  
to leave quickly
- upset** *adj*  
angry, confused, sad, etc.
- to look forward to something** *exp*  
to be excited about something that will happen
- to be used to something** *exp*  
to be accustomed to something
- to be proud of something** *exp*  
to feel pleased about something you can do
- outright** *adj*  
completely
- a huge box office hit** *n*  
a very successful film (in financial terms)
- apartheid** *n*  
the political system that existed in South Africa that separated white and black people
- cheerleading** *n*  
a "cheerleader" is a person (usually a woman) who is part of a group who dance and sing at sports events

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# PHOTO MAGIC

PHOTOS OF THE MONTH FROM THE WORLD OF SPORT, POLITICS AND BUSINESS.

**Photo 1** British prime minister Gordon Brown talks to US president Barack Obama.



**Photo 2** Actor Sacha Baron Cohen promotes his latest film Brüno.



**Photo 3** Portuguese football player Ronaldo signs up with Spanish club Real Madrid.



Can you think of any ideas for the speech bubbles? Have a competition in class or at home.

# SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



*How to get back into the routine.*

## 1 Pre-listening

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

What problems are there associated with going back to school or the office after a long holiday? Think of 3 things.



## 2 Listening I

Listen to the conversation once and check your ideas from the Pre-listening exercise.

## 3 Listening II

Listen to the conversation again. What does the speaker say about...

1. Routine?
2. Preparation?
3. Expenses?

## 4 Language focus Parts of Speech

Look at this sentence from the conversation: "In fact, for some children, it can be very upsetting." Complete the expressions for the other parts of speech.

1. Upsetting – that makes you angry/sad, etc.
2. Upset – if someone is "upset", they are...
3. Upset someone – to make someone...

## 5 Discussion

1. What do you find most hard about going back to work/school after a long holiday?
2. What do you do to make the process more pleasant?
3. What other solutions are there to this problem?



# FACE TO FACE



## Robin Williams VS Sacha Baron Cohen

**R**obin Williams and Sacha Baron Cohen are both top comedians. Williams is American and Baron Cohen is British, but who's going to win our monthly competition?

**Robin Williams** was born in 1951 in Chicago. He started out as the **bizarre** Mork in the TV series *Mork and Mindy* back in the late 70s. The **quirky** sitcom shows Williams as an alien who landed on earth in an egg-shaped spacecraft. His mission: to observe human behaviour. Much of the humour came from the comments at the end of every episode that "Mork" fed back to his **supervisor**.

Robin Williams is also famous for his film personalities. In the film *Mrs Doubtfire*, Williams plays a desperate father, who, at the prospect of losing his children following a **custody battle**,

**disguises himself as** their **nanny** in order to continue seeing them. A restaurant scene in which Williams has to be both Mrs Doubtfire and his true self is one of the many hilarious moments in the film, with the frantic Williams jumping between the table where he's eating with his boss and the table where he's eating with his family.

**Sacha Baron Cohen** is one of Britain's most controversial comedians. He first hit the news with his creation Ali G – an aspiring gangsta rapper. As the voice of "**da yoof**" but with very little education to support his "voice", Ali G interviewed guests including politicians, film stars and **members of the clergy**. In one memorable interview with the Bishop of Horsham, Ali G started a discussion about God. When the Bishop of Horsham informed

Ali G that God had created the universe, Ali G innocently asked, "And since then he's just **chilled**?" His other characters include Borat (a television journalist from Kazakhstan) and Brüno (an Austrian fashion reporter). They've both been in successful **mockumentaries**.

So, who's going to win our monthly competition? Well, Sacha Baron Cohen is an amazing comedian who has created some truly unique characters. He also has to be admired for his bravery as he often puts himself in extremely dangerous situations. However, Williams is more versatile, and has proved himself as a comic actor and in more serious roles such as the characters he played in *Dead Poet's Society*, *Insomnia* and *Good Will Hunting*. So, our results are: Sacha Baron Cohen 9/10; Robin Williams 9.5/10. ✨



### GLOSSARY

- bizarre** *adj* strange/unusual
- quirky** *adj* different/unpredictable
- a supervisor** *n* someone who is in charge of something
- a custody battle** *n* a fight to see who has control of the children in a relationship
- to disguise yourself as something** *exp* to put on different clothes, etc. so you look like another person
- a nanny** *n* a woman who takes care of another person's children. Nannies often live in the house
- da yoof** *slang* the youth
- a member of the clergy** *n* someone who has an official position in a religious organisation
- to chill** *vb* *inform* to relax
- a mockumentary** *n* a television programme or film that seems to be a real documentary, but is in fact not real and is designed to make fun of the people it is about



# Robert Downey Junior

JUST EIGHT YEARS AGO, HIS LIFE WAS OUT OF CONTROL. HE HAD DRUG PROBLEMS AND NO ONE WANTED TO **HIRE** HIM. BUT NOW HE'S BACK; AND THIS TIME, HE'S DETERMINED TO STAY. BY EMMA WEINBREN

**R**obert Downey Jr was introduced to Hollywood at a young age. He came from a family of actors and made his **film debut** when he was five years old. He acted in teen comedies such as *Weird Science* and *Back to School*, and then in the more serious film *Less Than Zero*. Film critics were impressed with his convincing **performance** of a drug addict. Things seemed to be going well, but not for long.



The problem was that there was a real-life issue with drugs. In 1996, Downey Junior was arrested for possession of heroin and cocaine. A month later, he walked into a neighbour's home while **under the influence** of a **controlled substance** and fell asleep on one of the beds. He was sentenced to 3 years **probation** and was required to be tested for drugs. In 1997, he **missed** one of the tests and was sent to jail for 4 months. He missed another test in 1999 and was sentenced to three years in jail. In 2001, and just out of prison, he joined the cast of the American sitcom *Ally McBeal*, but was soon dismissed for being **unreliable**. Woody Allen wanted him for one film, but **insurance companies** were demanding too much to insure the actor. Downey Junior had **reached rock bottom**.

But things began to improve soon after this. Australian actor and director Mel Gibson was **eager** to help Downey Junior in his battle against

drug addiction. Gibson, a recovering alcoholic himself, explained, "I share that with him." Slowly, the troubled star rebuilt his credibility, **expressing remorse for** his past behaviour on Oprah Winfrey's chat show and taking on as much work as possible. Things really improved with his role in the superhero film *Iron Man*. Downey Junior played Tony Stark, a morally corrupt character who sees the error of his ways and decides to use his power for good. The parallels with Downey Junior's life were evident. Director Jon Favreau insisted on Downey Junior, arguing that Downey's experiences would help him to play the character. "You can't have a **moral reawakening** if you're still in high school," Favreau said. The **gamble paid off** and Downey Junior's performance in *Iron Man* delighted both critics and audiences all over the world.

In 2008, the actor impressed critics once again with his role in the Ben Stiller film *Tropic Thunder*. Robert played an Australian actor who has undergone surgery to look like his character, an African-American army sergeant. The film was a **huge hit** and its satirical humour was generally well received. These days, Downey Junior lives a quiet life with his wife and daughter, favouring kung-fu over recreational drugs. "I want out of that game," he replied when asked about his drug addiction, "I want nothing to do with it. I want to do my work." With his new positive attitude, Robert Downey Junior is sure to succeed. ✨



**Robert Downey Jr**  
**Born:** 4th April 1965 in New York City  
**Occupation:** actor, singer, songwriter  
Some of his most famous films: *Less Than Zero*, *Wonder Boys*, *Iron Man*, *Sherlock Holmes*

**Robert Downey Jr Quotes**  
"Acting is always a challenge."  
"I know very little about acting. I'm just an incredibly gifted **faker**."

"The lesson is that you can still make mistakes and be forgiven."

"I'm not used to feeling like I belong where I am."

"It's like I have a loaded gun in my mouth, and I like the taste of metal." (talking about his addiction to drugs)

"I've always felt like such an outsider in this industry. Because I'm so insane I guess."

## GLOSSARY

- to hire** *vb*  
to pay money to use something for a limited period of time
- a film debut** *n*  
the first time you appear in a film
- a performance** *n*  
if there is a "performance" of something, someone acts/sings/dances, etc. in front of an audience
- under the influence** *exp*  
if someone is "under the influence" of drugs or alcohol, they have taken drugs or alcohol
- a controlled substance** *n*  
an illegal drug
- probation** *n*  
a period of time during which you must not commit another crime or you will be sentenced to that crime and a previous crime. It is an alternative to sending someone to prison
- to miss** *vb*  
if you "miss" an appointment, you don't go to that appointment
- unreliable** *adj*  
someone who is "unreliable", doesn't do what they say they were going to do
- an insurance company** *n*  
a company that pays you money if you lose something or it is stolen
- to reach rock bottom** *exp*  
to be at the lowest point
- eager** *adj*  
if you are "eager" to do something, you really want to do that thing
- to express remorse for something** *exp*  
to say that you feel bad about something
- a moral reawakening** *n*  
a change of attitude from bad to good
- the gamble paid off** *exp*  
the dangerous/risky action was successful
- a huge hit** *n*  
a big success
- a faker** *n*  
someone who acts as if something is true even though it isn't



# The "B" word

CEO shows that not all directors are greedy.



## John (Jack) Windolf and Bollinger Insurance Solutions

John (Jack) Windolf worked as a lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps before joining his father-in-law's company, Bollinger Insurance Solutions, in 1963. Due to Jim Bollinger's poor health, Windolf took over as CEO of the company just two years later. Since then, Bollinger Insurance Solutions has grown significantly. Although the company started as a specialist firm with only 7 employees, Bollinger Insurance Solutions is now a thriving US business and employs over 400 people. The company has recently acquired 40 new insurance agencies, making it the 19th largest insurance broker in the United States.



### 1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

This article is about a boss who does something kind. What do you think it could have been?

### 2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your ideas from the Pre-reading activity.

### 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. What is John Windolf going to do with his money?
2. Who isn't going to receive any of this money?
3. What had John Windolf said before about the key to success?
4. Why is Daniel Herbstritt particularly grateful about this?
5. Why did John Windolf do this?

### 4 Language focus Synonyms

Find words in the text that mean...

1. very big.
2. a paragraph in a contract.
3. staff.
4. thankful.
5. money (often in the form of coins and notes).
6. reasons.

### 5 Discussion

1. When was the last time someone did something nice for you? What was it?
2. When was the last time you did something nice for someone else? What was it?
3. Who is the most generous person you know? Give examples of their generosity.

"**B**onus" has become a dirty word in recent times. News of bank directors receiving huge bonuses in spite of failure and **bankruptcies** (often leading to mass work **dismissals**) has **sparked outrage** among the public. But one company director is trying to **put things right**.

John (Jack) Windolf is the **CEO** of Bollinger Insurance Solutions. Right now, he's probably the most popular CEO in the world. He was supposed to receive a payment of \$500,000 at the end of the year. However, he thought that, **in light of** the crisis, it would be **unethical** to accept so much money. So, he insisted on including a clause in his contract permitting him to direct the payment to his employees. And at the end of the calendar year, Windolf announced that he was giving all 440 employees a bonus, with the exception of one person: himself.

As you can imagine, Windolf's employees are extremely grateful for the gesture. "Mr Windolf has always said that good employees were the **key to success**. Now, he has **backed up** that statement with cash!" said long-time employee Janine Keller. "My wife lost her job as a result of the crisis, so we needed a little extra money this year," said another employee, Daniel Herbstritt.

But the big question is, why? Windolf said his motives were simple. "This will help the economy as well as my employees... Also, given the circumstances, it's simply the right thing to do." Why can't they all be like that? 🍀

### GLOSSARY

**a bankruptcy** *n*  
the state of being "bankrupt". If a company goes bankrupt, it stops functioning because it cannot pay its debts

**a dismissal** *n*  
if there is a "dismissal", an employee is told to leave their job

**to spark outrage** *exp*  
to cause a controversy; to make people feel angry

**to put things right** *exp*  
to make things good again; to correct a bad situation

**a CEO** *n*  
the Chief Executive Officer – one of the highest ranking managers in a company

**in the light of** *exp*  
as a result of

**unethical** *adj*  
not ethical – morally not correct or right

**the key to success** *exp*  
the thing you need to be successful

**to back up** *phr vb*  
if you "back up" your words with actions, you do what you say you were going to do



# READING II

## Smile for the Camera

Family Christmas card used for marketing.

READING II

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

### 1 Pre-reading

Match the types of advert (1 to 6) to the photos (a-f).

1. Banner ad
2. Sandwich board ad
3. Billboard ad
4. Scaffold drape ad
5. Bus wrap ad
6. Magazine ad



### 2 Reading I

Read the article once. What type of advert is mentioned? What is the problem with the advert?

### 3 Reading II

Read the article again and say who these people are and how they are connected.

1. The Smiths
2. Brian
3. Mario Bertuccio

### 4 Reading III

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. How did the Smiths feel about the advert?
2. How did Mario feel? What did he offer the Smiths as compensation?

### 5 Language focus

#### Verb formation

Create verbs from the nouns.

1. Photography = to photograph
2. Networking = \_\_\_\_\_
3. An e-mail = \_\_\_\_\_
4. An owner = \_\_\_\_\_
5. An apology = \_\_\_\_\_
6. An explanation = \_\_\_\_\_

### 6 Discussion

1. What would you do if this happened to you? How would you feel?
2. Do you regularly update a social networking page? What do you post on it?
3. Does this put you off the idea of having a social networking page? Why? Why not?

Have you ever **posted** a photo on a social networking site? Thousands of people do it every day. But how would you feel if your photo ended up on an **advert** in a foreign country? This is what happened to the Smiths of Missouri.

It all started with a Christmas photo. The Smiths, an all-American family with two children, **posed for the photo** shortly before Christmas. The picture showed the husband and wife (Jeff and Danielle) and their two smiling children. Later, Danielle, who lives in St Louis, sent the photo out as a Christmas card to family and friends. Danielle also posted the picture on her blog and other social networking sites, including Momlogic. Then, she forgot about it until a few months later when she received an e-mail from a friend, Brian.

Brian was travelling around Prague. One day, he noticed a **billboard advert** in the street with some familiar faces on it: Jeff, Danielle and their two children. The advert was for a grocery store's **home delivery service** with the **caption**, "We will prepare and deliver your requests in two business days." Brian took a photo of the advert and e-mailed it to his friends back in St Louis. When Danielle saw that her photo had been used for the advert, she described it as, "Interesting. **Bizarre. Flattering**, I suppose. But quite **creepy**."

The shop owner was equally shocked. Mario Bertuccio, who runs the Grazie store in Prague, said he found the image on the internet. "I thought it was one of those **stock photos** with models that everyone can use," he explained. "As soon as I realised it was a real family, I took it down and e-mailed an apology to the Smiths. I also told them that if they lived nearer, I would send a bottle of good wine to them."

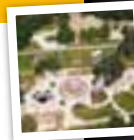
In her blog, Danielle wrote, "So, this is the **price we pay for indulging in** social media, I guess." Neither the family nor the photographer authorised this photo to be used for marketing purposes. Jeff and Danielle said that the next time they post a picture online, they're going to put a **watermark** on it. Lesson learned! ☺

#### GLOSSARY

- to post** *vb*  
to put text / a photo / an image, etc. on a website
- an advert** *n*  
a piece of publicity for a product / event / job, etc.
- to pose for a photo** *exp*  
to stay in a position while someone takes your photo
- a billboard advert** *n*  
a very, very large advert in the street
- a home delivery service** *n*  
a service offered by some shops. They send the food that you buy from the shop to your home
- a caption** *n*  
a piece of text under/on a photo
- bizarre** *adj*  
strange/unusual
- flattering** *adj*  
if you say that something is "flattering", you are pleased with it because it makes you look/sound good
- creepy** *adj*  
frightening; scary
- a stock photo** *n*  
a royalty-free photo that you can use for free or buy
- the price you pay for something** *exp*  
the cost (in abstract terms) of something
- to indulge in something** *exp*  
to do something that you enjoy doing
- I guess** *exp*  
I suppose; I imagine
- a watermark** *n*  
a light image that is placed on a photo, etc. to stop other people using the image for commercial purposes

## Michael Jackson Trivia

What you may not know about the King of Pop.



Michael's Neverland Ranch had an amusement park and a zoo. He often held **charity events** there.

The music video "Scream", which he did with his sister Janet, is the most expensive video ever made – costing over 7 million dollars.

He briefly dated Brooke Shields.

He had a **chimp** named Bubbles.

He suffered second degree burns when his hair caught fire while filming a Pepsi **commercial**.

Jackson has given more than \$300 million to charity.

His first girlfriend was Tatum O'Neal.

In 1993, he performed at the **Super Bowl** half-time show. It had the largest viewing audience in American television history.



### GLOSSARY

**my fondest childhood memories** *exp*  
the happiest thing I can remember as a child

**a sibling** *n*

a brother/sister

**to bring people together** *exp*  
to unite people

**an act** *n*

a group that entertains people; a music group

**exposure** *n*

publicity that a product or person receives

**an audition** *n*

if an actor/actress/singer, etc. has an "audition", they act/sing for a short period so that a director/producer can evaluate them

**the charts** *n*

the list of songs that shows which songs are the most popular

**to roll off an assembly line** *exp*  
if something "rolls off an assembly line", it is produced in a factory.

Literally, an assembly line is a line of machines or workers in a factory

**the peak of something** *n*

the highest point of something

**an aim** *n*

an objective

**to stand on its own** *exp*

to be valid individually (not just because it is part of something great)

**a single** *n*

a song that is produced to be sold individually in shops

**hardship** *n*

difficulties/problems

**a farewell** *n*

a goodbye

**a soundtrack** *n*

the music to a film, etc.

**a charity event** *n*

a planned, organised occasion (a music festival, etc.) that is designed to raise money for something

**a chimp** *n*

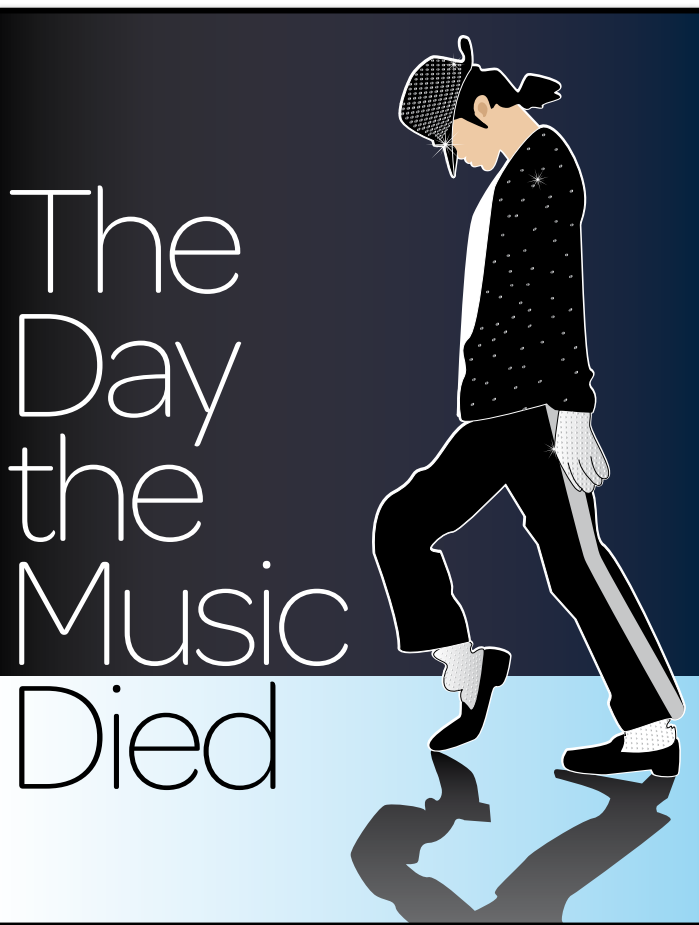
a chimpanzee – a type of monkey

**a commercial** *n*

an advertisement on television / the radio, etc.

**the Super Bowl** *n*

a final match of the American football season



# The Day the Music Died

I was shocked when I heard the news on 25th June 2009. The world famous musician Michael Jackson had died. And so had a piece of my childhood.

In the late 1980s, my brother bought Michael Jackson's album *Bad*. We listened to the songs *Bad*, *Dirty Diana* and *Another Part of Me* continuously. My sister and I made up dance routines to *Smooth Criminal*. We tried for weeks to perfect our "Moonwalk" (very unsuccessful attempts, but we thought we were doing it well). We even wore the white socks and black shoes. Those are some of **my fondest childhood memories**. Very soon, my **siblings** and I became obsessed with his music, and started listening to his older songs all the way back to the album *Thriller* and even further back to when he was in the Jackson 5. In that way, Michael Jackson **brought** our family **together**.

Michael Jackson was an entertainer all his life. He began

performing with his brothers in the group Jackson 5 when he was only 5 years old. He was the lead singer, and the family **act** entered contests all over their hometown of Gary, Indiana. The Jackson 5 were good. They kept winning more and more competitions. And their success gave them more and

### Michael Jackson

**Born:** 29th August 1958

**Died:** 25th June 2009

**Famous for:** his music, songs and music videos.



more **exposure**. In 1968, Bobby Taylor and the Vancouvers discovered the Jackson 5, and this was how the Jackson 5 got an **audition** for Motown Records.

The Jackson 5 recorded with Motown and became incredibly successful. Their first single "I Want You Back" was released in 1969, followed by "ABC", "I'll be There" and "The Love You Save". All four of these hits went to the number one position in the **charts**. Berry Gordy, the founder of Motown records said that the Jackson 5 "were the last big stars to come **rolling off my assembly line**". The group recorded with Motown for more than a decade and also had a Saturday morning cartoon for their younger fans. At the same time, Michael pursued a solo career while still recording with his brothers.

However, the **peak of** Michael Jackson's success came in 1982. That was the year he released the album *Thriller*. The **aim** of the album was for every song to be able to **stand on its own** as a **single**. Jackson collaborated with former Beatle Paul McCartney and record producer Quincy Jones. The album included hits such as "Billie Jean" and "Beat It". Michael wrote "Beat It" because he wanted to tell his fans to stay away from violence. *Thriller* has sold more than 50 million copies and is the best-selling album ever.

Despite his success in the entertainment industry, Michael Jackson has had his own share of personal **hardships**. But why should we remember that? Like any **farewell**, it's always better to remember the good things. It's funny how someone we've never met could have such an impact on our lives. For many people, Michael Jackson is more than a musician. He's a part of us. And his music will always be the **soundtrack** for a part of our lives. ✨



# DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC *in a meeting*

HERE ARE SOME MORE USEFUL AND INTERESTING EXPRESSIONS FOR YOU TO LEARN. THIS MONTH, THINGS YOU MIGHT SAY IN A MEETING.

DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC



**To get to the point**

TO SAY WHAT YOU WANT TO SAY; TO BE DIRECT.

A: "Well, erm, I'm not quite sure how to say this, erm, I..."  
B: "Come on! Get to the point!"



**(To put it) in a nutshell**

TO SUMMARISE SOMETHING.

"So, in a nutshell, the actor was struggling for years, finally became successful and eventually won a lot of awards."



**To get the ball rolling**

TO DO SOMETHING THAT HELPS START AN ACTIVITY.

"OK. Thanks for coming to the meeting. I think I'll get the ball rolling by asking you all to write down six ideas for the new office."



**To be long-winded**

TO SAY SOMETHING IN AN INDIRECT WAY USING LOTS OF UNNECESSARY WORDS.

"Marshall took 20 minutes to say something that could've been said in two minutes. He's so long-winded."



**To speak your mind**

TO SAY EXACTLY WHAT YOU THINK.

"It's not always good to speak your mind – it might be upsetting to others."



**A talking-point**

AN INTERESTING SUBJECT FOR DEBATE OR DISCUSSION.

"That scandal involving MPs' expenses is going to be a major talking-point on all the news channels."



**To get a word in edgeways**

NOT TO HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO TALK BECAUSE SOMEONE ELSE IS TALKING TOO MUCH.

"Mandy dominated the meeting and no one could get a word in edgeways."

# QUIRKY NEWS & CORNY CRIMINALS

## quirky news



## Quiet versus Rowdy

*New guidelines on supporting football teams.*

Support creates passion. And passion can create noise. But officials at Middlesbrough Football Club are determined to control their supporters' enthusiasm.



supporter all my life and this is the first time we've ever been told to keep quiet," said Mathew Snape, 53.

Later, the club issued an apology. "We want to make

"Over the last few games this season the stewards have tried hard to persuade you all to sit down in this area of the ground," wrote Sue Watson, the Safety Officer for Middlesbrough Football Club. "We need you to work with the stewards towards a safe environment, this compromise is the way forward and respects the wishes of other fans, who want to sit in the same area as you."

Sue Watson goes on to ask fans to control the amount of noise they make. "Make as much noise as you like when we score, but this constant noise is driving some fans mad." Many fans were left perplexed. "I've been a

it absolutely clear, as Sue says in her letter, that Middlesbrough FC encourages the fans to back the team with passion and noise. The fans' backing is absolutely essential and we would never discourage passionate support. Sue's letter was a result of a number of fans moving from the North Stand to Block 53a to create a louder atmosphere in that area. Unfortunately, other supporters who have sat in that area for some years have been upset by those new to the block constantly standing and banging on the plastic sheeting at the back of the stand."

Fans of the club are currently left wondering how they are supposed to show their support without making any noise. \*



## Riddles



CAN YOU SOLVE THESE?

- 1 I can be quick, but then I'm **deadly**. I'm a rock, shell, and bone **medley**. What am I?
- 2 A man is born in March but his birthday is in September. How is this possible?
- 3 How much food can you eat on an **empty stomach**? \*

### GLOSSARY

- a supporter** *n*  
someone who likes/follows/supports a football team or other organisation or person
- a steward** *n*  
a person who helps to control the crowds at a football match, etc.
- to try hard** *exp*  
to make an effort
- a compromise** *n*  
an agreement
- to score** *vb*  
if a team "scores", it hits the ball into the opponent's goal
- to drive someone mad** *exp*  
to make someone angry/confused, etc.
- perplexed** *adj*  
confused
- to issue an apology** *exp*  
to say that you are sorry – usually in an official way
- to back** *vb*  
to support; to give support to
- to discourage** *vb*  
if you "discourage" someone from doing something, you try to stop them from doing it
- a branch** *n*  
a "branch" of a business is one of the offices/shops, etc. which belong to it
- to drill a hole into something** *exp*  
to make a hole in something by using an electric drill (a machine for making holes)
- to deter** *vb*  
if something "deters" you, it stops you from wanting to do something
- to belong to** *exp*  
if something "belongs to" you, it is yours / your property
- a ceiling** *n*  
the top part of a room
- to flee** *vb*  
to escape; to run away
- thought-out** *adj*  
planned
- deadly** *adj*  
that can cause death; very dangerous
- a medley** *n*  
a collection of different things
- an empty stomach** *exp*  
if you have an "empty stomach", you are hungry because you haven't eaten anything for a period of time

# Corny Criminals



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

## Two thieves try to rob a bank.

*A group of criminals has just won the award for worst robbers in Britain.*

One day earlier this year, two friends decided to rob a **branch** of the Royal Bank of Scotland. Their plan was simple: they would **drill a hole into** the bank, climb through and steal the money. However, instead of drilling a hole into the bank, they accidentally drilled into an empty office building next door. But that didn't **deter** them. Not wanting to give up, they drilled another hole. But once again, they ended up in an empty office that did not **belong to** the bank. Eventually, they tried drilling down into the floor, hoping to gain access through the bank's **ceiling**, but gave up after a while.

Later, the owner of one of the offices called the police. They discovered the abandoned tools and holes. "I can only assume they must have taken a long time to do it," said inspector Woodruff, who is investigating the attempted robbery. "They probably **fled** because they ran out of time or were too suspicious that the authorities were coming. It was clearly not the most **thought-out** operation we've seen." \*



# Famous insults



LEARN HOW TO INSULT YOUR ENEMIES WITH STYLE. HERE ARE SOME QUOTES FROM THE RICH AND FAMOUS!

"He has all the **virtues** I dislike and none of the vices I admire."  
**Winston Churchill**



"A **modest** little person, with much to be modest about."  
**Winston Churchill**

"I've just learned about his illness. Let's hope it's nothing trivial."  
**Irvin S. Cobb**



"I have never killed a man, but I have read many **obituaries** with great pleasure."  
**Clarence Darrow**



"He has never been known to use a word that might send a reader to the dictionary."  
**William Faulkner** (about **Ernest Hemingway**)



"Poor Faulkner. Does he really think big emotions come from big words?"  
**Ernest Hemingway** (about **William Faulkner**)



"Thank you for sending me a copy of your book; I'll waste no time reading it."  
**Moses Hadas**



"He is not only **dull** himself; he is the cause of dullness in others."  
**Samuel Johnson**



"There's nothing wrong with you that reincarnation won't cure."  
**Jack E. Leonard**



"I've had a perfectly wonderful evening. But this wasn't it."  
**Groucho Marx**



"He loves nature in spite of what it did to him."  
**Forrest Tucker**



"I didn't attend the funeral, but I sent a nice letter saying I approved of it."  
**Mark Twain**



"His mother should have thrown him away and kept the **stork**."  
**Mae West**



"Some cause happiness wherever they go; others whenever they go."  
**Oscar Wilde**



"He can compress the most words into the smallest idea of any man I know."  
**Abraham Lincoln**



"He has no enemies, but is intensely disliked by his friends."  
**Oscar Wilde**



"She speaks five languages and can't act in any of them."  
**Sir John Gielgud** on Swedish actress **Ingrid Bergman**



"Bill Clinton is a man who thinks international affairs mean dating a girl from out of town."  
**Tom Clancy**



## GLOSSARY

- a virtue** *n*  
a good quality
- modest** *adj*  
if you are "modest", you do not talk much about your qualities/achievements, etc.
- an obituary** *n*  
an article about someone's character and achievements that is published after they have died
- dull** *adj*  
not interesting; boring
- a stork** *n*  
a large bird with a long beak (nose) and long legs which lives near water. Some people tell their children that the stork brings babies to parents





SKILLSBOOKLET LISTENING



When it comes to cosmetics, **packaging** is important. Beautiful boxes, bright colours, weird-shaped bottles – they all help the customer choose the product. But all that’s about to change.

One British company is **revolutionising** the market. Lush is a cosmetics company with more than 600 shops around the world. They market themselves as an environmentally-friendly brand. And when it comes to packaging, they’re certainly **living up to their word**. They sell bars of soap **loose**, and put hand creams and body lotions in plain black **tubs**. It isn’t very **glamorous** but it’s very green.

One of the greatest innovations is the use of **popcorn**. Most companies use plastic and polystyrene for their packaging. But Lush are different. They use recycled cardboard for the exterior packaging, and popcorn to protect the product inside. They started using **shredded paper**, but soon moved on to biodegradable popcorn. The popcorn is 60% lighter than the shredded paper, which means it takes less energy to transport. The energy needed to produce the popcorn is similar to that needed to shred the paper, but the popcorn is cleaner, so there is no need to **wrap** the products in thin plastic. This in turn saves 4.6m bags a year.



So, next time you order something online, check to see if there’s any popcorn packaging around your product. But don’t eat it! 😊

**Lush**  
Lush is a British cosmetics company with more than 600 stores in 43 countries. They produce and sell hand-made cosmetic products. The first Lush store was opened in 1994 by husband and wife team Mark and Mo Constantine. They use natural products and are against animal testing.



**GLOSSARY**

- packaging** *n*  
the card/paper/plastic, etc. around a product
- to revolutionise** *vb*  
to do something that causes big changes in the way things are done
- to live up to your word** *exp*  
to do what you said you were going to do; to be true to your principles
- loose** *adj*  
if something is “loose”, it isn’t in a container/box, etc.
- a tub** *n*  
a container of any size
- glamorous** *adj*  
sophisticated and attractive
- popcorn** *n*  
food that is produced when grains of maize are cooked. Popcorn is often eaten with salt or sugar
- shredded paper** *exp*  
small strips and bits of broken paper
- to wrap** *vb*  
if you “wrap” a product, you put paper/card/plastic, etc. around it



**A guy walks into a bar...**

Comedians tell their jokes on air.

- 1 Pre-listening** ANSWERS ON PAGE 45  
You are going to listen to two jokes. Look at the notes for each joke. What do you think they are about?  
**Joke 2:** Fred. Single. Women. Parents. Mum. Dad  
**Joke 2:** Woman. Cinema. Old man and a dog.  
Crying. Laughing.

- 2 Listening I**  
Listen to the two jokes and check your predictions.
- 3 Listening II**  
Listen again. Write Joke 1, or Joke 2 next to each sentence.
1. A friend offers to help. \_\_\_\_\_
  2. A dog cries. \_\_\_\_\_
  3. A woman sits in the front row of a cinema. \_\_\_\_\_
  4. There is a 37-year-old man. \_\_\_\_\_
  5. A man is having difficulties finding a partner. \_\_\_\_\_
  6. A woman watches a dog. \_\_\_\_\_
  7. A man brings women home to meet his parents. \_\_\_\_\_
  8. A man talks about a book. \_\_\_\_\_

**4 Language focus**  
**Useful Expressions**  
Look at this idiomatic expression from the conversation. What do you think it means? Clue: a sleeve is the part of your shirt that covers your arm.  
“You must have lots [of jokes] up your sleeve.”

- 5 Discussion**
1. What’s your favourite joke? Can you tell it to the rest of the class?
  2. What kind of jokes do you like/dislike?
  3. What makes you laugh in general?



# DICTIONARY OF SLANG

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

Situation	Formal	Relaxed	Informal
A friend is in a theatre play. You wish her good luck.	I hope that you give a fine performance that is the envy of every thespian.	Good luck.	Break a leg.
A friend can't stop talking about his ex.	Your incessant reminders of your previous partner are sadly tiresome.	You should stop thinking about her.	Move on; Get over it.
You are extremely tired.	I am practically in a state of slumber due to my excessive work load.	I am very tired.	I'm knackered; I'm whacked; I'm exhausted; I'm spent.
You are playing a videogame with a friend. She won't let you have a turn.	Please desist from retaining the console all for yourself.	Come on, let me have a go.	Stop hogging it.
A friend is often in a bad mood.	He is often of an angry and unpleasant disposition.	He is really moody.	He's stroppy.
You have a lot of work.	I've such a large number of tasks to complete that I have no time for leisure.	I'm really busy at work.	I'm up to my neck in work.



# CHAT-UP LINES / PICK-UP LINES

(US English)

LET'S SEE IF YOU GET LUCKY.



- If I got a nickel for every time I saw someone as beautiful as you... I'd have 5 cents.
- Hi, I'm Miss Right. Someone said you were looking for me.
- I'm sorry, were you talking to me? No? Well... please start.
- I may not be a genie but I can make your dreams come true.
- You're like a dictionary. You add meaning to my life!



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## CINEMA

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<p><b>RENOIR PRINCESA</b>                  Princesa, 3-5 Posaje Martín de los Heros                  28508 MADRID</p>	<p><b>RENOIR LES CORTS</b>                  Eugeni D'Oros, 12 08028 BARCELONA</p>	<p><b>RENOIR PALMA</b>                  C/Emperatriz Eugenia, 6 07010                  PALMA DE MALLORCA</p>	
<p><b>RENOIR CUATRO CAMINOS</b>                  Camino Fdo. Vilevedo, 10 28023 Madrid</p>	<p><b>RENOIR RETIRO</b>                  C/Novac, 42 28019 MADRID</p>	<p><b>RENOIR AUDIORAMA</b>                  San Bernabé s/n 50009 ZARAGOZA</p>	



# Witch Work

A JOB CENTRE IN ENGLAND HAS A **VACANCY** FOR A VERY UNUSUAL **POST**: WITCH.

The job sounds simple enough... if you're a witch. It pays £50,000 and consists of entertaining visitors at the tourist site Wookey Hole Caves. The successful candidate will have to sit in the caves and teach visitors about witchcraft and magic. A member of staff from the site described the role in more basic terms, "You live in the cave, be a witch and do witch things."

The requirements are fairly basic. Applicants are informed that they must be able to **cackle** and that they cannot be allergic to cats. Any potential candidates should come to the interview "dressed for work". They should also bring any essential equipment and **potions**. Due to sexual discrimination law, the job is open to men too. Interviews involve an **on-site assessment** and will incorporate a range of standard tasks, one of which involves a **broomstick**.

The job is available because the previous witch **retired**. "We are in desperate need of a witch at the moment, and we need to get the post filled as soon as possible," a member of staff at the caves explained. Many years ago, an elderly woman, who many say was a witch, did actually live in the caves. "We want the successful applicant to go about her everyday business as a witch, so that people passing through the caves can **get a sense of** what the place was like in the **Dark Ages**." ✖

## Wookey Hole

Wookey Hole is a village in Somerset, England. Wookey Hole Caves is a tourist site within the village. It consists of caves, a paper mill and a museum. The village also has shops, pubs, restaurants, hotels and a campsite.



### GLOSSARY

- a vacancy** *n*  
a job or position in a company that is being offered
- a post** *n*  
a position in a company
- to cackle** *vb*  
to laugh in a loud unpleasant way
- a potion** *vb*  
a liquid that is used for magic
- on-site** *adj*  
at the place you are referring to
- an assessment** *n*  
a test; an evaluation
- a broomstick** *n*  
a wooden pole that is part of a broom (an object with a brush at the end for cleaning the floor)
- to retire** *vb*  
to stop working – usually because you are 65
- to get a sense of something** *exp*  
to start to understand something
- the Dark Ages** *n*  
a period of history from the 5th century to 1000 more or less



## SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



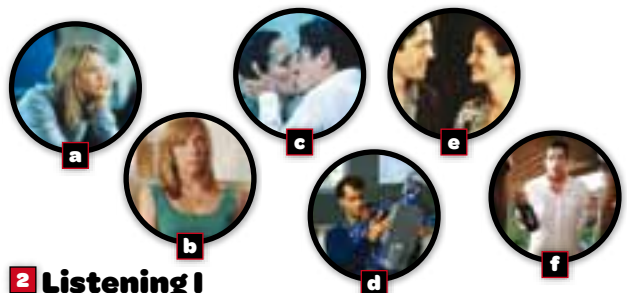
### Burst Out Laughing

Funny moments in cinema.

#### 1 Pre-listening

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Match the films (1 to 6) to the actors/actresses (a-f).



#### 2 Listening I

Listen to the conversation. Which three films from above are mentioned?

#### 3 Listening II

Listen to the conversation again. Which films do the words come from?

Write **Big**, **Four Weddings** or **Sunshine**.

1. A work party. \_\_\_\_\_
2. Rowan Atkinson. \_\_\_\_\_
3. A vicar. \_\_\_\_\_
4. A dance. \_\_\_\_\_
5. Olive. \_\_\_\_\_
6. A canapé. \_\_\_\_\_
7. A thirteen-year-old boy. \_\_\_\_\_
8. A grandfather. \_\_\_\_\_
9. A wife. \_\_\_\_\_

#### 4 Language focus useful expressions

What do you think this expression means? Can you rewrite it in simpler English?

"...he gets all his words mixed up..."

#### 5 Discussion

1. Have you seen any of the films from the Pre-listening exercise? What did you think of them?
2. In your opinion, what are some of the funniest moments in cinema?
3. What's the funniest film you've ever seen? Why was it so funny?



WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN 1994? WHERE WERE YOU? HOW OLD WERE YOU? WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER? JOIN US ON A LITTLE TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE TO 1994.

**Monthly trivia 1994**

- January**
- The North American Free Trade Agreement (**NAFTA**) officially comes into effect.
  - Figure skater Nancy Kerrigan is attacked by rival Tonya Harding's ex-husband.
  - Two **blank shots** are fired at the Prince of Wales in Sydney, Australia.
  - The Buffalo Bills lose a fourth consecutive Super Bowl, this time to the Dallas Cowboys.
- February**
- The Winter Olympics open in Lillehammer, Norway
- March**
- Four terrorists are convicted for their role in the 1993 World Trade Center bombings, which killed six and injured many.
  - The Church of England **ordains** its first female priest.
- April**
- The Rwandan Genocide begins with mass killings in Kigali, Rwanda.
  - Kurt Cobain, lead singer of the band Nirvana, is found dead in his home with a suicide note.
  - The first democratic election in which black citizens can vote is held in South Africa.
- May**
- The Channel Tunnel connecting

- England and France is completed.
  - South Africa's first black president, Nelson Mandela, is elected.
  - An **annular eclipse** of the sun is visible in North America.
- June**
- Israel and the Vatican City establish full diplomatic relations.
  - OJ Simpson is arrested for the murders of Nicole Brown Simpson and Ronald Goldman.
- July**
- A terrorist attack on the AMIA Jewish Community Center in Buenos Aires kills 86.
  - Israel and Jordan sign the Washington Declaration, ending their 46-year state of war.
- August**
- A Major League Baseball player **strike** forces the cancellation of the **World Series**.
  - The first Japanese Gay Pride march is held in Tokyo.
- September**
- Russia and the People's Republic of China agree to **de-target weapons** against each other.
  - American troops invade Haiti to **restore** elected leader, Jean-Bertrand Aristide, **to power**.
  - NBC series *Friends* **premieres**. It becomes one of the most successful sitcoms of the 1990s.

- October**
- After threats from the UN Security Council, Iraq withdraws troops from the Kuwait border.
  - North Korea agrees to stop its nuclear weapons programme.
  - The US sends forces into the Persian Gulf.
- November**
- Ex-US president Ronald Reagan is diagnosed as suffering from Alzheimer's disease.
  - Voters in Sweden decide to join the European Union. That same month, Norway decides not to join.

- December**
- **Civil unions** between homosexuals are legalised in Sweden.
  - Russian president Boris Yeltsin orders troops into Chechnya.

- Famous films of 1994**
- *Forrest Gump*
  - *The Lion King*
  - *Dumb and Dumber*
  - *Speed*
  - *Pulp Fiction*
  - *The Shawshank Redemption*

- Albums released in 1994**
- "Grace" by Jeff Buckley
  - "Definitely Maybe" by Oasis
  - "The Blue Album" by Weezer
  - "Unplugged in New York" by Nirvana
  - "The Downward Spiral" by Nine Inch Nails
  - "Dookie" by Green Day 🍀

**Sports Trivia**

- AC Milan beat Barcelona 4-0 in the Champions Cup final.
- Brazil wins the World Cup, defeating Italy 3-2 in a penalty shootout.
- Miguel Indurain wins the Tour de France for the fourth time.

**Football Trivia**

- The following teams win in their respective football leagues (1993-1994): Manchester United (England), Paris Saint-Germain (France), Barcelona (Spain), Bayern Munich (Germany), A.C. Milan (Italy), SL Benfica (Portugal) and Galatasaray S.K. (Turkey)

**GLOSSARY**

**NAFTA** *abbr*  
The North American Free Trade Agreement is a trade bloc formed by the US, Mexico and Canada

**a rival** *n*  
a competitor

**a blank shot** *n*  
something fired from a gun that makes a noise, but which doesn't fire a bullet (the metal object that kills)

**to ordain** *vb*  
if someone is "ordained", there is a ceremony and they become part of a religious order

**an annular eclipse** *n*  
when the moon goes between the Earth and the Sun

**a strike** *n*  
if workers go on "strike", they stop working

**the World Series** *n*  
a professional baseball championship

**to de-target** *n*  
if country A "de-targets" weapons, it stops aiming them at country B

**a weapon** *n*  
a missile, gun, bomb, etc. that can hurt, harm or destroy

**to restore to power** *exp*  
to return to the position of president, dictator, etc.

**to premiere** *n*  
to be shown in public (on TV, at the cinema, etc.) for the first time

# TIME IDIOMS

THIS MONTH, WE ARE LOOKING AT SOME "TIME" IDIOMS. MORE NEXT MONTH.



**To have the time of your life**

IF YOU HAVE "THE TIME OF YOUR LIFE", YOU REALLY ENJOY YOURSELF VERY MUCH.  
"Daniella had the time of her life when she studied in France."



**To have time on your hands**

TO HAVE EXTRA TIME.  
"The couple had lots of time on their hands when their youngest child went off to university."



**To be behind the times**

TO BE UNFASHIONABLE; NOT TO KNOW THE LATEST NEWS; NOT TO USE THE LATEST TECHNOLOGY.  
"They still don't use computers! They're so behind the times!"



**For the time being**

IF SOMETHING IS "FOR THE TIME BEING", IT IS ONLY A TEMPORARY SITUATION UNTIL SOMETHING ELSE HAPPENS OR CHANGES.  
"We're waiting for the construction workers to finish the roof on our house, so we're living in a hotel for the time being."



**To kill time**

TO OCCUPY YOURSELF WITH AN ACTIVITY SO THAT TIME PASSES QUICKLY.  
"Janna couldn't sleep last night, so she killed time by counting sheep."



**Pressed for time**

TO BE IN A HURRY AND ON A TIGHT SCHEDULE.  
"We've got an important deadline, so I hope these documents print quickly; we're really pressed for time."



# Sacha Baron Cohen

Sacha Baron Cohen was born in London on 13th October 1971. He was the youngest of 3 sons in an Orthodox Jewish family. He studied at schools near London. Later, he went to Cambridge University to read history. While he was at university, he joined the Cambridge University Amateur Dramatic Club. After leaving university, he worked for a time as a male fashion model, appearing in several magazines. In the early 1990s, he had a job hosting a weekly programme on cable television. Later, he appeared on *The Eleven O'Clock Show* on Channel 4.

**property mogul** Donald Trump, but the billionaire walked out. Apparently, Mr Trump wasn't impressed with Ali G's business idea to market and sell "ice cream gloves".

Baron Cohen's other characters are Borat Sagdiyev (a Kazakh reporter), and Brüno (an Austrian fashion reporter). Baron Cohen appeared as Borat in the

hugely successful film *Borat: Cultural Learnings in America for Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*, and as Brüno in his latest film *Brüno*. Some find

Baron Cohen's style of humour a little too **close to the edge**.

Some even accuse him of promoting the very same prejudices that he is trying to expose. In his defence, Baron Cohen has said, "Borat essentially works as a tool. By himself being anti-Semitic, he lets people **lower their guard** and expose their own prejudice. People really let down their guard with him because they're in a room with somebody who seems to have these **outrageous** opinions. They sometimes feel much more relaxed about letting their own outrageous, **politically-incorrect**, prejudiced opinions come out."

So a chav from London, a Kazakh reporter and an Austrian fashion designer – what's next for Sacha Baron Cohen? One thing is certain: it'll be unlike anything we've ever seen before. ✪



**Sacha Baron Cohen**  
**Born:** 13th October 1971 in London  
**Famous for:** His comic characters Ali G, Borat and Brüno  
**Marital status:** Engaged to Australian actress Isla Fisher



In 2000, Baron Cohen was given his own programme, *Da Ali G Show*. As part of the show, Baron Cohen dressed as Ali G (an inner city **chav**) and interviewed famous people including Victoria and David Beckham. During the interviews, he got them to say ridiculous things or reveal politically-incorrect opinions and attitudes. In one episode, he tried to interview American

## Controversies

Two residents of Moroeni Glod, a Romani Gypsy village, want to **sue** the makers of "Borat" for \$30 million. They allege that the poorest members of their village were made to look like "savages".



In an interview with former British MP Neil Hamilton in 2000, AliG offered Hamilton what was allegedly cannabis, which Hamilton accepted and smoked.



The deputy foreign minister of Kazakhstan has recently invited Baron Cohen to visit the country, so that he could learn that "women drive cars... and that Jewish people are free to go to synagogues".

Two of the three University of South Carolina students who appear in the Borat film sued the filmmakers. They say that they were **duped into** signing release forms while drunk, and that false promises were made that the footage was for a documentary that would never be screened in the USA. The lawsuit was dismissed.

## GLOSSARY

- a chav** *n* slang a term applied to certain young white, working-class people in the UK who are aggressive and anti-social
- a property mogul** *n* a successful business person who has a number of houses/hotels/offices, etc.
- gloves** *n* clothing worn on the hands
- close to the edge** *exp* if something is considered "close to the edge", people think it is potentially offensive
- to lower your guard** *exp* if you "lower your guard", you stop being suspicious because you feel safe
- outrageous** *adj* shocking; unacceptable; terrible
- politically-incorrect** *adj* "politically-incorrect" words or actions may hurt minority groups or disadvantaged people
- engaged to** *exp* if you are "engaged to" someone, you are going to marry that person
- to sue** *vb* to start a legal process against someone in order to get compensation
- duped into doing something** *exp* tricked into doing something



# READING I

# Stocked Up

Eleven-year-olds are taught how to make a fortune.



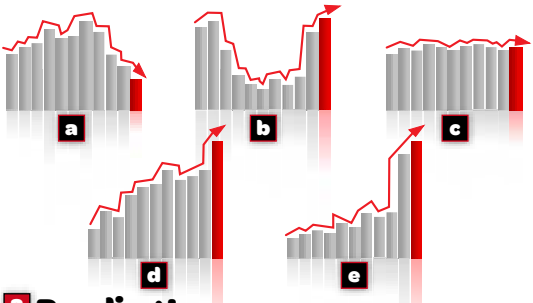
WHO WANTS TO PLAY MONOPOLY?

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

## 1 Pre-reading

Match the sentences (1 to 5) to the graphs (a-e).

1. The shares went up steadily.
2. The shares shot up.
3. The share price sunk to its lowest point.
4. Share prices remained steady.
5. The shares dropped then bounced back.



## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. What happened to the children's shares?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. What do the numbers refer to?

- |              |                        |
|--------------|------------------------|
| 1. 10-weeks  | 5. 10- to 11-year-olds |
| 2. \$100,000 | 6. 13                  |
| 3. \$201,123 | 7. \$25,903            |
| 4. 1,450     | 8. \$2,983             |

## 4 Language focus Mixed Conditionals

Look at this sentence from the article: "If they had actually won that much money, they'd probably buy a lot of toys." What is the full form of "they'd"? When do we use mixed conditionals?

## 5 Discussion

1. What do you think of this school programme?
2. Would this programme work well with children in your country?
3. Do you ever "play the market"? Why? Why not?

What should we be teaching our children at school? Maths? English? History? One primary school teacher has been helping his students learn about the stock market... and with amazing results.

Tim Hopfensperger is a teacher at Tullar Elementary School. He regularly enters his students in the Wisconsin Stock Market Game sponsored by **Economics Wisconsin\***. As part of the competition, children **invest** fictitious money in real **stocks** and **shares** – they **play the market**, so to speak. Just recently, his students won first, second and fourth place in the competition. The winning team of Jen Sagehorn, Sam Weiler, Bailey Morton and Annie Czech **doubled** their **portfolio** within the 10-week contest, **turning** \$100,000 of hypothetical money **into** \$203,416. "This is like a quick **sugar rush!**" said one of the students. "I was so excited. I wanted to scream," said another. Unfortunately for the students, they haven't won any real money. But they did win the grand prize: a trip to the New York Stock Exchange. The group of four girls said that if they had actually won that much money, they'd "probably" buy a lot of toys.

The second-place team of Cole Blurton, Marc Shukoski and Andrew Schachtner also doubled its money, finishing with \$201,123. About 1,450 teams entered the contest. Most consisted of high school students. Hopfensperger's fifth-graders (10- to 11-year-olds) have had success in past contests, including a first-place finish last year. Since 2001, his students have earned seven top-three finishes in the state. "I am really pleased," Hopfensperger said of his students' latest win. "I am waiting to see what they will do in the future. I **have no doubt** that a number of them will get involved in the financial industry." The winning team invested exclusively in financial stocks, which had **sunk** to their lowest point in years at the start of the contest. Hopfensperger and the students **figured** the stocks had nowhere to go but up. They were right. "Within a short period of time, they started to make an **awful lot of money**," Hopfensperger said. "I wish I had given them my own money." The winning team invested in 15 different financial stocks, 13 of which increased in value. Deutsche Bank and JPMorgan Chase & Co. **yielded** the biggest **gains** at \$25,903 and \$14,560, respectively. Capital Bank Corp. proved to be the team's only sizeable miscalculation, yielding a \$2,983 loss. \*

## \* Economics Wisconsin

Economics Wisconsin was founded in 1963 with the aim of teaching children about how the economy works. The belief is that children who are given a firm understanding of business will go on to become productive members of the workforce and knowledgeable managers. The end goal is to make Wisconsin's businesses more competitive in today's global economy. There are currently almost 4,000 teachers participating in the programme, each tutoring around 25 pupils a year. Economics Wisconsin is a non-profit organisation, so it relies on donations from Wisconsin corporations, individuals and foundations.



## GLOSSARY

- to invest** *vb*  
to put your money into a bank deposit account or to buy shares, etc. with the hope of increasing the value of the money
- stocks** *n*  
shares in the ownership of a company on which a fixed amount of interest will be paid
- shares** *n*  
a company's shares are the many equal parts into which its ownership is divided. Shares are often bought as an investment
- to play the market** *exp*  
to buy and sell shares regularly in order to make money
- to double** *vb*  
to increase by 100%
- a portfolio** *n*  
the stocks/shares, etc. from different companies that you own
- to turn A into B** *exp*  
to convert A into B; to make A become B
- a sugar rush** *n*  
a sudden feeling of energy after consuming sugar
- to have no doubt** *exp*  
to be sure
- to sink** *vb*  
to decrease; to fall to a lower level
- to figure** *vb*  
to imagine; to guess
- an awful lot of money** *exp*  
a very large amount of money
- to yield** *vb*  
if a share "yields" a gain, it increases
- a gain** *n*  
an increase





## Suspicious Searches

Enjoy stress-free online searching.



### 1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Look at the list of search words below. Which ones do you think are potentially dangerous? Which ones could cause a virus to appear on your computer? Can you think of any more potentially dangerous words?

sport lyrics Michael Jackson

free music downloads MP3

ringtones photos solitaire

### 2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your ideas from the Pre-reading exercise.

### 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

- Who was the study carried out by?
- What did they want to identify?
- How many words did they look at?
- What did the results show?
- What are the most dangerous categories?
- Which term was the writer surprised to see was not on the list? Why do you think the writer was surprised?

### 4 Discussion

- Have you ever had a virus on your computer? How did you get it? How did you get rid of it?
- Who creates viruses? Why do you think they do it?
- What do you do to protect your computer from viruses? What does the company where you work do?

Tired of **pop-up boxes**? Fed up of viruses? If online searching is causing you undue stress, you probably need to choose your words more carefully.

A recent study on “dangerous” search words has some interesting results. The study was **carried out** by the US anti-virus software company McAfee. They wanted to identify the words most likely to **bring up** viruses. They looked at more than 2,600 words from major search engines including Yahoo, Google and AOL. The results showed that certain words bring up more viruses than others. Dangerous categories (those with the highest risk of containing **malware**) include searches for **screen savers**, free games, the Olympics, free videos and news on celebrities or the latest music. **Risky** terms included “lyrics, free music downloads, ringtones” and “solitaire”.

“Cybercriminals are **smart**,” said Jeff Green, senior vice president of McAfee Product Development & Avert Labs. “Like sharks smelling blood in the water, **hackers** will create related websites **laden with adware** and malware whenever a particular topic increases in popularity. Unsuspecting consumers are then **tricked into** downloading malicious software that leads them to **blindly hand over** their personal assets to cybercriminals.”

Surprisingly, searches using the word “Viagra”, a popular keyword commonly found in **spam** e-mail messages, returned the fewest risky sites. And searches with the safest risk profile included health-related terms and searches about the current economic crisis.

So, now you know. If you want to avoid infecting your computer with a nasty virus, **stick to** reading about health issues and the economy! ✪

### Most popular search terms in 2008

- Sarah Palin
- Beijing 2008
- Facebook login
- tuenti
- Heath Ledger
- Obama
- Nasza klasa (Polish social networking site)
- Wer kennt wen (German social networking site)
- Euro 2008
- Jonas brothers

### Things to do on Google

- Search yourself (just type in your name).
- Look for your house on Google Maps.
- Find out the time in different countries.
- See what the weather’s like around the world.
- Track your packages.
- Get Google to define a word.
- Go on to “elgoog”, where everything on Google is shown backwards. Just type in “Elgoog”.
- Go green and choose Blackle – the black and white energy-saving version of Google.

### Funny Google Searches

- Search Google for “Who is a failure” and you’ll find a list of articles on George Bush.
- Search Google for “search” and the first on the list is Yahoo. Google appears in fourth place.
- Type “find Chuck Norris” into Google and click on the icon that says “I’m feeling lucky”. You’ll then get a message saying “Google won’t search for Chuck Norris because it knows if you don’t find Chuck Norris, he finds you”. This only works on certain versions of Internet Explorer.



### GLOSSARY

**a pop-up box** *n*  
a box with publicity/information/advertising that suddenly appears on a website

**to carry out** *phr vb*  
if you “carry out” a study, you do/organise that study

**to bring up** *phr vb*  
to cause to appear

**malware** *abbr*  
malicious software – software that is designed to infiltrate or damage a computer system

**a screen saver** *n*  
a program that shows images on your screen (the object you look at while you are working on the computer)

**risky** *adj*  
dangerous

**smart** *adj*  
clever; intelligent

**a hacker** *n*  
a computer programmer who enters into other computers illegally

**laden with** *exp*  
filled with

**adware** *n*  
software that causes advertisements to appear on a computer

**to trick someone into doing something** *exp*  
to cause someone to do something by telling them a lie or by being dishonest

**blindly** *adv*  
without thinking/checking/worrying

**to hand over** *exp*  
to give

**spam** *n*  
unsolicited e-mails often of a commercial nature sent to multiple mailing lists; junk e-mail

**to stick to** *exp*  
if you “stick to” one thing, you only do that thing

# PHRASAL VERB THEMES



# Time

THIS IS THE FIRST PART OF A MINI-SERIES ON TIME. ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

autumn baby renew director meeting answer lunch work

**1 RUN OUT OF TIME**  
TO HAVE NO MORE TIME LEFT.



I'M SORRY BUT YOU'VE RUN OUT OF TIME. WHAT'S YOUR \_\_\_\_\_, PLEASE?

**2 GET AWAY FOR A TIME**  
TO GO SOMEWHERE DIFFERENT FOR A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME.



I'VE BEEN SO STRESSED AT \_\_\_\_\_ RECENTLY. I REALLY NEED TO GET AWAY FOR A FEW DAYS.

**3 PRESSED FOR TIME**  
IF YOU ARE "PRESSED FOR TIME", YOU HAVE VERY LITTLE TIME LEFT.



IF YOU AREN'T TOO PRESSED FOR TIME, I SUGGEST WE HAVE

TOGETHER AND DISCUSS IT.

**4 BRING FORWARD**  
TO MAKE SOMETHING HAPPEN AT AN EARLIER DATE/TIME THAN ORIGINALLY PLANNED.



THEY BROUGHT FORWARD THE TIME OF THE \_\_\_\_\_ SO THEY COULD START EARLIER.

**5 PUT BACK**  
TO MAKE SOMETHING HAPPEN AT A LATER TIME/DATE THAN ORIGINALLY PLANNED.



THEY PUT BACK THE TIME OF THE MEETING TO GIVE THE

TIME TO GET BACK FROM THE AIRPORT.

**6 RUN OUT (A PERMIT/LICENCE, ETC.)**  
IF A PERMIT OR LICENCE RUNS OUT, IT ISN'T VALID ANY MORE.



MY WORK PERMIT HAS RUN OUT AGAIN. I'LL HAVE TO GO AND \_\_\_\_\_ IT.

**7 PUT THE CLOCKS BACK/FORWARD**  
IF YOU PUT THE CLOCKS BACK, YOU CHANGE THE TIME SO IT IS EARLIER. THIS IS OFTEN DONE AS THE SEASONS CHANGE. IF YOU PUT A CLOCK FORWARD, YOU CHANGE THE TIME SO IT IS LATER.



IN THE \_\_\_\_\_, WE PUT OUR CLOCKS BACK SO IT ISN'T SO DARK IN THE MORNING.

**8 TAKE TIME OFF**  
IF YOU "TAKE TIME OFF" FROM WORK, YOU HAVE AN EXTRA HOLIDAY (OFTEN UNPAID) FOR A SPECIFIC PURPOSE OR BECAUSE YOU ARE ILL.



SHE TOOK SOME TIME OFF FOR WORK TO TAKE CARE OF HER NEW-BORN \_\_\_\_\_.

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## Tapescripts

### Cracking Up Track 8

*The last thing that made you laugh.*

Good morning, everyone, and welcome to Straight Talk. For today's radio show, we've decided to leave the studio. So, today's question is... what was the last thing that made you laugh?

#### Person 1

Oh gosh... the last thing that made me laugh... mmm. Well, we always have fun in the office. In fact, it's mostly people laughing at me... I'm always having accidents at work. Today, for example, I was trying to do a hundred things at once, and as I went to answer the phone, I fell off my chair. Of course, my co-workers thought it was the funniest thing in the world.

#### Person 2

Well, it's a little silly, but it was very funny at the time. I have a naughty dog called Spot – he eats everything. The other week, I bought some beautiful new shoes. I was so pleased that I wore the shoes for the rest of the day. Anyway, the next day, I went to put my shoes on but I couldn't find them. I looked everywhere. Eventually, I found them. Spot was eating them. At first, I wanted to cry, but when he looked up and I saw his guilty expression, I saw the funny side of it.

#### Person 3

Oh, I know... Last weekend, I went to see Billy Connolly. He's a very good stand-up comedian. He has a strong Scottish accent which makes him funnier. Anyway, he was describing a time when he was smoking in a bar. Someone told him to put his cigarette out. Of course, Billy refused. His imitation of this woman was very funny. As he was describing the situation, he was getting angry about it. And the angrier he gets, the funnier he gets... it was classic!

#### Person 4

Today... my 3-year-old son. He's so funny and he makes me laugh every day. He loves speaking to everyone. Earlier this morning, we went to a shop, and he put out his hand and said, "Hi, I'm Jack Black. Pleased to meet you!" The shop assistant was quite surprised at first, but then she laughed and said, "What a sociable young man you are!"

### Back to School Track 12

*How to get back into the routine.*

**Presenter:** As adults, we all know what it's like to go back to work after a long summer holiday. But what about children? How hard is it for them to go back to school? Here in the studio, we have social worker Susie Maine to answer that question. Susie, going back to school can't be much fun for children, can it?

**Susie:** It's most certainly not. In fact, for some children, it can be very upsetting. That feeling of going back to work and to a routine is stressful. Some adults find it hard to adapt to a new timetable and the stress. Basically, it's the same for children.

**Presenter:** So, is there a way to make starting up again after the summer break any easier for our children or even for ourselves?

**Susie:** Yes, there are things that you can do. I mentioned routine before and that's the key. It's difficult to get back into a routine so, you need to try and prepare for it beforehand.

**Presenter:** How?

**Susie:** Well, sleep is the most important factor. During holidays, you don't have a proper sleeping routine – you get up when you want and you go to bed when you want.

**Presenter:** ... which is what people love about holidays, I suppose.

**Susie:** Yes, but it makes going back to school or work much more difficult. You need to enforce a bedtime routine at least a few days before you or your children go back to school or work. This way, you'll be well-rested and back in the routine. Basically, it means that your body will get less of a shock. Also, prepare everything the night before. Make sure you have all the clothes laid out to help avoid any early-morning panic. You have to make the transition as stress-free as possible.

**Presenter:** That makes sense – after all, the mornings are the hardest part. So, what other problems are

there associated with going back to school? Well, for parents it's also an expensive time. There are clothes to buy, and books and school material to buy. But you can also make this a positive experience. Take your children shopping and buy some fun stationery – colourful pens, wacky pencils, folders with their favourite cartoons on them, etc. – let your children choose what they want. It helps, honestly.

**Presenter:** And what about... (voice trails off)

### Jokes Track 13

1. What looks like half a cat? The other half!
2. What do you get if you cross a cat with a parrot? A carrot!
3. Why aren't football stadiums built in outer space? Because there is no "atmosphere"!
4. What do you get if you cross an insect with the Easter rabbit? Bugs Bunny
5. What game do elephants like to play most? Squash.
6. How can you get four suits for a euro? Buy a deck of cards.
7. What did the necktie say to the hat? You go on "ahead". I'll hang around for a while.
8. What time does a duck wake up? At the "quack" of dawn.

### British Bar Chat Fast Food Track 21

**Doug:** So, do you go out to fast food restaurants very often?

**Marta:** No, no quite honestly I don't. I prefer to do my own home cooking.

**Doug:** Yeah, I mean I used to go quite a lot because, you know, it's so convenient and it's quite tasty, I have to admit it, but I'm really trying to cut down, you know. Firstly because it, sort of makes you fat, all those chips and everything...

**Marta:** In fact, when you bought food, what, what did you buy?

**Doug:** I don't know, I used - well, I quite like Burger King actually, that sort of charcoaled flame-grilled taste, so I'd usually get one of their - probably a big Whopper or something, and I quite like chicken nuggets and things like that, but you know, I'm really, you know, I used to go once a week, once every two weeks, but I'm really trying to cut it down to like once every two months or something because, you know, it does have an effect on you. Tastes good but afterwards you don't feel good and also the things about, you know, where they get the food from and, you know, the conditions they keep the chickens in and all the...

**Marta:** True, true. In fact there's been a terrific outcry, hasn't there, lately with the fast food companies abroad such as McDonalds and Burger King and in fact, I've even heard they've, they've, in, in China? They've even closed the shops up...

**Doug:** Oh that's good, yeah. That's quite interesting actually because in, actually Britain's got, they keep their chickens in quite good conditions, whereas the Americans, erm, their chickens are kept in pretty poor conditions.

**Marta:** Oh really?

**Doug:** Yeah, yeah...

### US bar chat Speeding Ticket Track 22

**Steph:** Hi, sorry I'm late. I just got pulled over by an officer.

**Carol:** Oh, no! Did you get a ticket?

**Steph:** No, thank God. I was dropping some friends off at the bar cos they didn't want to drive, being responsible drinkers. So, I said I would drop them off and then come here. I dropped them off and when I turned, I went down a one-way street the wrong way...

**Carol:** Oh, great. The designated driver is the one who takes the wrong way.

**Steph:** Scary, isn't it?

**Carol:** Little bit, yeah.

**Steph:** Well, anyways, obviously the officer asked me what I was doing and I told him I was the designated driver, which is a point up for me, but then again my face just showed, complete fear, because I had no clue what I had done...

**Carol:** Oh no, but he let you go? You didn't have a ticket?

**Steph:** No ticket. Have you ever gotten pulled over?

**Carol:** Well, one time I had a cop pull a gun on me.

**Steph:** What? A gun?

**Carol:** Yeah.

**Steph:** What happened?

**Carol:** Well, I rolled this stop sign. I did not run the stop sign, I rolled it.

**Steph:** Uh-huh...

**Carol:** And I guess he thought that I was trying to run away from the cops or something, trying to flee the authorities, but actually I just didn't realize and I was just trying to go home. And I'd been babysitting so my hair was in pigtails, and I was wearing overalls, macaroni necklace – you know, I look about ten, driving...

**Steph:** He must have thought you were nuts!

**Carol:** I know. So, I also had a tail light out so I thought maybe he was following me to say, "Hey, your tail light's out. You need to get that fixed."

### A guy walks into a bar... Track 24

*Comedians tell their jokes on the air.*

**Presenter:** In today's show, we're talking to two of Britain's top comedians who've come in to tell us their favourite jokes. Thanks for coming in guys. So, let's start with you, Scott. What's the best joke you've heard recently?

**Scott:** Well. It's a really obvious one, but I like it.

**Presenter:** OK, let's hear it then.

**Scott:** Right. So, there's a guy called Fred. And Fred's 37 years old and still single. And one day a friend asks him, "Fred, why aren't you married? Can't you find anyone?" Fred thinks for a moment then says, "Actually, I've been out with lots of women, but whenever I bring them home to meet my parents, my mum doesn't like them." So, his friend thinks for a moment and says, "I've got the perfect solution – all you need to do is find a girl who's just like your mum." A few months later they meet again and his friend says, "Did you find the perfect girl? Did your mum like her?"

And Fred answers, "Yes, I found the perfect girl. She was just like my mum. And you were right; my mum liked her very much." The friend said, "Then what's the problem?" and Fred replies, "My dad doesn't like her."

**Presenter:** Very good. I like it. How about you, Tina? You seem to like telling jokes in your stand-up shows. You must have lots of your sleepovers.

**Tina:** OK, here's one that my son told me.

**Presenter:** We're all ears.

**Tina:** Well, one day this woman goes to the cinema, as she always does. Anyway, she sits in her usual seat in the front row. Next to her there's an old man with a dog. She thinks that was very strange. Anyway, the film is great – sad and funny at the same time, you know the type. But, for some reason, she finds she was paying more attention to the dog than the film. She notices that during the sad bits of the film, the dog cries its eyes out, and in the funny parts, the dog laughs its head off. It's extraordinary. So, the film ends and the credits come up. She turns to the man and says, "That's the most amazing thing I've ever seen, your dog really seemed to enjoy the film." The man turned to her and says, "Yeah, it is. But he hated the book."

**Presenter:** (laughing) That's great. Right, well I've got a joke for you. So, there's this guy on a train. He's travelling to London and all of a sudden... (trails off)

### Burst Out Laughing Track 27

*Funny moments in cinema.*

**Presenter:** Good morning, listeners, and welcome to another edition of 'The Best Of Cinema'. Today, we're talking to film critic Angie Nichols about her best comic movie moments. So, Angie, what's your favourite scene in a comedy film?

**Angie:** Well, my all-time favourite is *Big* with Tom Hanks.

**Presenter:** Now, there's a blast from the past.

**Angie:** Quite! It's a classic. It's such a sweet film and Tom Hanks is adorable in his role as the thirteen-year old trapped in an adult's body.

**Presenter:** I don't remember Tom Hanks being adorable, but I only saw the film once about ten years ago.

**Angie:** Well, I've seen this film over and over again

and I always laugh at the same moments. There are some great scenes. I love the one where Tom Hanks is at a work party. Being thirteen and in an adult's body, he's not at all impressed by the sophisticated food at the buffet.

**Presenter:** Oh yes, that's funny – I remember that scene well. He almost chokes on a canapé, doesn't he?

**Angie:** That's right. Being a teen, he can't stand the starter that he bites into. His expression of disgust as he spits it back out always makes me laugh. The best bit about the scene though is the white suit that he arrives in – it's sort of Elvis-like. How about you? Do you have a favourite scene?

**Presenter:** Well, one of my favourite films is *Four Weddings and a Funeral*. And my favourite scene is the one with the vicar – played by the actor Rowan Atkinson – when he marries two of the characters. Atkinson basically plays his usual awkward and blundering self. As a new vicar, he's nervous and, as a result, he gets all his words mixed up and instead of saying "lawful wedded wife" in one of the vows, he asks, "Do you take Lydia Jane Hibbert to be your 'awful wedded wife'?" It's a brilliant moment.

**Angie:** Yes, that's a classic scene. Another film I really like is *Little Miss Sunshine*. I saw it the other day and I don't think I've laughed like that for a long time.

**Presenter:** Ah, yes, you mean when little Olive, the adorable protagonist, does her inappropriate dance at the beauty pageant?

**Angie:** Exactly. And, of course, the way she moves is what makes it so inappropriate... but hilarious at the same time.

**Presenter:** And the fact that it was the grandfather who taught poor Olive the dance routine.

**Angie:** Yes, that as well, yes. It's such a feel-good film. When you see something like that, you realise that what really matters in life is humour.

**Presenter:** Well, it looks like we're out of time, so we'll have to leave it on that philosophical note, Angie, but thank you for sharing those fond movie memories with us.

**Angie:** My pleasure.

## Off the Cuff Track 33

*So, what was your favourite year in school?*

So, what was my favourite year at school? I reckon it was probably my last year of secondary school. I was – I was in a boarding school and by the time we got to the last year there were only about ten of us left, so there were ten of us in the class, which was great. Also when you were in the, like, the last year of school, you're like the king of the school, and it was quite a free boarding school anyway so we could get up when we wanted, we didn't have to go to class, um, we could have parties, we could go out at night, we could come back... It was just, like, great, and we were living with all our friends, and also I was quite excited about the next year because I knew I wasn't going straight to university, I was going to have a year out – a gap year, like we call it in British English – where I was going to go travelling around Asia, so I was quite excited about that. So it was all, it was a good fun year, you know. I had exams at the end of the year but I didn't, for some reason I didn't do brilliantly but I didn't find them that difficult either. I did well enough to get into university, so, you know, I knew I was going to go to university after the year out, so it was like quite a fun time and not much to worry about, and that was it.

Hmm, my favourite year in school was probably when I was about 16, 17, so that's junior year – third year – in high school. I think that's my favourite year because at that point you're not a kid, but then you're not an adult. So you don't have all the responsibilities that you do now, but then again, you have the freedom. I could drive at that point, so my curfew was instead of 11, when my parents had to pick me up, I could stay out until about 1, 1.30, which was pretty good, and school was better in general. You could take electives, so things that you were interested in, and you're focusing on going to college, so it's a bit, bit more interesting, not just the typical maths and reading and language and things like that, you could actually specialize. So yeah, I think that's it.

## Answers

### Ghost Paper page 4

#### 3 Reading II

- Drop
- A toilet.
- A few minutes.
- Koji Suzuki
- Horror/Mythical.

#### 4 Language focus

The writer has used this tense because it is referring to a past action without specifying a time.

### Work before Play Page 5

#### 3 Reading II

- At Boston University.
- He's a tour guide for a baseball stadium.
- About one hour.
- His family.
- Lucky the Clown

#### 4 Language focus

- to retire
- retirement
- retired

### Useful Vocabulary Page 8

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

### Dr Fingers Error Correction Clinic Page 13

- I am calling to thank you for the gift.
- What time did you get here?
- I'll call you when I get home.
- I've never heard this type of music before.
- We did some research for the project.
- I make a lot of mistakes when I speak English.

### Cracking Up Page 13

#### 3 Listening II

- Person 2
- Person 4
- Person 1
- Person 4
- Person 3
- Person 1
- Person 3
- Person 2

#### 4 Language Focus

describing, time, smoking, bar.

### Grammar Fun Page 14

- coach
- housework
- stationery
- buses
- homework
- stationary

### Terminating Textbooks Page 16

#### 3 Reading II

- He thinks they are outdated.
- e-Readers.
- \$75 to \$100.
- More than its digital equivalent.
- They put poorer students at a disadvantage, it costs money to get materials and train teachers, and only one out of three students has a computer at her school.

### Dinnertime Page 17

#### 3 Reading II

- 30 = The number of families in the study.
- 24 = The number of countries that participated.
- \$75 = The amount the US family spends on fast food.
- \$341.98 = The total amount the

US family spends a week on food in general.

- \$500 = The amount the German family spends a week.
- \$1.23 = The amount the family from Chad spends on food a week.
- \$155.06 = The amount the Chinese family spends on food a week.
- \$9.17 = The amount the Chinese family spends on fast food a week.

#### 4 Language focus

- on
- for
- at

### Back to School Page 24

#### 3 Listening II

- Routine: Enforce a bedtime routine a few days before you go back.
- Preparation: Prepare everything the night before. Make sure you have all your clothes ready.
- Expenses: There is a lot to buy for parents. They should try to make it a positive experience. The speaker suggests buying some fun stationery, etc.

#### 4 Language focus

- Upsetting – something that makes you angry/sad, etc.
- Upset – if someone is "upset", they are angry/sad, etc.
- Upset someone – to make someone angry/sad, etc.

### The "B" Word Page 27

#### 3 Reading II

- He's going to give his bonus to his employees.
- John Windolf – the CEO.
- Good employees are the key to success.
- Because his wife lost her job.
- Because he feels it is the right thing to do.

#### 4 Language focus

- huge
- a clause
- employees
- grateful
- cash
- motives

### Smile for the Camera Page 28

#### 1 Pre-reading

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

#### 2 Reading I

A billboard advert. It has a photo on it that was used without permission.

#### 3 Reading II

- The Smiths – an American family.
- Brian – a friend of the Smiths.
- Mario Bertuccio – a shop owner from Prague who used a photo of the Smiths.

#### 4 Reading III

- A mixture of emotions: shocked, curious, flattered, interested, etc.
- Shocked. He was prepared to offer them a bottle of good wine.

#### 5 Language focus

- to photograph
- to network
- to e-mail
- to own
- to apologize
- to explain

### Riddles page 31

- Sand
- March is a town in England.
- Only one bite – after that your stomach isn't empty.

### A guy walks into a bar... page 33

#### 3 Listening II

- Joke 1

- Joke 2

- Joke 2

- Joke 1

- Joke 1

- Joke 2

- Joke 1

- Joke 2

#### 4 Language focus

If you have lots of jokes "up your sleeve", you know lots of jokes and have them in your head.

### Burst out Laughing page 36

#### 1 Pre-listening

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

#### 2 Listening I

Big, Four Weddings and a Funeral, Little Miss Sunshine

#### 3 Listening II

- Big
- Four Weddings
- Four Weddings
- Sunshine
- Sunshine

- Big

- Big

- Sunshine

- Four Weddings

#### 4 Language focus

He confuses his words.

### Stocked Up page 40

#### 1 Pre-reading

1d 2e 3a 4c 5b

#### 2 Reading I

They went up.

#### 3 Reading II

- 10-weeks = the duration of the contest.
- \$100,000 = the amount of hypothetical money the students had.
- \$201,123 = the amount of money the second team had at the end of the competition.
- 1,450 = the number of teams who entered.
- 10- to 11-year-olds = the age of the students in Mr Hopfensperger's class.
- 13 = the number of stocks which increased in value.
- \$25,903 = the Deutsche Bank gains.
- \$2,983 = the only loss they made.

#### 4 Language focus

They'd = they would. We use Mixed Conditionals to refer to the hypothetical present tense situation that could result from a hypothetical past tense situation.

### Suspicious Searches page 41

#### 3 Reading II

- McAfee
- The words most likely to bring up viruses.
- 2,600 words.
- Certain words bring up more viruses than others.
- Screen savers, free games, the Olympics, free videos and news on celebrities.
- Viagra.

### Phrasal Verb Themes page 42

- answer
- work
- lunch
- meeting
- director
- renew
- autumn
- baby

# WORD OF THE MONTH



# Sarcasm

SARCASM CONSISTS OF SPEECH THAT MEANS THE OPPOSITE TO WHAT YOU ARE SAYING. IT CAN BE USED AS A FORM OF HUMOUR, OR AS A WAY OF EMBARRASSING, HURTING OR HUMILIATING OTHERS.

**J**ust imagine the scene. You've just had a really difficult week, with lots of work, very little sleep and a whole load of problems. A friend asks:  
**A:** Hey, how was your weekend?  
**B:** (being sarcastic) Oh, just great. It was perfect. It was marvellous. It couldn't have been better!

Here are some examples of sarcasm.  
**A:** (lying on the sofa) I'm sorry I can't help you clean the flat but I've got a really bad back.  
**B:** (being sarcastic) Oh, don't worry. You have a nice rest. I wouldn't want you to hurt yourself.  
**A:** I'm sorry but I didn't finish that report.  
**B:** (being sarcastic) What a surprise!  
**A:** I'm sorry but I broke your tennis racket.  
**B:** (being sarcastic) Oh, great. Just what I needed.

Very often, a "silly" question is the ideal opportunity for a bit of sarcasm. It's a cruel way of making the person who asked the question feel stupid for asking it. For example:  
**A:** When shall we meet again?

**B:** (being sarcastic) How about never? Is never good enough for you?  
**A:** Do you always talk to yourself?  
**B:** (being sarcastic) Yes. It's the only way I can be sure of having an intelligent conversation. (from the series Blackadder)  
**A:** Surely you've noticed something in the air?  
**B:** (being sarcastic) Yes, but I thought that was Baldrick. (from the series Blackadder)

Finally, sarcasm is often used as a form of insult. Notice how the attacker starts off the sentence with something positive, but then ends up with something nasty that is designed to hurt, humiliate and belittle:  
**a)** I like you. You remind me of when I was young and stupid.  
**b)** I'm not being rude. You're just insignificant.  
**c)** You have the intellectual capacity of a potato. (from the series Blackadder)

Now go and try a few examples of sarcasm. You'll sound ever so British. 🇬🇧

next time in  
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