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Website Addresses.

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Editor's intro



Hi, and welcome to another issue of Hot English Magazine, the fun magazine for learning English. Well, it's getting colder now and there are only a few more days before Christmas! But don't worry. Just to keep you entertained on those cold winter nights at home, you can enjoy some Hot English videos. You've probably noticed the new icon that's appearing in the



magazine (see right). This tells you that there's a video related to the topic on our website (www.hotenglishmagazine.com). The videos are great for improving your English, plus the transcripts are there for you to read, too. OK. Enough of that. This month, we've got a lot of great articles for your reading and listening pleasure. We're looking at two really popular websites, Facebook and Twitter. I saw in the news that some Hollywood producers are getting fed up of the stars constantly updating their social networking sites and have even prohibited the use of them. Also, singer and actress Miley Cyrus has just cancelled her Twitter account. As she says in a rap that she wrote to explain her reasons for quitting, "I want my private life private." Find out more about these two sites. Our special feature this month is Sherlock Holmes. Back in June, it was the 150th anniversary of the birth of Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of Sherlock Holmes. We're looking at the fascinating life of this author, plus we're having a look at life during the Victorian times in general. Well, that's all for now, don't forget to order your copy of the Skills Booklets so you can learn or teach with the fantastic Hot English Method. Just complete the form on the subscriptions page (page 43) and send it off to us, or e-mail business@hotenglishmagazine.com for more information.

Anyway, good luck with your English language learning and we'll see you all next month.

Yours,
Andy

PS Remember to order your copy of the Hot English Method (Hot English magazine + Skills Booklets)! For more information on this amazing teaching and learning resource, please e-mail business@hotenglishmagazine.com

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This symbol tells you that there's a video on the website that's related to the article.
www.hotenglishmagazine.com

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READING

World Facts



ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Tea, sleep, mobiles, and beer. Who leads the world?

by Patrick Howarth

1 Pre-reading

How much do you know about the world in the 21st century?

Do the quiz.

- Which country drinks the most tea?
 - the UK
 - India
 - China
 - Ireland
- Which country drinks the most coffee?
 - Spain
 - the USA
 - Sweden
 - Brazil
- Which country drinks the most beer per person?
 - the Czech Republic
 - Germany
 - Australia
 - Venezuela
- Which country drinks the most champagne per person?
 - the USA
 - France
 - Guadeloupe
 - Mauritius
- Which country produces the most gold?
 - France
 - China
 - South Africa
 - Russia



Which country produces the most gold in the world? Which country has the highest **spending power**? Which country is the **sleepiest** nation? You can find the answers to these and many other questions in the *Pocket World in Figures*, a fascinating new book recently published by *The Economist* magazine. This is the first of a two-part series.



Many of the facts are extremely surprising. For example, everyone knows that the British love tea. They drink it for breakfast, at 11.00 am, and, of course, at teatime (3.30 pm). The **British** must be the biggest tea drinkers. Well, they're not. The **UK** is only the world's sixth biggest **consumer** of tea, drinking 131,000 tonnes a year. China drinks the most, at 828,000 tonnes, and, of course, produces the most (1,166,000 tonnes per year). China also produces more gold than any other country in the world – 270 tonnes a year.

2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your answers.

3 Reading II

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

- 3:30 pm.
- 828,000 tonnes.
- 270 tonnes.
- 2,164,000 tonnes.
- \$103,040.
- 4.25.

4 Language focus The Superlative

Look at this extract from the article, "Brazil is the biggest coffee grower,..." The writer has used a superlative ("the biggest"). Complete the sentences with the correct superlatives.

- He is the _____ (**nice**) boy I know.
- It's the _____ (**high**) mountain in the world.
- This is the _____ (**tasty**) food here.
- That was the _____ (**boring**) film I've ever seen.
- That was the _____ (**bad**) book of the four.

5 Discussion

- Which fact is the most/least surprising?
- Do you know any other unusual facts? What are they?

So what about coffee? The coffee in Spanish and Italian bars is famous all over the world but The United States drinks the most, consuming 1,262,000 tonnes of coffee beans annually. Brazil is the biggest coffee **grower**, producing 2,164,000 tonnes of beans each year. Which countries come to mind when you think of beer? Many of the most famous **brands** come from Europe: Heineken from Holland, Lowenbrau from Germany, Carlsberg from Denmark, and Pilsner Urquell from the Czech Republic, for example. The citizens of these counties all drink a lot of beer, of course, but the biggest beer drinkers on earth are... the Venezuelans, who consume 83 litres per person annually.

And champagne? Surely the French drink more champagne than the rest of the world. Well, they don't. Champagne is expensive, so it's probably most popular in a rich country. So, what about the USA? Again, no. Could it be Luxembourg, the country with the highest **GDP** per head of population, at \$103,040, and the greatest **purchasing power** in the world? No. In fact, the Caribbean islands of Guadeloupe **have** the biggest **taste for bubbly**, with 4.25 bottles of champagne consumed **per head** per year. The islands are in fact part of France, which perhaps explains the figure.

More next month. ✪

GLOSSARY

spending power *n*
the amount of money people have to spend (buy things)

sleepy *adj*
a bit tired; the "sleepiest" nation, would be the nation that sleeps the most

British *adj*
from Britain (England, Scotland and Wales) – "Britain" is often interchanged with "the UK"

UK *n*
from the United Kingdom (England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland) – "the UK" is often interchanged with "Britain"

a consumer *n*
a person who buys / pays for goods and services for their own personal needs

a grower *n*
a country that grows plants/crops, etc.

a brand *n*
a product that is well-known by its name/trademark/logo, etc.

GDP *abbr*
gross domestic product = the total market value of goods and services produced by workers and capital within a nation's borders

purchasing power *n*
the amount of money people have to buy things

to have a taste for something *exp*
to really like a particular food/drink

bubbly *n inform*
champagne

per head *exp*
per person; by/for each person



The Ig Nobels

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

You are going to read an article about some unusual scientific research. Look at the words below. What do you think the research is about?

bra gas mask beer bottles

tequila diamonds

pregnant women

cows names

Icelandic banks

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again and complete the sentences.

- Javier Morales won the _____ prize.
- He used a pressure vessel to make _____.
- Elena Bodnar won the _____ health prize.
- Katherine Whitcome wanted to know why _____ women didn't topple over.
- Catherine Douglas and Peter Rowlinson were awarded the _____ medicine prize.
- The peace prize went to _____ Bollinger.

4 Language focus Past tenses

Look at this extract from the article, "The chemistry prize went to Javier Morales..." The writer has used the past tense of the verb "to go" ("went"). Transform the following sentences from the Present Simple to the Past Simple.

- She wins the prize.
- They like the game.
- The judges choose the winner.
- They do some research.
- We don't know the answer.

5 Discussion

- Which piece of research is the most/least useful? Why?
- Have you heard about any unusual scientific research? What was it?

Awards for unusual scientific research.



A bra that can be used as a gas mask. Smashing beer bottles over people's heads. How to turn tequila into diamonds. These are just some of the themes for this year's **Ig Nobel*** prizes – the most bizarre scientific award ceremony in the world. And the winners are...



The chemistry prize went to Javier Morales from the National University of Mexico for his **research** into how to make diamonds from tequila. He used a **pressure vessel** to do this.

The public health prize was awarded to Elena Bodnar of Illinois, for **patenting** a bra that can be converted into a pair of gas masks. "It was inspired by the Chernobyl nuclear accident," said Bodnar, who is originally from the Ukraine.



The physics prize was awarded to Katherine Whitcome at the University of Cincinnati and colleagues. They looked into the question of why **pregnant** women don't **topple over**.

The veterinary medicine prize was awarded to Catherine Douglas and Peter Rowlinson of Newcastle University's school of agriculture. Their research showed that giving cows names such as Daisy increases their **milk yield**. "It's the **highlight of** my career," said Douglas. "The work **amused** the public, but it also addressed a serious issue about the **welfare** of animals."



The peace prize went to Stephan Bolliger and his colleagues from the University of Bern in Switzerland. They did experiments to discover whether it's more painful to hit someone on the head with a full beer bottle or an empty one. "Empty beer bottles are **sturdier** than full ones," the researchers reported.

And the economics prize went to the directors, executives and auditors of four Icelandic banks (Kaupthing bank, Landsbanki, Glitnir bank and Central Bank of Iceland) for demonstrating that **tiny** banks can be rapidly transformed into **huge** banks, and vice versa."

It's nice to think that this fascinating research is getting the attention it deserves! ✨



Ig Nobels

The Ig Nobels are awards for unusual scientific research. The name of the competition (The Ig Nobels) forms an expression that sounds like the English word "ignoble", which is basically the opposite of "noble" (a "noble person" has excellent qualities of character, including honesty, generosity and selflessness).



GLOSSARY

- a bra** *n*
a piece of clothing women wear under their shirts/T-shirts, etc.
- research** *n*
scientific investigation
- a pressure vessel** *n*
a metal container (usually cylindrical) that can be put under great amounts of pressure
- to patent** *vb*
to formally register an invention as yours
- pregnant** *adj*
if a woman is "pregnant", she has a child in her
- to topple over** *phr vb*
to fall (often because the top part is too heavy)
- a milk yield** *n*
a cow's "milk yield" is the amount of milk it produces
- the highlight of something** *exp*
the most important part of something
- to amuse** *vb*
to make laugh
- welfare** *n*
health, happiness and well-being
- sturdy** *adj*
strong; not easily broken
- tiny** *adj*
very small
- huge** *adj*
very big

English language names with real meaning.

THE NAME GAME

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



Jane Fonda (US actress)
IF YOU ARE "FOND" OF SOMEONE, YOU LIKE THAT PERSON VERY MUCH.
"I'm really fond of you."



Elizabeth Taylor (British actress)
A "TAILOR" IS SOMEONE WHO MAKES CLOTHES AS PART OF THEIR JOB.
"I had this suit made by a tailor in Hong Kong."



Jude Law (English actor)
A "LAW" IS A RULE OF CONDUCT ESTABLISHED BY CUSTOM, AGREEMENT OR A GOVERNMENT.
"It's against the law to do that. If the police see you, they'll arrest you."



Guy Ritchie (English director)
A "GUY" IS AN INFORMAL WORD FOR A MAN.
"Do you see that guy over there? He's my brother."



Twitter (website)
TO "TWITTER" IS TO SPEAK ABOUT SILLY OR UNIMPORTANT THINGS. LITERALLY, WHEN BIRDS "TWITTER", THEY MAKE A LOT OF SHORT, HIGH-PITCHED SOUNDS.
"They were twittering excitedly about the new film."



Stephen Fry (English actor)
IF YOU "FRY" FOOD, YOU COOK IT IN HOT OIL.
"We fried the fish and roasted the vegetables."



STORY TIME

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

Doctor, Doctor

Patient: Doctor! Doctor! I think I'm invisible.

Doctor: Who said that?

Patient: Doctor! Doctor! I think I'm a **goat!**

Doctor: How long have you felt like this?

Patient: Since I was a **kid!**

Patient: Doctor!
Doctor!
I'm going to die in 51 seconds!

Doctor: I will be with you in a minute!



Patient: Doctor! Doctor! I think I'm a **needle!**

Doctor: Mmm... yes. **I see your point!**

Master Shock

It's early one morning, and Michael goes to wake up his son for school. "Come on. It's time to get up!"

"I don't want to go to school."

"Just give me two reasons why you don't want to go," Michael says.

"Well, all the kids hate me for a start, and the teachers don't like me, either!"

"Oh, come on! That's no reason not to go to school. Get up and get dressed and I'll make you a nice breakfast."

"OK. You give me two reasons why I should go to school."

"Well," Michael explains, "for a start, you're 52 years old."

And secondly, you're the **headmaster.** ☺



GLOSSARY

a goat *n*
an animal about the size of a sheep with horns and a beard

a kid *n*
two meanings: a) a baby goat; b) a young child

a needle *n*
a sharp piece of metal for sewing (joining pieces of material together)

I see your point *exp*
two meanings: a) I understand you; b) I can see the sharp end of the object you are holding

a headmaster *n*
the male director of a school ("headmistress" is the female version)

Christmas Quiz

HOW MUCH DO YOU KNOW ABOUT CHRISTMAS? TRY OUR LITTLE QUIZ. ANSWERS ON PAGE 45



1 Where does the word "Christmas" come from?
a. "Christ's **Mass**"
b. The ancient Hebrew word for "December"

2 Where was Christmas first celebrated on 25th December 336AD, offering citizens an alternative to the pagan winter solstice celebration?
a. Jerusalem
b. Rome

3 When was the first Christmas card designed by J.C. Horsley?
a. 1762
b. 1843

4 When are the twelve days of Christmas? Between...
a. ...13th December and 24th December
b. ...Christmas Day and 5th January

5 What do the 12 days represent? The length of time it took the wise men from the East to...
a. ...ride their camels across the desert.
b. ...get to the **manger** where Jesus was born.

6 What gifts did the Three Wise Men bring with them?
a. gold, frankincense and myrrh
b. gold, frankincense and incense

7 What is the 26th of December known as?
a. Boxing Day
b. Christmas Eve

8 Which saint is 26th December in honour of?
a. St Christmas
b. St Stephen

9 Why is it called Boxing Day? Because...
a. ...**alms boxes** in church were opened and the money was distributed to the poor.
b. ...people often have a lot of boxes to throw away after Christmas Day.

10 Who banned Christmas between 1647 and 1660 because the celebrations were considered immoral?
a. Queen Victoria
b. Oliver Cromwell

11 In 1937, which country issued the first postage

stamp to commemorate Christmas?

a. England
b. Austria

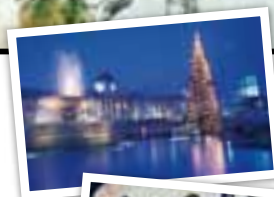
12 Which country donates the Christmas tree which goes on display in Trafalgar Square in London every year?
a. Norway
b. France

13 Which country has St Nicholas as its patron saint?
a. Russia
b. Belgium

14 Who sang "White Christmas" in the 1942 film *Holiday Inn*?
a. Bing Crosby
b. Frank Sinatra

15 At the start of the story *A Christmas Carol* we are told that somebody is dead. Who is it?
a. Scrooge
b. Marley

And now we'd just like to wish you a very Merry Christmas and all the best for the New Year. Bye! 🍀



GLOSSARY

Mass *n*
a public service in a church

a manger *n*
a container in a barn/stable that horses/cattle eat or drink from. Joseph and Mary used one for Jesus to sleep in

an alms box *n*
a box in a church for collecting money for the poor

USEFUL VOCABULARY

THIS IS ANOTHER PART IN OUR SECTION ON USEFUL VOCABULARY.
THIS MONTH: GETTING TO WORK. ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Match the words

Match the words below to the pictures.

1. Jacket
2. Shoes
3. Keys
4. Door
5. Train
6. Bus
7. Car
8. Underground train
9. Taxi
10. Colleagues



2 Wordsearch

Now find these words in the wordsearch.

- | | |
|--------|-------------|
| Jacket | Shoes |
| Key | Door |
| Train | Bus |
| Car | Underground |
| Taxi | Colleagues |



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: GETTING TO WORK.

DO UP YOUR SHOES

TO TIE THE LACES (THE STRING) ON YOUR SHOES SO THE SHOES DON'T FALL OFF.



DO UP YOUR SHOES BEFORE YOU GO OUT!

LOCK THE DOOR

TO CLOSE THE DOOR WITH A KEY.



DID YOU REMEMBER TO LOCK THE DOOR?

CATCH A TRAIN / BUS / UNDERGROUND TRAIN
TO TAKE A TRAIN / BUS / UNDERGROUND TRAIN IN ORDER TO GO SOMEWHERE.



I CATCH THE 8:30 TRAIN EVERY MORNING.

GET TO WORK
TO ARRIVE AT WORK.



WHAT TIME DID YOU GET TO WORK THIS MORNING?

GREET YOUR COLLEAGUES

TO SAY HELLO TO THE PEOPLE YOU WORK WITH.



SHE ALWAYS GREET ME IN THE MORNING.

HAVE A CHAT WITH YOUR COLLEAGUES
TO TALK TO YOUR COLLEAGUES IN AN INFORMAL WAY.



I USUALLY HAVE A CHAT WITH THEM BEFORE STARTING WORK.

HANG UP YOUR COAT/JACKET

TO PUT YOUR COAT/JACKET ON A HANGER.



SHALL I HANG YOUR JACKET UP FOR YOU?

GET A COFFEE/TEA

TO MAKE YOURSELF A CUP OF COFFEE/TEA.



CAN I GET YOU A COFFEE?



Watch & Learn!
Listen to people discussing
this topic in a mini-video at
www.hotenglishmagazine.com

Refer to unit 5 of the Pre-Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



Wacky Wardrobes

Unusual clothing from the world of fashion. by Patrick Howarth

1 Pre-reading

Look at these words below. Can you think of any crazy fashions with these things?

- a chemical suit
- a gas mask
- a military uniform
- human hair
- iron
- pirates
- gold

2 Reading I

Read the article once to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the sentences below. Which fashion item are they referring to?

1. This dress appeared at a show in the London College of Fashion.
2. This item of swimwear wasn't very popular with men.
3. People wear them in Asia because of all the pollution.
4. These clothes were shown at Fashion Rio.
5. This outfit is perfect for after a chemical attack.
6. These clothes were inspired by a Hollywood film.
7. You need a lot of money to buy this item of clothing.
8. This item comes with a pink gun.

4 Language focus The Past Simple

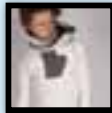
Look at this extract from the article, "Top designer John Galliano had gold trousers in his menswear collection..." The writer has used the past tense of the verb "to have" ("had"). Transform the following sentences from the Present Simple to the Past Simple.

1. He makes the clothes.
2. The film inspires her.
3. They don't become popular.
4. It doesn't appear in fashion shows.
5. He borrows the idea.

5 Discussion

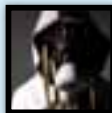
1. What's your favourite item of clothing that you own? Why do you like it so much?
2. Do you buy designer label clothing? Why? Why not?
3. What's the most expensive item of clothing you've ever bought? Are you pleased with it? Why? Why not?

Fashion is all about strange and original designs, but how many of these designs do people actually buy? Let's look at some of the most bizarre fashion ideas of recent years.



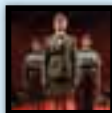
The Urban Security Suit

The Urban Security Suit was made by Dutch designer Tim Smit in 2008. With this suit you can look fashionable even after a chemical attack - when you'll want to look your best, of course. "This is *the* must-have accessory for the next war, skirmish, struggle, conflict, combat zone or civil strife you find yourself in..." said the designer.



Gas Masks

Masks are very popular in the fashion world at the moment. People have worn them in Asia to protect themselves from pollution. But now they're a fashion statement. Gas masks appeared in many fashion shows in 2008/2009. This picture shows a Japanese girl wearing the latest in fashionable survival accessories.



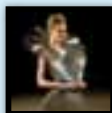
Military Uniforms

Other warfare fashions include designer "fun" military uniforms, some of which come with a pink gun. Would you wear this next time you go out for dinner? One question, is it OK to take a purse, wallet or handbag with you?



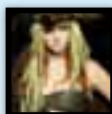
Human Hair

Are you happy with wearing fur? No? Then, what about clothes made from human hair? In 2007 designer Julia Reindell created a series of dresses made from human hair as part of her show at the London College of Fashion. Other designers liked the idea and human hair dresses became common on the catwalk in early 2008. But what do you do with your human hair suit? Brush it? Comb it? Curl it?



Iron Clothes

If hair is not your thing, you could think about iron. Fashion designer Luana Jardim showed a collection of dresses made of iron at Fashion Rio in 2008. Just what you need next time you go to a "heavy metal" concert.



Pirate Fashion

Hollywood often influences fashion. *The Pirates of the Caribbean* films inspired lots of designers, including Jean Paul Gaultier's 2008 Paris collection. Pirate hats, big belts and boots were in. But then everybody wants to look like Johnny Depp.



Menskiirts

Of course, wacky fashion isn't only for women. Do you remember menskiirts? These first appeared in 2006/7 and David Beckham was one of their biggest fans. And what about the mankini (see picture)? British designer Alexander McQueen borrowed the idea from the *Borat* film. McQueen's one-piece swimsuit came out at the Milan Fashion Week in 2008 but fortunately it didn't become very popular.



Gold Jeans

Feeling rich? Then how about a pair of gold-plated jeans? Top designer John Galliano had gold trousers in his menswear collection. Pictured are the Goldplated Jeans by Kohzo Denim. The trousers are actually made of organic cotton which is then painted with 18 carat gold paint. They'll cost you about €600 a pair.

So as you can see the world of fashion has something for everybody. Isn't it time you made your wardrobe a bit wackier? ✨

LET'S TALK ABOUT: FRUIT

Vocabulary



Apple



Pear



Oranges



Pineapple



Strawberry



Watermelon



A bunch of grapes



Peaches



Raspberry



Kiwi



Lemon



Banana

Useful Expressions

What you say

- Are they in season?
- I'll have a kilo of...
- I'll have a bag of...
- I'll have a bunch of...
- I'll have a handful of...
- Are they ripe? ☺

What you hear

- Shall I put them in a bag for you?
- They're 40 pence a kilo.
- How many would you like?
- How much would you like?
- Would you like to try one?
- Anything else? ☺

Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, NIGELLA IS AT THE GREENGROCER'S.

Greengrocer: Good afternoon.

Nigella: Hello.

Greengrocer: How can I help you?

Nigella: How much are the carrots, please?

Greengrocer: Ninety pence a kilo.

Nigella: OK. I'll have half a kilo, please.

Greengrocer: Here you are. Anything else?

Nigella: Yes, I'll have half a kilo of the Golden Delicious apples, please.

Greengrocer: Here you are.

Nigella: And a kilo of bananas, please.

Greengrocer: OK.

Nigella: Are the grapes in season?

Greengrocer: Oh, yes, they're delicious. Here, try one.

Nigella: Mmm... they are nice. I'll have a kilo of those, please.

Greengrocer: Great. Here you are. Would that be all?

Nigella: Yes, thanks. How much is it, please?

Greengrocer: Three pounds fifty, please.

Nigella: Here you are.

Greengrocer: Thank you. And here's your change. Have a nice day.

Nigella: Thanks, bye. ☺



THIS IS THE FRUIT OF MY EFFORTS.





FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

THIS MONTH: WEBSITES



Punctuation

- "WWW" = double u, double u, double u
- "." = dot = www.people.com
- ".com" = dot com = www.help.com
- "-" = hyphen (some people say "dash", too) = www.card-time.com
- "_" = underscore = www.letter_reader.com

Things to do online

- Go online.
- Visit a website.
- Surf the net.
- Send someone a website link.
- Post something on a website.
- **Upload** something to a website.
- **Download** something from a website.
- Design a website.



Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, EDWARD AND SAMANTHA ARE TALKING ABOUT THEIR WEBSITES.

- Edward:** Hey, have you visited my website recently?
Samantha: No, what's new?
Edward: Well, I've started writing a blog as part of the website. I've also uploaded lots of photos you might like to see.
Samantha: What's the address?
Edward: It's www.travellife.com
Samantha: I thought you had a website about jokes.
Edward: No, I stopped doing that. This one's all about travel. People write in with their stories and upload photos.
Samantha: Mmm... interesting. Have you seen our new company website?
Edward: No.
Samantha: We've just had it revamped. It's looking really good.
Edward: What's the address?
Samantha: It's www.shoesgalore.com
Edward: I'll have a look this afternoon.
Samantha: Great. ☺



The Shining

The Shining has been named the scariest horror film ever by top film website Totalsciftonline.com. Have you seen it?

"Nearly 30 years after its initial release, *The Shining* remains an unparalleled study in isolation, **madness** and paranoia," says Matt McAllister, editor of Totalsciftonline.com.

The film starts with Jack Torrance (Jack Nicholson) accepting a job as a **caretaker** at the Overlook Hotel. This beautiful building (constructed in 1909) is high up in the Rocky Mountains. It's only open from May to October, and is **inaccessible** during the winter months when it's closed. Jack's job is to look after the hotel during these five months. But Jack is a writer and is excited about being able to start a new book. "Five months of peace is exactly what I'm looking for," he says.

Jack drives up there with his wife, Wendy (Shelley Duvall) and their young son, Danny (Danny Lloyd). When they arrive, the hotel manager is there to greet them. After giving them a quick tour of the hotel, he tells Jack something in confidence: the previous caretaker killed his family with an **axe** then shot himself with a rifle. "Well, you can rest assured," Jack says, "that's not going to happen with me." Jack may be confident, but evil forces are at work in the hotel. ☹

Movie Trivia

The film is based on a novel by horror writer Stephen King.

The hotel used for the exterior shots of the film was the Timberline Lodge in Oregon, US.

In the book, it's room 217 that holds the "evil secrets", but in the film this was changed to room 237. The owners of the real hotel wanted the room to be a non-existent one as they were afraid no one would ever want to stay in room 217 after the film came out.

The phrase, "Here's Johnny!" in the unforgettable scene where Jack smashes through a door with a sadistic smile on his face has passed into popular culture.

"The shining" is described as an ability to see the past and the future.



Film Facts

Directed by Stanley Kubrick. Released 1980. Starring Jack Nicholson and Shelley Duvall.



GLOSSARY

- madness** *n*
someone suffering from "madness" has mental problems
- a caretaker** *n*
a person whose job consists of taking care of a building and dealing with any repairs
- inaccessible** *adj*
if a place is "inaccessible", you can't go to it (because of all the snow, etc.)
- an axe** *n*
a tool (often for cutting trees) that consists of a wooden handle and a sharp metal object at the end



Refer to unit 6 of the Pre-Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



DR FINGERS' ERROR CORRECTION CLINIC

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



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!

1. We will be there on June.

We will be there in June.

2. I did the exam at 2005.

3. Christmas Day is in 25th December.

4. I'll be there in 6.

5. She'll come back at April.

6. The concert starts on 8pm.

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



Job Quiz

Listen to the quiz and guess the job.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-listening

Match the jobs (1 to 8) to the definitions (a-h).

1. A shop keeper
2. A scientist
3. A footballer
4. A pop singer
5. An actor
6. A hotel manager
7. A psychologist
8. A vet



- a. A person who is in charge of a hotel.
- b. Someone who studies the human mind.
- c. Someone who treats sick animals.
- d. Someone who acts in films.
- e. Someone who sings in a group or as a solo artist.
- f. A person who plays football professionally.
- g. A person who investigates things in a laboratory.
- h. A person who sells things in a shop.

2 Listening I

You are going to listen to a quiz show in which celebrities have to guess someone's job. What is the contestant's job? Choose from the list in the Pre-listening activity. What is special about this person's job?

3 Listening II

Listen again and answer the questions "yes" or "no".

1. Has Fred been to university?
2. Does he work in an office?
3. Is his job scientific?
4. Does he work in a shop?
5. Is he a teacher?
6. Is his job medical?
7. Does he work in a hotel?
8. Is he a famous pop singer?

4 Language focus The Present Simple

Look at this extract from the listening, "Do you work at home?" The speaker has asked a question in the Present Simple using the auxiliary "do". Complete the questions 1 to 5.

1. Where _____? I live in New York City.
2. What time _____? I get up at 7 in the morning.
3. What _____? I usually have cereal and toast.
4. What time _____? I usually leave about 7:30.
5. How _____ get to work? I go by bus.

5 Discussion

1. How would you describe your job?
2. What job would you like to have? Why?
3. What did you want to be when you were younger? Why?

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



GRAMMAR FUN

THIS MONTH, WE'RE LOOKING AT SOME EXPRESSIONS WITH "SO" AND "SUCH".



"so" & "such".

"So" is generally used before adjectives. For example:

- a) I'm **so** tired.
- b) She's **so** nice.
- c) This is **so** good.
- d) I'm **so** hungry!
- e) We were all **so** worried about you.
- f) You're **so** kind to let us stay here.

We can use "so many" with countable nouns. For example:

- a) There are **so many** places to see.
- b) There were **so many** people at the party.

And we can use "so much" with uncountable nouns. For example:

- a) I've got **so much** work to do.
- b) There's **so much** sugar in this I can't drink it.

"Such" is generally used before nouns. For example:

- a) He is **such** a fool.
- b) They are **such** idiots.

Notice how "such" can also be used with nouns that have adjectives before them. For example:

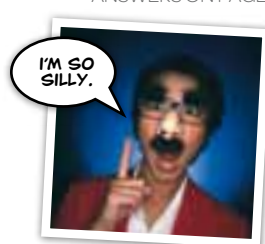
- a) They are **such nice** people. ("people" is the noun)
- b) It was **such a good** film. ("film" is the noun)
- c) It is **such a nice** day. ("day" is the noun)
- d) It was **such a great** idea of yours.
- e) They are **such good** stories.
- f) That's **such a clever** dog.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Exercise

Complete the sentences with "so" or "such".

1. I'm _____ stupid sometimes.
2. She's _____ an idiot.
3. He's _____ good.
4. They're _____ bad boys.
5. It was _____ a terrible film.
6. It was _____ nice today.



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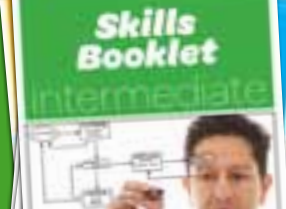
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for more explanations and
exercises.



Bryony's Blog



1 Pre-reading

Read the questions (1 to 10) in the blog. How many can you answer?

2 Reading I

Read the text and find the answers to the 10 questions.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Which cocktail would you most like to drink? Why?

4 Language focus

The Present Simple Passive

Look at this extract from the article, "A Mint Julep is made with bourbon..." The writer has used the Present Simple Passive ("is made"). Transform these sentences from the Present Simple to the Present Simple Passive.

1. They mix the drinks with screwdrivers.
2. They make the drinks with vodka and lemonade.
3. They stir the drink with a plastic stick.
4. They add an umbrella to the drink.
5. They drink the cocktail during the horseracing event.

5 Discussion

1. What's your favourite cocktail?
2. What's your favourite drink?
3. If you had to invent a cocktail, what would it have in it?



Bryony's Blog

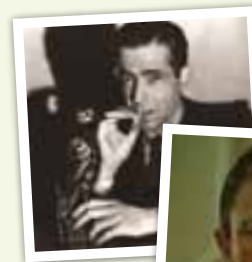
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Posted 10th February

Hi Everyone

Last night I went out for a friend's birthday and we went to a cocktail bar. The barman who mixed the cocktails gave me this cocktail quiz to do. If I can answer all the questions, he'll give me a free drink next week. So come on, help me out. Here are the questions:

1. When were cocktails invented?
2. Why are they called "cocktails"?
3. What is James Bond's favourite cocktail?
4. What is a Tom Collins made of?
5. Which cocktail is Humphrey Bogart making for Lauren Bacall when he says "Here's looking at you kid," in the film Casablanca?
6. What do the terms "on the rocks" and "straight up" mean?
7. Name three Hollywood stars who have cocktails named after them.
8. What is a screwdriver and why is it called a screwdriver?
9. Which cocktail is drunk at the horserace event The Kentucky Derby?
10. Why is 10th July an important cocktail day?



Charlie Chaplin (lime juice, apricot brandy, and gin), Mae West (brandy, an egg yolk, sugar and cayenne pepper), and Greta Garbo (brandy, dry vermouth, orange juice, crème de menthe and grenadine). **Ryan Frost, Leicester, UK.**

Cocktails are mentioned in English literature as early as the 17th and 18th century, so they are usually dated from then. **Naomi Fryer, Melbourne, Australia.**

The Mint Julep. Over 80,000 are served during the race meeting. A Mint Julep is made with bourbon, sugar syrup, and, of course, mint. It's a very strong drink but delicious. **Chuck Benson, Louisville, Kentucky.**

Gin, lemon juice, sugar syrup, soda water and a slice of lemon. The gin, lemon juice and the syrup is poured into a tall glass and stirred well. Then, it is topped up with soda and stirred again. It is garnished with the slice of lemon and a cherry. There are lots of other Collins drinks including the John Collins (with bourbon), the Juan Collins (with Tequila) and the American Collins (with fruit). **Stephanie Rider, Los Angeles, California.**

Many suggest that the original drinks were mixed using the tail feather of a rooster or cock. Others say that the drinks were named after a Mexican princess, Xochitl. And some say that the word comes from the French word for egg cup ("coquetel"). **Frank Rouse, New Orleans, Louisiana.**

It's National Pina Colada Day in the US. Pina Coladas are made by mixing white rum, coconut cream and pineapple juice with ice in a cocktail shaker. Margaritas, Daquiris and Martinis also have their national days in the States. **Pedro Jimenez, Mexico City, Mexico.**



A vodka martini shaken not stirred. Actually, the real Bond martini is a Vesper Martini, the only cocktail Bond invented himself. It's made with three measures of Gordon's gin, one of vodka and half a measure of Kina Lillet. It is shaken very well until it's ice-cold, then a large slice of lemon-peel is added. **Eva Cantona, Lyons, France.**

A mixture of vodka and orange juice. American engineers made them in the 1940s by adding vodka to their lunchtime orange juice and stirring the mixture with real screwdrivers. **Vaclav Fiala, Ostava, Czech Republic.**



"On the rocks" = poured onto ice; "straight up" = chilled in the shaker and then strained so there's no ice in the glass. **Harriet Armstrong, Tokyo, Japan.**

A champagne cocktail made with dry champagne, brandy, bitters and a sugar cube. My favourite too. "Here's looking at you, Bryony." **Pete "Rick" Berlin, Turin, Italy.** 🍷



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READING

Plastic Obsession

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Match the types of bag (1 to 8) to the pictures (a-h).

1. A handbag
2. A shopping trolley bag
3. A suitcase
4. A backpack/rucksack
5. A plastic bag
6. A toilet bag / washbag / sponge bag
7. A briefcase
8. A re-usable bag



Trying to live without plastic bags.



2 Reading I

Read the article once. What type of bags do they talk about? What do they say about them?

3 Reading II

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

1. 13.4 billion.
2. 10 billion bags.
3. 51 degrees South.
4. 1,000 years.
5. €0.22
6. 1.2 billion bags.

4 Language focus "Take"

Look at this extract from the article, "Some argue that the bags take 1,000 years to decompose..." We can use "take" to say how long something lasts. For example, "It takes me 20 minutes to get to work." Answer the questions using "take".

1. How long does it take you to get dressed in the morning? *It takes me...*
2. How long does it take you to have breakfast?
3. How long does it take you to get to work?

5 Discussion

1. Do you use many plastic bags in a typical week? How many?
2. Will you try to reduce the number of plastic bags you use? How?
3. What will you use instead of plastic bags?

How many plastic bags do you use a week? Every year, millions and millions of them are produced, and they're a danger to the environment. But how can we reduce our dependence on the plastic bag?

The good news is that plastic bag use in the UK has **dropped**. It has gone from 13.4 billion in 2007 to 9.9 billion in 2008 – a reduction of 26 per cent, or 3.5 billion bags. However, the bad news is that we're still using 10 billion bags a year. Many supermarkets are trying to help us **cut back**. They're now charging for plastic bags and asking shoppers to come with shopping trolley bags or re-usable bags. But even if this figure is reduced to 4.5 billion bags a year, that's still a lot of bags.

The big problem is that plastic bags are a danger to the environment. Plastic bags can be found everywhere across the planet from Spitsbergen at latitude 78 degrees North, to the Falkland Islands at 51 degrees South. In fact, there are so many plastic bags in some parts of Africa that a **cottage industry** has started with **locals** using them to make hats. But in other countries they are a major **nuisance**, especially when they block **sewage systems**.

The main problem is that bags just won't disappear. Some argue that the bags take 1,000 years to **decompose** (although this is debatable). Whatever the figure, enormous numbers end up in **landfill sites** or **incinerators**; but billions get into the environment, especially the marine environment, where they are a terrible **threat** to marine life. Sea turtles **mistake them for jellyfish** and **choke** on them; albatrosses mistake them for squid and die a similar death; even dolphins have been found dead with plastic bags blocking their blowholes.

So, will the world become plastic bag free one day? It is possible. "The biggest **obstacle** is the consumer," explained Jane Hargreaves, an environmental expert. "We have to start using reusable shopping bags." The government is planning to introduce a plastic bag tax. In Ireland, they did this in 2002, imposing a **levy** of €0.22 (the PlasTax) on all plastic bags – the first of its kind in the world. This caused a reduction in use of 90 percent, from 1.2 billion bags a year to fewer than 200,000 – with the **revenue** from the tax used for environmental clean-up schemes.

So, are you going to stop using so many plastic bags? 🌱

GLOSSARY

- to drop** *vb*
to fall; to decrease
- to cut back** *phr vb*
to reduce
- a cottage industry** *n*
a small factory / production process at a home by family members using their own equipment
- a local** *n*
a person from the area you are referring to
- a nuisance** *n*
something that is an obstruction or that is annoying/harmful, etc.
- a sewage system** *n*
the system that carries dirty water through pipes/tubes, etc. from houses to a processing plant
- to decompose** *vb*
if an object "decomposes", it changes chemically and begins to disappear
- a landfill site** *n*
an area where rubbish is taken to be put in the ground
- an incinerator** *n*
a large fire for burning waste
- a threat** *n*
a danger
- to mistake A for B** *exp*
if you "mistake A for B", you think that A is B
- jellyfish** *n*
a transparent animal with poisonous tentacles that lives in the sea
- to choke** *vb*
if you "choke" on something, something blocks your throat and you cannot breathe properly
- an obstacle** *n*
something that stops you doing what you want to do
- a levy** *n*
a small sum of money that you pay as a form of tax (money to the government)
- revenue** *n*
money that is received



Bird Talk



ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Twitter website creates a big buzz.

1 Pre-reading

Match the types of talk (1 to 8) to the definitions (a-h).

1. Chat
2. Discuss something
3. Argue
4. Gossip
5. Shout
6. Whisper
7. Twitter
8. Complain

- a. To talk angrily with someone.
- b. To talk excitedly about trivial things.
- c. To talk informally.
- d. To talk about the private lives of other people.
- e. To speak in a very low voice so others can't hear you.
- f. To talk about something you aren't happy about.
- g. To talk about a topic with someone.
- h. To speak in a loud voice.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Why is the website called Twitter? Find evidence to back up your theories.

3 Reading II

What have the following stars been using Twitter for?

1. Liz Taylor
2. Shaquille O'Neal
3. Will Carling
4. 50 Cent
5. Arnold Schwarzenegger
6. Barack Obama
7. Boris Johnson



4 Language focus

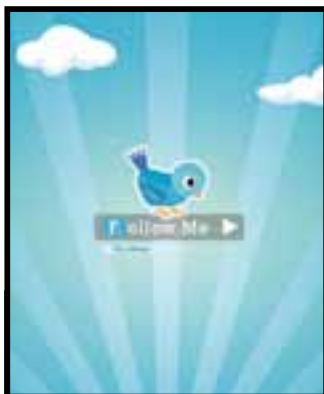
Expressions with "keep"

Look at this extract from the article, "...to keep people informed about his work..." To "keep someone informed" is to provide someone with regular information. What do the following expressions with "keep" mean?

1. Keep someone up-to-date.
2. Keep in touch with someone.
3. Keep something to/at hand.
4. Keep out of a place.

5 Discussion

1. Do you use the website *Twitter*? Do you think you will? Why? Why not?
2. What are the pros and cons of *Twitter*?
3. Which other professions could benefit from using *Twitter*? How?



10 years ago **twittering** was something that only birds did. Nowadays, everyone's doing it – including some of the most powerful and famous people on the planet. Will you be joining the latest online, social networking phenomenon, *Twitter*?

Twitter is already **ranked** as one of the 50 most popular websites worldwide and is growing fast. Britney Spears, Stephen Fry and Ashton Kutcher are just a few of *Twitter's* celebrity fans. But it isn't only young and **techno-savvy** celebrities who "**tweet**". Talk-show host Oprah Winfrey is a fan and so are Jane Fonda and William Shatner (both in their 70s). Liz Taylor is another devoted user and recently used the site to inform fans that she was going to have an operation. "I am going to the hospital to have a procedure on my heart. Any **prayers** you happen to have lying around I would dearly appreciate," she tweeted.

It may seem surprising that someone like Liz Taylor uses *Twitter*. But it makes perfect sense. The **retired**, 77 year old actress is **wheelchair-bound**, but she still has a huge fan-base. What better way to keep people informed of what she's **up to**? Many celebrities also feel that it allows them to speak directly to fans and to **bypass** the media. As basketball player Shaquille O'Neal said, "If I am going to speak, it will come from me." Some celebrities seem to spend all day letting people know what they're doing. Former England rugby player Will Carling recently **posted** this tweet, "Listening to Coldplay whilst helping to get lunch ready for some **mates** who are around." Fascinating, Will!

Other celebrities use **ghost twitterers**. When rapper 50 Cent posted this tweet, "My ambition leads me through a tunnel that never ends," many fans felt they were sharing an intimate personal **revelation**. In fact, 50 Cent rarely uses the site himself and it was posted by an employee who deals with 50's internet operations. Britney Spears recently advertised for someone to help **keep** her *Twitter* and *Facebook* accounts **up-to-date**.

Politicians have also started using *Twitter*. Arnold Schwarzenegger uses the site to keep people informed about his work as Governor of California. Barack Obama was also a regular "tweeter" in his campaign to be the Democratic candidate for president and many experts believe that it helped in his victory over Hillary Clinton. Politicians in the UK are using *Twitter* too. Boris Johnson used it during his campaign to be **Mayor** of London to let people know what he was doing, and to help him **undermine** his rival Ken Livingstone. "How can people vote for Ken after he lied to voters over **tube** and bus fares? Time for a change!" It worked: Johnson defeated Livingstone just as Obama beat Clinton.

So, will you be twittering soon? 🐦

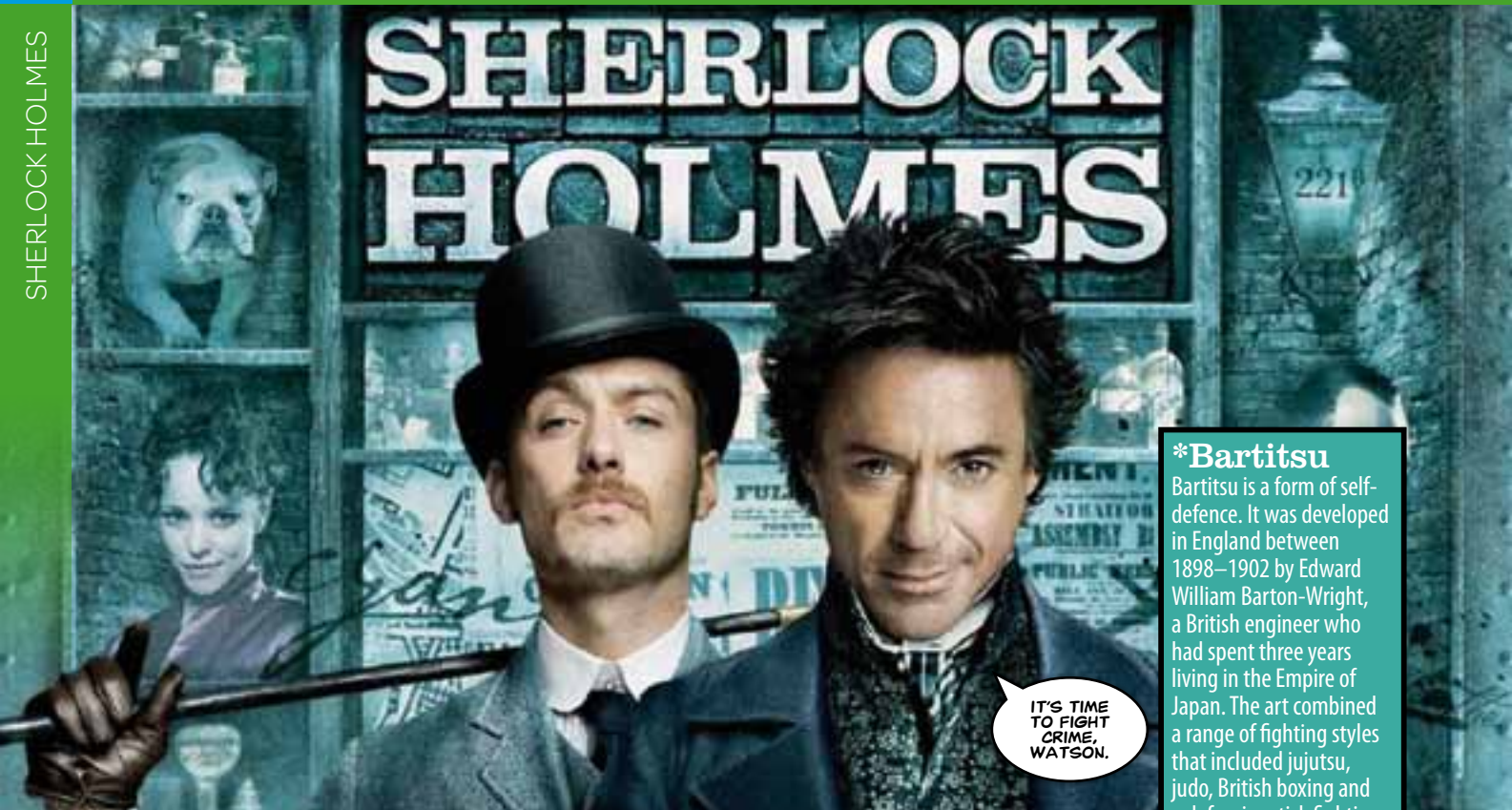
How to use Twitter

Go to www.twitter.com where you can register and upload a picture to use as your avatar. Type a message in the "What are you doing?" bar and hit "update" and you've created your first twitter. Your message must only contain 140 characters. You can join other people's accounts if they are open to everyone. If not, you have to ask for permission to join.



GLOSSARY

- to twitter** *vb*
to talk excitedly about nothing in particular
- to rank** *vb*
if something "ranks" high in a list, it is high in the list
- techno-savvy** *adj*
someone who knows a lot about technology
- to tweet** *vb*
two meanings: a) when birds "tweet", they sing; b) to write messages on the website Twitter
- a prayer** *n*
words you say to God
- retired** *adj*
if you are "retired", you have stopped working (usually because you are 65)
- wheelchair-bound** *adj*
if someone is "wheelchair-bound", they must use a wheelchair (a chair with wheels) because they cannot walk without assistance
- up to** *exp*
the things you are "up to" are the things you are doing
- to bypass** *vb*
to ignore; not to use
- to post** *vb*
if you "post" something on a website, you put it there
- a mate** *n* *inform*
a friend
- a ghost twitterer** *n*
someone who writes your "tweets" for you
- a revelation** *n*
a secret or surprising fact that other people are told about
- to keep something up-to-date** *exp*
to make sure that something has all the latest information
- a mayor** *n*
the elected leader of a town or city
- to undermine** *vb*
if you "undermine" someone in authority, you do things to make that person's position less secure (by spreading rumours, etc.)
- the tube** *n*
the underground train system in London



IT'S TIME TO FIGHT CRIME, WATSON.

Have you ever seen a Sherlock Holmes film? There have been more than 200 of them; and more than 70 actors have played the part of the world-famous detective. The first film was *Silence is Golden* (1916) and starred William Gillette as Sherlock Holmes. In 1939, *The Hound of the Baskervilles* was released. It starred Basil Rathbone as Holmes and Nigel Bruce as Watson. The duo would later make 13 more films together.

and Watson are trying to stop a **conspiracy** to destroy Britain. The film starts with Holmes arresting the **murderous cult leader** Lord Blackwood (Mark Strong). As he is being led to the **gallows**, Blackwood promises he will return from the dead to **exact his revenge**. Will Holmes be able to stop him?

Robert Downey was excited about the project. "I think me and Guy are **well-suited to** working together. The more I look into the books, the more fantastic it becomes. Holmes is such a **weirdo**." Both Ritchie and Downey are **martial arts** enthusiasts and were interested in the **bartitsu*** mentioned in the 1901 Sherlock Holmes story *The Adventure of the Empty House*. During filming, Downey was accidentally **punched** in the face by a **stuntperson**, causing Downey to **tumble**, but not to fall unconscious. Let's hope he isn't so clumsy on screen. 🌟

The latest film, *Sherlock Holmes*, is directed by Guy Ritchie and stars Robert Downey Jr as Sherlock Holmes and Jude Law as Dr Watson. The film is set in 1891. Holmes



***Bartitsu**

Bartitsu is a form of self-defence. It was developed in England between 1898–1902 by Edward William Barton-Wright, a British engineer who had spent three years living in the Empire of Japan. The art combined a range of fighting styles that included jujutsu, judo, British boxing and a defensive stick fighting style that had been developed by Pierre Vigny of Switzerland. In 1901, Bartitsu was immortalised by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle who referred to it as the misspelt "bartitsu".



GLOSSARY

- a conspiracy** *n*
a secret plan to do something illegal
- murderous** *adj*
that causes death
- a cult leader** *n*
the person in charge of an extremist organisation or sect
- the gallows** *n*
the structure on which they hang people. If they hang someone, they kill them by putting a rope around their neck
- to exact your revenge** *exp*
to do something bad to someone who has done something bad to you
- to be well-suited to** *exp*
if A is "well-suited to" B, A and B go well together
- a weirdo** *n*
a strange unusual person
- martial arts** *n*
fighting techniques such as karate, judo, ninjitsu, etc.
- to punch** *vb*
to hit with a closed hand
- a stuntperson** *n*
an actor who does the dangerous action sequences in a film
- to tumble** *vb*
to fall
- the game is afoot** *exp old-fashioned*
the fun is starting; the game has begun

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Arthur Conan Doyle was born on 22nd May 1859 in Edinburgh, Scotland. He died on 7th July 1930 in England. In 1888, he published his first novel featuring Detective Holmes and Dr Watson called *A Study in Scarlet*.



Sherlock Holmes book quotes

- "Come, Watson, come! **The game is afoot**. Not a word! Into your clothes and come!"
- "Perhaps when a man has special knowledge and special powers like my own, it rather encourages him to seek a complex explanation when a simpler one is at hand."
- "There can be no question, my dear Watson, of the value of exercise before breakfast."
- "It is a question of cubic capacity. A man with so large a brain must have something in it."
- "I listen to their story, they listen to my comments, and then I pocket my fee."
- "Supposing I unravel the whole matter, you may be sure that Gregson, Lestrade and co. will pocket all the credit. That comes of being an unofficial personage."
- "Let us hear the suspicions. I will look after the proofs."
- "Pipes are occasionally of extraordinary interest. Nothing has more individuality save, perhaps, watches and bootlaces."



Victorian

Have you heard of the Victorians or the Victorian era? It was the period when Queen Victoria was **on the throne** (between 1837 and 1901). This was a time of change, exploration and adventure. It was also a time of extreme wealth and terrible poverty.

Many Victorian households had a **servant** or servants. In 1891, two million servants were recorded in the **census**.

During the Victorian period, ordinary people started going on holidays to the seaside for the first time.



Medicine made great progress with the discovery of antiseptic surgery by Joseph Lister.

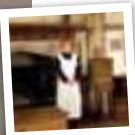
When a woman entered a room, it was considered rude for a man to offer his seat to her because the **cushion** might still be warm.

People thought that you could digest food better in the dark, so the dining room was often located in the **basement**.

It was considered **improper** to look into someone's bedroom, so most bedrooms were on the second or third **floor**.



People **went to great lengths** to hide their **water closets** from view. In some homes, they were behind a curtain or screen, in a separate part of the house or even outside.



The children of rich or upper middle-class parents rarely saw their parents as they were tended by **nannies**.

Women made pictures and bouquets from their own hair or the hair of a family member. They **framed** this and displayed it in the house.



A lot of men used macassar oil to **slick back** their hair. In order to stop this grease from **staining** the furniture, pieces of material called antimacassars were placed over the backs of chairs.

For a lady to show her ankles was **considered taboo**.

Many people kept a **hedgehog** in the basement so it could eat insects. It **curled up** and slept during the day, but **roamed around** the dark kitchen at night eating insects.



When Queen Victoria came to the throne in 1837, most people lived in villages and worked on the land. There was no electricity (gas lamps or candles were used for light) and most people walked or travelled by boat, train and horse. However, by the end of her reign in 1901, the majority of the population lived in towns and worked in offices, shops and factories, and there was **piped water**, gas and even electricity. ✘



HAS ANYONE SEEN MY MORALS?

Queen Victoria

Queen Victoria (1819 – 1901) came to the throne in 1837, at the age of 18. She married her cousin, Albert, in 1840. Queen Victoria died in 1901 at the age of 81. She is Britain's longest reigning Queen, ruling Britain for 63 years. The current monarch, Queen Elizabeth II, has been Queen for 58 years. During Queen Victoria's reign, Britain became the most powerful country in the



BE SEEN AND NOT HEARD!

world, ruling a quarter of the world's population. There were also many wars during this period in countries such as India, Afghanistan, Turkey, the Sudan and South Africa, to mention just a few. During Queen Victoria's reign, Britain's population more than doubled from 16 million to 37 million, causing a huge demand for food, clothes and housing. Factories and machines were built to meet this demand and new towns emerged, changing the landscape and the way people lived and worked.



Victorian Times

Famous Victorians Family Life

Here are just a few of the most famous people from the Victorian era.



Robert Louis Stevenson (1850-1894)

This Scottish author is famous for writing *Treasure Island* and *Kidnapped*, two of the most popular children's stories ever written.

well-respected medical profession. She became a nurse and cared for soldiers during the Crimean War in Turkey. She improved conditions for the soldiers and became a heroine for many.



Alexander Graham Bell (1847 - 1922)

Alexander Graham Bell was born on 3rd March 1847 in Edinburgh, Scotland. He is best known for inventing the telephone. Many inventors had been working on the idea of sending human speech by wire, but Bell was the first to succeed.



Sir Arthur Conan Doyle (1859-1930)

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle created the Sherlock Holmes character. Holmes is one of the most important characters in British literature and Conan Doyle's work has greatly influenced the detective fiction genre.



Charles Dickens (1812 - 1870)

Charles Dickens wrote some of the most popular and widely-read novels of the 19th century including *Oliver Twist* and *A Christmas Carol*.



Thomas Edison (1847-1931)

Edison developed the electric carbon filament lamp which eventually became the modern light bulb.



Florence Nightingale (1820 - 1910)

Florence Nightingale helped to make nursing a



David Livingstone (1813-1873)

David Livingstone was a great explorer. This Scottish missionary explored much of central Africa and wrote the story of his amazing three-year journey. ✪

Victorian life was very strict. Family and religion were important. Families were often large with the father as the head of the house. Children called their father "sir" and obeyed him without question. Almost every family except the very poorest had a servant to do the housework and look after the children.

There was a huge difference between the rich and the poor. Rich families often had very comfortable lives in big houses with lots of money. Poor families who had no money were often taken into **workhouses**. This could happen if the father was ill and could not work. Many children in poor families died from diseases such as scarlet fever, polio and TB. ✪

Victorian Sayings

The Victorians were famous for their sayings. These were passed on from generation to generation and many are still used today.

- "Least said soonest mended."**
If there is a problem, the less you speak about it the sooner it will be resolved. This is reflective of the Victorian's habit of keeping their emotions private.
- "Protect yourself from other people's bad manners by a conspicuous display of your own good ones."**
People were expected to be **on their best behaviour** at all times.
- "How sharper than a serpent's tooth it is to have a thankless child."**
This reflects the Victorian belief that children should be **polite** at all times.
- "Neither a borrower nor a lender be."**
Money was an extremely sensitive issue for the Victorians. In those days, you could go to prison for being **in debt**; and you could be sent to Australia as a **convict** for stealing as little as a loaf of bread.
- "Do not kill the goose that lays the golden egg."**
This means that you should look after the things that can create wealth and that you shouldn't **covet** more than you have.
- "The stone that lies not in your road need not offend you."**
Don't become involved in other people's problems if they have nothing to do with you.
- "The devil makes work for idle hands."**
The Victorians were very keen on hard work and industriousness. This quote meant that if you were lazy, you could become involved in bad things.
- "Children should be seen and not heard."**
During this period, children were expected to **behave impeccably** at all times, and never to make a noise.
- "Speak when you are spoken to and not before."**
This was mainly directed at children, who were expected to keep quiet until someone asked them a question. ✪

GLOSSARY

on the throne *exp*
if a person is "on the throne", they are the king/queen of a place

a servant *n*
a person who works in a rich person's house doing the cleaning, cooking, washing, etc.

a census *n*
a record of the number of people in a country and what they do, etc.

a cushion *n*
a bag made of cloth, leather, plastic, etc. that is filled with feathers or any other substance and that is often used for sitting on

the basement *n*
the room at the bottom of a house (often under the ground)

improper *adj*
not correct; not polite or respectful

a floor *n*
the "floor" of a building is all the rooms on a particular level in that building

to go to great lengths *exp*
to make a big effort

a water closet *n*
an old-fashioned word for a toilet

a nanny *n*
a woman who is paid to look after another person's children

to frame *vb*
to put a picture in a "frame" (a wooden/plastic/metal object that goes around the picture)

to slick back *exp*
to make your hair smooth and flat by putting oil/grease, etc. on it

to stain *vb*
if a liquid "stains" clothing/furniture, etc. the liquid leaves a mark on the clothing/furniture, etc.

to consider taboo *exp*
if an action is "considered taboo", people don't like it and find it embarrassing

a hedgehog *n*
a small mammal with spines (sharp points) on its back that rolls into a ball when frightened

to curl up *phr vb*
to go into the shape of a ball

to roam around *exp*
to walk around with no particular objective

piped water *exp*
water that enters a building through a pipe (a metal/concrete tube)

a workhouse *n*
a type of prison where poor people worked in return for food and accommodation

a saying *n*
an expression/proverb that people often say

to pass on *phr vb*
if something is "passed on", it is transmitted to another generation

manners *n*
the socially correct way of behaving

on your best behaviour *exp*
acting in a very polite and respectful way

polite *adj*
being respectful to others

a borrower *n*
someone who accepts money from others with the intention of repaying it

in debt *exp*
if you are "in debt", you owe money to other people

a convict *n*
a person who is guilty of a crime

to covet *vb*
to want things that belong to others

idle *adj*
lazy; with no desire to work

to behave impeccably *exp*
to act extremely correctly and nicely



Victorian Whodunit

The London of Sherlock Holmes was a dark and dangerous place with criminals lurking around every corner. But what was London really like in the 19th century?

Some say that London was actually quite safe. British politician Douglas Hurd has written a biography of Sir Robert Peel – the man who created the world's first police force in London in 1829. In his book, Hurd says that "peace-loving citizens slept easily in their beds" during this period." In 1856, historian J Ewing Ritchie said the police arrested 73,240 people, mostly for **drunkenness**. Only 6,763 people were arrested for **assault**. These figures are nothing compared to present-day standards.



Sir Robert Peel

Londoners were shocked to read about the terrible murders of Jack the Ripper. He killed prostitutes in the East End of London, **ripping out** their insides with a knife. There were many theories as to the identity of Jack the Ripper but no one was ever arrested. However, this murder was fairly unique and there were in fact very few recorded murders in 19th-century London. Even in Old Nichol, the worst **slum** in the city, only one murder was recorded between 1885 and 1895 when a **shoemaker stabbed** his wife to death. Sherlock Holmes had lots of time to smoke his pipe.



By the end of the century, London was becoming even safer. Police officers were better trained and efforts were made to help the poor. Writers such as Charles Dickens had shown the reading public what life was really like for

The most dangerous place in London was the East End. Poor people lived in crowded, dirty areas in very unhealthy conditions. At night it could be dangerous, particularly in dark, **unlit** streets. Markets and shopping areas in the East End were also dangerous. As British academic Jacqueline Banerjee said, "It was risky to be anywhere where many people gathered or, alternatively, where there was no one else around." In 1866, a French visitor wrote that crime was everywhere in the East End of London. "It has stopped being a city where one can walk at night with one's **mind at rest** and one's hands in one's pockets," he wrote.

London's **least well-off**. As a result, the government introduced compulsory education in 1870. This led to a **decline** in the number of convicted criminals under seventeen. Also, areas where poor people lived were cleared and new houses and roads were built. In 1897, the journalist Charles Booth wrote, "On the whole, people are less **brutal** than they used to be."

So, who were the criminals? At this time, gangs of men often worked together to rob people's houses, while children learned how to **pick pockets** or steal money from people's clothes without the owners noticing. Many women were arrested for stealing too – mostly from shops or market stalls. However, most of these robberies were for food or for goods worth very little.



So, why was Sherlock Holmes so popular? At the time, police investigative techniques were very basic. The police often made mistakes and ended up chasing the wrong people. However, the public could read fascinating tales of Holmes and how he used his powerful mind and extraordinary powers of deduction to catch criminals. And those same stories that were published all those years ago in Beeton's Christmas Annual can still amaze and delight us today. 🌟

One of the worst crimes occurred in 1888.



GLOSSARY

- to lurk** *vb*
if someone is "lurking", they are hiding and waiting to attack
- drunkenness** *n*
the state of being drunk (having had too much alcohol)
- assault** *n*
if there is an "assault", someone is physically attacked
- a figure** *n*
an amount represented in numbers
- unlit** *adj*
with no light
- mind at rest** *exp*
if your "mind is at rest", you feel calm, safe, content, etc.
- to pick a pocket** *exp*
if a criminal "picks a pocket", he/she puts their hand into someone's pocket and takes out money, etc.
- to rip out** *exp*
to pull out with great force
- a slum** *n*
a dirty, poor area with a lot of people and no water/electricity, etc.
- a shoemaker** *n*
a person whose job is to make shoes
- to stab to death** *exp*
to kill with a knife
- the least well-off** *exp*
the poorest people
- a decline** *n*
a decrease
- brutal** *adj*
cruel, wicked, violent and savage

Conan and the Dead

In 1918, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle admitted to being a Spiritualist - someone who believed that people could contact the dead. But how could the man who created Sherlock Holmes, the most logical of detectives, believe in ghosts?

Conan Doyle was born in 1859 to very religious parents. When he was nine years old, he was sent to a strict Catholic boarding school in England. He was not happy and started to question his religious beliefs. When he left school, he did not believe in God anymore. However, between 1906 and 1918, Conan Doyle experienced the deaths of his first wife, his brother, both of his brothers-in-law and two of his nephews. He became very depressed and **found relief** in supporting Spiritualists, who said they had scientific **proof** of life after death. But what kind of proof did they have?



Katie Fox

Spiritualism started in the USA in 1846. Two sisters, Maggie and Katie Fox, said they could communicate with the ghost of a man who had been murdered in their house. They said his ghost, or spirit, contacted them with **taps** and **knocks**.

Sometimes, people who came to their house heard the dead man's voice when he took control of one of the girls. Later, investigators found a skeleton **buried** in the **cellar** and even more people believed the Fox sisters' story.

Soon, other people started to copy the two sisters. They also said they could contact the dead, and some charged money for their services. Meetings were held in dark rooms with participants seated around a table. Sometimes, the table would **lean** and **tilt**, or **witnesses** would feel a gentle **breeze** on their faces or smell fresh flowers. Sometimes, pictures would slowly appear on blank sheets of paper, apparently drawn by a spirit. Many people attended these meetings, which

were called **séances**, and believed they really were contacting dead relatives and friends.

But in 1888, Maggie Fox admitted that she had lied about contacting the dead man. She showed how she made the tapping sounds with the bones in her **toes**. She even wrote a signed letter in the New York World newspaper, saying "Spiritualism is a **fraud** and a **deception**." But by then so many people believed in Spiritualism that they did not accept her confession. Conan Doyle was one of them. "Nothing that she could say in that regard would in the least change my opinion," he wrote, adding that he was sure "there is an **occult** influence connecting us with an invisible world".

Eventually, Conan Doyle became a **spokesperson** for Spiritualism. He wrote books and, in 1893, joined the British Society for Psychical Research, which tried to find the truth about **séances** and **mediums**. One year later, a British army officer called Colonel Elmore asked the Society to investigate his country home. Elmore said that at night he could hear **chains** being **dragged** along the floor and strange moaning sounds. Conan Doyle and two others spent several days in Elmore's house. One night, they heard a "**fearsome uproar**", but could not find what caused the noise. They didn't know if the noises were a trick or were real. Later, the body of a ten-year-old girl was found buried in Elmore's garden. Conan Doyle decided the house must have been haunted by her spirit.

Conan Doyle believed in Spiritualism for the rest of his life. In July 1930, he wrote "The reader will judge that I have had many adventures. The greatest and most glorious of all awaits me now." A few days later, he died. His friend Harry Price later wrote, "Poor, dear, lovable, **credulous** Doyle! He was a giant in stature with the heart of a child." ❄️



GLOSSARY

- to find relief in** *exp*
if you "find relief in" something, that thing helps to stop the pain
- proof** *n*
evidence
- a tap / knock** *n*
a gentle sound made by someone hitting wood/metal, etc.
- to bury** *vb*
if a dead person is "buried", they are placed in a hole in the ground
- a cellar** *n*
the room at the bottom of a house often under the ground
- to lean / tilt** *vb*
to move at an angle; to move away from a vertical position
- a witness** *n*
someone who sees an event/crime, etc.
- a breeze** *n*
a gentle wind
- a toe** *n*
a "finger" on your foot
- a fraud** *n*
a trick that is designed to make money
- a deception** *n*
a trick that is designed to make money or make people believe something that isn't true
- occult** *adj*
relating to supernatural forces
- a spokesperson** *n*
someone who represents a company/organisation, etc. and says things for that company/organisation
- a medium** *n*
a person who claims to be able to communicate with the dead
- a chain** *n*
a series of connected metal rings
- to drag** *vb*
to pull along the ground using force
- a fearsome uproar** *exp*
a terrible/horrible, loud noise
- credulous** *adj*
someone who is "credulous" often believes things that others don't consider to be true

GUY RITCHIE &

Guy Ritchie was born on 10th September 1968 in Hatfield, England. He is an English screenwriter and filmmaker. His two most famous films are *Lock, Stock and Two Smoking Barrels* (1998) and *Snatch* (2000), although he is most famous for his marriage to Madonna.



Ritchie married Madonna at Skibo Castle in Scotland on 22nd December 2000. They have a son, Rocco (11th August 2000), and they **adopted** a baby boy from Malawi named David. Following his marriage to Madonna, Ritchie began focusing his filmmaking on his famous wife. He directed her in a music video for the song "What it Feels Like for a Girl". The video was

controversial and **featured** violent behaviour against men, including a shot where she **tasers** a man, drives a car through a group of men, and **incinerates** a man by throwing a lighter into a pool of gasoline.

Their big film together was the romantic comedy *Swept Away* (2002). It was a remake of the 1974 film of the same name. Ritchie **cast** Madonna as rich **socialite** Amber Leighton. One day, Amber's wealthy but passive husband (Tony) takes her on a cruise from Greece to Italy, but Amber is unimpressed and **takes out her anger** on the ship's first mate, Giuseppe (Adriano Giannini). During the trip, a storm destroys the boat and Amber and Giuseppe end up on a deserted island. Does it sound bad? It was. The film was a critical and commercial failure and won a number of awards at the 2002 **Golden Raspberry Awards** for Worst Picture, Worst Actress (Madonna), Worst Screen Couple, Worst Remake and Worst Director (Guy Ritchie).

During his marriage to Madonna, Ritchie followed the religion **Kabbalah** and regularly went to services at the Kabbalah Centre, which his former wife is heavily involved in. The couple were formally divorced in 2008. A friend said, "They were both very calm. Madonna told Guy, 'I'm sorry, I want a divorce'. And he agreed. It was quite painless but very sad." There were rumours that Madonna's desire to adopt another child had been a source of friction, as well as her wish to spend more time in America. Some say that Ritchie's snoring also had something to do with it, but those rumours are uncorroborated. ☺

Guy Ritchie quotes

"I can understand that the whole world is interested in my wife Madonna. That's even why I married her."

"Creatively, we like the same sort of things, so it just makes sense to work together." (on working with wife Madonna).

"The best thing to do is find one person in your life and try to love them unconditionally. If you've accomplished that, you've accomplished a lot."

"I got into film-making because I was interested in making entertaining movies, which I felt there was a lack of."

"I like death. I'm a big fan of it."

"I like to think that we've got a plan, so let's **stick to it**. That said, once we've stuck to it, we're allowed as much improvisation as anyone cares to indulge themselves in."

"If somebody has a better idea than me, I'll take it if it **surpasses** what we have on the page because at the end of the day, it's me that takes the credit anyway!"

"Other than the fact that I like a country house, I can't think of anything I'd want to spend my money on."

"I'm not under too much of an illusion of how smart or un-smart I am because filmmaking ultimately is about teamwork."

David Jude Heyworth Law was born on 29th December 1972. He is an English actor, film producer and director. Some of his best known films include *The Talented Mr Ripley* (1999), for which he was nominated for an Oscar for Best Supporting Actor, and *Cold Mountain* (2003), for which he was nominated for an Oscar for Best Actor. He is the face of the perfume Dior Homme Sport, and has represented Dunhill as its "apparel ambassador" in Asia.

Jude Law is famous for the efforts he goes to in order to prepare for his roles. For the film *The Talented Mr Ripley* he learned to play the saxophone, and he learned ballet dancing for the film *Artificial Intelligence*. To **get in shape** for his role in *Cold Mountain* he took up **lumberjacking**; and for his role as a sniper in *Enemy at the Gates* he studied camouflage, military approach and how to handle the weapon correctly.

Jude Law is also famous for his charitable work. In 2002 he directed a Respect for Animals anti-fur cinema commercial called "Fur and Against". In 2004, he launched a campaign to raise 2.5 million for the Young Vic Theatre redevelopment project. In 2006 he joined Robbie Williams in the "Soccer Aid" celebrity football match to help UNICEF. He also does charity work for organisations such as Make Poverty History. In 2007, Jude went to Afghanistan for a period of 10 days to document peace commitments and activities for an upcoming film for marking the UN International Day of Peace.

Jude's personal life has also been a topic of interest. While making the film *Alfie*, Jude began a relationship with co-star Sienna Miller, becoming engaged on Christmas Day 2004. They separated in November 2006 after Jude had an affair with the babysitter. ☺

Jude Law quotes

"I always wanted to be an actor and not a beauty pageant winner."

"I throw root vegetables at them." (about the paparazzi)

"I honestly have no interest in celebrity status whatsoever... it takes away from what I am, which is an actor who wants to be better and do better things."

"They are all films I like but no one else seems to." (about his movies that flop)

"I'm happiest at home hanging out with the kids."

"London is my home... I know what's right and wrong here, and it's nice to have somewhere familiar to go back to."

"I'm incredibly boring; I had a very happy childhood. I never starved, nor did I have a silver spoon in my mouth. I'm one of those terribly middle-of-the-road, British middle class, South London gents." (on his **upbringing**)

& JUDE LAW



THIS TIME I'M NOT GOING TO LOSE THE PLOT.

THIS FILM IS REALLY SOMETHING TO WRITE "HOLME" ABOUT.



DO I LOOK THE PART?

Jude Law trivia

Jude was arrested for attacking a photographer outside his London home in September 2007. He was released on bail. In October 2007, he was cleared of the charges.

Jude's affair with his children's ex-nanny, Daisy Wright, was named Hollywood's **sneakiest** affair by US magazine in 2007.

Jude was ranked fifth as Best Dressed Man in Britain by GQ magazine in 2007.

He was awarded the chevalier of the Ordre Des Arts Et Des Lettres medal, one of France's top honours in 2007.

Jude and ex-wife Sadie Frost have their own production company Natural Nylon. They formed it with friends Ewan McGregor, Jonny Lee Miller and Sean Pertwee.

Jude's movie *Alfie* was a box-office flop, only making back about half of its estimated \$60 million budget, and voted one of the worst remakes of all time by subscribers to Screen Select magazine.

On November 17, 2004, Jude was named People magazine's "Sexiest Man Alive."

Guy Ritchie

Guy Ritchie was born on 10th September 1968 in Hatfield, England. He is an English screenwriter and filmmaker. He is a martial arts enthusiast and a fan of Chelsea Football Club. He was expelled from school at the age of 15.



Jude Law

David Jude Heyworth Law (29th December 1972) – English actor, film producer and director. Married Sadie Frost on 2nd September 1997. They had three children. Divorced 29th October 2003. Became a father for the fourth time following a relationship with US model Samantha Burke in 2008. Burke gave birth to a daughter, Sophia, on 22nd September 2009 in New York. Jude supports Tottenham Hotspur Football Club.



GLOSSARY

- to adopt** *vb*
if someone "adopts" a child, they take legal charge of the child even though it isn't theirs biologically
- to feature** *vb*
to show in a film
- to taser** *vb*
to shoot with a "taser" – a gun that shoots an electrical charge
- to incinerate** *vb*
to burn
- to cast** *vb*
if a director "casts" you in a film, you are chosen to act in that film
- a socialite** *n*
a person who is famous in fashionable society and who goes to celebrity parties, etc.
- to take your anger out on someone** *exp*
if you "take your anger out on someone", you are angry with that person even though they aren't the real cause of your anger
- the Golden Raspberry Awards** *n*
an award ceremony for really bad films/actors, etc. – the anti Oscars
- Kabbalah** *n*
a discipline concerned with the mystical aspect of Judaism
- to stick to** *exp*
if you "stick to" something, you continue using it or doing it
- to surpass** *vb*
to be better than
- to get into shape** *exp*
to become fit and healthy
- lumberjacking** *n*
the activity/job of cutting down trees
- an upbringing** *n*
your "upbringing" is the education and care you receive as a child
- sneaky** *adj*
secret, dishonest and immoral



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READING I

Last Writes

Is the writing on the wall...? by Sam Gordon

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Write short definitions of the following type of writing.

1. Typewriting.
2. Note writing.
3. Handwriting.
4. Letter writing.
5. Blog/diary writing.
6. Shorthand.
7. Joined-up writing.
8. SMS text-writing.
9. Essay writing.
10. Academic text writing.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. What does the writer say about handwriting? Write a short 30-word summary of the article.

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. What does writing expert Kitty Burns Florey predict for the future?
2. What percentage of children between the ages of 5 and 17 use a computer?
3. How has technology helped left-handers?
4. Why is the disappearance of handwriting good for patients?
5. What are some of the disadvantages of the disappearance of handwriting?
6. What does Umberto Eco see as the future for handwriting?

4 Language focus "No longer"

Look at this extract from the article, "People no longer travel on horseback..." The writer has used the expression "no longer", which means the same as "don't do X anymore". Rewrite the following sentences with "no longer".

1. We don't talk to them anymore.
2. They don't deal with that supplier anymore.
3. She doesn't get the DVDs delivered to her place of work anymore.
4. He doesn't do business with them anymore.

5 Discussion

1. What was the last thing you wrote with a pen or pencil?
2. How often do you write with a pen or pencil?
3. Do you agree with the ideas in the article? Why? Why not?



Have you done any writing with a pen or pencil recently? With all the technology available, some believe that writing will become a thing of the past. But is that a good thing?

Apart from Christmas cards and shopping lists, what do we actually write these days? In fact, handwriting is becoming so uncommon that expert Kitty Burns Florey predicts that in 100 years it may be **legible** only to experts. "When your great-great-great grandchildren find that letter of yours in the **attic**, they'll have to take it to a specialist, an old **guy** at the library who will **decipher** the strange symbols for them"

The fact is that writing on the computer is much easier. According to statistics, 90% of American children between the ages of 5 and 17 use computers. Many kids can type 20-30 words per minute by the time they leave elementary school. "Computers are better," says 9-year-old Monique, "with typing, you don't have to erase when you make a mistake. You just **hit** the **delete button**, so it's a lot easier."

Technology certainly does make things a lot more **straightforward**. It means no more long hours in the classroom learning joined-up writing. And it's good news for "left-handers" too – you can't **smudge** with a **keyboard**. It's also better for our health. There's an old joke that doctors always have terrible handwriting, but it wasn't so funny when the wrong medication was given because a prescription was **illegible**. Believe it or not, it was common, but typing has made this a **thing of the past**.

However, some feel that the "need for speed" might be **harming** our general levels of **literacy**. These days, people write more on their mobile phones and MSN than on paper. And "text-speak" is the new "lingo". So why "wait" for someone when you can "wb" for them instead? Why bother explaining that you think something is funny or you're just joking when you can put "lol" ("laughing out loud")? And why worry about grammar or spelling when SMS text-writing has no rules?

So, is the **writing on the wall** for handwriting? According to Umberto Eco, author of *The Name of The Rose*, even if writing becomes unnecessary it may be rediscovered as a hobby or pleasure like many modern sports. "People no longer travel on horseback but some go to a riding school; motor yachts exist but many people are still **devoted** to sailing; people collect stamps even in the age of e-mail," he said.

So, why don't you let us know what you think? By e-mail or letter, of course. ☺

GLOSSARY

- legible** *adj*
that is easy to read
- an attic** *n*
the room at the top of a house just below the roof
- a guy** *n* *inform*
a man
- to decipher** *vb*
to understand and be able to read a code or writing that is difficult to read
- to hit a button** *exp*
to press a key on a computer
- the delete button** *n*
a button on a computer that erases / rubs out text
- straightforward** *adj*
easy to understand
- to smudge** *vb*
if you "smudge" writing/ink, you move your hand over it and create a dirty mark
- a keyboard** *n*
an object with letters and numbers on it that you use to write text on a computer
- illegible** *adj*
that is not easy to read
- a thing of the past** *exp*
something that is no longer used
- to harm** *vb*
to damage; to cause damage to; to destroy
- literacy** *n*
a general word used to refer to our ability to read and write
- the writing is on the wall** *exp*
if "the writing is on the wall", it is easy to predict what is going to happen
- devoted to** *exp*
if you are "devoted to" something, you care about that thing a lot



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READING II

Food Revolution

What's so good about British food? by Simon Thomas

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

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

1. A leg of lamb
2. A snail
3. Porridge
4. Bacon
5. Ice cream
6. Beef (oven roast)
7. A sausage
8. Pork chops



2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which two items of food from the Pre-reading exercise are not mentioned.

3 Reading II

Read the article again and complete the sentences.

1. The Fat Duck offers diners unusual concoctions such as...
2. British supermarkets are stocking great new food such as...
3. British cheese makers don't tend to...
4. Some British producers are starting to...
5. Vito Catello has opened...
6. Although people in Bologna are proud of their food, the restaurant is...

4 Language focus Comparisons

Look at this extract from the article, "British cheese can be as good as French or Italian varieties..." The writer has made a comparison with "as... as". Use the words below to make similar comparisons. Use negative forms if necessary.

1. film / boring / the other one
2. this book / interesting / the other one
3. tired / you
4. writing on the computer / complicated / writing by hand
5. shopping online / time-consuming / shopping in shops

5 Discussion

1. What comes to mind when you think of British food?
2. What's your opinion of British food? What is it based on?
3. What British food have you tried? What did you think of it?



There's a revolution going on in British cooking. The San Pellegrino list (a list of the 50 best restaurants in the world) puts an old British pub, The Fat Duck, at number 2. And the Michelin guide, the authority on **fine dining**, gives more stars to London restaurants than anywhere else outside France. What's happening?

For a start, British chefs have a high level of creativity. Heston Blumenthal, the head chef and owner of The Fat Duck,

has an amazing menu. His **diners** can try truly unusual **concoctions** such as snail porridge (oats and milk mixed with cooked snails) or bacon and egg ice cream. It sounds strange, but Blumenthal has won many awards for his cooking. In 2005, the magazine *Restaurant* said The Fat Duck was the best restaurant in the world, and it was voted Best Restaurant in the UK in 2008 and 2009, scoring a maximum 10 out of 10 in the *Good Food Guide*.

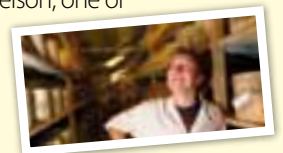
British supermarkets are also **stocking** great new food. At Tesco's, you can find exotic food such as dragon fruit from China or emu meat from Australia along with traditional British beef or apples. Another British supermarket, Waitrose, sells organic produce (fresh food grown without help from artificial chemicals).

A lot of British produce is now considered world-class. William Nelson, one of England's top **butchers**, says that British beef is the best in the world. "Europeans don't believe in good-tasting beef," he says. "The taste comes from the sweetness of the fat and the Europeans grow protein on bones, not beef." Meanwhile, the cheese-maker Tom Calver says that British cheese can be as good as French or Italian varieties. "Where we **fall down** is that we don't **blow our own trumpet**," he says. "We don't **give ourselves** enough **credit** about what we actually produce."

Some British producers are even starting to sell their food in other countries. Guy Tullberg sells traditional English sauces through his family business. "We've done the *Slow Food Festival* in Turin for three years and everyone said we were **mad** - that we **wouldn't sell a thing**. But every year we come back with £6,000 to £7,000."

And Vito Catello, an Italian immigrant who grew up in Britain, has tried something even more challenging. Earlier this year, he opened a restaurant in Bologna selling English food to Italian customers. "When you look even at the **mainstream dishes** in Britain such as fish and chips they're delicious," he explains. "But people aren't promoting it enough. That's what I'm doing. I'm **shouting about** them. I'm shouting about Lincolnshire sausages **and the like** because they're great British products." And all this shouting seems to be working. People in Bologna are so proud of their food that some say they won't even eat in the next town, but Catello's *Passion* restaurant is fully booked every night.

Maybe it's time to give British food another go. ☺



GLOSSARY

- fine dining** *n*
eating top quality food at top quality restaurants
- a diner** *n*
a person who eats in a restaurant
- a concoction** *n*
an item of food that has been created from several different items of food
- to stock** *vb*
if a shop "stocks" something, it sells that thing
- a butcher** *n*
a person whose job consists of selling/cutting meat in a shop
- to fall down** *phr vb*
to fail; not to be successful
- to blow your own trumpet** *exp*
to tell everyone how wonderful/amazing/fantastic, etc. you are
- to give yourself credit for something** *exp*
to praise yourself (say good things about yourself) for something good that you have done
- mad** *adj*
crazy/insane
- wouldn't sell a thing** *exp*
wouldn't sell anything
- a mainstream dish** *n*
food that is typical/common from the place you are referring to
- to shout about something** *exp*
to tell everyone how marvellous/good/wonderful, etc. something is
- and the like** *exp*
and things such as that

WHAT LANGUAGE DO YOU SELECT WHEN YOU USE A **CASHPOINT MACHINE**? MANY OFFER A CHOICE OF UP TO SIX LANGUAGES. BUT NOW YOU CAN SELECT AN ACCENT TOO.

Bank Machine, which runs 2,500 **ATMs** across the country, has set up five **cash dispensers** which offer customers the option to request cash in English or **Cockney***.

And if you ask for Cockney, the machine will tell you it is "Reading your bladder of lard" (card) before asking for your "Huckleberry Finn" (**PIN**). Then the hard decisions start. Do you want to see your balance on the "Charlie Sheen" (**screen**)? Or would you like to **withdraw** some "sausage and mash" (**cash**)?

If the machines are a success, the company hopes to follow them up with **Brummie**, **Geordie**, **Scouse** and Scots ATMs. "It isn't simply about client satisfaction," a spokesperson for the company said, "It's also about keeping dialects alive in Britain." Well, the company certainly gets a bit of publicity, its users get a bit of a "bubble bath" (laugh), and everyone's a "chicken dinner" (winner).

So, which accent will you be choosing next time you take some money out? 🍷



| English | Cockney rhyming slang | Example |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--|
| Believe | Adam and Eve | I don't Adam and Eve it. |
| Face | Boat race | Nice boat race on him! |
| Head | Loaf of bread | Use your loaf! |
| Hair | Barnet Fair | Nice Barnet! |
| Stairs | Apples and pears | Shall we take the apples and pears? |
| Own | Jack Jones | I'm all on my Jack Jones. |
| Stink | Pen and ink | There's a nasty pen and ink in here. |
| Lie | Pork pie | Are you telling porkies? |
| Yank (American) | Septic tank | There were some Septics at the club. |
| Pub | Rub-a-dub-dub | Let's go down the rub-a-dub-dub. |
| Suit | Whistle and toot | Like my new whistle? |
| Money | Bees and honey | I haven't got any bees. |
| Hands | Jimmy Shands | Show us your Jimmies! |
| Pocket | Davy Crockett | It's in his Davy. |
| Look | Butcher's hook | Have a butcher's at this. |
| Cash | Sausage and mash | Got any sausage and mash on you? |
| Laugh | Bubble bath | We had a right old bubble bath. |
| Soap | Bob Hope | There ain't no Bob Hope in the bathroom. |
| Toilet | Karsey Moilet | I'm just going to the karsey. |

***Cockney**
A true Cockney is someone born within the sound of Bow Bells (the bells from St Mary-le-Bow Church in the City of London). However, many born outside this area have a "Cockney" accent, particularly in the East End of London, and in the outer London boroughs, the London suburbs and towns outside London such as Luton, Leighton Buzzard and Romford.

Cockney Rhyming Slang uses expressions that rhyme with the word (instead of using the actual word itself). For example, the word "look" rhymes with "butcher's hook". So, if someone says, "Have a butcher's hook!" it means, "Have a look!" In many cases the rhyming word is omitted. So, this will be shortened to, "Have a butcher's!" ("Have a look!").

In the table, there are some useful expressions for you to learn. You'll notice that with some of the expressions the rhyming word is omitted.

GLOSSARY
a cashpoint machine *n*
a bank machine that permits you to take money out of your account by using your bank card
an ATM *abbr*
an Automated Teller Machine – a cashpoint machine
a cash dispenser *n*
a cashpoint machine (see above)
a PIN *abbr*
a Personal Identification Number – the secret number you need to key in
the screen *n*
the part of a computer/television / ATM, etc. that displays images and that you look at
to withdraw *vb*
if you "withdraw" money, you take it out of your bank account
mash *n inform*
mashed potato – potato that is in the form of a paste
cash *n*
money in the form of coins and notes
Brummie *adj inform*
from the English city of Birmingham
Geordie *adj inform*
from the English city of Newcastle
Scouse *adj inform*
from the English city of Liverpool

For lots more Cockney rhyming slang expressions, visit this site: <http://www.hintsandthings.co.uk/library/rhymingslang.htm>

Strange Weather

Sometimes it seems that nature is out to get you.

1 Pre-reading

Match the types of rain (1 to 8) to the definitions (a-h).

1. Drizzle
2. Heavy rain
3. Hail
4. Sleet
5. Acid rain
6. Dew
7. Light rain
8. A downpour

- a. Big pieces of water that fall from the sky.
- b. Balls of ice.
- c. A mixture of rain and snow.
- d. A lot of heavy rain in a short period of time.
- e. Rain that isn't heavy.
- f. Water that forms on objects in the morning or evening.
- g. Rain that is contaminated with sulphuric acid.
- h. Very little pieces of water that fall during a light rain.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. What's the best / worst / most disgusting type of rain (in your opinion)?

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. What fell from the sky on 18th August 2004?
2. What did it rain in the town of Jennings?
3. What type of animals fell on Silvertown, Colorado?
4. What did one woman from Texas find in her garden?
5. Why were shoppers in Ramsgate pleased?
6. What causes these strange rains?

4 Language focus

Expressions with "get"

Look at this extract from the article, "...small objects in their path, such as fish or frogs, get picked up and carried for several kilometres." The writer has used an expression with "get" ("get picked up"). We can often use "get" to form informal passive expressions ("get" + a past participle). Re-write these sentences as passives with "get".

1. They took the money to the bank. =
The money got taken to the bank.
2. They broke the windows.
3. They fixed the television.
4. They ate all the food.
5. They paid all the bills.

5 Discussion

1. What's the worst weather you've ever been in?
2. What's your favourite / least favourite type of weather? Why?
3. Have you ever felt in danger because of the weather? When? Why?

When did it last rain? What was it like? Heavy? Light? Did any fish, alligators or money come down with the rain? It may sound unusual, but "strange rain" is not that uncommon.

Sometimes the strange rain involves animals. On 18th August 2004, fish fell from the sky onto the streets of Knighton, a small town in Wales. In 2007, it rained worms on the town of Jennings in the United States. Eleanor Beal was one of the first people to see them. She told the television station WAFB, "When I saw that they were crawling, I said, 'It's worms! Get out of the way!'"



Some rains can be more dangerous. In a place called Silvertown, Colorado, in 1877, Dr JL Smith noticed strange objects falling from the sky and crawling towards him. As these objects got closer, he realised they were alligators. They were all alive and about 30 centimetres long. Meanwhile, in Texas, a Mrs Christian woke up one morning to find some purple shapes in her garden. She called the police, who asked scientists to take them away. Chemical reports showed that the blobs were waste from a battery factory. Nice!

But it's not all bad news. In December, 1968, Christmas shoppers in Ramsgate, England, were delighted by the sound of small metal objects hitting the pavement. It was a shower of coins. One person out shopping that day, Jean Clements, told the Daily Mirror newspaper, "between 40 and 50 of the coins came down in short scattered bursts for about 15 minutes. You could not see them falling - all you heard was the sound of them hitting the ground." Most of the coins were bent, as they had fallen a long way. Money has also rained over Russia, France and West Germany. If there's a heavy storm, look out of your window - it could be your lucky day.



So what causes these strange rains? Scientists think tornadoes may be to blame. When the wind is very strong, whirlwinds sometimes form. When these whirlwinds travel over water, small objects in their path, such as fish or frogs, get picked up and carried for several kilometres. In 1981, a rain of small green frogs hit the city of Naphlion in southern Greece. These frogs are usually found in North Africa!

But it isn't only rain we need to be careful of. When millions of small animals come together, they create a swarm and then they all act like one giant creature. This can look beautiful from a distance as the swarm changes shape and seems to dance in the air. But up close they can be very dangerous - or at least, very annoying. Have you heard of periodic cicadas? These large insects normally live deep underground in North America. However, once every seventeen years, they come up to the surface to reproduce. In 2008, seventeen million cicadas swarmed over a small town in Ohio. It took three weeks to get the streets cleaned after that.

From insect swarms to rains of frogs and even alligators, sometimes it seems that nature is out to get us. So be careful when you go outside today - you may need more than an umbrella. ☺



DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC

strange, weird and unusual people

HERE ARE SOME MORE USEFUL AND INTERESTING EXPRESSIONS FOR YOU TO LEARN. THIS MONTH: STRANGE, WEIRD AND UNUSUAL PEOPLE.

DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC



Good-for-nothing

A LAZY, USELESS PERSON.

"You are a lazy good-for-nothing. Get out of bed and do something!"



Be living on another planet

YOU CAN USE THIS EXPRESSION TO REFER TO SOMEONE WHO YOU CONSIDER TO BE SILLY, MAD, RIDICULOUS OR UNREASONABLE. THE EXPRESSION, "WHAT PLANET IS HE ON?" MEANS "IS HE MAD? / IS HE CRAZY?"

"Have you seen this bill from Frank? There's no way that we're going to pay that. What planet is he on?"



Be off your trolley

BE CRAZY.

"Beth wants us to work all weekend for no extra pay. She must be off her trolley."



Be as stubborn as a mule

BE SOMEONE WHO JUST WON'T LISTEN TO REASON AND WHO INSISTS ON DOING WHAT THEY WANT.

"He just won't listen to a word I say. He's as stubborn as a mule."



Be a waste of space

SOMEONE WHO IS A "WASTE OF SPACE" IS USELESS OR NOT HELPFUL.

"You're a waste of space. Get out and stop annoying us."



Space cadet

A STRANGE, CRAZY, FORGETFUL OR ABSENT-MINDED PERSON.

"He left home without his keys again the other day. He's a real space cadet."



Be as mad as a hatter

BE EXTREMELY CRAZY, UNUSUAL OR WEIRD.

"I saw him dancing in the park with a bright pink hat, a fluorescent green jacket and two mismatched socks. He's as mad as a hatter."

QUIRKY NEWS & CORNY CRIMINALS

quirky news



Wallaby Lawnmowers

An eco-solution to all your gardening problems.

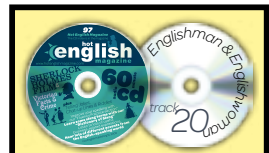
What's the best way to cut grass? Most people use a **lawnmower**. Some people use sheep. But now a few gardeners are using **wallabies** to **trim** their **lawns**.

"They're great," said wallaby owner Sarah Jenkins. "They play in the garden and eat the grass. The kids love them too. We're really happy with the animals." **Enthusiasts** say the animal is a **cuter**, friendlier and a more exotic alternative to sheep. But a pair of wallabies aren't cheap: **males** can cost £150 and females around £650. Waveney Wildlife, Britain's



biggest private **supplier** of wallabies, has reported a 100% increase in orders for the **marsupials**. And most of it is **driven** by growing interest from individuals. Trevor Lay, who **runs** the centre in Bungay, Suffolk, now sells 35 a year and says he could find homes for three times as many. "It's crazy. To be honest, if I had 100 I could easily sell them," he explained.

So, are you interested in keeping a wallaby at home? If you are, you're going to need enough land for them to **roam** (at least half an acre) and fences about 2 metres high so the animals can't jump to freedom. ✨



Riddles

CAN YOU SOLVE THESE?



- 1 "The turtle took two chocolates to Texas to teach Thomas to tie his boots." How many "t's" in that?
- 2 What gets bigger and bigger as you take more away from it?
- 3 What goes up, but never comes down? ✨

GLOSSARY

- a lawnmower** *n* a machine for cutting the grass
- a wallaby** *n* a general word used to refer to animals that are similar to kangaroos
- to trim** *vb* to cut a little bit
- a lawn** *n* an area of flat, well-kept grass
- an enthusiast** *n* a person who is very interested in a particular hobby or activity
- cute** *adj* nice, pretty, attractive, etc.
- a male** *n* a man (a "female" is a woman)
- a supplier** *n* a person or organisation that sells goods/products, etc.
- a marsupial** *n* a group of animals that includes the kangaroo. Female "marsupials" carry their babies in pouches (little "pockets" in their stomachs)
- to drive** *vb* if something "drives" sales, it produces/causes those sales
- to run** *vb* to direct and organise
- to roam** *vb* to walk about freely in an area
- proud of** *exp* if you are "proud of" something you have done or can do, you are pleased/satisfied with it
- to kidnap** *vb* to detain a person illegally
- a repairman** *n* a person who comes to fix something that is broken
- to break down** *phrvb* to stop working
- to send someone round** *exp* if a company "sends someone round", they tell that person to visit a house in order to do a job
- under warranty** *exp* covered by a product guarantee
- to lose it** *exp* to become very angry; to lose control of yourself
- there was no way I was going to X** *exp* I was not going to X under any circumstances
- to lock** *vb* to close with a key

Corny Criminals

Washing Machine



Angry customer kidnaps washing machine repairman.



"I'm not **proud of** my actions, but I felt there was no other option," said Stacey Lines, 42, after she **kidnapped** a washing machine **repairman**. But why? "About ten months ago I bought a new washing machine. After using it a couple of times, it **broke down**, so I called an engineer. I had to call five times before they finally agreed to **send someone round**. When the man came, he checked the machine and pulled out a 2p

coin from it. He said the coin was causing the problem. However, a few days later I turned on the machine again and it still wouldn't work. The guy came back and he said that I'd have to pay for any extra repairs even though the machine was still **under warranty**, and that I might as well get a new one because the amount it would cost to fix it would be the same as buying another one. Then, he said he had to leave because he had another client to see. And that's when I **lost it**. **There was no way I was going to** let him out until it was fixed. So, I **locked** the door and stood in front of it and he couldn't get out. He waited for about ten minutes and then called the police." Later, police confirmed that they were called to the address and that a man was "liberated", but that no further action was taken. The shop eventually offered Ms Lines a new washing machine. ✨

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

QUIRKY NEWS, CORNY CRIMINALS & RIDDLES



Watch & Learn!
Listen to two people discussing
this topic in a mini-video at
www.hotenglishmagazine.com



THIS MONTH, HOW TO... LEARN ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION.

Pronunciation is really important. Much more important than grammar. For example, when you're speaking, if you use a present tense verb instead of a past tense verb, it probably won't affect your overall message. But if your pronunciation isn't comprehensible, you're in trouble... no matter how perfect your grammar is.

So, what can you do to improve your pronunciation? The most important thing to understand is that English is a stress-timed language. English pronunciation focuses on specific stressed words while quickly gliding over other non-stressed words. Stressed words include nouns ("dog, table", etc.), verbs ("sit, run", etc.), adjectives ("beautiful, wonderful", etc.) and adverbs ("quickly, slowly", etc.). Most of the other words are *not* stressed and include determiners ("a/the"), auxiliary and modal verbs ("am, is, have, can", etc.) prepositions ("in, at, to", etc.) conjunctions ("but, and", etc.) and pronouns ("he, she, they", etc.).

Just to show you what we're talking about, read the following sentences out loud to yourself, putting stress on the content words (marked in bold):

- a) The **nice man arrived punctually** in the **morning**.
- b) She can **do it on Monday** as long as she doesn't have to **finish the reports** for the **afternoon**.

Notice how the two sentences take about the same time to say even though the second sentence is much longer than the first one. This is because there are five stressed words in each sentence. When you speak, you should stress the content words and glide over the non-stressed words. That's the trick to English pronunciation.

The next thing you need to do is to learn how to read phonetic script. This is extremely useful. There are 26 letters in the English *alphabet* but there are many more sounds in the English *language*. Learn the phonetic script! Then, when you look up a word in the dictionary, you can see how it's pronounced. Very useful!

So, what's the best way to improve your pronunciation? It's simple: speak! Speak the language out loud. Speak to yourself. Say vocabulary words out loud. Read passages from magazines, newspapers and books out loud. Transferring language from

your mind to your mouth is a very effective technique. Also, do lots of listen and copy exercises. Watch videos and listen to CDs. Pause the recordings and repeat the sentences following the intonation and stress patterns as much as possible. Watch news programmes and copy their way of speaking. Also, record yourself. When you listen to the recording afterwards, you can compare your pronunciation with the master version.

Finally, try this useful exercise for really improving your pronunciation. Get a recording (about 10 minutes long) of someone speaking in English. Listen to it a few times to get familiar with it. Then, start listening intensively to it. Go back to the beginning and take a deep breath. Then, play the first sentence from the recording. As you listen, say the sentence out loud at the *same time* as the recording. Don't repeat the sentence *after* the recording – do it with the speaker, copying their intonation, pronunciation and stress patterns. Do it several times (twenty is not too many). Then, move on to the next sentence. Keep going till you get to the end. And then start the whole process again until you can do it all by heart.

Good luck, and remember, comprehensibility is the aim of the game. Go for it! ☺

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Refer to unit 6 of your Upper Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



Office Problems

Office-related misdemeanours and how to deal with them.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-listening

Look at the list of office incidents. Which ones are the most/least serious? What measures would you suggest be taken against the people in question?

1. A man has been fiddling his expenses.
2. A woman has been running a pirate CD business from her department.
3. A man often drinks at work.
4. A woman has been writing a personal book while she is at work.
5. A managing director has lied on his CV.
6. A woman phoned in sick but then went to a party.

2 Listening I

Listen to several people talking about the incidents from above and compare your ideas.

3 Listening II

Listen again. Who are they talking about? Write "Speaker 1, Speaker 2, Speaker 3, Speaker 4, Speaker 5" or "Speaker 6".

1. This person had a bottle of whisky or vodka under his desk.
2. This person went to a party when she was supposed to be at home.
3. This person stayed in cheap hostels but put in bills for four-star hotels.
4. This person said he's studied at Cambridge University.
5. This person used the office photocopier a lot.
6. This person was arrested by the police.

4 Language focus Modal verbs

Look at this extract from the listening, "I think they should carry out tests on people..." The speaker has used a modal verb to give an opinion ("should"). Using a range of modal verbs (can / can't / should / shouldn't / must / mustn't / may / might), write sentences giving your opinions on the people mentioned in this listening activity. For example:

I think that people who phone in sick when they aren't really sick should get the sack.

5 Discussion

1. Have any of incidents similar to these happened in your office? Which ones?
2. Can you think of any more examples of employees breaking company policy?
3. What can be done to reduce incidents such as these?



English onion soup

YOU MAY BE FAMILIAR WITH THE DELICIOUS AND CLASSIC FRENCH "SOUPE À L'OIGNON" (ONION SOUP), BUT HAVE YOU TRIED THE ENGLISH VERSION?

Ingredients

- 60 grams of butter.
- 1.5 kilos of **peeled** and **sliced** onions.
- 4-5 **chopped** garlic cloves.
- 1 bay leaf.
- A few **sprigs** fresh thyme.
- 150 ml cider.
- 750 ml chicken stock.
- 12-18 sage leaves.
- 4 slices bread, toasted.
- 120 grams of grated cheese.
- Salt and pepper.



Preparation

Melt the butter in a big pot over medium-low heat. Add the onions and **sauté** slowly until soft, tender and browned (about 45 minutes). Add the garlic, bay and thyme leaves and cook for five minutes, then add the cider and **simmer** for about three minutes. Then, remove the herbs and add the stock and simmer for 20 minutes. Season with salt and pepper to taste. Put the soup into heatproof bowls. Top each serving with a slice of toast and sprinkle the cheese on top. **Grill** in the **oven** until the cheese is **melted** and bubbling.

Delicious! 🍴

GLOSSARY

- to peel** *vb*
to take the skin off fruit/vegetables
- to slice** *vb*
to cut into thin strips
- to chop** *vb*
to cut into small pieces
- a sprig** *n*
a small shoot or twig of a plant
- to sauté** *vb*
to fry quickly in a little oil
- to simmer** *vb*
to cook slowly over a low heat
- to grill** *vb*
to cook under/over a strong heat/ fire
- an oven** *n*
an electrical appliance in the kitchen for cooking food
- to melt** *vb*
if cheese "melts", it becomes liquid



DICTIONARY OF SLANG

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

| Situation | Formal | Relaxed | Informal |
|--|--|---|--|
| A friend has a spot on his face. | Your face is blighted by an accumulation of grease. | You've got a spot.  | You've got a zit. |
| A friend appears to be nervous and anxious. You ask why. | Why are you in such a state of agitation? | What are you so worried about? | What are you so uptight about?  |
| A friend is somewhat innocent. | He is green and inexperienced in the ways of the world. | He can be a bit innocent at times. | He's a bit of a mug. |
| A friend is afraid to touch a snake. You tell him to stop being frightened. | Your fears are unfounded.  | There's no need to be afraid. | Stop being such a wimp! |
| A friend warns you about something. You thank her. | I am most grateful for the timely warning. | Thanks for the warning.  | Cheers for the heads up. |
| You have reminded a friend many times to do something but he still hasn't done it. | I have informed him to complete the action on a number of occasions. | I've told him to do it many times. | This is the umpteenth time that I've told him to do it. |



CHAT-UP LINES / PICK-UP LINES

(US English)

LET'S SEE IF YOU GET LUCKY.



- I lost my teddy bear. Will you keep me company instead?
- Do you believe in love at first sight? Or do you think I should walk past again?
- Are you a parking ticket? Because you have "fine" written all over you!
- If I could arrange the alphabet I'd put "U" and "I" together.
- Hi, I was just curious because I saw you noticing me so I'm just giving you notice that I noticed you after you noticed me. 😊



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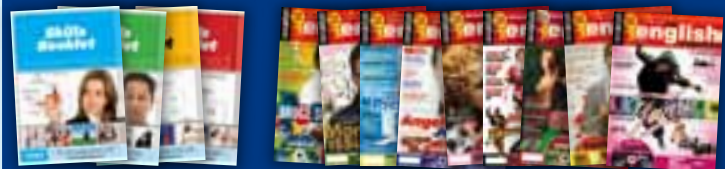
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WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN 1997? WHERE WERE YOU? HOW OLD WERE YOU? WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER? JOIN US ON A LITTLE TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE TO 1997.

Monthly trivia 1997

January

- Yasser Arafat returns to Hebron after the last Israeli-controlled West Bank city is **handed over** to the Palestinians.
- Madeleine Albright becomes the first female **Secretary of State**.

February

- In Roslin, Scotland, scientists successfully **clone** an adult sheep. Dolly is born.

March

- US President Bill Clinton **bars** federal funding for any research on human cloning.
- Pablo Picasso's *Tête de Femme* is stolen from a London gallery. It is recovered a week later.
- Rapper The Notorious B.I.G. is killed in a **drive-by shooting**.
- The Oscar for Best Picture at the 69th Academy Awards goes to *The English Patient*, which stars Ralph Fiennes and which is directed by Anthony Minghella.

April

- Fire damages the Turin Cathedral in Italy.
- A Pegasus rocket carries the remains of 24 people into earth orbit in the first space **burial**.

May

- The Labour Party wins the general election in the UK, ending 18 years of Conservative rule. Tony Blair becomes prime minister.
- IBM's Deep Blue computer defeats Garry Kasparov – the first time that a computer **beats** a chess world champion in a match.

June

- The British House of Commons votes for a total **ban** on handguns.
- Bloomsbury Publishing **brings out** JK Rowling's *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*. Harry Potter is born!

July

- The UK hands over **sovereignty** of Hong Kong to the People's Republic of China.
- The Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland are invited to join **NATO** in 1999.
- **Spree killer** Andrew Cunanan shoots and kills fashion designer Gianni Versace in Miami.
- Actor Robert Mitchum (1917) dies.

August

- Diana, Princess of Wales is taken to hospital after a car accident shortly after midnight, in the Pont de l'Alma road tunnel in Paris. She **passes away** at 4:00am.

September

- Mother Teresa of Calcutta dies of heart failure in India.
- Diana's funeral takes place in Westminster Abbey watched by over 2 billion people worldwide.
- Scotland votes to create its own Parliament after 290 years of union with England.
- Wales votes in favour of **devolution** and the formation of a National Assembly.

October

- The first colour photograph appears on the front page of the New York Times.
- The remains of Che Guevara are **laid to rest** with full military

honours in a specially built mausoleum in the city of Santa Clara, Cuba.

November

- In Des Moines, Iowa, Bobbi McCaughey gives birth to **septuplets**. All 7 babies are born alive and all survive infancy.

December

- In Ottawa, Canada, representatives from 121 countries **sign** a treaty prohibiting the manufacture and deployment of **anti-personnel landmines**. However, the USA, the People's Republic of China and Russia **refuse** to sign.
- The **Kyoto Protocol** is adopted by a United Nations committee.
- *The Titanic* **premiers** in the US and becomes the **highest-grossing film** of all time.

Famous films of 1997

- *Titanic*
- *The Full Monty*
- *LA Confidential*
- *My Best Friend's Wedding*
- *Austin Powers*
- *Good Will Hunting*
- *Men in Black*
- *The Lost World: Jurassic Park*
- *Tomorrow Never Dies*

Albums released in 1997

- "OK Computer" Radiohead
- "Radiator" Super Furry Animals
- "Blur" Blur
- "Nine Lives" Aerosmith
- "Bridges to Babylon" Rolling Stones
- "Calling all Stations" Genesis
- "Pop" U2
- "Earthling" David Bowie ✪

Sports Trivia

- Super Bowl XXXI: The Green Bay Packers win the NFL Championship for the first time since 1967, defeating the New England Patriots 35–21.

Football Trivia

- Borussia Dortmund win the European Cup.
- Schalke 04 win the UEFA Cup.
- FC Barcelona win the UEFA Cup Winners' Cup.
- The following teams win in their respective football leagues (1996-1997): Juventus (Italy); Manchester United (England); Real Madrid (Spain); F.C. Porto (Portugal); Bayern Munich (Germany); Monaco (France)

GLOSSARY

- to hand over** *phr vb*
to formally/legally give someone something
- the Secretary of State** *n US*
the head of the government department in charge of foreign affairs (the State Department)
- to clone** *vb*
to create an exact copy of a person/animal (in terms of DNA)
- to bar** *vb*
to prohibit
- a drive-by shooting** *n*
a killing in which someone is shot by other people who are in a car
- a burial** *n*
if there is a "burial", there is a ceremony for a dead person (they are usually placed in a hole in the ground)
- to beat** *vb*
to win against
- a ban** *n*
a prohibition
- to bring out** *phr vb*
to put a product in shops so people can buy it
- sovereignty** *n*
if country A has "sovereignty" over country B, country A governs country B
- NATO** *abbr*
the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation - military organisation
- a spree killer** *n*
someone who kills a number of victims over a short period of time and in a number of locations
- to pass away** *phr vb*
to die
- devolution** *n*
a transfer of authority from a central government to a regional government
- to lay to rest** *exp*
to place a dead body (or the remains) in a grave or tomb
- septuplets** *n*
seven children born at a single birth
- to sign** *vb*
to put your name on a formal document
- an anti-personnel mine** *n*
a bomb that explodes when someone walks on it
- to refuse** *vb*
to say that you will not do something
- the Kyoto Protocol** *n*
an international agreement that aims to reduce CO2 emissions
- to premier** *vb*
to show a film in a cinema for the first time
- the highest-grossing film** *exp*
the film that generates the most money



Refer to unit 5 of your Advanced Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



THIS IS THE FIRST OF A NEW SERIES ON ENGLISH ACCENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD IN BOTH ENGLISH-SPEAKING AND NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES. THIS MONTH, WE'RE LOOKING AT THE WELSH ENGLISH ACCENT.

Location of Wales

Wales is a country just west of England (see map).

Capital

Cardiff (300,000 approximately).

Population

About 3 million people.

Famous for

Wales is famous for its beautiful countryside with green hills, deep valleys and a coastline that covers approximately 1,300 kilometres. It's also famous for its male-voice choirs, its sheep and Tom Jones. Incidentally, the Prince of Wales (Prince Charles) is not Welsh.

Famous people/groups from Wales

Sir Anthony Hopkins (actor); Tom Jones (singer); Catherine Zeta Jones (actress); Timothy Dalton (actor); Shirley Bassey (singer); The Manic Street Preachers (group); Super Furry Animals (group); The Stereophonics (group).

Language

About 20% of the population in Wales speak Welsh, which is a Celtic language. Welsh is also spoken in a small colony in Patagonia, Argentina, which was inhabited by Welsh settlers in 1865. English is the predominant language in Wales. It is known as Welsh English, Anglo-Welsh or Wenglish.

Special features of Welsh English

Distinctive pitch differences, which makes Welsh-English speakers sound as if they are singing. It gives their speech a "sing-song" effect. They also have a tendency to rise at the end of statements, whereas in standard English, there is a falling tone. The vowels are a bit more elongated. A strong tendency to roll the "r". This is known as the "alveolar trill".

Listen & Learn

Now sit back and listen to a real Welshman (William Reese) talk about Wales, the Welsh and the Welsh English accent. ❖



A customer tries to get a computer fixed.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-listening

Look at the list of potential computer problems. Which ones have you experienced in the past?

- The computer won't turn on.
- It's got a virus.
- It's running really slowly.
- It won't load a program or any software.
- It switches off all of a sudden.
- The screen is cracked.
- There's no more memory available.

2 Listening I

You are going to listen to someone who has a problem with their computer. What is the problem with the computer (choose from the list in the Pre-listening activity). Does the problem get resolved?

3 Listening II

Listen again and answer the questions.

- Why can't Ms Hardacre deal with the customer?
- Has the customer tried plugging the computer in?
- Has the customer services assistant done the advanced technology course?
- Who does the support engineer say the customer has to speak to?
- Why isn't the computer covered by the guarantee?
- Where are the terms of the policy and why can't the customer read them?

4 Language focus

Formal / Informal language

Look at this extract from the listening, "I think you got the wrong end of the stick." This is an informal way of saying, "I think you misunderstood me." Transform the following informal sentences into more formal/standard ones.

- Morning. What's up?
- Sorry but you'll have to chat to my workmate about it.
- Fancy going out tonight?
- This is well out of order.
- This is a joke!

5 Discussion

- What do you like/dislike about your computer at home/work?
- What programs do you run on your computer? What do you use them for?
- What's your favourite / least favourite program or software? Why?

ROAD IDIOMS

THIS MONTH, WE ARE LOOKING AT SOME "ROAD-RELATED" IDIOMS.



Reach the end of the road / Be the end of the road

TO BE THE END OF A SITUATION OR PROCESS.
 "After he found out that she was cheating on him, it was the end of the road for their relationship."



Let's get this show on the road

SOMETHING YOU SAY IN ORDER TO TELL PEOPLE THAT YOU WANT TO START AN ACTIVITY OR A JOURNEY URGENTLY.
 "We've got less than 2 hours to get this room ready for the party, so let's get this show on the road."



Be right up/down someone's alley

TO BE PERFECT FOR SOMEONE; TO BE JUST THE SORT OF THING THAT SOMEONE LIKES TO DO.
 "This job should be right up your alley."



Be a dead-end job

IF YOU DESCRIBE A JOB AS A "DEAD-END JOB", YOU ARE SAYING THAT IT IS A JOB WITH NO FUTURE PROSPECTS.
 "I was stuck in a dead-end job with no hope of getting promoted."



At a crossroads

AT THE POINT WHERE A DECISION MUST BE MADE.
 "We're at a crossroads here where we must choose between continuing as we are, or completely changing our way of doing things."



Your road to Damascus

A VERY IMPORTANT EXPERIENCE WHICH CHANGES YOUR WHOLE LIFE.
 "It was a chance meeting in a bar that she would later describe as her road to Damascus."



Watch & Learn!
Listen to two people discussing
this topic in a mini-video at
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Refer to unit 6 of your
Advanced Skills Booklet
for more explanations and
exercises.



PR Disasters

Making friends and influencing people. Or not.

1 Pre-reading

What PR disasters do you think these people/companies were involved in?

1. The Titanic
2. Sony (for its Play Station Portable console)
3. The Beatles
4. McDonald's

2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. Is it certain that the Titanic was described as "unsinkable"? How do you know?
2. Did Sony have permission to paint on the buildings?
3. What were the consequences in financial terms of Sony's PR campaign?
4. Did Lennon manage to stop the negative publicity by apologizing?
5. Did the judge in the McLibel case rule exclusively in favour of McDonald's?
6. What does the writer feel McDonald's should have done about the pamphlet?

4 Language focus

Metaphorical expressions

Look at this extract from the article, "The Beatles' tour of the USA in 1964 has passed into history as a milestone in the story of rock music."

The writer has used the word "milestone" metaphorically to refer to a turning point or important event (literally, a "milestone" is a marker on a roadside to indicate a distance from a given point). What do the following extracts with metaphorical words/expressions mean?

1. ...any attempts at free publicity can **backfire** spectacularly.
2. ...they were **not stepping out of line**.
3. The comment **unleashed** a PR disaster.
4. Our final example involves burger giants McDonald's who unwittingly **sparked off** a PR disaster...
5. ...and it is easy to **tarnish** your public image without ever meaning to.

5 Discussion

1. Which of the PR disasters from this page is the worst? Why?
2. Have there been any major PR disasters in your country? What were they about?
3. What can be done to avoid PR disasters of this magnitude?

What's the cheapest way for a company to get publicity? PR (Public Relations)! But if it goes wrong, any attempts at free publicity can backfire spectacularly. History is full of memorable examples.



One of the greatest PR disasters of all time was The Titanic – the "unsinkable" liner which promptly sank on its maiden voyage. Since then, companies have been wary about describing their products in such extreme language. Interestingly, there is a debate over whether in fact anyone had described the ship as unsinkable at all. Many claim that the ship was only described as "unsinkable" after she sank, although three trade papers did use the expression "practically unsinkable". In the end, the fallout from the sinking was not as bad as might have been expected; and the Titanic's sister ship, the Olympic, enjoyed a long and successful career despite the tragedy.



In 2005, Sony was responsible for a genuinely misdirected PR campaign for its Play Station Portable console. As part of the marketing campaign, the technology giant hired graffiti artists to paint images of the PSP on buildings around America. Unfortunately, the press and members of the public hated the campaign and accused the company of defacing property. In fact, the company had rented all the spaces that were painted on, and they were not stepping out of line. But the damage had been done and the product became associated with what some believed was an anti-social marketing strategy. This contributed to the company's surprisingly poor performance in 2005.



The Beatles' tour of the USA in 1964 has passed into history as a milestone in the story of rock music. It was a carefully controlled PR campaign that started out extremely well. However, that all changed when John Lennon was quoted as saying that Christianity was dying out and that The Beatles were "bigger than Jesus". The comment unleashed a PR disaster. Many young Americans, especially in the southern states, were outraged at Lennon's comments, and Beatles' records were banned from radio stations and burned at large bonfires. Even after Lennon (who had been quoted out of context) apologised, a backlash continued for some time. Of course, in the long term, it didn't seem to harm the group's popularity much, perhaps proving that what Lennon had said was in fact true.



Our final example involves burger giants McDonald's who unwittingly sparked off a PR disaster with the so-called McLibel case. In 1986 an environmental group, London Greenpeace, published a pamphlet with the title *What's Wrong with McDonalds: Everything they don't want you to know* that was extremely critical of the fast food chain. Although the pamphlet was not widely distributed, McDonald's decided to investigate the publishers, and in 1990 they sued five of the environmentalists for libel, saying that their claims were untrue. In the end, McDonald's won their case, although the judge allowed that some of London Greenpeace's claims had some foundation in truth. However, McDonald's received years of negative publicity as the case became much more widely known than if the American chain had ignored it in the first place.

The Irish writer Brendan Behan may have claimed, "There's no such thing as bad publicity..." but it seems as if bad PR is a very real phenomenon. ✪





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this topic in a mini-video at
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READING I

The Curse of Sports

The rise of the professional cheat.

by Simon Thomas



1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Look at the list of sports below. Can you think of a recent scandal related to any of these sports?

- a) Football (soccer)
- b) Formula One racing
- c) Rugby
- d) Ice skating
- e) Golf
- f) American football
- g) Basketball
- h) Athletics



2 Reading I

Read the article once. Do they mention any of the scandals that you thought of?

3 Reading II

Read the article again and complete the sentences.

1. Flavio Briatore has been banned from...
2. He told his teams' second driver to...
3. Nancy Kerrigan was...
4. The world of golf was shocked when...
5. American professor William Morgan thinks that...
6. Stephen J Dubner thinks that cheating...

4 Language focus

The Present Perfect Passive

Look at this extract from the article, "But now he's been banned for life from motor sport..." The speaker has used a Present Perfect Passive expression. Transform the following expressions from the active voice to the passive voice.

1. They have cleaned the glasses.
2. She has sent the e-mails.
3. We have finished the work.
4. He has written the book.
5. They have prepared the food.

5 Discussion

1. Had you heard of any of these scandals before? What else do you know about them?
2. What do you think of cheating in the world of sport? Is it harming it?
3. What can be done to stop cheating in sports?

Have you heard about any sports scandals recently? Did they involve **cheating**? These days, there seem to be more professional cheats than ever before. And some experts think that it's killing sport.

Cheating can certainly kill your career. Take Flavio Briatore, for example. He was once the head of Renault's Formula One driving team. But now he's been **banned** for life from motor sport for his part in **fixing** the Singapore Grand Prix in 2008. During the race, Briatore thought that their number-one driver (Fernando Alonso) was in danger of not winning the race. So, he told his team's second driver, Nelson Piquet Jr, to deliberately crash his car. When Piquet crashed his car, the safety car came on and all the other drivers had to **slow down**, and then most of them had to **refuel**. Meanwhile, Alonso (who was unaware that the crash was deliberate and who had a full **tank** of petrol) **overtook** the other cars and went on to win the race.

But you can find cheats in other sports, too. Do you remember the Tonya Harding scandal from back in 1994? Harding was a successful American ice skater, but she feared that her biggest rival, Nancy Kerrigan, would win the US Figure Skating Championships. So, Harding's ex-husband (Jeff Gillooly) and her bodyguard (Shawn Eckhardt) contracted another man (Shane Stant) to attack Kerrigan and hit her on the knee. Stant did this and as a result Kerrigan had to **pull out of** the competition, which Harding won. In another incident, the polite world of golf was shocked when a golfer was suspended for allegedly taking steroids. And in a further case of cheating, rugby player Tom Williams was given a four-month ban from professional rugby. During a match, spectators saw Williams leave the **pitch** with blood **pouring** from his mouth. Apparently, he had been told to bite on a **fake blood pill** so the coach could **bring on** a better player. The coach thought a substitute could help them win the game. He was banned for three years.

So, is all this cheating killing sports? American professor William Morgan seems to think so, "The way things are headed now, **we're set up for** a major crash... The whole sports system is **on the verge of** blowing up in everyone's faces." And Wayne Drehs, a journalist for the ESPN sports network, wrote, "Sports have always been a way to connect us to our past and to build optimism about the future... But now the games that are supposed to teach character, discipline and teamwork are teaching cheating." But not everyone agrees. In an essay for the New York Times Stephen J Dubner argues that cheating might actually be good for sports. "Perhaps cheating actually adds a layer of interest to sport", he wrote. "A **cat-and-mouse element**, a detective-story element that complements the game." Although we **pretend** that sports cheats ruin the game, we secretly find the possibility of cheating very exciting. So, whether you like it or not, it looks like cheating seems to be here to stay. ☆

GLOSSARY

- to cheat** *vb*
to do something dishonest/illegal in a game
- to ban** *vb*
to prohibit
- to fix** *vb*
if someone "fixes" a game, they use tricks to affect the result
- to slow down** *phr vb*
to drive more slowly
- to refuel** *vb*
to put more petrol/diesel in a car
- a tank** *n*
the container for petrol/diesel in a car
- to overtake** *vb*
to pass a vehicle that is driving in the same direction as you
- to pull out** *phr vb*
to stop participating in a competition
- a pitch** *n*
the area of grass on which a sport is played
- to pour** *vb*
if blood is "pouring", it is falling quickly
- fake** *adj*
not real
- a blood pill** *n*
a little container for imitation blood
- a coach** *n*
a sports trainer
- to bring on** *phr vb*
if the coach "brings on" a player, the coach tells that player to go onto the pitch in order to play in a game
- we're set up for X** *exp*
X is going to happen to us
- on the verge of** *exp*
if something is "on the verge of happening", it is going to happen soon
- a cat-and-mouse element** *n*
a game/situation in which one person is trying to catch another
- to pretend** *vb*
to act as if something is true even though it isn't

READING II

Red-Facebook

The hidden hazards of modern social networking.

by Sam Gordon

1 Pre-reading ANSWERS ON PAGE 451

What can you do on social networking sites? Use the prompts below to think of as many ideas as you can.

friends, profile, e-mail, search, ads, photos, games, blog, privacy settings, chat rooms, instant messaging, classifieds, books, school, tags, bulletin board, groups, music, mobile

You can meet people.
You can get in touch with friends.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. What are the pros and cons of Facebook?

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

- How many Facebook users are there?
- What doesn't Holly Barnes like about the "Compare Friends" application?
- Why do you think she says the application is "sadistic"?
- What did Kevin want to do?
- What excuse did he give for not going to work?
- What happened to him as a result?
- How did Alex and Vanessa get in trouble?
- Why was Brad's girlfriend so angry with him?

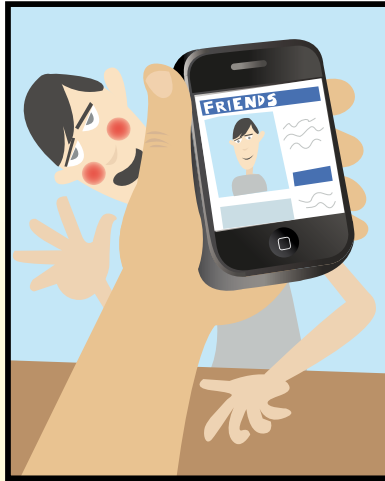
4 Language focus Prepositions and the gerund

Look at this extract from the article, "...you have to manually opt out of notifying your friends..." Notice the use of the gerund after the preposition "of" ("notifying"). Complete the sentences with your own ideas. Use a verb in the gerund.

- I'm thinking about...
- I'm looking forward to...
- I believe in...
- I dreamt about...
- I often worry about...

5 Discussion

- Have you got any social-networking stories similar to these ones? What are they?
- Do you know of any other dangers related to social networking sites? What are they?
- What are the benefits of socialising online? And the disadvantages?



Find old friends, meet people, date, get a job. Facebook offers you a whole world of opportunity. Social networking has never been faster or easier. But is it a good thing?

"It's my e-mail, diary, address book and photo album **all rolled into one**", says enthusiastic user Mia Saunders. But Mia isn't alone. Estimates for total users of Facebook range from 57 million right up to 300 million. In fact, Facebook is growing so quickly that by the time you read this, those figures will probably be out of date.

But as with most things, there's a **downside**. "I lost a good friend thanks to Facebook,"

explained Holly Barnes. "I used the Facebook application 'Compare Friends'. It's supposed to be a 'fun' game that asks questions about five friends on your list and then gives them a rank and rating. One of the questions was, 'Who smells better?' I did it and then the results were sent out automatically to all my friends. Of course, the people who came last were **not amused**. But it wasn't my fault, the way it's **set up**, you have to **manually opt out of** notifying your friends of your choices. It's **pretty** sadistic when you think about it." Seems like in this case, social networking with Facebook **caused a bit of a stink**.

Facebook can also cause you problems at work. Take Kevin - a young worker at a bank in Boston. He was desperate to go to a friend's Halloween party. The big problem was that it was on a weeknight. But Kevin decided this was one party he couldn't **miss**. So, he carefully prepared his excuse and told his bosses that he had to go back to New York for a few days because of a "family matter". Kevin thought he was **home and dry** and it turned out to be a great party. Only problem was his boss, a Facebook "friend", had a look at Kevin's profile at the weekend and saw pictures of Kevin at the party dressed as a green **fairy** with a **magic wand**. When Kevin came back to work on Monday he found this e-mail in his in-box (with a photo attached and the entire company **copied in**), "Kevin, hope everything was OK in New York. Cool wand! Cheers, Paul." For Kevin, the fairy tale was over and he lost his job.

There's also a danger of sharing your photos. When Alex and Vanessa went on holiday to the Bahamas they caught an Iguana and then had a beach barbecue with it. But it turns out the Iguana is on the endangered species list and when the authorities saw the pictures, Alex and Vanessa **were in for a serious grilling**.

Brad Barker from Australia was initially enthusiastic about Facebook. "I met my girlfriend from Australia through Facebook. She came over to live with me. At the time, I was friends with another girl, nothing more. One day, my friend sent me some holiday pictures of her in a bikini. My girlfriend found them and went crazy. Now she lives in Australia again!"

So, as you can see, Facebook can make your life a lot easier - or a lot more complicated! ✨

GLOSSARY

- all rolled into one** *exp*
all combined into one thing
- the downside** *n*
the negative aspect of something
- not amused** *exp*
not happy about something
- set up** *exp*
the way that something is "set up" is the way that it is organised/staged/prepared
- manually** *adv*
if something is operated "manually", you need to do something with it because it is not automatic
- to opt out of** *exp*
if you "opt out of something", you decide not to participate in it or use it
- pretty (good)** *exp*
quite (good)
- to cause a bit of a stink** *exp inform*
to create a bit of a scandal
- to miss** *vb*
if you "miss" something, you don't go to it
- home and dry** *exp*
safe and secure
- a fairy** *n*
a small magical female creature with wings
- a wand** *n*
a magic stick
- to copy in** *exp*
to include people in a list of e-mail addresses (cc)
- (they) were in for something** *exp*
(they) were going to receive...
- a serious grilling** *exp inform*
if you receive a "serious grilling", someone speaks to you angrily

PHRASAL VERB THEMES

The News

HERE ARE SOME TYPICAL PHRASAL VERBS THAT YOU CAN FIND IN NEWS ARTICLES. MORE NEXT MONTH.

GO OFF (A BOMB)
TO EXPLODE.



"THE BOMB WENT OFF AT 6 PM."

FLARE UP (VIOLENCE)
TO BECOME WORSE AND MORE WIDESPREAD.



"VIOLENCE FLARED UP AFTER THE GOVERNMENT ARRESTED THE OPPOSITION LEADER."

BRING DOWN (A GOVERNMENT)
TO CAUSE A GOVERNMENT TO CRASH.



"THE REVOLTS BROUGHT DOWN THE GOVERNMENT."

LEAK OUT (NEWS)

IF NEWS IS "LEAKED OUT", SOMEONE LETS THE PUBLIC KNOW ABOUT IT - OFTEN IN ORDER TO EMBARRASS OR HARM ANOTHER PERSON.



"NEWS WAS LEAKED OUT ABOUT THE PLANS FOR PRIVATISATION."

CRACK DOWN ON
IF THE POLICE OR AN AUTHORITY "CRACK DOWN ON" A GROUP OF PEOPLE, THEY BECOME STRICTER IN MAKING THE GROUP OBEY LAWS/RULES.



"THE GOVERNMENT HAVE DECIDED TO CRACK DOWN ON DRUG DEALERS."

BREAK OUT (WAR)
TO START



"WAR BROKE OUT LAST MONTH AFTER NEGOTIATIONS BROKE DOWN."

BREAK OFF (TALKS)
IF ONE PARTY "BREAKS OFF" TALKS, THEY STOP NEGOTIATING.



"THE INDEPENDENT MOVEMENT DECIDED TO BREAK OFF TALKS AFTER MONTHS OF NEGOTIATING WITH THE GOVERNMENT."

BREAK OUT (OF PRISON)
TO ESCAPE FROM PRISON.



"MORE THAN 60 PRISONERS BROKE OUT OF THE HIGH-SECURITY PRISON LAST NIGHT."



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TAPESCRIPTS & BAR CHATS

Job Quiz (track 8)

Listen to the quiz and guess the job.

Bernie: Hello, good evening, and welcome. I'm Bernie Foreman and it's time to play "What on earth do you do?" the game show for people with unusual jobs. Our guest can only answer "yes" or "no" and our celebrities only have 2 minutes to find out what he does. So let's play "What on Earth do you do?" First question, Wendy?

Wendy: Do you work at home?

Fred: No, I don't.

Bernie: Hard luck, Wendy. Tommy, have you got a question?

Tommy: How long have you done your job?

Bernie: Sorry, Tommy. Fred can only answer "yes" or "no". You'll have to ask another question.

Tommy: Oh yeah. How many years have you done this job, Fred?

Bernie: That's still not a yes/no question, Tommy?

Tommy: Oh, right. So, have you done this job for more than a year?

Fred: Yes, I have.

Bernie: Professor Armstrong.

John: Have you been to university, Fred?

Fred: Yes, I have.

Bernie: Your go again, Wendy.

Wendy: Do you work in an office?

Fred: No, I don't.

Tommy: Have you done this job for more than 2 years?

Fred: Yes, I have.

John: Is your job scientific?

Fred: Yes, it is.

Bernie: Wendy.

Wendy: Do you work in a shop?

Fred: No, I don't.

Tommy: Have you done this job for more than 3 years?

Fred: Yes, I have.

John: Are you a teacher?

Fred: No, I'm not.

Wendy: Do you work in a school?

Fred: Erm... no, I don't.

Tommy: Have you done this job for more than 3 years?

Bernie: You've already asked that question, Tommy.

Tommy: Oh sorry. Have you done this job for more than 4 years?

Fred: Yes, I have.

Bernie: Your question, Professor.

John: Is your job medical?

Fred: Yes, it is.

Wendy: Do you work in a hotel?

Fred: No, I don't.

Bernie: OK, you've got 30 seconds left. We know Fred has a medical job and that he's had his job for more than 4 years. Come on celebrities, you don't want Fred to win the £1 million, do you? Your go, Tommy.

Tommy: Have you done this job for more than 5 years?

Fred: No, I haven't.

Tommy: Aha. I think I know what he does. He's a footballer.

Bernie: No, Tommy, you're the footballer. Fred's a medical scientist. Professor, can you help? Do you work with sick people?

John: No, I don't.

Fred: No, I don't.

Wendy: Are you a famous pop singer?

Fred: No, I'm not.

Tommy: Are you a famous actor?

Fred: No, I'm not.

John: Do you help sick animals?

Fred: Yes, I do.

Bernie: OK. So, Wendy this is the last question. If you don't guess Fred's job now, he will win £1 million. We know he works with sick animals. So, what's your last question?

Wendy: Are you a dog psychologist?

Fred: Yes, I am. How did you guess?

Wendy: I have a psychologist for my Labrador, Ken. He thinks he's an Alsatian.

Bernie: Well, that was incredible. Well done, Wendy, and hard luck, Fred. Join us again next time to see if anyone can beat the panel on "What on Earth do you do?". Good night.

Radio Adverts (track 12)

Genuine trade fair radio ads.

AD1: Wedding Fair Ad

Man: (in a panic) What are we going to do?

Woman: (calm) What's wrong?

Man: We're getting married in three months and we haven't organised anything.

Woman: Don't worry.

Man: How can you say 'don't worry'?

Woman: You haven't got a dress. I haven't got a suit. We haven't sent out the invitations. We haven't booked our honeymoon. We haven't even ordered a cake. It's going to be a disaster.

Woman: No, it's not.

Man: What's wrong? Don't you care?

Woman: Because we're going to The National Wedding Show.

Man: The National Wedding Show? What's that?

Woman: It's the biggest wedding fair in the UK. Everything we need will be there. Wedding dress designers, limousine hire, travel agents for honeymoons even caterers for the cake.

Man: When is it?

Woman: All next week. From the 14th to the 19th of May.

Man: Where?

Woman: At the Earls Court Exhibition Centre, London. Starts Monday at 9.30am.

Man: You're wonderful! I'm so glad we're getting married.

Woman: In fact I've just had an idea.

Man: What?

Woman: Let's get married next week at Earls Court. It'll be so easy.

AD2: Language Learning Advert

Announcer 1: Do you wish you could speak a foreign language? Do you get embarrassed when you travel abroad? Do you need to improve your language skills for work? If your answer to even one of these questions is "yes", then you need to come to NECA EXPO. Yes, Neca Expo is back. It's bigger and better than ever. There are more exhibitors, more schools and colleges, and more students than ever before. Study here or abroad, there's a course for every one at Neca Expo. So, if you want to learn Spanish, come to Neca Expo. If you want to start Chinese, come to Neca Expo. If you want to improve your English, come to Neca Expo.

Announcer 2: NECA EXPO. From 13th - 17th April, Orange County Convention Centre, Orlando, Florida. Part of Universal Studios, Florida.

AD3: Record & CD Fair

Man: Excuse me, have you got "Frozen Blood" by Crispy Ambulance?

Assistant 1: No. Sorry mate.

Man: Oh well. Thank you.

Man: Excuse me, I'm looking for a copy of "Frozen Blood" by Crispy Ambulance.

Assistant 2: Never heard of it.

Man: Oh, all right then.

Man: Excuse me, I wonder if you've got the CD "Frozen Blood" by Crispy Ambulance.

Assistant 3: (mocking laughter) Crispy Ambulance! You must be joking. No one's bought one of those for twenty years.

Man: Thank you for your help.

Assistant 3: (more laughter)

Man: Excuse me, did you say you wanted "Frozen Blood" by Crispy Ambulance?

Yes, that's right.

Woman: You should go to the VIP Record and CD Fair.

Man: Really?

Woman: Yes, listen.

Announcer: Come to the VIP Record and CD Fair - the best music collectors' event in the north of England. Over 100 tables full of music. We've got everything from Abba to the Zootons, from Bob Marley to Beethoven, and from Crispy Moore to Crispy Ambulance. Our next fair is Saturday 22nd September, at the Sashes Hotel, Tib Street, Piccadilly, Manchester. Entrance fee just £3. Whatever you're looking for, come and ask us. And we won't laugh at you - promise!

Jokes (track 13)

- Patient:** Doctor! Doctor! I keep losing my memory.
Doctor: When did you first notice that?
Patient: When did I first notice what?
- Question:** What do you give an injured lemon?
Answer: Lemonade!
- Child:** Do biscuits have legs?
Mum: No.
Child: Oh, I've eaten a cockroach.
- Question:** Which part of a dog smells the best?
Answer: Its nose.
- Question:** What is at the centre of gravity?
Answer: The letter v
- Question:** From which five-letter word can you take two letters and have only one left?
Answer: "Stone" - if you take off "s" and "t", you still have the word "one" left.
- Question:** What did one eye say to the other?
Answer: There's something between us that smells.
- Question:** Which month has twenty eight days?
Answer: They all have.

British Bar Chat (track 21)

Facebook

Ted: So, erm, yeah, I decided to come off Facebook, yeah, I was spending too much time on it, it's just ridiculous, I was like, you know, I signed up 'cause just recently I went to a school reunion

so I was like really into seeing my on mates and everything.

Brian: Yeah?

Ted: So I signed up and, mmm, but it gets like really addicted, I was, like, I was supposed to be working, don't tell my boss,

Brian: Ah, ha.

Ted: ... and it was, like, you know, every 5 minutes just going on line to see if anyone responded to my message and things like that.

Brian: Yeah, yeah, I know what you mean. I was really into my Facebook when I first joined Facebook, and I used to spend hours on it hours and hours, you know, chatting with your friends doing all these activities and quizzes and things like that.

Ted: Yes, it's really addictive, yeah, I mean, but, you know, and it was good because I was speaking to a lot of people but those are strangers because there are people there that I haven't seen for like 25 years and I probably wasn't really that good friends with them before but they were like sending me these e-mails saying oh good, good to hear from you and things, you don't know what to say.

Brian: It can be a bit embarrassing, can't it, sometimes, you know, people who you think was I really friends with that person or, you know, were they more of a friend of a friends, an acquaintance and you feel like you're rude if, if you don't reply to them but ...

Ted: Yeah, I was even like talking to people that I probably didn't even like at the time like, I know there was this girl called, er, Flea, she was like this wacky girl, she had pink hair and everything.

Brian: Oh yeah?

Ted: ... and I was, end up like sending e-mails to her and I was thinking why am I talking to her, I didn't even like her when she was in school.

US Bar Chat (track 22)

Winter Fashion

Emily: All right, you know what I was really wondering, I was wondering...

Amanda: Yeah?

Emily: You know for, it's a holiday season, etc, always fashion is such a big problem. What do you think about it?

Amanda: You mean like the winter season?

Emily: Yeah, for example,

Amanda: For clothes?

Emily: ... exactly, so what do you normally wear for winter?

Amanda: Well, I don't like these really bulky jackets 'cause they make me feel like a big bear.

OK.

Emily: I'd rather use a warm coat.

Amanda: OK, do you ever wear turtle-necks?

Emily: Yes, I like them very much.

Amanda: You do? I hate turtle-necks, they always sort of choke me around my neck. If I could get rid of them, I would cut them all off.

Emily: Oh, really? No, I like it, I like them very much.

Amanda: Do you?

Emily: I do. I like them, yeah.

Emily: So, heavy coats, you don't like heavy coats?

Amanda: No, no but it does have to be a coat that keeps me warm but not these, like, you know, these big, big jackets.

OK, OK.

Emily: Not so much.

Amanda: What about leg warmers? Are you a leg warmer person?

Emily: No, definitely not, definitely not and actually it might be very cold I would never wear a hat.

Emily: You wouldn't?

Amanda: No, no.

Emily: So you don't like hat hair or because it makes your head itch or what?

Amanda: No, but actually the hat hair which you mentioned, yeah, I didn't like it. In fact, I've never worn a hat.

Emily: OK. You've never worn a hat.

Amanda: And it can get really cold and I will not wear a hat. No, ha, ha. And it's true!

Office Problems (track 24)

Office-related misdemeanours and how to deal with them.

Do you know anyone who's been dismissed recently? What did they do? Did they break company policy? Was it for something illegal? We asked a few people for their stories.

Speaker 1: I heard about this guy in accounts who was fiddling his expenses. He was claiming for receipts that he'd collected from friends and family and their trips to restaurants and things like that. Also, when he went on business trips he often stayed in cheap hostels, but put in bills for four-star hotels. I guess that's pretty serious. I don't know what happened to him, but I think they

should sack people for doing things like that, don't you?

Speaker 1: There was this woman I heard about who was working in the archive library for a music company. Apparently, she was running her own little pirate CD business from the department, supplying street vendors with illegal copies of the CDs and dealing with them during work time. Management called in the police as it was a criminal matter. I think she got a few months in prison for that.

Speaker 1: I heard about this guy who was a pretty heavy drinker. He had a supply of booze under his desk and would regularly get through a bottle of whisky or vodka during the day. You can't have people like that in the office. I think they should carry out tests on people to check they aren't taking alcohol or drugs at work.

Speaker 1: I heard about this woman who was writing a book while she was at work. She was using the office photocopier to print drafts of it, too. Apparently, she was working on it for about six months before anyone realised. I can't imagine how no one noticed, but I guess she must have been stuck away in some quiet corner all on her own with very little supervision. I think they should sack her because she isn't really doing her job properly.

Speaker 1: I heard about this managing director who'd been caught out lying on his CV. He'd been at the company for about 20 years and had risen up through the ranks to get to the top position. According to his CV, he'd studied at Cambridge University and got a business degree from there. However, during a party, he got drunk and spilled the beans, telling one of his deputies about it. Later, she informed the president. The guy was due to retire that year and the company had done really well under his leadership, so they didn't do anything about it. But I think they should set an example and take his pension away or fire him or something like that.

Speaker 1: There was this woman in marketing who got the sack for taking a day off work without permission. She called in sick, but someone found pictures of her on her Facebook page that showed her at a party on the day she was supposed to be at home. Honestly, I don't think people should get the sack for that, although I will admit it's a bit dishonest. Everyone should have 3 or 4 days that they can have off whenever they want. That might stop them having to lie or invent excuses about not coming in when they want to do something else.

Accent Alert (track 25)

Well, I suppose the vowels are a bit more elongated, you know. We tend to dwell on the sound a bit more. Erm, what else is there? I suppose there's the 'u' sound. You know, if you say 'you' in English whereas in South Wales we say 'ew'. "Did 'ew' see that film last night?" [Oh, I see, whereas, we would say, "Did you see that film last night?"] Exactly, exactly. And we tend to roll our 'r's' a little bit as well. [OK.] Sort of like the Scottish. Er, "Did you see the marvellous rugby match the other day?"

Erm, well they tend to be the main differences, er, in terms of vowel sounds, but I think that the differences aside from the vowels then with vocabulary. Well, we say "but" instead of "friend" or "mate." Er, we say "bard" instead of "sick" or "ill." Er, we say "mum" instead of "man." All of this is very common in South Wales. We say "tup" which means "stupid." As in, "You're a bit tup." Er, what else do we say? We say "bayur" and "baythere." Er, for example, if a bag is in a corner of a room, in standard English you would say "The bag is there" or "The bag is here"; whereas in, in Welsh we would say, "It's over bayur" or "over baythere." [Oh, very interesting.]

But could I just say that we don't say "look you". The English tend to think that we say "look you" and, and that's nonsense it's simply not true. I blame Shakespeare because it's in a Shakespeare play, you see, and he thinks that we all spoke like that and it's just not true.

Well, I, I suppose the accent itself is quite sing-songy, it's quite up and down. Much like the Welsh themselves, you see. They're never, they're never sort of in the middle. They see either, either go to the sort of top or the bottom. And the language itself reflects that, I think, whereas standard English is much flatter.

Technical Complaint (track 28)

A customer tries to get a computer fixed.

Assistant 1: Good morning, can I help you?

Customer: Well, I'm really sorry to bother you but it's about this laptop.

Assistant 1: (sounding cagey) Yes?

Customer: Well, you see there's a problem with the...

Assistant 1: Oh, I see. I'm afraid you'll need to talk to my colleague Ms Hardacre at the next desk about that. I can't deal with technological problems.

ANSWERS

Customer: Oh.
Assistant 1: So, if you'd like to take a seat, my colleague will be happy to help you just as soon as she's free.
Customer: Oh, right. Thank you.
Assistant 1: Just take a seat. She'll be right with you.
Assistant 2: Good morning, sir. What's the problem?
Customer: Yes, well, I've got a problem with this laptop and I was hoping that you might be able to help me.
Assistant 2: Well, let's see shall we? Now what's the problem?
Customer: Well, it's the screen... (phone rings)
Assistant 2: Excuse me, sir. Oh, hello darling. No, no, now's fine. I'm not busy. Hold on a minute though. I'm terribly sorry, sir, but I'm going to have to take this call. It's very urgent. Why don't you explain your little problem to my colleague, Mr Smotherfield? Just take a seat and he'll be free in a minute or two, I'm sure.
Customer: But I spoke to him earlier and he sent me to you.
Assistant 2: (talking into the phone) Hello darling, I'm back. So what time is the film on? [fades out]
Assistant 1: Good morning, can I help you?
Customer: Yes, I spoke to you a couple of minutes ago about...
Assistant 1: Did you?
Customer: Yes, I did. Anyway, it's about my...
Assistant 1: Now have you tried turning it on?
Customer: Well, yes I have, but you see...
Assistant 1: OK. And have you tried plugging it in?
Customer: Yes, of course. The problem is...
Assistant 1: Hmm, it sounds like an advanced technology problem. I'm afraid you'll need to talk to my colleague.
Customer: What! I thought you said you'd done the course.
Assistant 1: Yes, I've done the technology course. But I haven't done the advanced technology course yet. Come back in two months and I'll be able to help you.
Customer: And meanwhile?
Assistant 1: One of our technical service and support engineers will be with you in the next twenty minutes. [30 minutes later]
Engineer: Hello? What's the problem?
Customer: This laptop's broken.
Engineer: How do you know?
Customer: The screen's cracked.
Engineer: Cracked screen? Can't help you, mate. You'll need to change it for another one.
Customer: That's what I've been trying to do for the past hour.
Engineer: Then I don't know why you're wasting your time. I fix things, I don't change them. You need to talk to a customer services assistant.
Customer: But they told me to talk to you.
Engineer: Well, they were wrong.
Customer: Honestly. This is ridiculous.
Engineer: Don't take it out on me. Wasn't my mistake. Talk to Mr Smotherfield here.
Assistant 1: Good morning, can I help you?
Customer: Yes, you can. You can change this laptop immediately.
Assistant 1: What's wrong with it?
Customer: The screen's broken.
Assistant 1: How do you know?
Customer: Because there's a great big crack in it.
Assistant 1: I see. Am I right in thinking that you removed the laptop from its box?
Customer: Yes, how else would I know if it's broken?
Assistant 1: Unfortunately, sir, this means that you have broken the terms of our non-transferable package displacement policy.
Customer: What?
Assistant 1: By removing the product from its box you have waived the right to have it replaced, sir.
Customer: I don't believe this. You cannot be serious.
Assistant 1: The policy is quite clearly stated on the back of your receipt, sir. If you look through this magnifying glass, I think you'll find that we're quite within our rights.
Customer: But this is written in Greek.
Assistant 1: We're owned by a Greek company, sir.
Customer: So you won't change the laptop?
Assistant 1: It's not a case of "won't", sir. It's a case of "can't".
Customer: This is outrageous. I'm going to talk to a lawyer.
Assistant 1: Very well, sir. Before you go could I just ask you to complete this feedback form?
Customer: Pardon?
Assistant 1: This feedback form. It asks you about the standards of customer care in our store. We're always trying to put the customer first, you know.

Off the Cuff (track 34)

Question: What's in your wardrobe?

Yeah, well, usual things really, T-shirts, shirts, well actually, yeah, I usually put my shirts in my drawer and I hang up my shirts but sometimes my T-shirts end up getting hung up, er, I don't know why, and my trousers, I've got a couple of suits, hmm, this summer I got a new, sort of new linen suit I quite like where I put it on now and then, hmm, I've got all my shoes, they're all sort of thrown on the floor in the wardrobe, I should really get a, sort somewhere, where to put them really but they're just like I throw on the floor, it takes me like half an hour in the morning to find pairs, well I haven't got that many shoes, but anyway it takes a while to find a pair and I've got, you know, my favorite shirts, all, but most of my favorite shirts are the really old ones, ones I've had for ages, and erm, all the new ones, the ones I'm not that keen on putting on, so it's been a chore in the morning trying to decide what to put on, but, er, that's what's in my wardrobe.

Well, we've got three wardrobes built into the wall, erm, but two of the wardrobes I've given to my girlfriend so I've only got one of the wardrobes which doesn't seem fair, she's got more clothes than me, but my clothes are bigger and they take up more space, erm, in my wardrobe, well, I've just got all the normal things, trousers, shirts, I try to hang up my trousers, hang up my shirts, hang up my jackets, erm, my T-shirts just end up just going in anywhere there's space really. Usually the things that I don't wear very often are right at the back of my wardrobe and the things that I'm wearing all the time are right in the front where I can get to them. In fact, I've got even less space in my wardrobe at the moment 'cause I've given the middle shelf to my cat and it just spends all its time asleep on my dressing gown on the middle shelf.

Answers

World Facts (page 4)

- 1 Pre-reading**
 1c 2b 3d 4c 5b
3 Reading II
 1. The time the British drink tea in the afternoon.
 2. The amount of tea the Chinese drink.
 3. The amount of gold the Chinese produce.
 4. The amount of coffee beans the Brazilians produce.
 5. The GDP per head in Luxembourg.
 6. The number of bottles of champagne the people in Guadeloupe drink.
4 Language focus
 1. nicest; 2. highest; 3. tastiest; 4. most boring; 5. worst

The Ig Nobels (Page 5)

- 3 Reading II**
 1. chemistry; 2. diamonds; 3. public; 4. pregnant; 5. veterinary; 6. Stephan
4 Language focus
 1. She won the prize.
 2. They liked the game.
 3. The judges chose the winner.
 4. They did some research.
 5. We didn't know the answer.

Christmas Quiz (Page 7)

- 1a 2b 3b 4b 5b 6a 7a 8b 9a 10b
 11b 12a 13a 14a 15b

Vocabulary (Page 8)

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

Wacky Wardrobes (Page 10)

- 3 Reading II**
 1. clothes made from human hair; 2. the mankini; 3. gas masks; 4. iron clothes; 5. the Urban Security Suit; 6. pirate hats and big belts and boots; 7. gold jeans; 8. the "fun" military uniform
4 Language focus
 1. He made the clothes.
 2. The film inspired her.
 3. They didn't become popular.
 4. It didn't appear in fashion shows.
 5. He borrowed the idea.

Error Correction (Page 13)

1. We will be there in June.
 2. I did the exam in 2005.
 3. Christmas Day is on 25th December.
 4. I'll be there at 6.
 5. She'll come back in April.
 6. The concert starts at 8pm.

Job Quiz (Page 13)

- 1 Pre-listening**
 1h 2g 3f 4e 5d 6a 7b 8c
3 Listening II
 1. yes; 2. no; 3. yes; 4. no; 5. no; 6. yes; 7. no; 8. no
4 Language focus
 1. do you live; 2. do you get up; 3. do you have for breakfast; 4. do you leave; 5. do you

Grammar Fun (Page 14)

1. so; 2. such; 3. so; 4. such; 5. such; 6. so

Bryony's Blog (Page 15)

- 2 Reading I**
 1. 17th and 18th centuries.
 2. Three theories: they were mixed with a rooster or cock's tail feather; they were named after a Mexican princess; the name comes from the French word for egg cup.
 3. A vodka martini shaken not stirred.
 4. A drink with gin, lemon juice, sugar syrup, soda water and a slice of

- lemon.
 5. A champagne cocktail.
 6. With ice; chilled in the shaker and then strained.
 7. Charlie Chaplin, Mae West, Greta Garbo.
 8. Vodka and orange juice. Engineers mixed them with their screwdrivers.
 9. The Mint Julep.
 10. It is National Pina Colada Day.
4 Language focus
 1. The drinks are mixed with screwdrivers.
 2. The drinks are made with vodka and lemonade.
 3. The drink is stirred with a plastic stick.
 4. An umbrella is added to the drink.
 5. The cocktail is drunk during the horseracing event.

Plastic Obsession (Page 16)

- 1 Pre-reading**
 1e 2a 3f 4b 5g 6d 7h 8c
3 Reading II
 1. The number of bags used in 2007.
 2. The number of bags being used now.
 3. Where the Falkland Islands are.
 4. The time it takes for a plastic bag to decompose.
 5. The tax imposed on plastic bags.
 6. The number of bags the Irish were using before the tax.

Bird Talk (Page 17)

- 1 Pre-reading**
 1c 2g 3a 4d 5h 6e 7b 8f
3 Reading II
 1. To keep people informed of what she's up to.
 2. To speak directly to his fans.
 3. To tell people what he's doing.
 4. To share intimate personal revelations (although not written by himself).
 5. To inform people about his work as governor.
 6. In his campaign to be Democratic candidate for president.
 7. In his campaign to be mayor of London.
4 Language focus
 1. To let someone know about the latest news.
 2. To remain in contact with someone.
 3. To have something close to you so you can use it.
 4. Not to go in a place.

Radio Adverts (Page 19)

- 3 Listening II**
 1b 2c 3a 4c 5a 6a 7b
4 Language focus
 1. taller; 2. longer; 3. better; 4. worse; 5. more interesting

Last Writes (Page 26)

- 3 Reading II**
 1. Writing will only be legible to experts.
 2. 90%.
 3. They can't smudge with a computer.
 4. Illegible prescriptions are a thing of the past.
 5. It's harming our general levels of literacy.
 6. It will become a hobby.

Food Revolution (Page 27)

- 1 Pre-reading**
 1h 2a 3e 4g 5c 6f 7b 8d
3 Reading II
 1. snail porridge and bacon and egg ice cream; 2. emu meat and dragon fruit;
 3. blow their own trumpet; 4. sell their food in other countries; 5. a restaurant in Italy; 6. fully booked every night
4 Language focus (answers may vary)
 1. The film isn't as boring as the other one.
 2. This book isn't as interesting as the other one.
 3. I'm as tired as you.
 4. Writing on the computer isn't as

- complicated as writing by hand.
 5. Shopping online isn't as time-consuming as shopping in shops.

Strange Weather (Page 29)

- 1 Pre-reading**
 1h 2a 3b 4c 5g 6f 7e 8d
3 Reading II
 1. fish; 2. worms; 3. alligators; 4. some purple shapes; 5. because money fell from the sky; 6. tornadoes (possibly)
4 Language focus
 1. The money got taken to the bank.
 2. The windows got broken.
 3. The television got fixed.
 4. All the food got eaten.
 5. All the bills got paid.

Riddles (page 31)

- 1 Pre-reading**
 1. There are 2 "t"s in "that!"
 2. A hole!
 3. Your age!

Office Problems (page 33)

- 3 Listening II**
 1. Person 3; 2. Person 6; 3. Person 1; 4. Person 5; 5. Person 4; 6. Person 2.

Technical Complaint (page 37)

- 2 Listening I**
 The computer screen is cracked. The problem doesn't get resolved.
3 Listening II
 1. Because she's on the phone;
 2. Yes, he has; 3. No, he hasn't;
 4. A technical service and support engineer; 5. Because the customer removed the laptop from its box; 6. On the back of the receipt; it's too small to read.
4 Language focus (answers may vary)
 1. Good morning. What seems to be the problem?
 2. I'm afraid you will have to talk to my colleague about it.
 3. Would you like to go out tonight?
 4. This is unacceptable.
 5. This is outrageous.

PR Disasters (Page 39)

- 3 Reading II**
 1. There's a debate about it; 2. Yes; 3. A poor performance in 2005; 4. No; 5. No; 6. The writer seems to imply that they should have ignored it.
4 Language focus (answers may vary)
 1. backfire = to turn against you; 2. not doing anything illegal; 3. caused/created; 4. caused/created; 5. harm/damage

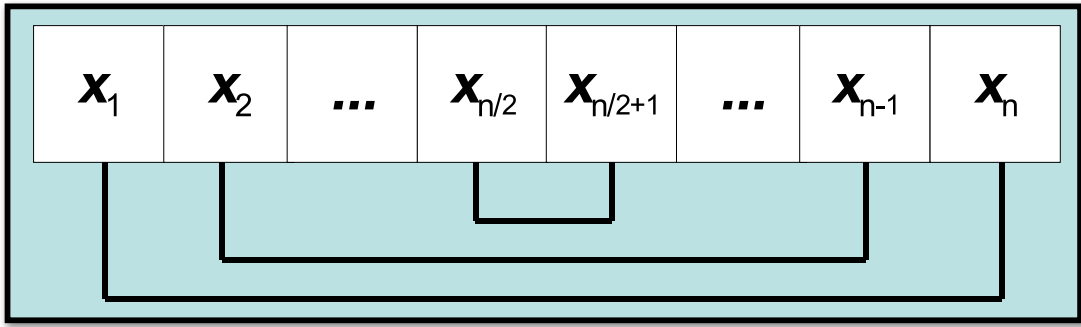
The Curse of Sports (page 40)

- 3 Reading II** (answers may vary)
 1. motor sport; 2. crash his car; 3. hit on the knee; 4. a golfer was suspended for taking steroids; 5. sport is in danger (it's in for a major crash); 6. may actually be good for sport
4 Language Focus
 1. The glasses have been cleaned.
 2. The e-mails have been sent.
 3. The work has been finished.
 4. The book has been written.
 5. The food has been prepared.

Red-Facebook (page 41)

- 3 Reading II** (answers may vary)
 1. anything from 57 to 300 million; 2. you have to manually opt out of it; 3. because it's upsetting for the person who comes in last; 4. go to a party; 5. he had a family matter to deal with; 6. he lost his job; 7. they caught and ate an iguana (an endangered species); 8. because his friend sent him pictures of her in a bikini.

WORD OF THE MONTH



Palindrome

THIS MONTH'S WORD OF THE MONTH IS... "PALINDROME".

Look at these words below. What do you think is special about them?

pop kayak civic radar level racecar

The thing is they're all palindromes. These are words that can be read forwards and backwards and still be the same word. For example, if you write the word "pop" backwards it spells "pop".

The term "palindrome" comes from the Greek words "palin" (which means "back") and "dromos" (which means "way/direction").

The most common and familiar palindromes are character-by-character words such as the ones in the examples above. But a phrase or sentence can also be a palindrome. Look at this example, "Was it a rat I saw?" Try writing it backwards letter by letter and you'll see that it spells out the same question ("Was it a rat I saw?"). Here are some more palindromic sentences/questions:

- a) Step on no pets.
- b) Sit on a potato pan, Otis.
- c) Lisa Bonet ate no basil.
- d) A man, a plan, a canal, Panama!
- e) Madam, I'm Adam.
- f) Do geese see God?
- g) Mr Owl ate my metal worm.
- h) No devil lived on.
- i) No lemon, no melon.
- j) Red rum, sir, is murder.



As you can see, in order to create the "backward" version, you have to ignore all punctuation,

capitalisation and spacing.

Some people have names that are palindromes. One of the prime ministers of Cambodia was "Lon Nol (1913 to 1985). Other palindrome names include Ada, Ana, Anna, Bob, Elle, Eve, Hannah and Otto.

Some palindromes use words as units (rather than using letters). The following sentences are the same if you read them backwards *word for word*:

- a) **F**all leaves after leaves **f**all.
- b) First Ladies rule the state and **s**tate the rule: Ladies first.

The longest palindromic word in the Oxford English dictionary is the **onomatopoeic** "tattarrattat" which was used by James Joyce in his book *Ulysses* (1922) to represent the sound of someone knocking on the door.

Finally, a "semordnilap" (which is "palindromes" spelt backwards) is a word that when spelt backwards reveals a different word. For example, the word "star" spelt backwards is "rats". Here are some more semordnilaps:

- gateman-nametag;*
- deliver-reviled;*
- straw-warts; stop-pots;*
- snap-pans; live-evil; smart-trams;*
- spit-tips; dog-god;*
- maps-spam.*

Now, see if you can make a palindromic sentence? *

GLOSSARY

fall *n*
two meanings: a) autumn (in US English); b) if leaves "fall", they come off the trees

the state *n*
two meanings: a) the country; b) to "state" something is to say that thing formally/officially, etc.

onomatopoeic *adj*
an "onomatopoeic" word is formed to sound like the noise of the thing it is describing ("hiss, sizzle", etc.)

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Hot Staff



Directors
Managing Director
 Thorley Russell (00 34 91 543 3573)
 thorley@hotenglishmagazine.com
Editorial Director
 Andy Coney (00 34 91 543 3573)
 andyc@hotenglishmagazine.com

Finance
Financial Director
 Leigh Dante (00 34 91 549 8523)
 leigh@hotenglishmagazine.com

Classes Department
Director of Studies
 Sheila Renée (00 34 91 455 0273)
 classes@hotenglishmagazine.com
Teacher Liaison Officer
 teacherinfo@hotenglishmagazine.com

Administration Department
Subscriptions (9:30-13:00)
 Charlotte Christiansen
 (tel / fax) (00 34 91 549 8523)
 subs@hotenglishmagazine.com
 payments@hotenglishmagazine.com
 Credit control and administration 9-2
 (by e-mail thereafter).
 Office hours 9:30 - 6 pm (Spanish time)

Barcelona office (Hot English)
 Lianne Ross-Smith: 617 310 578
 barcelona@hotenglishmagazine.com

Seville office (Hot English)
 Christine Ervin: 670 737 118
 sevilla@hotenglishmagazine.com

Editorial Department
Staff
 Philip McIvor *designer*
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 C/Paseo del Rey, 22 - 1ª planta,
 oficina 1, Madrid 28008
 Phone: (00 34) 91 549 8523
 Fax: (00 34) 672 317 912
 info@hotenglishmagazine.com
 www.hotenglishmagazine.com
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