

60 MINUTE CD INSIDE

Go ahead, punk. read my

hot

# english magazine

## SOUTH AFRICA SPECIAL

THE HISTORY.  
THE LEADERS.  
THE RUGBY.

**NELSON MANDELA**  
An inspirational leader.

Welcome to  
**2010**  
The Best of  
**2009**

# CLINT EASTWOOD

## THE MAN WITH NO NAME.

**ACCENT ALERT**  
Learn about different English accents.

**GRAMMAR FUN**  
Modal verb analysis.

**HOW TO...**  
Learn how to listen to English.

**PUB GUIDE**  
How to survive in an English pub.



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

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



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[www.hotenglishmagazine.com](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com)



Hi, and welcome to another issue of Hot English Magazine, the fun magazine for learning English. Did you have a good time at Christmas? I certainly did, although I'll need to spend a few weeks down at the gym now to get rid of all that Christmas cheer!

Are you enjoying the Hot English videos? They're a great way for improving your English, plus you get to listen to a topic you've already read about in the magazine. We've started putting up the transcripts too. We're also going to be adding subtitles to the videos. Aren't we being busy? By the way, we'd love to hear any comments about the videos. Please e-mail [andyc@hotenglishmagazine.com](mailto:andyc@hotenglishmagazine.com)

This month, our special focus is on South Africa. We're looking at the country, the history and some of the people from this amazing place. Clint Eastwood's latest film, *Invictus*, is all about an important event in the country's history. Find out all about it, plus read about some great places to visit in South Africa. As you probably know, 2010 is an important year for South Africa as it's hosting the football World Cup. But we'll be telling you more about that nearer to the date.

This month, we've also got a pub survival guide for you to read, an article on the southern US accent in our new section on English-language accents from around the world, and some news on celebrity neighbours from hell. Would you like to live next door to a celebrity? Probably not after reading this article.

Well, that's all for now, don't forget to order your Skills Booklet, so you can learn or teach with the Hot English Method. Just complete the form on the subscriptions page and send it off to us, or e-mail [subs@hotenglishmagazine.com](mailto:subs@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 [subs@hotenglishmagazine.com](mailto:subs@hotenglishmagazine.com) or call (00 34) 91 549 8523.

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READING



# World Facts

Computers, mobile phones, newspapers and tourism. Who leads the world?

by Patrick Howarth

## 1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

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

Do the quiz.

- Which country has the most computers per person?
  - the USA
  - Canada
  - Italy
  - Japan
- Which country has the most mobile phones per person?
  - the USA
  - the United Arab Emirates
  - Japan
  - Spain
- Which country sells the most newspapers per person?
  - the UK
  - Iceland
  - New Zealand
  - Russia
- Which country spends the most time eating and drinking every day?
  - Turkey
  - Spain
  - Thailand
  - France
- Which country has the greatest number of tourists a year?
  - the UK
  - Egypt
  - Greece
  - France
- Which country sleeps the most?
  - France
  - Morocco
  - Vietnam
  - Argentina



Last month we looked at some interesting facts from around the world. They were from the *Pocket World in Figures*, a fascinating new book recently published by *The Economist* magazine. This is the second part of a two-part series.

Which country do you think has the most computers per person? The Americans and Japanese seem to dominate in the world of technology. However, the Canadians are the **most likely to own** a computer, with 94.3 machines per 100 people, and Denmark has the highest number of **broadband** subscribers at 35.9 per 100 people. More surprising, however, is the United Arab Emirates, which has the highest proportion of mobile phone ownership: an **astonishing** 176.5 phones for every 100 citizens.



## 2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your answers.

## 3 Reading II

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

- 94.3
- 35.9
- 176.5
- 821
- 162
- 530

## 4 Language focus Modal verbs

Look at this extract from the article, "...and you might think of *The Times* (UK),..." The writer has used a modal verb ("might"). See if you can correct the mistakes in the following sentences with modal verbs.

- I might to see her later.
- They not should do that.
- We can to do it later.
- Do you can swim fast?
- You don't must walk on the grass.

## 5 Discussion

- Which fact is the most/least surprising?
- Do you know any interesting facts about your country?

Name the world's most famous newspapers and you might think of *The Times* (UK), *The Washington Post* (USA), *El País* (Spain), *Le Monde* (France), *Corriere della Sera* (Italy) and *Pravda* (Russia). But which country do you think sells the highest number of daily newspapers? It's Iceland, at 821 per 1,000 people. Icelanders also have the highest **quality of life** according to the Human Development Index, scoring 96.8 out of 100, so all those newspapers must be good for them.

Which nationality spends the most time eating and drinking every day? No one **takes** their food and drink more **seriously** than the French, do they? Except perhaps the Spanish and the Italians. But in fact it's the Turks who spend the most time enjoying their meals, with 162 minutes per day spent eating and drinking on average.

What about the world's most popular tourist destination? It isn't Egypt with all those pyramids, or Greece with the beaches and beautiful islands, or even the UK whose historical buildings do attract many millions of holiday makers every year. In fact, most tourists go to France – nearly 82,000,000 in 2007 alone. France is also the **sleepiest** nation on Earth, with its citizens sleeping for 530 minutes (8 hours 50 minutes) a day. Looking after all those tourists must be extremely **tiring**.

### GLOSSARY

- most likely** *exp*  
if something is "most likely" to happen, it will probably happen
- to own** *vb*  
to possess
- broadband** *n*  
a form of high-speed internet access
- astonishing** *adj*  
surprising; incredible
- quality of life** *exp*  
people with a high "quality of life" live in a place with good healthcare, top-quality education, etc.
- to take something seriously** *exp*  
if you "take something seriously", you treat it with care and consider it to be important
- sleepy** *adj*  
if you are "sleepy", you are tired. A "sleepy" nation is one whose citizens sleep a lot
- tiring** *adj*  
if something is "tiring", it makes you feel "tired" and you want to sleep



# Boring Viewing

Watch & Learn!  
Listen to people discussing  
this topic in a mini-video at  
[www.hotenglishmagazine.com](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com)



Some of the most tedious YouTube videos exposed.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

## 1 Pre-reading

Look at the topics for mini-videos below. What do you think happens in the videos?

a cow a car journey paint

a model plane a dishwasher

grass a washing machine

tax a pencil sharpener

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once to compare your ideas.

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

- How long is the cow video?
- How long is the car journey?
- What is the model of?
- What does this expression mean, "It's like watching paint dry"?
- What type of washing machine is it?
- How long is the tax video?

## 4 Language focus

### Making suggestions

Look at this extract from the article, "... how about some instructions on how to use a washing machine?" The writer has used the expression "how about". We can use this to make suggestions. Match the suggestions (1 to 5) to the answers (a-e).

- How about going to the cinema?
- How about getting up early tomorrow?
- How about having an early lunch?
- How about going to the park?
- How about a nice cup of tea?

- I'd rather stay in bed.
- No, I'm all right, thanks.
- Yes, that would be nice. I need some sun!
- Oh, no. I'm not really hungry.
- No, thanks. I saw a film yesterday.

## 5 Discussion



- Do you watch anything on YouTube? What?
- What's the best / worst / most boring thing you've seen on YouTube?



Have you watched anything on YouTube recently? Was it interesting? Or really boring? Just recently, YouTube users were asked to vote on the website's most boring videos. Here are a few of the results.

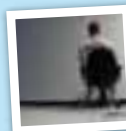
Interested in nature? If you are, you might like to see the 25-second video of a black and white cow **chewing** some grass. Wonderful!



Do you like driving? If so, you might enjoy the **computer simulation** of a car journey from Wickford to Southminster on a **snowy day** in December. Sit down, make yourself comfortable and watch 45 minutes of trees **flashing past**. Fascinating!

Does making a model of a plane sound like an interesting topic for a video? Someone seems to think so. You can watch as the aeroplane is carefully constructed in **painstaking detail**.

Have you heard the English expression "it's like watching paint dry"? It's used to describe something that's really, really boring. But has anyone ever really watched paint dry? Guess what? Now you can.



But if the paint drying was too exciting for you, here's something else: nine minutes and 53 seconds of what is apparently grass growing. **Pay careful attention** or you might **miss** the action.

Are you good with technology? Do you know how to use a microwave oven? What about a **dishwasher**? Fear not. Now you can enjoy a detailed demonstration on how to **load** a dishwasher. Incredible!



And if that wasn't enough for you, how about some instructions on how to use a washing machine? But not just *any* washing machine. A Bosch washing machine. It can do up to 1,000rpm. Watch it for nearly six minutes as it completes a number of cycles.

Do you know how to **sharpen** a pencil? Are you sure? Just in case you've forgotten, you can learn from an instructional video on how to use a **pencil sharpener**. Observe carefully as the pencil is delicately placed into the instrument and slowly turned around and around and around until its point is nice and sharp once again. **Yawn!**

Do you know much about **tax**? If not, we suggest you have a look at the ten-minute HMRC (**Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs**) video on the marvellous world of tax **disclosure**. "If you are a UK-based investor and have **offshore accounts**", says David Hartnett, the permanent secretary for tax, "you must **declare** them." **Whoops!** I've fallen asleep! ☹

### GLOSSARY

- to chew** *vb*  
to use your teeth to break up food
- a computer simulation** *n*  
a computer version of something – in this case, a journey
- a snowy day** *n*  
a day in which snow (frozen water in the form of flakes) falls from the sky
- to flash past** *exp*  
to go past very quickly
- in painstaking detail** *n*  
in a lot of intricate detail
- to pay attention** *exp*  
to listen/watch carefully
- to miss** *vb*  
if you "miss" something, you don't see it
- a dishwasher** *n*  
a machine that washes plates/dishes/cups, etc.
- to load** *vb*  
if you "load" a dishwasher, you put the plates, etc. in it
- to sharpen** *vb*  
if you "sharpen" an object, you make its end more pointed and thinner
- a pencil sharpener** *n*  
a machine for making a pencil sharp (see previous entry)
- to yawn** *vb*  
if you "yawn", you open your mouth wide and breathe in more air than usual (often because you are tired)
- tax** *n*  
money you pay to the government to pay for services (the police, education, etc.)
- Her Majesty's Revenue and Customs** *n*  
the government department in the UK that deals with tax
- tax disclosure** *exp*  
giving information about your assets/possessions, etc. so the government assess the amount of tax you pay
- offshore accounts** *n*  
bank accounts in other countries
- to declare** *vb*  
to make known officially and formally
- whoops!** *exp*  
this is something that people say when they make a mistake

# THE NAME GAME

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



# STORY TIME

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



**Clint Eastwood** (American actor)  
 "EAST" IS ONE OF THE POINTS OF THE COMPASS.  
 "I think we should head east, not west."  
 A "WOOD" IS AN AREA OF TREES.  
 "The deer ran into the wood."



**Matt Damon** (American actor)  
 A "MATT" COLOUR PAINT IS DULL AND NOT SHINY.  
 "We're going to use a white matt to paint the walls."



**Morgan Freeman** (American actor)  
 SOMEONE WHO IS "FREE" IS NOT IN PRISON OR ENSLAVED.  
 "After twenty months in prison, she was finally free."



**Nelson Mandela** (South African politician)  
 SOMEONE'S "SON" IS THEIR MALE CHILD.  
 "She has three children: one son and two daughters."



**Dan Brown** (American writer)  
 "BROWN" IS A COLOUR THAT IS PRODUCED WHEN YOU MIX GREEN AND RED.  
 "It's autumn and all the leaves are brown."



**Amy Winehouse** (English singer)  
 "WINE" IS A DRINK THAT IS PRODUCED FROM GRAPES.  
 "We drank a bottle of red wine with our meal."  
 A "HOUSE" IS A BUILDING WHERE YOU LIVE.  
 "She lives in a beautiful house by the beach."

## Doctor, Doctor

**Patient:** Doctor! Doctor!  
 Everyone keeps ignoring me!  
**Doctor:** Next please!

**Patient:** Doctor! Doctor!  
 I feel like a **pack of cards**.

**Doctor:** I'll **deal** with you later!

**Patient:** Doctor!  
 Doctor! I feel like a pair of **curtains**.

**Doctor:** **Pull yourself together!**

**Patient:** Doctor! Doctor! I keep thinking I'm a bridge.

**Doctor:** What's come over you?

**Patient:** So far, three cars, a bus and a motorcycle!



## Exam Cheat

Two friends from dental school are talking.  
 "Hey, Marty, what happened to Wade? I haven't seen him around for a few days."  
 "Oh, he was **kicked out for cheating**."  
 "Cheating? Really? What did he do?"  
 "He was caught counting his teeth in a dental hygiene exam."



## Friendly Genius

Three **guys** are **stranded** on a desert island. One day, they find a magic lantern with a

**genie** in it. The genie **grants**

them each one wish. "I want to go home," says the first guy.

"Me too!" says the second guy. But the third guy isn't sure what to do. However,

after a few days on his own, he decides that he's lonely and finally decides on his wish, "I want my friends back here with me!"

### GLOSSARY

- a pack of cards** *exp*  
a "pack of cards" consists of 52 cards (13 per suit)
- to deal** *vb*  
two meanings: a) to distribute the cards during a game; b) if you "deal" with someone, you give your attention to them
- curtains** *n*  
the pieces of material that cover a window
- to pull yourself together** *exp*  
two meanings: a) to control yourself; b) if you "pull the curtains together", you close them
- to kick out** *phr vb*  
to expel; to force to leave a place
- to cheat** *vb*  
to do something illegal/dishonest in a game
- a guy** *n*  
a man
- to strand** *vb*  
if someone is "stranded", they are trapped in a place and not able to leave
- a genie** *n*  
a mystical/magical/mythical being that lives in a bottle and that gives you 3 wishes if you set him free
- to grant** *vb*  
to give



# HELLO 2010!

Read about some exciting things for 2010. By Sam Gordon

## NUMBERS!

First of all, we need to decide what to call the year 2010. Many English speakers say "two thousand" + a number. For example, "2009" is "two thousand and nine". However, some experts argue that we should be more consistent as the years 1809 and 1909 were "eighteen oh-nine" and "nineteen oh-nine". So, 2010 should be "twenty-ten"? No one is really sure, but we say welcome to "two thousand and ten" and "twenty-ten" cos it's all the same!

## BUILDINGS

2010 will see the completion of the Burj Dubai. This will be the tallest man-made structure in the world. It has 160 floors and is a luxury hotel and **apartment block**. When it is completed, it will be 818 metres tall. Just think about this: the Empire State Building (which was the tallest man-made structure between 1931 and 1973) is 381 metres tall – less than half the height of the Burj Dubai. If anyone is interested, we hear that the penthouse is still available.

## SPORT

2010 is a big year for sport. The Winter Olympics are in February. These will be the 21st Winter Games and will **take place** in Vancouver, Canada. The biggest event of all will be the World Cup, which will be played in South Africa between 11th June and 11th July. South Africa is the first African nation to host the Cup and the whole continent has gone football-mad. Pele once famously predicted that an African nation would win the World Cup by the year 2000 (or "twenty-oh-oh"). It never happened, but this is surely the perfect opportunity for an African nation to be World Cup Winners.



## FILM

2010 will be another big year for film. Some of the films coming out in 2010 include *Prince of Persia* (starring Jake Gyllenhaal and Benicio Del Toro), *Toy Story 3*, *Shrek Goes Forth* and *Iron Man 2*. Martin Scorsese and Leonardo DiCaprio are reunited again for *Shutter Island*, in which Leo plays a US Marshal investigating the disappearance of a killer from a hospital for the criminally insane.



## MUSIC

2010 also promises to be a great year for music. Hard Rock legends Mötörhead are returning with a new album as are the Red Hot Chili Peppers. Perhaps the best news of all is that Amy Winehouse finally seems to have **put her troubles behind her**. She has been writing and recording new music following a break in St Lucia. Her new album is expected out sometime in 2010. Lets hope it's another classic.



## TECHNOLOGY

A big one to look out for in 2010 is the Chevrolet Volt – an electric car that can travel up to 40 miles without using any petrol! Also, **look out for** the rise of hydrogen-powered mobile phones and the eReader – the electronic device for reading books, newspapers and magazines. Will printed matter become a thing of the past? We'll have to wait and see.



## GLOSSARY

**an apartment block** *n*  
a large building with many separate flats/apartments in it  
**to take place** *exp*  
to happen  
**to put your troubles behind you** *exp*  
if you do this, you forget about the bad things from the past and start living your life again  
**to look out for something** *exp*  
to pay attention to things so that you notice something



# THE BEST OF

# 2009

Let's look back at some of the biggest news from 2009.

## MAJOR EVENTS

Our vote for the most **momentous event** of 2009 was the **inauguration** of Barack Obama as President of the United States. Obama is the 44th President but the first African-American Head of State. Just ten months after that victory, Obama won the 2009 Nobel Peace Prize for "his extraordinary efforts to strengthen international diplomacy and cooperation between people". Quite a guy!



## FAREWELLS

Sadly, 2009 was also the year in which we said goodbye to some of our **brightest stars**. Michael Jackson, the singer whose 1982 album *Thriller* is still the biggest-selling of all-time, died at the age of just 50. The King of Pop was in the last stages of **rehearsals** for a series of fifty concerts. The cause of death was **cardiac arrest**. However, an autopsy has revealed large amounts of prescribed drugs in his system. 2009 also saw **the passing of** Patrick Swayze – star of *Dirty Dancing* and *Ghost*. He died aged only 57 from pancreatic cancer. He continued working right up until the end of his life and did a lot of work to **raise cancer awareness**. They – and many others – will be sadly **missed**.



## BOOKS

Dan Brown released *The Lost Symbol*, the sequel to *The Da Vinci Code*, while John Grisham was also back in action with *The Appeal*. The big award-winners were *Wolf Hall* by Hilary Mantel and *Olive Kitteridge* by Elizabeth Strout. *Wolf Hall* (which won the Booker Prize) is set during the reign of Henry VII. According to critics "it is a beautiful and profoundly humane book, a dark mirror held up to our own world. It proves that Hilary Mantel is one of our bravest as well as most brilliant writers". If you haven't already read it, make sure you pick up a copy!



## GOSSIP

Celebrity **break-ups** were some of the biggest stories of all. Mel Gibson and his wife of 28 years were divorced this year due to "irreconcilable differences". The stormy marriage of Madonna and Guy Ritchie also **came to an end** in January.



## HERO OF 2009

Our hero of the year is Captain Chesley Sullenberger. He was the quick-thinking pilot who saved passengers and crew on US Airways Flight 1549. The plane, which was flying from New York to North Carolina, hit a **flock of geese** and suffered complete engine failure shortly after **take-off**. Fortunately, Sullenberger and his crew were able to perform an emergency **landing** in the middle of the Hudson River. As water **flooded into** the plane, Sullenberger walked up and down the passenger aisle to make sure nobody was left before he too finally escaped to safety. Everybody on the flight **survived**. Now that's what we call a hero.

## ANNIVERSARIES

November 9th 2009 was the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Berlin Wall. Leading the celebrations in Berlin was German Chancellor Angela Merkel, who grew up in East Germany. In an emotional speech she said that the events of 20 years ago showed that the world could **rise to challenges** such as poverty and climate change: "Together we brought down the **Iron Curtain** and I am convinced this can give us the strength for the 21st century".

## MOVIES

2009 was another big year for blockbusters, including *Transformers – The Revenge of The Fallen* and *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince*. But 2009 was also a year of surprises. *District 9* (a low-budget action film about alien refugees on planet earth) turned out to be a huge hit. The biggest comedy hit of the year without doubt was *The Hangover*, a movie about the **aftermath** of a crazy **stag-night** in Las Vegas.





# TOP QUOTES OF 2009

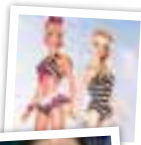


"Sweat is my sanity." Sarah Palin on the joys of **jogging**.



"Please **pick up after yourself**. You left your underwear on the floor again." Michelle Obama in a Post-It note to her husband.

"Barbie has evolved from a toy into an intellectual property." Spokesman for Mattel explains why Barbie is now ready to do her first movie



"We're going to have no paper, no printing plants, no unions. It's going to be great." Media mogul Rupert Murdoch on the prospect of electronic devices such as Amazon's Kindle **displacing** newspapers, a process he estimates will take about 20 years.



"I will take questions from the guys but from the girls I want telephone numbers." Silvio Berlusconi, Italian prime minister whilst addressing a youth rally in Rome.

"I know some people will see the irony here." Rodney King, whose beating by Los Angeles policemen **sparked** the city's 1992 riots, on his plan to box a former police officer on 12th September.



"You want me to tell you what my husband thinks? My husband is not Secretary of State. I am. You ask my opinion. I'll tell you my opinion." Hillary Clinton to a student who asked her, "What does Mr Clinton think?" The student had meant to say "Mr Obama".

"If I die, I die. So be it." Sarah Palin, on her political future after announcing that she would **resign** as the governor of Alaska.



"I left a legacy of shame. It is something I will live with for the rest of my life." Bernard Madoff, the disgraced financier, apologising at a US court hearing during which he was sentenced to 150 years in prison for fraud.

"I wish they'd caught me six years ago." Bernie Madoff, jailed financier and Ponzi schemer from an interview with representatives of the US Securities and Exchange Commission.



"I didn't betray him. He betrayed me. He betrayed the thousands of us who suffered."

Juanita Castro, younger sister of former Cuban President Fidel Castro, revealing in a new memoir that she worked undercover for the CIA during the 1960s.



"The Nobel Peace Prize is the rest of the world saying, 'Don't blow it.'" Bono on Barack Obama's award of the Nobel Prize.



"I have come here to seek a new beginning between the United States and Muslims around the world, one based upon mutual interest and mutual respect. America and Islam are not exclusive and need not be in competition. America is not – and never will be – at war with Islam." Barack Obama in Cairo university.



"In the end this is a symptom of a larger problem – a **bubble-and-bust economy** that valued **reckless speculation** over responsibility and hard work." US President Barack Obama expresses anger at the \$165 million in bonuses insurance giant AIG planned to pay executives, even though the company had been given a \$173 billion taxpayers' **bailout** to stay afloat.



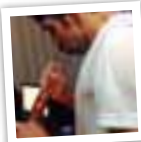
"A lot of people are scared of him, not just because of his position but because of his **temper**." Carla Bruni on her husband Nicolas Sarkozy.



"It was the worst sickening, pit-of-your-stomach, falling-through-the-floor feeling I've ever felt in my life." Chelsey Sullenberger, pilot of US Airways Flight 1549, revealing the sensations he experienced as he landed the plane on the Hudson River.



"It's definitely not what I wanted, and it's clearly not what my mom wanted." Michael Phelps, Olympic gold medallist, on the publication of a photograph showing him smoking a marijuana bong.



"We were aware the animal was unpredictable and it is being treated with pills for depression." Bernadette Chirac, wife of former French president Jacques Chirac, who was attacked by his pet **poodle** Sumo.



"When I get home tonight and look in the mirror, I'm not going to **regret** what I see. Except maybe some grey hair." George Bush, to supporters in Texas after President Obama's inauguration.



"Good bye!" George Bush

## GLOSSARY

- a momentous event** *n*  
a very big and special occasion
- an inauguration** *n*  
an official ceremony for a new leader
- a bright star** *n*  
someone special and very talented
- a rehearsal** *n*  
a practice session for a theatre play, concert, etc.
- a cardiac arrest** *n*  
if someone suffers from this, their heart stops working
- the passing of** *exp*  
the death of
- to raise awareness** *exp*  
to make more people know about something
- to miss** *vb*  
if someone is "missed", people are sad because that person is not here any more
- an aftermath** *n*  
the day/time after an event
- a stag-night** *n*  
a party for a man who is going to get married
- a break-up** *n*  
a separation
- to come to an end** *exp*  
to finish / to stop
- to rise to a challenge** *exp*  
to try to find a solution to a difficult problem
- the Iron Curtain** *n*  
the military, political, and ideological barrier between the Soviet bloc and western Europe from 1945 to 1990.
- a flock of geese** *n*  
a group of "geese" (large, grey birds that are similar to ducks)
- a take-off** *n*  
the time when a plane leaves the ground in a controlled manner
- a landing** *n*  
if there is a "landing", a plane comes to the ground or a surface
- to flood into** *exp*  
if water "floods into" a place, it comes into that place quickly and in large quantities
- to survive** *vb*  
if someone "survives" a bad situation, they don't die
- jogging** *n*  
running as a sport
- to pick up after yourself** *exp*  
to put all your clothes and things in cupboards, wardrobes, etc.
- to displace** *vb*  
if A "displaces" B, A takes the place of B
- to spark** *vb*  
to cause to happen
- to resign** *vb*  
to stop working; to leave your job
- a bubble-and-bust economy** *n*  
an economy that is not stable because prices go up and down very quickly
- reckless** *adj*  
without care; without considering the consequences
- speculation** *n*  
risky business transactions with the hope of making a quick and/or big profit
- a bailout** *n*  
a rescue package (involving money) to help a failing business/bank, etc.
- a temper** *n*  
if someone has a "temper", they get angry very quickly and easily
- a poodle** *n*  
a small, white dog with curly hair
- to regret** *vb*  
to feel bad about something you have done in the past



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Refer to unit 7 of the Pre-Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



# On your Own

Want to learn something? Help yourself!

by Patrick Howarth

## 1 Pre-reading

Look at the titles for the following books. What do you think you can learn from them?



## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which self-study book from the article would you like to read? Why?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. How many copies has the *Teach Yourself* series sold?
2. How many copies has the *For Dummies* series sold?
3. What does the number \$9 billion refer to?
4. When was *The Maxims of Ptahhotep* written?
5. When was *Il Principe* published?
6. Who wrote the book *Self-Help*?
7. When was the Dale Carnegie book written?

## 4 Language focus

### Modal verbs

Look at this extract from the article, "You can study at home." The writer has used a modal verb ("can"). Correct the mistakes in the following sentences with modal verbs.

1. I can to see you.
2. Do you can skate?
3. They can to do it tomorrow.
4. He cans swim really fast.

## 5 Discussion

1. Do you have any self-study books at home? What are they about?
2. Which self-study books have you read? Did they help? How?
3. What do you think of self-study books in general?

Do you want to learn something? There are a number of options. You can go to class, you can find a private teacher, you can do an online distance learning course or you can teach yourself with a self-study book.

Self-study courses have a lot of advantages. You can study when you want. You can go as quickly or as slowly as you need. You can study at home. You can focus on the bits you are most interested in. And, of course, you can save money – self-study is cheap. All you have to do is buy the book and start learning.

Every year, thousands of people choose this method. The popular British series *Teach Yourself* has sold over 60 million copies. *For Dummies*, another best-selling self-help series, has over 150 million books in print. The US market for self-help books was estimated to be \$9 billion in 2006. Yes, \$9 BILLION! And that's just the USA. Clearly lots of people are now choosing self-study. However, it's not a new phenomenon.

Experts believe that the first self-help book was *The Maxims of Ptahhotep*. This book was written in Egypt in about 2400 BC by Ptahhotep. He wanted to give his son advice on the best way to live his life. Ptahhotep's idea remained popular for hundreds of years. The first self-study books were in fact self-improvement books – books to help the reader become a better person. Examples include Xenophon's *The Education of Cyrus*, Pliny the Younger's *Letters to Trajan*, and, most famously, Machiavelli's *Il Principe* (published in 1542). These works were written primarily for kings and princes, giving them advice about how to rule.

However, from the eighteenth century onwards, self-improvement books were written for ordinary people. The most influential of these books was *Self-Help* (1859) by Samuel Smiles, whose opening sentence is, "Heaven helps those who help themselves". His ideas remain popular today and he was greatly admired by British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. One of the most popular self-help books was *How to Win Friends and Influence People* (1936) by Dale Carnegie. This book teaches people how to develop their self-confidence in order to become more successful. Carnegie's book has sold over 15 million copies around the world. The 1937 parody, *How to Lose Friends and Alienate People*, by Irving Tressler, was not so successful.

It was also in the late 1930s that the *Teach Yourself* series began publishing. Many of the early guidebooks were written to help British people survive during the Second World War, and included titles like *Teach Yourself to Cook* (which included a recipe for curried pigeon), and, rather worryingly, *Teach Yourself to Fly*. Since then the books have been encouraging people to 'teach themselves' just about everything you can imagine from beginner's Polish to art history, and Buddhism.

These days, you can find self-study books on just about anything you can imagine. So, how many self-study language books do you have on your bookshelves? And how many of those things do you know how to do? ☆





# LET'S TALK ABOUT: Vegetables



**Tomatoes**



**Courgettes / Zucchini**



**Aubergine**



**Spinach**



**Peas**



**Carrots**



**Mushrooms**



**Potatoes**



**Cucumber**



**Onion**



**Garlic**



**Red / yellow / green / orange peppers**

## Useful Expressions

### What you say

- I'll have a kilo of...
- I'll have a bag of...
- I'll have a bunch of...
- I'll have a handful of...

### What you hear

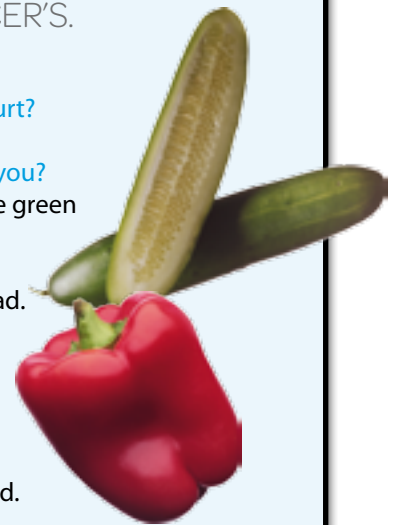
- Shall I put them in a bag for you?
- They're 40 pence a kilo.
- How many would you like?
- How much would you like?
- Anything else? ☺



## Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, KURT, WHO IS FROM GERMANY, IS AT THE GREENGROCER'S.

- Kurt:** Hello, I am Kurt.
- Greengrocer:** Afternoon. How can I help you, Kurt?
- Kurt:** Yes, well, I am from Germany.
- Greengrocer:** Very interesting. How may I help you?
- Kurt:** Well, yes, I would like one of those green things?
- Greengrocer:** A cucumber?
- Kurt:** Yes, yes. I am going to make a salad.
- Greengrocer:** Very well. Anything else?
- Kurt:** Yes, some of those red things?
- Greengrocer:** Red peppers?
- Kurt:** Yes.
- Greengrocer:** How many?
- Kurt:** Three please. They are for my salad.
- Greengrocer:** Fantastic. Anything else?
- Kurt:** Yes, please. A green pepper, an orange pepper, some carrots and half a kilo of tomatoes.
- Greengrocer:** We say "tomatoes".
- Kurt:** I beg your pardon?
- Greengrocer:** In British English we say "tomatoes" – the Americans say "tomatoes".
- Kurt:** Oh, yes, thank you. That is very interesting. I will write it down.
- Greengrocer:** That'll be £4.50 please.
- Kurt:** For the English class?
- Greengrocer:** No, I wouldn't charge you for that I was just...
- Kurt:** Only joking! Ha, ha, ha. We have a sense of humour too, you know.
- Greengrocer:** Very funny! ☺





FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

THIS MONTH: THE TELEPHONE I

Useful language



Telephone numbers

- We say "Oh" or "zero" for the number "0".
- We say "double" for two numbers that are the same. For example: "744" is "seven double four".

Answering the phone

- Hello? (informal)
- Sam speaking. How may I help you?
- Thank you for calling Quick Fix Kitchens. (business)
- Eddie's Electric Store. How can I help you?

Introducing yourself – the caller

- Hi. It's Joanne. (informal)
- Hello, this is Sally Fields calling.
- Hi, this is Bernadette from the accountant's office.
- Hi, this is Laura speaking.

Not understanding something

- I'm sorry? / Sorry?
- Could you repeat that, please?
- Could you say that again, please?
- I'm sorry but I didn't catch your name.

Dialogue

IN THIS DIALOGUE, JULIAN HAS CALLED BRITNEY TO ASK ABOUT SOME NUMBERS.

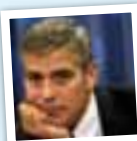
**Julian:** Hello?  
**Britney:** Hi, is Julian there?  
**Julian:** Speaking.  
**Britney:** Oh, hi, Julian. It's Britney. How's it going?  
**Julian:** Not too bad. What can I do for you?  
**Britney:** I was just wondering if you had Steph's phone number?  
**Julian:** Yes, I think so. Hang on a minute. Yes, here it is, it's 605 448 309.  
**Britney:** I'm sorry I didn't get that. There's a lot of traffic here. Could you repeat it, please?  
**Julian:** Sure! It's 605 448 309.  
**Britney:** 605 448 305?  
**Julian:** No, that's a nine at the end: 605 448 309.  
**Britney:** Oh, OK. Great. Thanks a lot. See you soon.  
**Julian:** Bye.  
**Britney:** Bye. ☺

Celebrity

Quotes 2009



HERE ARE SOME 2009 QUOTES FROM THE RICH AND FAMOUS.

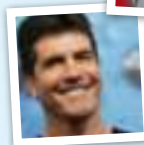


"I've been in relationships where I've felt terribly alone. Just because you're with someone, it doesn't mean you're happy." Actor George Clooney.

"Limits, like fears, are often just an illusion." Michael Jordan in a speech marking his induction into the Basketball Hall of Fame.



"We would have said: 'We'll take those three but probably lose the drummer.'" TV presenter Simon Cowell on why the Beatles would have failed in the X-Factor (a British talent contest).



"It's not for the chicken to speak of his own soup." Quentin Tarantino when asked if his latest movie *Inglourious Basterds* was his masterpiece.

"Why do they call you beautiful?" Victoria Beckham's reported response to Naomi Campbell's question, "Why do they call you Posh?"



"I can't stop crying over the sad news. I've always admired Michael Jackson - the world has lost one of its greats, but his music will live on forever." Madonna reacting to the death of Michael Jackson.

"Part of my soul has gone with him." Quincy Jones, who produced *Thriller*, on Michael Jackson, who died unexpectedly at the age of 50.



"Dad would be playing the guitar and we'd be, like: 'Dad, can you stop it? We're trying to watch *EastEnders*.'" Mary McCartney on family life with Sir Paul McCartney.



"I am a man who needs love. Every man needs love. Guys like romance. I do anyway." Paul McCartney.

"By day I'm a film star, by night my mum nags me to tidy my room." *Slumdog Millionaire* star Dev Patel.



GLOSSARY

**speech** *n*  
a formal talk to a group of people  
**an induction into something** *exp*  
a ceremony in which someone is introduced to an organisation/group, etc.  
**to fail** *vb*  
not to succeed  
**a masterpiece** *n*  
the greatest work of an artist  
**a soul** *n*  
a person's spirit – the part of them that lives on forever  
**to nag** *vb*  
if you "nag" someone, you keep asking them to do something until they do it  
**to tidy** *vb*  
if you "tidy" your room, you put things away in cupboards/wardrobes, etc.





Refer to unit 8 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. Have you got a sugar?  
\_\_\_\_\_
2. We have a water in the fridge.  
\_\_\_\_\_
3. There aren't any chocolate.  
\_\_\_\_\_
4. There are a pizza on the table.  
\_\_\_\_\_
5. I don't want a salt with this.  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Are there a potatoes?  
\_\_\_\_\_

# SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



## Free-Time Fun

What are you doing this weekend?

### 1 Pre-listening

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Which activities do you enjoy? Put ticks.

- a) Going to the cinema
- b) Playing football
- c) Doing the gardening
- d) Reading a book
- e) Going to the pub
- f) Sitting in the garden
- g) Travelling



### 2 Listening I

You are going to listen to two people talking about their free time. Listen once. Which activities from the Pre-listening activity do they mention?

### 3 Listening II

Listen again and complete the sentences with appropriate words.

1. Harry has a broken \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Ray hit Harry with a \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Harry was sitting in his \_\_\_\_\_.
4. He was reading a \_\_\_\_\_.
5. Rays' \_\_\_\_\_ bit Harry.
6. Harry is going to meet Mary outside the \_\_\_\_\_.
7. Ray tells Harry the \_\_\_\_\_ of the film.
8. After the cinema, they're going to an Indian \_\_\_\_\_.

### 4 Language focus Futures with "will"

Look at this extract from the listening, "Your team are terrible. They'll lose." We can use futures with "will" ('-ll) to make predictions about things.

Complete the following sentences with your own ideas.

1. My football team will probably... this weekend.
2. I'll probably go to... this weekend.
3. I'll probably get up at... on Saturday morning.
4. I'll probably go to... on Saturday evening.
5. I'm sure I'll see... at the weekend.
6. I don't think I'll... at the weekend.

### 5 Discussion

1. What do you do in your free time?
2. Which free-time activity would you like to do? Why?

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



# GRAMMAR FUN

THIS MONTH, WE'RE LOOKING AT SOME MODAL VERBS FOR GUESSING.

## modal verbs

Modal verbs are very common in English. We can use them to express a number of things including possibility, obligation, prohibition and ability. For example:

- a) It might rain. (possibility)
- b) I may leave in ten minutes. (possibility)
- c) I can ride a unicycle. (ability)
- d) This could be really good. (possibility)
- e) You mustn't do that. (prohibition)
- f) She must let us know what she thinks. (obligation)

Notice how the infinitive verb following a modal verb has no "to". For example:

- a) They should help us.
- b) We may stay.

We form negatives by placing "not" after the modal verb. For example:

- a) They should not do it.
- b) We may not like it.

We can use modal verbs to guess what something is. For example, look at the picture. Who do you think it is?



We can make guesses with a modal verb + "be" + a noun. For example:

- a) It could be Barack Obama.
- b) It might be Barack Obama.
- c) It can't be George Bush.
- d) It must be Barack Obama.

### 1 Exercise

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Complete the sentences with a modal verb from below. In some cases, more than one answer may be possible.

could / might / can't / must.

**Riley:** Here, look at this picture. Who do you think this is?

**Lara:** That's impossible. I (1) \_\_\_\_\_ see anything.

**Riley:** I'll give you a clue. She's a young, famous actress.

**Lara:** Well, it (2) \_\_\_\_\_ be Cameron Diaz. I don't know.

**Riley:** It's an English actress.

**Lara:** Well, it (3) \_\_\_\_\_ be Helen Mirren - she isn't "young", although she's an actress.

**Riley:** Good! Keep trying.

**Lara:** It (4) \_\_\_\_\_ be Gwyneth Paltrow.

**Riley:** No, it (5) \_\_\_\_\_ be her - she's American.

**Lara:** Oh, yes. Well, I suppose it (6) \_\_\_\_\_ be Kate Winslet.

**Riley:** No, but close.

**Lara:** Well, it (7) \_\_\_\_\_ be Catherine Zeta Jones - she's Welsh. Oh, I know, it (8) \_\_\_\_\_ be Keira Knightley.

**Riley:** Well done.

**Lara:** That was difficult.



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Refer to unit 7 of your  
Intermediate Skills Booklet  
for more explanations and  
exercises.



# Avant-Garde

Great works of art or artistic fraud? By Patrick Howarth

## 1 Pre-reading

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Look at the following titles of avant-garde works of art. What do you think they consist of?



4'33''



Shoot



Trans-Fixed



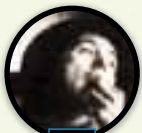
White Light/  
White Heat



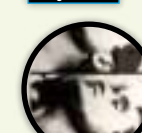
Black  
Square



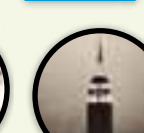
White on  
White



Eat



Sleep



Empire

## 2 Reading I

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

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. What does John Cage's piece of music consist of?
2. Who was Chris Burden shot by?
3. What was Burden nailed to?
4. What did Burden lie on for his work *White Light/White Heat*?
5. How much did someone pay for the work of art *Black Square*?
6. Which lines were painted for the Stripes paintings by Frank Stella?

## 4 Language focus The Past Passive

Look at this extract from the article, "It was written by Cage." The writer has used a Past Passive construction: "was/were" + a past participle. Transform these Past Simple sentences into the Past Passive.

1. They took the money to the bank.
2. She sent the e-mail.
3. We ate all the food.
4. He printed the document.
5. They stole the money.

## 5 Discussion

1. Have you seen any of these works of art? What do you think of them?
2. What's the strangest work of art you've ever seen/heard/watched, etc.?
3. What kind of art do you like? Why?

Have you ever looked at a painting and thought "I could do better than that"? Have you ever seen a film that didn't seem to have any story or characters? Or heard a piece of music that doesn't quite sound like music? If you can answer "yes" to any of these questions, the chances are that what you were looking at, watching or listening to was something "avant-garde".



One of the most famous examples of avant-garde art comes from the world of music. John Cage's piece of music *4'33''* consists of 4 minutes and 33 seconds of silence. It was written by Cage, a leading American member of the avant-garde, in 1952. It was divided into three movements which are performed without a single note being played. According to the composer the music is actually the sounds the listener hears while "listening" to the performance. These might include, of course, listeners asking each other how they know when the piece ends.



During the 1960s, performance art became popular. One of the most interesting performance artists is American Chris Burden. In his 1971 work *Shoot* Burden was shot in the left arm by an assistant. Another famous piece was *Trans-Fixed* in 1974 in which Burden was nailed to the front of a Volkswagen Beetle. In the same year Burden performed *White Light/White Heat* in New York. For twenty-two days he lay on a triangular platform in the corner of an art gallery. None of the visitors could see him and he couldn't see any of the visitors. Was this art? You decide!

Minimalist painting is another example of avant-garde art. An early and famous example was *Black Square* painted in 1915 by the Russian artist Kazimir Malevich. The painting shows a black square... no more, no less. However, Russian philanthropist Viktor Potanin liked it enough to pay \$1 million for it in 2002. Malevich also famously painted *White on White*, which consists of a white square. Another well-known avant-garde artist is Frank Stella. He became famous for his Stripes paintings. These paintings showed black lines which were separated by thin white lines. The black lines were painted, the white not. Stella said that a picture was "a flat surface with paint on it – nothing more". These days, Stella is one of America's most respected artists.

Cinema has always had avant-garde directors. Possibly the best known is Andy Warhol. Although better known as a painter, between 1963 and 1968 Warhol made more than 60 films, nearly all of them experimental. One film, *Eat*, consists of a man eating a mushroom for 45 minutes, while *Sleep* shows poet John Giorno sleeping for 6 hours. *Empire* is 8 hours long and only shows the Empire State Building as the sun sets at dusk. You could eat a lot of popcorn in 8 hours.

Some people love avant-garde art and some hate it. Some believe avant-garde artists are geniuses, while others think they're pretentious frauds. However, whether you love them or hate them, you will probably have to accept that these people are just as passionate about their art as Michaelangelo, Beethoven or Orson Welles were in their day. ✪

# READING

## Neighbours from Hell

Home Sweet Home? Not with a noisy neighbour.

By Sam Gordon

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

### 1 Pre-reading

Look at this list of annoying things that neighbours can be responsible for. Rank them in order of "annoyingness" ("1" is the most annoying).

- Loud music.
- Late-night parties.
- Loud singing.
- Smoky barbecues.
- Building work.
- Loud snoring.
- Dancing on wooden floors (when you live below).
- Constantly moving furniture.
- Smelly cooking.
- Lots of visitors.

### 2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which items from the Pre-reading activity are mentioned?

### 3 Reading II

Read the article again. Write the name of a celebrity from the text next to each sentence.

1. He's often in trouble with the traffic police.
2. Journalists wait outside his house.
3. Noise pours through the walls.
4. There are loud parties.
5. There is often building work going on.
6. She goes out all night.
7. Fans come to visit the house.
8. She uses the house as a rehearsal studio.

### 4 Language focus "Which" & "What"

Look at this extract from the article, "Which celebrity would you LEAST like to..." The writer has asked a question with "which". We often use "which" when we are asking for information about a limited number of things (two or three things). For example:

- a) Which one is your room? This one or that one?
- b) Which picture do you like? The red one or the green one?

We use "what" when we are asking for information about something in a more general way. For example:

- a) What happened?
- b) What did he say?

Complete the sentences with "which" or "what".

1. \_\_\_\_\_ one is the best?
2. \_\_\_\_\_ did you do last night?
3. \_\_\_\_\_ books did you take with you?
4. \_\_\_\_\_ happened on the way home?

### 5 Discussion

1. Which celebrity would you like / not like to live next to? Why?
2. What are your neighbours like?
3. Are you a good neighbour? Why?



WELCOME TO HELL.

What are your neighbours like? Are they noisy? Are they famous? One woman in New York has both: a noisy famous neighbour. This is the first of a two-part series on **neighbours from hell**.

Madonna. Pop star, feminist icon, **green campaigner**, friend to Africa and also, according to the woman who lives below her, neighbour from hell. The woman, who lives in the same luxury apartment block as Madonna in New York, is **suing**

the managers of the building. Apparently they did nothing to stop Madonna using her apartment as a **rehearsal studio** and making a lot of noise with it. According to Karen George, Madonna and her invited guests repeatedly danced or trained to music so **loud** that it caused "noise and vibration to **pour through** the walls".

But Madonna isn't the only celebrity neighbour-from-hell. Kate Moss **infuriated** neighbours in **upmarket** St John's Wood with her constant **partying**. "It's been **hell** since she came," said one neighbour. "They sleep all day and go out all night". The Beckhams also angered neighbours when they moved into their house in Beverley Hills. In this case though they were the victims, too: the army of paparazzi that camped permanently outside their home **drove everyone to distraction**.

Reality show **host** Simon Cowell is another neighbour from hell. His neighbours have complained of repeated traffic violations, loud parties and constant building work.

"It's not neighbourly at all," said an anonymous local. Ozzy Osbourne is another celebrity who is **driving** his neighbours **up the wall**. Locals say that the loud rock music rarely gives them a day's peace. On top of that, the success of *The Osbournes* (an MTV reality show starring Ozzy and family) has caused other problems. Now the Osbourne residence is really popular with Ozzy fans. "Hundreds and hundreds of people **stop by** every day," a neighbour explained.

Paris Hilton and Doug Reinhardt are also unpopular in their Hollywood Hills neighbourhood. In fact, they are so unpopular that one neighbour reportedly offered Paris Hilton's **landlord** more than the \$27,000 monthly **rent** if the landlord would **evict** them.

So, who are the top ten nightmare celebrities to live next to? There was a recent survey in which people were asked the question, Which celebrity would you LEAST like to live next door to? The "**Hall Of Shame**" included Pete Doherty (the punk-rock singer) and Heather Mills (Paul McCartney's ex-wife). Prime Minister Gordon Brown was also in the list. And while Amy Winehouse is used to topping the **charts**, her position at the top of the list is probably one "Number One" she would rather forget. ☺

#### GLOSSARY

- a neighbour from hell** *n*  
a neighbour (someone who lives next to you) who gives you a lot of trouble/problems
- a green campaigner** *n*  
someone who fights for environmental issues
- to sue** *vb*  
to start a legal process against someone in order to get compensation
- a rehearsal studio** *n*  
a room where musicians can practise
- loud** *adj*  
producing a lot of noise
- to pour through** *exp*  
if music "pours through" the walls, it comes through quickly and loudly
- to infuriate** *vb*  
to make angry
- upmarket** *adj*  
expensive and exclusive
- to party** *vb*  
to go to parties / to have a good time
- hell** *adj*  
if you describe a situation as "hell", you are saying that it is very bad
- to drive everyone to distraction** *exp*  
to make everyone extremely angry/frustrated, etc.
- a host** *n*  
a person who introduces / interviews / talks to people on a TV programme
- to drive everyone up the wall** *exp*  
to make everyone angry; to irritate everyone
- to stop by** *exp*  
if someone "stops by" at a place, they interrupt their journey in order to visit that place
- a landlord** *n*  
the owner of a house who rents the house to tenants
- the rent** *n*  
the money you pay when you rent a house
- to evict** *vb*  
if someone is "evicted", they are forced to leave a house/property, etc.
- a hall of shame** *exp*  
a list of the worst people/offenders
- the charts** *n*  
the list of the most popular songs



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# READING II

## Classified Humour

A look at some of the funniest ads from Craigslist.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

### 1 Pre-reading

Match the words (1 to 7) to the pictures (a-g).

1. A sachet of ketchup
2. A clown
3. An Easter egg
4. A Pope hat
5. A kitten
6. A bridesmaid
7. Some orange juice.



### 2 Reading I

Read the article once. In which order do the items from the Pre-reading appear?

### 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. How much will the advertiser pay for the orange juice?
2. Does the clown have to do any tricks?
3. How many Pope hats is the advertiser offering?
4. What's the problem with the hats?
5. When does the advertiser want to find the Easter eggs?
6. Are the bridesmaids expected to contribute financially to the wedding?
7. What does the advertiser compare the kitten's belly to?
8. Where are the ketchup sachets from?

### 4 Language focus Want

Look at this extract from the article, "We want a clown to come along and..." The writer has used an expression with the structure "want" + object + infinitive. Complete the sentences with your own ideas.

1. I want you to help me...
2. I want my teacher to teach me...
3. I want my colleague to show me how to...
4. I want my friends to give me...

### 5 Discussion

1. Have you ever placed a classified ad? What was it for?
2. Have you ever responded to a classified ad? What for?
3. Where do you go to look for second-hand goods?

Have you ever **posted** a **classified ad**? Have you ever responded to one? Craigslist is the world's biggest online network of communities with free classified ads on everything from jobs to **household goods** to services. Here are some of the funniest ads that have appeared on the site. This is the first of a two-part series.

**● I want some orange juice.**  
I'll give you \$2 + costs if you'll deliver me some orange juice. I'm too lazy to get it myself. I live right by University Drive in Elon. Thank you.

**● Seeking adult drunk clown for 30th birthday party**  
We need an "adult drunk clown" who is good at getting drunk and being stupid. No need to do any clown tricks, just **hang out** and drink a lot. We will be going to different bars and we want a clown to come along and drink heavily. He doesn't even need to socialise with anyone, just drink.

**● Pope hats**  
Because of this terrible economy, I'm having to **shut down** my business. I have OVER 1,300 **Pope hats** (replicas) that I REALLY need to **get rid of**. The pope hats came from China and are a little too small for most adult heads and are also irritating to the skin, so you would need to have long hair or wear a smaller hat underneath. Dogs do not like to wear these pope hats, but maybe a large cat or a nice dog would wear one.

**● Need someone to hide Easter eggs in my apartment when I'm not home**  
I need someone to hide Easter eggs in my apartment when I am not there! They are small and filled with **candy**! I would like to find them myself on Sunday! I am **willing** to pay! Serious inquiries only!

**● Looking for bridesmaids**  
My **fiancée** and I are getting married in June. He has 8 **groomsman** but I only have one **bridesmaid**. So, I need some girls who are attractive (but not too attractive) and around my age to come to my wedding. You can be single or **taken**. It doesn't matter. The wedding will be in Madison and you won't have to pay for a **thing**.

**● Ferocious attack kitten**  
This destructive **kitty** has been trained as a **proud warrior** and will **fiercely** defend your house... even against you. Has a very soft and **furry belly** like a teddy bear - however he will bite you if you try to touch him. Someone please take this thing out of my house!

**● Free - international ketchup packet collection**  
This is a collection of ketchup packets from around the world. Approximately 25 countries are represented here including Japan, Finland, Estonia, Greenland, Brazil and Portugal. None of the packets have been opened and they are **labelled** with their home country. Collection comes in **decorative** box with ducks on it.

### GLOSSARY

- to post** *vb*  
if you "post" something online, you put it on a website
- a classified ad** *n*  
a small advertisement in a newspaper or online site offering to buy/sell something
- household goods** *exp*  
things that you use in the house: washing machines, TVs, etc.
- to hang out** *phr vb*  
to stay in a place without doing anything in particular
- to shut down** *phr vb*  
to close permanently
- a Pope hat** *n*  
a hat with a point at the top (worn by some religious leaders and the Pope)
- to get rid of** *exp*  
to eliminate; to throw away
- candy** *n US*  
sweets
- willing** *adj*  
if you are "willing" to do something, you are ready and prepared to do that thing
- a fiancée** *n*  
a man you are going to marry
- a groomsman** *n*  
a man who helps the "groom" (the man who is going to get married) in a wedding ceremony
- a bridesmaid** *n*  
a woman who helps the "bride" (the woman who is going to get married) in a wedding ceremony
- taken** *adj*  
if someone is "taken", they are already married
- a thing** *exp*  
you won't have to pay for "a thing" means you won't have to pay for anything
- a kitten / kitty** *n*  
a baby cat
- proud** *adj*  
if someone is "proud", they have feelings of self-respect and confidence about their abilities
- a warrior** *n*  
a soldier with a lot of experience and who is very brave
- fiercely** *adv*  
with a lot of aggression and determination
- furry** *adj*  
with a lot of soft hair
- a belly** *n*  
a stomach
- to label** *vb*  
if a product is "labelled", there is information about the product on it
- decorative** *adj*  
pretty, attractive



The day that sport changed a nation.



INVICTUS

# INVICTUS

THE 1995 RUGBY WORLD CUP FINAL WAS A GREAT MOMENT IN SPORTING HISTORY. IT WAS THE DAY THAT A DIVIDED NATION FINALLY **CAME TOGETHER**. NOW THERE'S A FILM ABOUT THIS SPECTACULAR EVENT. IT'S DIRECTED BY CLINT EASTWOOD AND IT STARS MATT DAMON AND MORGAN FREEMAN.



## THE SPRINGBOKS

The Springboks have been playing international rugby since 1891. Their first international match was on 30th July 1891 and resulted in South Africa 0, British Isles 4. Their largest win was on 11th June 2005: South Africa 134, Uruguay, 3. Their worst defeat was on 23rd November 2002: England 53, South Africa 3. South Africa regained their title as champions in 2007, when they defeated England 15-6 in the 2007 final. The Springboks play in green and gold jerseys, and one of their emblems is the springbok antelope.



PASS ME THE BALL!

## INVICTUS

Directed by Clint Eastwood. Starring Morgan Freeman and Matt Damon.



**I**nvictus is a film about the 1995 Rugby World Cup in South Africa. The story focuses on Mandela's **release** from prison, his election as President of South Africa and his attempts to use the 1995 Rugby World Cup as a way to **bring** his people **together** after the fall of **apartheid**. The film is based on the John Carlin book *Playing the Enemy: Nelson Mandela and the Game That Changed a Nation*. It is considered a **front-runner** for several Oscars.

In order to fully understand the film, you have to understand the history. Rugby has traditionally been the sport of white Afrikaners (South Africans of Dutch, French and German descent). Even before the apartheid laws were introduced to South Africa in 1948, the Springboks (the name for the South African rugby team) had been an all-white team, and soon became a symbol of racial division within South Africa. For many years, the Springboks were unable to compete because of the anti-apartheid sporting boycotts of South Africa.

Things changed during the 1990s. The Springboks were readmitted to international rugby in 1992. In their first game (on 15th August 1992), the Springboks were defeated 27-24 by the All Blacks of New

Zealand. When South Africa was selected to host the 1995 Rugby World Cup, there was a **surge of support** for the Springboks among both the white and black communities. This was the first major event to be held in what Archbishop Desmond Tutu called "the Rainbow Nation", and South Africans got behind the "one team, one country" slogan.

By the time they hosted the 1995 World Cup, the Springboks were **seeded** ninth. However, they defeated Australia, Romania, Canada, Western Samoa and France to play in the final. The spectacular match ended with the Springboks beating the All Blacks 15-12.



Wearing a Springbok shirt, Nelson Mandela presented the trophy to Captain Francois Pienaar (played by Matt Damon in the film), a white Afrikaner. The **gesture** was widely seen as a **major step** towards the **reconciliation** of white and black South Africans. The day after the World Cup victory, the **Xhosa** word for springbok (Amabokoboko!) appeared as the headline in the sports section of the newspaper *The Sowetan*. It was a spectacular moment that changed a nation. 🌱

### GLOSSARY

- to come together** *exp*  
if people in a nation "come together", they are united
- a release** *n*  
if there is a film "release", the film is in cinemas and people can see it
- to bring people together** *exp*  
to do something that unites people
- apartheid** *n*  
a system of government based on race and separating the races
- a front-runner** *n*  
a possible candidate to win something
- a surge of support** *exp*  
an increase of support
- to seed** *vb*  
if a country/team is "seeded" in a position in a list, they are in that position
- a gesture** *n*  
an act that is supposed to be a sign of something
- a major step** *n*  
an important part of the development of something
- reconciliation** *n*  
if there is a "reconciliation" between two groups, those groups come together and form a closer relationship
- Xhosa** *n*  
Xhosa people are an indigenous people of South Africa



# PHOTOMAGIC

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

**Photo 1** France footballer Thierry Henry is blamed for knocking Ireland out of the 2010 World Cup.



**Photo 2** Clint Eastwood's latest movie is *Invictus*, starring Matt Damon and Morgan Freeman.



**Photo 3** US veteran, 108, at a WWI memorial.



**Photo 4** MySpace launches a new streaming service.



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

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## SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING

PHOTOMAGIC & SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING (BI)



# Eco-Warriors

*Saving the planet, helping the environment.*

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

### 1 Pre-listening

Look at the words below. What could people protest against in relation to these things?

- school trees hospitals parks villages
- airports supermarket cars whales
- nuclear facilities CO2 emissions

They could be protesting against a lack of schools.

### 2 Listening I

You are going to listen to two "eco-warriors" talking about their protests. What have they been protesting against? Name two things from the Pre-listening activity.

### 3 Listening II

Listen again and choose the correct answer.

1. The tree is over **200/300** years old.
2. The **government / local council** want to cut down the tree.
3. They drove past the tree every **Wednesday/Thursday**.
4. The tree fell on Rupert's **bike/car**.
5. They want to build a new **theatre/hospital** in the village.
6. They are going to organise a protest meeting next **Saturday/Sunday**.
7. Their **au pair/daughter** is going to the meeting.

### 4 Language focus

#### Future plans with "going to..."

Look at this extract from the listening, "We're going to stop them..." The speaker has expressed a future plan with "going to". Complete the sentences below with your own ideas.

1. I'm going to watch... tonight.
2. I'm going to eat... tonight.
3. People in my neighbourhood are going to protest against...
4. At work, we're going to... next month.

### 5 Discussion

1. Have you ever protested against something? What? Why?
2. What do people protest about in your country?
3. Has there been a recent protest in your country? What was it about?

The stars of *Invictus*.



# MATT DAMON & MORGAN FREEMAN



## QUOTES

## MATT DAMON



Matt Damon is an actor, writer and philanthropist. Some of Damon's most famous films include *Good Will Hunting*, *Saving Private Ryan*, *The Talented Mr. Ripley*, the *Ocean's* trilogy, the *Bourne* film series, *The Good Shepherd* and *The Departed*. He has been nominated many times for his film **performances** and has a star on the **Hollywood Walk of Fame**. But he's much more than just

an actor. Damon has been actively involved in charitable work. Along with frequent co-stars George Clooney and Brad Pitt, he supports ONE, a campaign fighting AIDS and **poverty** in Third World countries. He is also one of the founders (along with George Clooney and Brad Pitt) of *Not On Our Watch: The Mission to End Genocide in Darfur*.

Damon was born on 8th October 1970, and grew up near Ben Affleck, a close friend since childhood and collaborator on several films. Damon went to Cambridge Rindge and Latin School in Cambridge, Massachusetts, and **performed** in several theatre productions before graduating in 1988. He went to Harvard University from 1988 to 1992, but didn't graduate. While at Harvard, he studied English. His first film role came in 1988 when he was eighteen, with a single line of dialogue in the romantic comedy *Mystic Pizza*. He eventually **landed a big**

**part** in *Geronimo: An American Legend* with Gene Hackman. But his big break came with the success of his film *Good Will Hunting* (1997), which was directed by Gus Van Sant, and which starred Robin Williams, Matt Damon and Ben Affleck. Damon wrote the **screenplay** with Ben Affleck. The pair won

Oscars for Best Original Screenplay and the Golden Globe Award for Best Screenplay.



DO YOU THINK I'LL GET AN OSCAR FOR THIS?

"If I get a vacation, I'm gonna go and sit on my **couch** in New York cause that's the one place I haven't been for a very long time."

"Bond is part of the system. He's an **imperialist**, and he laughs at killing people, and he sits there **slugging** martinis. It'll never be the same thing as this, because Bourne is a guy who is against the **establishment**, who is paranoid and **on the run**. I just think fundamentally they're just very different things." (Matt on the difference between Bourne and Bond)

"If anybody wanted to photograph my life, they'd get bored in a day. 'Heres Matt at home learning his **lines**. Here's Matt **researching** in **aisle** six of his local library'. A few hours of that and they'd go home."

"There are people who appear in the magazines and I don't know who they are. I've never seen anything they've done and their careers are over already. They're famous for maybe 10 minutes. Real careers, I think, take a long time to **unfold**."

"I need to know if she really thinks dinosaurs were here 4000 years ago. That's important – I want to know that, I really do, because she's going to have the nuclear codes. You know, I want to know if she thinks dinosaurs were here 4000 years ago... we can't, we can't have that." (Matt on Republican candidate Sarah Palin, who is an Evangelical Christian and has said in the past that the Earth is only 10,000 years old and that dinosaurs and humans lived side-by-side 4,000 years ago.)

## MATT DAMON

American actor. Full name: Matthew Paige Damon. Born on 8th October 1970. Famous films include the *Bourne* series, *Saving Private Ryan* and *Good Will Hunting*. He is married to Luciana Bozán Barroso. They have two daughters (Isabella and Gia) and daughter Alexia (from Barroso's previous marriage).



THE NAME'S BOURNE. JASON BOURNE.







# MORGAN FREEMAN



Famous for his **reserved demeanour**, Morgan Freeman is an Oscar-winning actor. He was born in Memphis, Tennessee. In 1955, he graduated from Broad Street High School, but **turned down** a drama **scholarship** from Jackson State University, choosing

to work as a mechanic in the United States Air Force instead.

In the early 1960s, Freeman moved to Los Angeles, California and worked as a transcript clerk at Los Angeles Community College. During this period, he also lived in New York City, working as a dancer at the 1964 World's Fair, and in San Francisco, California, where he was a member of the Opera Ring music group.

Although his first credited film appearance was in 1971's *Who Says I Can't Ride a Rainbow?*, Freeman first became known in the American media through roles on the soap opera *Another World* and *The Electric Company*, which was a show for children.



In the mid-1980s, Freeman began playing **supporting roles** in many feature films, earning him a reputation for depicting **fatherly figures**. As he gained fame, he went on to bigger roles in films such as the chauffeur Hoke in *Driving Miss Daisy*, and Sergeant Major Rawlins in *Glory* (both in 1989). His latest film is *Invictus* in which he plays South African leader Nelson Mandela.

# QUOTES

"Acting means living. It's all I do and all I'm good at. If I weren't getting paid well, I would still be acting in a small **troupe** somewhere."

"But I can say that life is good to me. Has been and is good. So I think my task is to be good to it. So how do you be good to life? You live it."

"I always tell my kids if you lay down, people will **step over** you. But if you keep **scrambling**, if you keep going, someone will always, always **give you a hand**. Always. But **you gotta** keep dancing, you gotta keep your feet moving."

"I am going to stop calling you a white man and I'm going to ask you to stop calling me a black man."

"I don't want a Black History Month. Black history is American history."

"I feel fine, I don't care who the director is. All you have to do is know what you're doing – all of us – everybody in the business. That's all you ask anyone – you know your job, I know mine, let's go do it."

"I like the blues a lot. I grew up on it."

"I find it difficult to watch myself... I find it boring."

## MORGAN FREEMAN

Full name: Morgan Porterfield Freeman, Jr.  
Born: 1st June 1937.  
American actor, film director and narrator. Has received Oscar nominations for his performances in *Street Smart*, *Driving Miss Daisy* and *The Shawshank Redemption* before winning in 2005 for *Million Dollar Baby*. Other famous films include: *Unforgiven*, *Seven*, *Batman Begins* and *The Dark Knight*. Married to Jeanette Adair Bradshaw from 22nd October 1967 until 1979. Married Myrna Colley-Lee on 16th June 1984. The couple separated in December 2007. Two sons from previous relationships. He adopted his first wife's daughter, E'dena, and the couple also had a fourth child, Morgana. Freeman lives in Charleston, Mississippi, and New York City. He has a private pilot's licence, which he earned at the age of 65.



## GLOSSARY

- a performance** *n*  
an actor's "performance" is the work he/she does in a film
- the Hollywood Walk of Fame** *n*  
a road in Hollywood, Los Angeles, California, USA, with stars on the street with the names of famous people/characters from cinema
- poverty** *n*  
the state of being very poor; a lack of wealth and money
- to perform** *vb*  
to act/sing/dance, etc. in a film/play or in front of people
- to land a big part** *n*  
if you "land" a big part, you are given that part in a film
- a screenplay** *n*  
the text for a film/play
- a couch** *n*  
a sofa; a long, soft chair
- an imperialist** *n*  
someone who supports and believes in an empire
- to slug** *vb inform*  
to drink
- the establishment** *n*  
a word used to refer to the people in power – the government or authorities
- on the run** *exp*  
if someone is "on the run", they are trying to escape from the police
- a line** *n*  
a piece of text (often a sentence) from a film/play, etc.
- to research** *vb*  
to investigate; to find information about
- an aisle** *n*  
a corridor between bookshelves/seats, etc.
- to unfold** *vb*  
to develop
- a reserved demeanour** *n*  
a way of behaving and being that is very quiet, calm and controlled – not forward or outgoing
- to turn down** *phr vb*  
to say that you don't want to do/accept something
- a scholarship** *n*  
money given to a student to study at a particular school/college, etc.
- a supporting role** *n*  
a part in a film that is not as important as the main part
- a fatherly figure** *n*  
someone with a soft, kind nature who represents the ideal father
- a troupe** *n*  
a group of travelling actors/dancers, etc.
- to step over** *exp*  
if you "step over" something on the ground, you walk over it and don't put your feet on it
- to scramble** *vb*  
literally, to move quickly (often on your hands and knees)
- give you a hand** *exp*  
help you
- you gotta** *exp inform*  
you have got to; you must



# SOUTH AFRICA

SOUTH AFRICA HAS HAD A LONG, VIOLENT HISTORY, BUT NOW THE FUTURE LOOKS BRIGHTER. JOIN US ON A HISTORICAL TRIP THROUGH SOUTH AFRICA.

In 1652, Jan van Riebeeck and 90 men land at the Cape of Good Hope. They are under instructions by the **Dutch East India Company** to build a fort and develop a vegetable garden for ships on their way to Asia.



In the early 1700s, **Afrikaner** farmers (Boers) begin to push north and east into other parts of South Africa.

The British take the Cape over from the Dutch in 1795. Seven years later, the colony is returned to the Dutch government, only to come under British rule again in 1806.

The **emancipation of slaves** in 1834 causes the Great Trek.



This is an emigration north and east of about 12,000 Boers. They are determined to live independently in a racially-divided society.

The Boers move into lands owned by the Zulus. Under the leadership of Piet Retief, they try to negotiate for land. In February 1838, Retief is murdered by the Zulus.

On the **Highveld** two Boer republics are formed: the central Orange Free State and the Transvaal, also known as the ZAR (Zuid-Afrikaanse Republiek).

A war follows between the Boers and the Zulus. Zulu impis (regiments) attack Boer camps and kill many. A group of 470

Boers are sent down from the Transvaal Republic to help the settlers. On 16th December 1838, the Boers are attacked by 10,000 Zulus. Three thousand Zulus die, but the Boers suffer just 3 injuries without any fatalities. The Ncome River turns red with all the blood and the conflict becomes known as the Battle of Blood River. The 16th December is celebrated by Afrikaners as a public holiday, colloquially called "Dingans Day".



The British fight the Zulus and lose against King Cetshwayo at the battle of Isandhlwana in 1879. The following year, the Zulus are defeated.

The pro-Afrikaner Paul Kruger is elected president of Transvaal. Gold is discovered on the Witwatersrand (a range of hills). Huge numbers of workers (mostly British) go to work on the gold fields.



In the Cape, Cecil John Rhodes becomes Prime Minister. He organises a raid into Johannesburg – the Jameson raid – in an attempt to annex the Transvaal. It fails. The Orange Free State, under President MT Steyn, forms a military alliance with the Transvaal.

The Anglo-Boer/South African War begins in October 1899. Up to half a million British soldiers fight some 65,000 Boers; black South Africans are pulled into

the conflict on both sides. The British suffer many losses. In response, Major General Herbert Kitchener adopts a **scorched-earth policy** and sets up **concentration camps**. Some 26,000 Boer women and children and thousands of black South Africans die in the **appalling** conditions in the camps. The war ends in Boer defeat in 1902. The Peace of Vereeniging is signed.

The Union of South Africa is formed on 31st May 1910.

Over the years, many laws are passed which limit the freedom of black Africans. These include Pass Laws which oblige black, coloured and people of Indian origin to carry passes.



In 1923, the ANC (African National Congress) is formed to fight for black South African rights.

1948 election victory of the Afrikaner-dominated National Party. They introduce **apartheid\***.

In 1960, the Sharpeville Massacre takes place. Police kill 69 **unarmed** protesters during an anti-pass protest.

In 1961, the ANC forms a military wing known as Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation).



In August 1962, Nelson Mandela is arrested.

In July 1963, police arrest several of Mandela's senior ANC

colleagues, including Walter Sisulu. They are charged with **sabotage**. Mandela is brought from prison to stand trial with them. In 1964, all are sentenced to life imprisonment and taken to a prison on Robben Island.

On 2nd February 1990, President F.W. de Klerk **lifts restrictions** on 33 opposition groups including the ANC, the PAC and the Communist Party, at the opening of parliament.



Political groups start negotiating the end of white minority rule. In early 1992, the white electorate endorses De Klerk's stance on these negotiations in a referendum.

South Africa's first democratic elections are held on 26th to 28th April 1994. Victory goes to the ANC in an alliance with the Communist Party and COSATU. Nelson Mandela is sworn in as President on 10th May with FW de Klerk and the ANC's Thabo Mbeki as Deputy Presidents.



In 1995, the Springboks win the rugby World Cup match against the All Blacks (New Zealand's rugby team).



In 2004, Thabo Mbeki and the ANC return to power in South Africa's third democratic election.

2010 – South Africa is the first African nation to host the World Cup. 🌟





# AFRICAN HISTORY

## NELSON MANDELA

## QUOTES



Nelson Rolihlahla Mandela (born 18th July 1918) is a former President of South Africa, the first to be elected in democratic elections. He held office from 1994–99. Before becoming president, Mandela was the leader of the African National Congress's armed wing Umkhonto we Sizwe (Spear of the Nation). He spent 27 years in prison, mostly on Robben Island. Following his release from prison (on 11th February 1990), Mandela supported reconciliation and negotiation, and helped lead

the transition towards multi-racial democracy in South Africa. Since the end of apartheid, many have frequently **praised** Mandela, including former opponents. Mandela has received more

than two hundred awards over four decades, most notably the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993. Since his retirement, one of Mandela's primary commitments has been to fight against AIDS.



IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE.

"A good head and a good heart are always a formidable combination."

"After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb."

"Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world."

"I detest racialism because I regard it as a barbaric thing, whether it comes from a black man or a white man."

"I learned that courage was not the absence of fear, but the **triumph over** it. The brave man is not he who does not feel afraid, but he who conquers that fear."

"If there are dreams about a beautiful South Africa, there are also roads that lead to their goal. Two of these roads could be named Goodness and Forgiveness."

"If you want to make peace with your enemy, you have to work with your enemy. Then he becomes your partner."

"It always seems impossible until it's done."

"Let there be work, bread, water and salt for all!"

"Money won't create success, the freedom to make it will."

"During my lifetime I have dedicated myself to the struggle of the African people. I have fought against white domination, and I have fought against black domination. I have **cherished** the ideal of a democratic and free society in which all persons live together in harmony and with equal opportunities. It is an ideal which I hope to live for and to achieve. But if needs be, it is an ideal for which I am prepared to die."



## \*APARTHEID

A system of legal racial segregation enforced by the National Party between 1948 and early 1994. Racial segregation existed before, but it became an official policy following the general election of 1948. The government segregated education, medical care, and other public services, and provided black people with services inferior to those of whites.



## GLOSSARY

**the Dutch East India Company** *n*  
a trading company founded by the Dutch (from Holland) in 1602

**an Afrikaner** *n*  
a person of Dutch, French or German descent who emigrated to South Africa

**the emancipation of slaves** *n*  
the freeing of slaves; when this happened, slavery was prohibited

**the Highveld** *n*  
a high plateau region of South Africa that contains cities such as Pretoria, Johannesburg, etc.

**a scorched-earth policy** *n*  
a strategy that consists of burning and destroying everything in an area so the enemy can't find food, etc.

**a concentration camp** *n*  
a large guarded area for holding women, children, men, etc. as prisoners often in terrible conditions

**appalling** *adj*  
terrible; horrible; very bad

**unarmed** *adj*  
with no guns/knives/weapons, etc.

**sabotage** *n*  
the destruction of property by civilians during a time of war

**to lift restrictions** *exp*  
to stop/remove restrictions

**to praise** *vb*  
to say good things about someone/something

**to triumph over** *exp*  
to win against

**to cherish** *vb*  
if you "cherish" something, you value it a lot

# SATOP

## OUR TOP TEN THINGS TO DO IN SOUTH AFRICA.

### 1 SAN HERITAGE TOUR

The San Bushmen of South Africa were the country's original inhabitants, and very probably the **ancestors of all humanity**. The remaining San are found in the Kalahari area of the Northern Cape, especially around Kimberley and the Kgalagadi Transfrontier Park. You will need



your own transport to visit the **far-flung** San but it is well worth the effort. San rock art represents one of the oldest traditions of art-making in the world and is a must-see.

### 2 DRAKENSBERG MOUNTAIN RANGE/ TIFFINDELL SKI RESORT

Visit the Ukhahlamba-Drakensberg Park. The mountain range in this park **stretches over** 150 kilometres, and some of the most scenic sights include Cathedral Peak, Giant's Castle and Monk's Cowl. **Hiking**, rock climbing and fishing are major activities. You're also not too far from



Tiffindell ski-resort. Yes! A ski-resort in Africa! Skiing and snowboarding lessons are available in winter,



with grass skiing and mountain biking in summer.

### 3 ROBBER ISLAND (CAPE TOWN)

A small island off the coast of Cape Town, Robben Island has been a leper colony, a mental hospital and a prison. But now it's a cultural world



heritage destination and perhaps the dominant symbol of South Africa's journey into democracy. Robben Island is where Nelson Mandela and many other leaders in the **struggle** against apartheid were **imprisoned**. Tours of

the former maximum-security jail are now available and are generally given by former political prisoners.

### 4 VOLUNTEER PROJECTS

Don't just visit the country, but play a part in its development! There are an increasing number of projects (generally based around conservation and development) which are for tourists who want to find



out about South Africa. The projects range from teaching in local primary schools to

animal rehabilitation, and they can last from a few days up to a year. They offer a unique opportunity to learn about this incredible country, plus you get to help others.

### 5 BIG 7 SAFARI

Why stop at the "big-five" (lion, leopard, elephant, rhino and buffalo) when you can see sharks and whales too? Safari holidays have **come a long way** and it is no longer just a case of sitting in a jeep looking hopefully through binoculars. There are elephant walks, balloon safaris and even yoga safaris (yoga in the morning and evening, animal watching during the day)! And once you've seen the "big five" on land, **head out** to the Eastern Cape for shark-**spotting** and whale-watching. And if that all seems like a

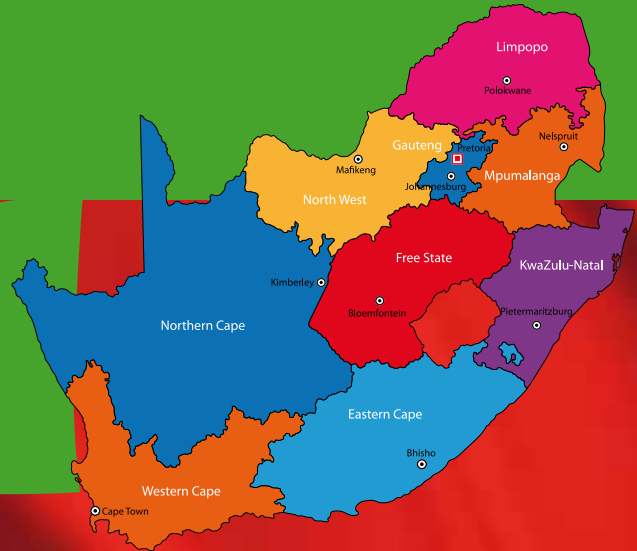


bit much, how about trying to see South Africa's "Little Five": the elephant shrew, the ant lion, the rhinoceros beetle, the buffalo weave and the leopard tortoise. Wonderful!





# TEN



**6 WATCH BAFANA BAFANA PLAY**  
South Africa is **football-mad** and their national team – otherwise known as Bafana Bafana – are local heroes. Not only that, but South Africa is **hosting** the World Cup in 2010. Many new stadiums are being built and old ones renovated – so it's the perfect time to go and see "the boys" (which is what "Bafana" means in **Xhosa**). Watch the **Pride of Africa** on the field, and **sample** a little of the carnival atmosphere that goes with every game.

**7 WINE ROUTE**  
Are you a fan of the finer things in life? South Africa makes some of the world's best wines and they do it in some of the most **stunning** landscapes imaginable. Many of the **wineries** offer tours



and **wine tasting**. If that sounds a little **laid-back**, how about paragliding, ballooning or skydiving over the wine-country. Or, if you want to stay nearer the ground, there's

mountain-biking and white-water rafting, too. All of which are followed by some seriously good dining – **washed down with** a bottle of South Africa's finest, of course.

**8 THE GARDEN ROUTE**  
The Garden Route lies between Cape Town and Port Elizabeth and **boasts** some truly stunning scenery (it is considered by many to be South Africa's "Garden of Eden"). There are ancient forests, mountain **hideaways** and glorious beaches. Just a



few highlights include the fynbos floral kingdom, mountain hiking in Ladysmith and a trip into the Cango Caves.

**9 VISIT SOWETO**  
Situating just outside Johannesburg, Soweto was once a **poverty-stricken slum** and a **no-go area** for anyone who didn't have to live there. Nowadays it's a **vibrant** township, with lively restaurants and bars and a world of cultural history. Go on an organised tour and stay for a few days to sample its unique



atmosphere and vibe. There are festivals throughout the year, you can see Nelson Mandela's home in Orlando West and **thrill-seekers** can even do a bungee jump from between the township's famous **cooling towers**.

**10 OSTRICH RACING**  
Last but not least, **indulge your need for** speed with a little ostrich racing. There are more than one hundred thousand ostriches in Oudtshoorn, and many ostrich farms in the area offer people the opportunity to ride and race these fascinating birds. Careful though, ostriches



can run at speeds of up to 70 kph, so hold on tight!  
So, prepare yourself for the trip of a lifetime to South Africa. 🌱

**GLOSSARY**

**the ancestors of all humanity** *exp*  
the first humans

**far-flung** *adj*  
"far-flung" places are a long distance away

**to stretch over** *exp*  
if mountains or hills "stretch over" an area, they cover that area

**hiking** *n*  
walking in the mountains/hills as a form of sport

**a struggle** *n*  
a fight

**to imprison** *vb*  
to put in prison

**to come a long way** *exp*  
if something has "come a long way", it has improved a lot and is better

**to head out to** *exp*  
to go to

**to spot** *vb*  
to notice/see

**football-mad** *adj*  
if you are "football-mad", you love football

**to host** *vb*  
if a country "hosts" a tournament, they organise and manage it

**Xhosa** *n*  
Xhosa people are speakers of Bantu languages from South Africa

**to sample** *vb*  
to try food/wine

**stunning** *adj*  
really beautiful

**a winery** *n*  
a place where wine is made

**wine tasting** *n*  
trying different types of wine

**laid-back** *adj*  
relaxed

**to wash (food) down with** *exp*  
if you "wash your food down with" wine, you drink wine with your food

**to boast** *vb*  
if an area "boasts" something special/good, it has that special/good thing

**a hideaway** *n*  
an isolated place where you can go to escape from people

**poverty-stricken** *adj*  
extremely poor

**a slum** *n*  
an area with no electricity, water, etc. where many poor people live

**a no-go area** *n*  
an area that is very dangerous and that you shouldn't go to

**vibrant** *adj*  
exciting and full of life and energy

**a thrill-seeker** *n*  
someone who loves doing exciting things that cause extreme emotions

**cooling towers** *n*  
two towers about 100 metres tall that were originally for a power station, but are now used for bungee jumping

**indulge your need for** *exp*  
to satisfy your need for

# READING I



Watch & Learn!  
Listen to people discussing  
this topic in a mini-video at  
[www.hotenglishmagazine.com](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com)



# Street Style

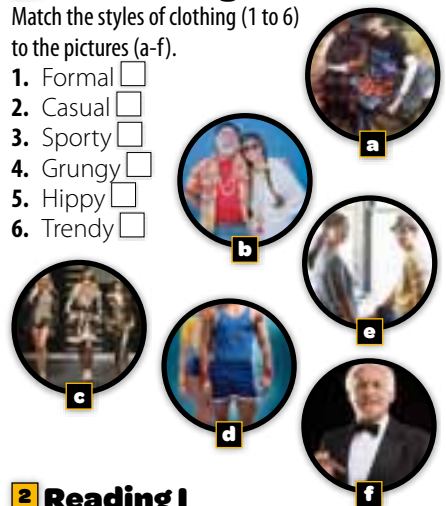
How to find the style that suits you.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

## 1 Pre-reading

Match the styles of clothing (1 to 6) to the pictures (a-f).

1. Formal
2. Casual
3. Sporty
4. Grungy
5. Hippy
6. Trendy



## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. What advice does the writer give for discovering your own style?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again. True or false?

1. You can get cheap clothes in charity shops.
2. Leila Gray paid £800 for a second-hand jacket.
3. The best areas to look for bargains are in the rich areas of a city.
4. Experts say it's good to stick to one style.
5. Momus says that it's good to try to be like everyone else.
6. Shoichi Aoki was inspired by people combining western and Japanese styles.

## 4 Language focus Adjectives

Look at this extract from the article, "So, now you know where to buy your new, stylish clothes..." The writer has used a number of adjectives ("new / stylish"). Complete the sentences with clothes adjectives with your own ideas.

1. I've got a new, trendy...
2. I've got a really thick \_\_\_\_\_ that's great for the winter.
3. I've got a light \_\_\_\_\_ that's perfect for hot days.
4. I've got a really warm \_\_\_\_\_ that I always wear when it's cold.
5. I've got a really cool \_\_\_\_\_ that I always wear to parties.

## 5 Discussion

1. How would you describe your style?
2. What kind of clothes do stylish people wear in your country?
3. If you had €1,000 to spend on clothes today, where would you go shopping? What would you buy?



point of view," (Robert Eberhart); "Style is a simple way of saying complicated things," (Jean Cocteau); "Style is the dress of thoughts," (Lord Chesterfield).

So, now you know what style is, you'll need to buy some clothes. But where? In the UK, you can get really cheap, stylish, second-hand clothes at **charity shops**. They're great if you want exclusive **labels** but don't want to pay the price. The only difficulty is discovering where the really good bargains are. But don't worry, Leila Gray can help you here. She's the proud owner of a vintage Hardy Amies coat, picked up at a charity shop for £20 - a good **deal** when you realise it cost more than £800 new. "You have to go to the richer areas of a city," she says. "That's where all the labels are. It can take a bit of **hunting around**, but that's half the fun, and there's a lot of **buried treasure** just waiting to be discovered."

So, now you know where to buy your new, stylish clothes, how do you acquire your style? Experts say that mixing and matching from charity shops can help you find your own style - something that's really you. That's what Scottish musician Momus did. "My fashion tip is this," he says, "look at yourself with the eye of a graphic designer. If you can't be attractive, aim for 'interesting' or 'original.'" Momus' unique style could even make him happier, too. As psychologist Marilyn Elias explains, the happiest people "**judge themselves by their own yardsticks**, never against what others do or have".

Shoichi Aoki, the founder of Japanese street style magazine FRUITS, agrees. "I think real fashion is what people wear on the streets, the clothes that they wear, the way that they wear them," he says. "What you see in fashion magazines and on models has been styled and it's more **commercial**." He says that his inspiration for FRUITS came from people combining traditional Japanese clothing such as the kimono and "geta" (Japanese wooden clogs) with Western fashion. "This really **caught my eye**," Aoki adds. These styles may seem wild, but Aoki's idea is not: be bold, be creative and find something that **suits** you.

Maybe it's time to create your own look. There are many online guides to help you. Perhaps the best advice comes from a website called wikiHow, "If you see something you like," it says, "feel free to copy, but don't make yourself a **clone**... mix it up and make it yours." Think about it! ✨

How would you describe your style? Formal? Classical? **Casual**?

**Smart**? Find out how you can discover your very own style.

First of all, what is style? Let's hear a few **words of wisdom** from the wise and **witty**. "Style is knowing who you are and what you want to say," (Gore Vidal); "Style is an expression of individualism mixed with **charisma**," (John Fairchild); "Style is the perfection of a

### GLOSSARY

- casual** *adj*  
"casual" clothes are ones you normally wear at home or while on holiday
- smart** *adj*  
clothes that are neat and clean in appearance
- words of wisdom** *exp*  
clever/intelligent thoughts and words
- witty** *adj*  
someone who is "witty" can say clever/intelligent things very quickly
- charisma** *n*  
someone who has "charisma" can attract, influence and inspire people
- a charity shop** *n*  
a shop that sells second-hand goods. The money is used to fund charities
- a label** *n*  
clothing produced by a top fashion company
- a deal** *n*  
a bargain; something that is good value for money
- to hunt around** *phr vb*  
to look for something carefully and in a number of places
- buried treasure** *exp*  
metaphorically = great clothes that are very cheap (in this case)
- to judge yourself by your own yardstick** *exp*  
to form an opinion about yourself without comparing yourself to others
- commercial** *adj*  
a "commercial" product is one that is made in order to be sold to the public
- to catch your eye** *exp*  
if something "catches your eye," you notice it
- to suit** *vb*  
if something "suits" you, it looks good on you
- a clone** *n*  
an exact copy/replica of something



# READING II

# On Expenses

The UK parliamentary expenses scandal – corruption at home.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

## 1 Pre-reading

Look at the list of expenses. Which ones do you think are reasonable and legitimate?

- a job for your son
- some dog food    a train ticket
- some stationery    shampoo
- a restaurant bill    a hotel bill
- a film on DVD    a plane ticket
- a second home    a toilet seat
- accommodation

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which items from the Pre-reading task are mentioned?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and complete the information with your own words. Try to do it without referring back to the article.

- Derek Conway employed his son as...
- As a result of the scandal, Conway was...
- Some of the more ridiculous expenses included claims for...
- Many MPs have a right to buy...
- Some MPs were claiming for a second home even though...
- Jacqui Smith didn't really need...

## 4 Language focus The Present Continuous Passive

Look at this extract from the article, "...how their hard-earned money is being spent by MPs." The writer has used a Present Continuous Passive construction ("to be" + "being" + a past participle). Transform these sentences into the corresponding passive forms.

- They are cleaning the room.
- She is sending the e-mail.
- He is taking the photo.
- We are writing the report.

## 5 Discussion

- Have you ever claimed for expenses? What were they for?
- What's the most ridiculous expense claim you've ever heard about?
- Has there been a similar scandal in your country? What happened?



When you pay your taxes what do you expect the government to spend your money on? Hospitals, schools, housing and transport? Of course. A house for a pet duck? Certainly not! A recent political scandal in the UK has shown the British public how their hard-earned money is being spent by MPs. This is the first of a two-part series on the now-famous "UK Parliamentary Expenses Scandal".

One of the first cases involved Conservative MP Derek Conway. He employed his son Frederick as a "parliamentary assistant" and claimed £11,773 a year for the boy's salary. Sounds OK, doesn't it? The thing is that Frederick was a full-time student at Newcastle University at the time and there was *no* record of him ever actually doing any work for his father. Conway was **fined** £13,000 and was **expelled** from the Conservative party **in disgrace**. It was later discovered that he had claimed a similar salary for another son.

Other scandals involved MPs' **claims** for ordinary **expenses**. Over the years, MPs have put in thousands of claims for legitimate items such as food, accommodation and travel. But other claims seem to point to the fact that some MPs are really trying to **milk the system**: dog food, tin openers, cleaning products and even toilet seats. One of the most spectacular claims involved Home Secretary Jacqui Smith. Amongst her many receipts, she put in one for the cost of two adult X-rated films that her husband had watched in a hotel where they were staying. Ms Smith was **mortified** when she found out about it and her husband was forced to **issue an apology**.

Jacqui Smith was also at the centre of the "second home scandal". Under the existing law, many MPs have a right to buy a second home. For example, if an MP represents a part of Edinburgh (in Scotland) and they have to **attend** parliament in London (which is 650 kilometres away), they can buy a second home in or near London. However, many MPs use this as an excuse to get a bit of extra **cash** or to buy another home. For example, Labour Minister Tony McNulty was claiming for a second home that was only 12 kilometres from his first home. And Conservative MP Eric Pickle's second home is only 47 kilometres from his main home. In fact, sixteen London MPs were claiming up to £16,000 a year each for a second home although they lived less than an hour from the Houses of Parliament in Central London.

Jacqui Smith's case was a bit more complicated. In total, she claimed more than £100,000 for a "second home". She told the **accounts office** that a house in London she shared with her sister was her main home. This meant she could use the parliamentary **second home allowance** to fund costs associated with her family home, which was in her Redditch **constituency** (more than 100 kilometres away) However, she was spending more nights at her family home in Redditch than in London. So, did she really need a second home, or was she just trying to make a bit of extra cash? As Home Secretary, she also receives a free house from the state, so why does she need to stay at her sister's? Who knows? But it isn't fair. More next month. ☺



## GLOSSARY

- MP** *abbr*  
a Member of Parliament (someone who is elected to represent an area in the UK)
- to fine** *vb*  
if someone is "fined", they must pay a sum of money because they have committed a crime
- to expel in disgrace** *exp*  
if someone is "expelled in disgrace", they are ordered to leave a place/organisation because they have done something wrong/bad
- a claim** *n*  
a demand for payment
- an expense** *n*  
a sum of money that you spend in order to do your job. This sum is paid back to you. Expenses are often for food, travel, accommodation, etc.
- to milk the system** *exp*  
to get as much personal benefit as possible from the system
- mortified** *adj*  
extremely offended/embarrassed
- to issue an apology** *exp*  
to say sorry in a formal/official way
- to attend** *vb*  
if you "attend" an event, you go to it
- cash** *n*  
money in the form of coins and notes
- the accounts office** *n*  
the department in a company that deals with expenses, payments, etc.
- a second home allowance** *n*  
money that MPs are given to pay for costs related to a second home (another home they buy because they live far away from London)
- a constituency** *n*  
an area that someone is elected to represent

A look at the tough guy of cinema history: Clint Eastwood.

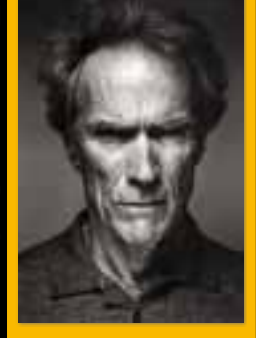


THE MAN WITH NO NAME

# THE MAN WITH NO NAME



**CLINT EASTWOOD**  
 Full name: Clinton Eastwood.  
 Date of birth: 31st May 1930, San Francisco, California.  
 Height 1.88 metres.  
 Some of his famous films include *Where Eagles Dare* (1968), *Coogan's Bluff* (1968), *Hang 'Em High* (1968), *Kelly's Heroes* (1970), *Two Mules for Sister Sara* (1970), *Every Which Way But Loose* (1978), *Escape from Alcatraz* (1979), *In the Line of Fire* (1993), and *The Bridges of Madison County* (1995).



## QUOTES

"I like the libertarian view, which is to leave everyone alone. Even as a kid, I was annoyed by people who wanted to tell everyone how to live."  
 "This film cost \$31 million. With that kind of money I could have invaded some country."  
 "They say marriages are made in Heaven. But so is thunder and lightning."

**GLOSSARY**  
**to drop out** *n*  
 if someone "drops out" of school/college, they leave before they finish the course  
**a part** *n*  
 a part in a film; a role  
**a household name** *n*  
 a famous, well-known person  
**a big break** *n*  
 a big opportunity to become famous  
**a directorial debut** *n*  
 the first time that someone directs a film  
**the highest grossing film** *exp*  
 the film that made the most money from ticket sales



HE'S BEEN A SUCCESSFUL ACTOR AND DIRECTOR. HE'S PLAYED COWBOYS, COPS AND SOLDIERS. HIS LATEST FILM IS *INVICTUS*. CLINT EASTWOOD IS A LIVING LEGEND.

Clint Eastwood was born on 31st May 1930 in San Francisco. He **dropped out** of college, and then started out with small **parts** in B-films such as *Tarantula* (1955) and *Revenge of the Creature* (1955). Later, he starred in the TV series *Rawhide* (1959). He played the part of Rowdy Yates for six years, becoming a **household name** around the country.



I'M A LIVING LEGEND.

Eastwood's **big break** came during the 1960s. He starred in a number of films directed by Italian "spaghetti western" director Sergio Leone including *Per un Pugno di Dollari* (1964 – *A Fistful of Dollars*), and *Per Qualche Dollaro in Più* (1965 – *For a Few Dollars More*). They both did well, but it was the film *Il Buono, Il Brutto, Il Cattivo* (1966 – *The Good, The Bad and The Ugly*) that really made him famous.

The 1970s were good for Eastwood's career. He starred in the thriller *Play Misty for Me* (1971), which was also his **directorial debut**. Later that year, he played police inspector Harry Callahan in *Dirty Harry* (1971). He also acted in the western *High Plains Drifter* (1973), which he directed, and in popular films such as *Thunderbolt and Lightfoot* (1974), *Magnum Force* (1973), *The Enforcer* (1976) and *The Outlaw Josey Wales* (1976), which is considered one of the best westerns ever.

Things continued to go well in the eighties and nineties. There was *Firefox* (1982) and the fourth sequel to *Dirty Harry*, *Sudden Impact* (1983) (the **highest grossing film** of the series). Other films didn't do so well, but he surprised everyone yet again with his western *Unforgiven* (1992), which won four Oscar awards, including Best Picture and Best Director. In what is arguably his best film, Eastwood starred opposite Hilary Swank and Morgan Freeman in the boxing drama *Million Dollar Baby* (2004), which also won an Oscar for Best Picture.

After starring in hit films for five consecutive decades, Clint Eastwood has proved himself to be one of cinema's greats. 🍷

## TRIVIA

Eastwood has seven children from five different women.  
 He lives in Carmel and has been married to Dina Eastwood since 1996.  
 In 1986 he was elected mayor of Carmel-by-the-Sea, California.  
 An anagram of "Clint Eastwood" is "old west action".  
 At age 74, Eastwood became the oldest person to win the Best Director Oscar for *Million Dollar Baby* (2004). His 95-year-old mother was at the ceremony.



CAN YOU GET ME AN OSCAR?

Eastwood has directed 9 different actors in Oscar-nominated performances: Gene Hackman, Meryl Streep, Sean Penn, Tim Robbins, Marcia Gay Harden, Morgan Freeman, Hilary Swank, Angelina Jolie and himself (in *Unforgiven* and *Million Dollar Baby*). Hackman, Penn, Robbins, Freeman and Swank have won Oscars for their performances in Eastwood's movies.



# Technophobia

Dealing with technology.

By Patrick Howarth

## 1 Pre-reading

Match the names (1 to 8) to the pictures (a-h).

1. A laptop
2. A mobile phone
3. A digital camera
4. A technophobe
5. A sci-fi novel
6. An icon
7. A keypad
8. A menu



## 2 Reading I

Read the first paragraph – the “Dear Max” e-mail from Daniel in Nuremberg. What advice would you give? Then, read the article once to compare your ideas.

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. What’s the connection between the Amish and technology?
2. What were the Luddites worried about?
3. What happened to some of Luddites?
4. According to Joe from Edinburgh, what are the two types of technophobes?
5. What percentage of the UK population are technophobes?
6. What is the novel *Frankenstein* a warning of?
7. Why are the mobiles made by Jitterbug good for older people?

## 4 Language focus Relative Clauses

Look at this extract from the article, “The Luddite cloth workers, who traditionally made cloth by hand, were worried...” The writer has used a relative pronoun and relative clause (“who traditionally made...”). Complete the following sentences with the correct relative pronouns (where necessary).

1. The desk \_\_\_\_\_ I bought yesterday is in the office.
2. She’s the woman \_\_\_\_\_ I was telling you about.
3. This is the dog \_\_\_\_\_ owner lives across the street.
4. I can’t find the jacket \_\_\_\_\_ I got for my birthday.
5. Have you seen that man \_\_\_\_\_ is jogging in the park?

## 5 Discussion

1. Are you a technophobe? Why? Give details.
2. What’s your favourite / least favourite gadget?
3. Which gadget / piece of technology would you most like to buy? Why?



## TechnoHelp

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Forum » »

Posted 10th February

Discuss your techno-related problems here.

Dear Max. Please help. I live in Germany with my wife and three kids. My parents live in the UK. I want my kids to have as much contact with their grandparents as possible. The kids all use e-mail, Skype and SMS but my parents won’t. I’ve bought them a laptop, paid for broadband, given them both mobile phones and a digital camera, but they won’t use them. My parents say they hate computers and new technology. My kids call them “The Technophobes”. What can I do?

**Daniel, Nuremberg, Germany**

You should give them a copy of the film *Witness*, starring Harrison Ford. The film shows the life of the Amish people, who are genuine technophobes. The Amish are a Christian people of Swiss-German origin who live in the US states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Indiana. They live simple lives and do not usually use many types of modern technology like cars, telephones, and electricity.

**Corey, New York, USA**

Actually, Corey, the original technophobes were the Luddites, a group of cloth workers in 19th century Britain during the Industrial Revolution. The Luddite cloth workers, who traditionally made cloth by hand, were worried that machines were going to take away their jobs and way of life. These machines were mechanised looms which could make cloth much faster and cheaper than humans. In 1811 and 1812 the Luddites attacked and destroyed the machines that they hated so much, but the British government supported the factory owners. Many Luddites were arrested and executed. Charlotte Bronte’s novel *Shirley* will tell your parents all about it.

**Laura, Valencia, Spain.**

There is a more serious side to this. Technophobes can be divided into two groups, those who hate technology because they can’t use it, and those who are afraid of the effects of technology on the modern world. This second group of technophobes have some important points to make. For example, when atomic bombs were used to end the Second World War, many people were worried about the future of the world now that the human race had the power to destroy it. This led to the beginnings of environmentalism and campaigns against lead in petrol and the role of technology in the destruction of the ozone layer. Perhaps your parents are sensible.

**Joe, Edinburgh, Scotland**

You’re not alone, Daniel. There are millions of technophobes out there. A recent survey in the UK found that 23% of the adult population in the UK are technophobes. Of that group 54% are men and 46% women. 55% are over 55 years old.

**Rex, Oxford, UK.**

Joe makes some interesting points, I think. Technophobia has been a common theme in literature, especially science fiction. *Frankenstein*, one of the first sci-fi novels, is a warning of what could happen if humans begin to experiment with human life. The films *Bladerunner*, *Terminator* and *Matrix* also deal with this.

**Freda, Copenhagen, Denmark.**

One thing you could try is to find hardware that is designed for older people to use. An example are the mobiles made by the US company Jitterbug. Instead of icons and menus the Jitterbug phones ask users simple “yes/no” questions and have larger keypads. The company realised that there are potentially 100 million older users in the US alone and that designing technology for them to use was a good business idea.

**Graham, Patras, Greece.**

Buy them a copy of the Technophobes’ latest album. They’re a guitar synth band from Glasgow and are brilliant.

**Bennie, Glasgow, Scotland.**





# DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC

# problems

HERE ARE SOME MORE USEFUL AND INTERESTING EXPRESSIONS FOR YOU TO LEARN. THIS MONTH: PROBLEMS.

DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC



**Sleep on it**

NOT TO MAKE AN IMMEDIATE DECISION BUT TO WAIT UNTIL THE NEXT DAY IN ORDER TO HAVE MORE TIME TO THINK ABOUT IT.

"You don't have to decide right now, just sleep on it and let me know what you think tomorrow morning."



**We'll cross that bridge when we come to it**

WE'LL DEAL WITH THAT PROBLEM AT THE APPROPRIATE MOMENT.

"Don't worry about how we're going to finance the project – we'll cross that bridge when we come to it."



**Be up in the air**

IF SOMETHING IS "UP IN THE AIR", NO DECISION HAS BEEN TAKEN ABOUT IT.

"They still haven't decided where to get the new office. It's all still up in the air."



**A bone of contention**

SOMETHING CONTROVERSIAL THAT PEOPLE SPEND A LOT OF TIME ARGUING/FIGHTING ABOUT.

"Deciding who would end up with the house in the country and who would get the flat in the city was the main bone of contention."



**Use a sledgehammer to crack a nut**

TO USE MORE FORCE OR SPEND MORE MONEY THAN IS NECESSARY.

"Sixty armed police officers stormed into the building looking for the elderly tourists. It was like using a sledgehammer to crack a nut."



**Let sleeping dogs lie**

NOT TO TALK ABOUT THINGS WHICH HAVE CAUSED PROBLEMS IN THE PAST; NOT TO TRY TO CHANGE A SITUATION BECAUSE IT MIGHT CAUSE MORE PROBLEMS. IF YOU WAKE UP THE "SLEEPING DOG", THEY MIGHT ATTACK YOU.

"The government felt it was best to ignore the situation and just let sleeping dogs lie."



**Come up against a brick wall / Hit a brick wall**

TO BE UNABLE TO CONTINUE AN ACTIVITY BECAUSE THERE IS AN OBSTACLE OR PROBLEM TO DEAL WITH.

"The new law means that this building can't be used as a factory or office, so we have to stop working and move out asap. We've hit a brick wall!"



# QUIRKY NEWS & CORNY CRIMINALS

## quirky news



### See ya later, alligator!

Wildlife officer loses alligator in school.

// It was supposed to be a bit of fun but it turned into a **nightmare**," said wildlife officer Jeff Branes after the alligator he brought into his daughter's school managed to escape. "I caught it in a nearby river," Branes explained. "I told my daughter about it and she said it would be great to take into school for a **show-and-tell class**. So, I **taped** its mouth **shut**, **loaded** it into the back of my truck and drove to school. Things started off well and it was a real **hit** with the class. But later, when I took it back to my truck, it **jumped off** the **back** and ran into the **bushes**. And now I can't find it." Police immediately closed the

school, and the pupils were taken home. Meanwhile, Branes, who is originally from Swampsville, Florida, organised a **hunt** for the missing animal. "We believe it's somewhere in the school grounds, but so far it has managed to avoid recapture. It's green, about 2 metres long and pretty dangerous," Branes told reporters. \*



### Riddles

CAN YOU SOLVE THESE?



- 1 How many books can you put into an empty backpack?
- 2 What starts with a "p" and ends with an "e" and has a million letters in it?
- 3 What is full of holes but can still hold water? \*

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

## Corny Criminals

### Spoon Attack

Man attempts robbery with cutlery.

"This is a **stick up**!" shouted **would-be bank robber** Stephen Phule in a bank in south-west England. Almost immediately, staff at the bank jumped down onto the ground, fearing the robber had a gun. "We were really scared," explained bank teller Shirley Rogers. "But then Ms Nichols, the regional manager, told us not to worry as the guy was holding a spoon. That's when we all got up and saw that the robber was just holding a piece of **cutlery**. He told us to give him some money, but we refused to **'fork out'**." The would-be robber **fled** empty-handed with his victims' laughter **ringing in his ears**. But police are taking the incident seriously and have **launched an investigation** into the attempted robbery. Police spokeswoman Renata Nigels said, "It's a **weird** one but he broke the law and we want to find him." \*



#### GLOSSARY

- a nightmare** *n* a terrible experience
- a show-and-tell class** *n* a class at school in which children bring in something to show and describe to the rest of the class
- to tape something shut** *exp* to use tape (a narrow strip of adhesive plastic used for sticking things together) to close something
- to load** *vb* if you "load" things into a car/vehicle, etc, you put those things in the car
- a hit** *n* something very successful and popular
- to jump off** *exp* if you "jump off" an object, you leave that object by jumping
- the back** *n* the back part of a car / the boot / the trunk (in US English)
- a bush** *n* a small tree
- a hunt** *n* if there is a "hunt" for something, people are looking for that thing
- a stick up** *exp inform* a robbery
- a would-be bank robber** *exp* someone who wants to be a robber / who is trying to be a robber
- cutlery** *n* knives, forks, spoons, etc.
- to fork out** *phr vb inform* if you "fork out" money for something, you spend money on that thing
- to flee** *vb* to escape
- ringing in his ears** *exp* if the sound of something is "ringing in your ears", you can still hear it even when you have left the place where the noise/sound was
- to launch an investigation** *exp* to start an investigation
- weird** *adj* strange/unusual

QUIRKY NEWS, CORNY CRIMINALS & RIDDLES



THIS MONTH, HOW TO... LISTEN TO ENGLISH.

**L**istening to English is difficult. There might be noise, you might be tired, the other person might not be speaking clearly... there are a thousand things that could influence the way you listen. It isn't a precise science, and it never will be. But the good news is that you don't need to understand every word in order to follow things. Experts have shown that we only actually hear/understand about 40% of the words during a conversation – our brain fills in the rest for us. Take this as an example. Imagine you're in the street. All of a sudden, someone stops you and starts to say something to you. At the same time they pull back their sleeve and point to their wrist. Without even listening to the words, your brain tells you that they're asking you for the time.

Before listening, you need to activate your existing knowledge of the topic. You can do this by thinking about the context and the general theme. Once your existing knowledge has been activated, you can predict what people are going to say. For example, if you know that everyone is talking about global warming, you can be more or less sure that they are going to mention things such as "CO2, carbon, Kyoto, Copenhagen" and "scientists". And if they're talking about tax, then you can be fairly sure that they'll talk about "money, payments, the government, increases" and "decreases". The fact is that 90% of the people in the world say the same things as you and I – they just do it in different languages. Remember that! This means that 90% of the time you can probably guess what someone is going to say – you just have to trust your intuition.

In order to listen effectively, you need to learn about English pronunciation. As we explained last month, English is a stress-timed language. As such, English pronunciation focuses on specific stressed words and glides over other non-stressed words such as prepositions, articles and auxiliaries. The key is to listen out for these stressed words. And if you can capture these, you'll understand what the other person is trying to say. Just read this: "Pub. Last night. Great time. Afterwards. Cinema. Saw. Film." Did you understand the story? Even though lots of words are missing, you can still capture the general meaning. So, when you listen, use your intuition and let your instincts guide you. And never try to understand everything – it isn't natural. You don't even do that in your own language. You get the general gist and your brain fills in the details. That's why there are often misunderstandings (even

in our own languages) – it's all part of being a human. You also need to learn about connected speech. Many sounds in English combine. For example, we don't say, "Look / out" with two separate sounds. We say, "Loo kout" with the final consonant "k" combining with the vowel sound "ow" of the second word, "Loo kout". This happens all the time in English and you need to be aware of it.

So, what can you do to improve your listening skills? It's simple: Listen, listen and listen again. You need to do two types of listening: (1) listening to recordings that are specifically targeted at your level; (2) listening holistically to native speaker conversations and recordings (this is essential for developing an ear for the language). It can take a while to become accustomed to a native speaker's speech patterns, but keep at it! Start listening in small amounts and build up more time as you go. After a while, you will start to understand the sounds and to distinguish words. Then, once you've mastered that, your learning will start to increase rapidly. Listening is extremely important and is THE KEY to language learning.

Good luck, and remember, listening is not a science – it's a vague form of capturing information. And if you can do it in one language, you can do it in another. Go for it! ☺

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Refer to unit 7 of your Upper Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



HERE ARE A COUPLE OF SIMPLE FRENCH RECIPES FOR YOU. By Tiphaine and Pauline.

# French Toast



### Ingredients

- Bread
- Eggs
- Milk
- Sugar
- Oil



### Preparation

- **Whisk** the eggs and mix them with the milk.
- **Dip** the sandwich bread into the mixture.
- Heat some oil in a pan and cook the **soggy** bread for 2 minutes on each side.
- When it's ready, **sprinkle** some sugar on top and eat!

You can have French Toast for breakfast or as a dessert with a ball of ice cream. ☺

# Le Croque Monsieur

### Ingredients

- Sandwich bread
- Cheese (**sliced** and **grated**)
- Ham (sliced)
- Béchamel sauce
- Butter
- Mustard (optional)



### Preparation

- Toast the pieces of bread in the oven (spread butter on one side of each piece of bread for extra flavour).
- When the toast is ready, brush half of the toasted slices with mustard. (optional)
- Put a slice of ham between two slices of cheese and place this between two pieces of toast.
- Spoon some béchamel sauce on top and sprinkle some cheese over this.
- Place in a pan and bake in the oven for about 5 minutes or until the cheese is **bubbly** and lightly browned.
- If you top this sandwich with a fried egg, it becomes a Croque Madame. ☺

### GLOSSARY

**to whisk** *vb*  
to use a fork or an electric device to move a mixture very fast so it becomes light

**to dip** *vb*  
if you "dip" one item of food into a liquid, you put it into the liquid so the liquid covers it

**soggy** *adj*  
if bread is "soggy" it is wet and covered in a liquid

**to sprinkle** *vb*  
if you "sprinkle" cheese on top, you put a bit of cheese over the top

**sliced** *adj*  
cut into thin, flat pieces

**grated** *adj*  
if cheese is "grated", it is cut into very small pieces with a grater (a kitchen implement for cutting food into small pieces)

**bubbly** *adj*  
with bubbles on it (little balls of air)



# Health & Safety

Making sure that everything is nice and safe.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

## 1 Pre-listening

What would a health and safety inspector check in a school building? Write down as many ideas as you can.  
fire extinguishers, the roof, fire escapes, the kitchens...

## 2 Listening I

You are going to listen to a conversation between a health and safety inspector and a school caretaker. Which items from the Pre-listening task did you hear them mention?

## 3 Listening II

Listen again and answer the questions.

1. When will the fire escape be finished?
2. What's wrong with the fire extinguishers in the dining room?
3. What's happened to the fire extinguisher order form?
4. What's wrong with the school kitchens?
5. Why don't they use the kitchens much these days?
6. What happened to the swimming pool roof?

## 4 Language focus

### "Could have" + a past participle

Look at this extract from the listening, "I wonder how that could have happened?"

The speaker has used a Perfect Modal Verb construction ("could have" + a past participle) to talk about past possibility. Complete the following sentences with an appropriate past participle.

1. Instead of eating at the Chinese restaurant, we could have \_\_\_\_\_ to the Indian one.
2. Instead of choosing the blue dress, I could have \_\_\_\_\_ the green one.
3. Instead of going by bus, we could have \_\_\_\_\_ the train.
4. Instead of seeing the Spielberg film, we could have \_\_\_\_\_ the Woody Allen one.

## 5 Discussion

1. Have you ever been in a building that you considered unsafe? Why did you think it was so dangerous?
2. What safety measures are in place in the building where you work?
3. What safety measures are there where you live?



# DICTIONARY OF SLANG

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

Situation	Formal	Relaxed	Informal
A friend has recovered from an illness.	He is now returned to a state of full health.	He's OK now.	He's back on his feet.
You think your friend is a coward.	You are of a faint-hearted nature.	You are a coward.	You're a chicken; You're a scaredy-cat.
You are hungry.	I would like some nourishment.	I need something to eat.	I need some grub.
You tell some friends that the food you have been preparing is ready.	The delicacies are on the table and awaiting your consumption.	The food is ready.	Grub's up!
A friend believed a ridiculous story that was obviously not true.	He was taken in by an imaginary and non-veracious tale.	He believed it.	He fell for it.
A friend decided not to do something at the last minute because she was too scared.	She allowed fear to dominate her emotions.	She was too scared to do it.	She bottled out.



# CHAT-UP LINES / PICK-UP LINES

(US English)

LET'S SEE IF YOU GET LUCKY.



- 1 You are the hottest thing since sunburn.
- 2 Do you like dried fruit? Well, how about a "date" then?
- 3 Are you from Mars because you're out of this world!
- 4 If kisses were snowflakes, I'd send you a blizzard.
- 5 Pick a number between 1 and 10. [3] Sorry, you lost. Now, you'll have to go out with me. ☺



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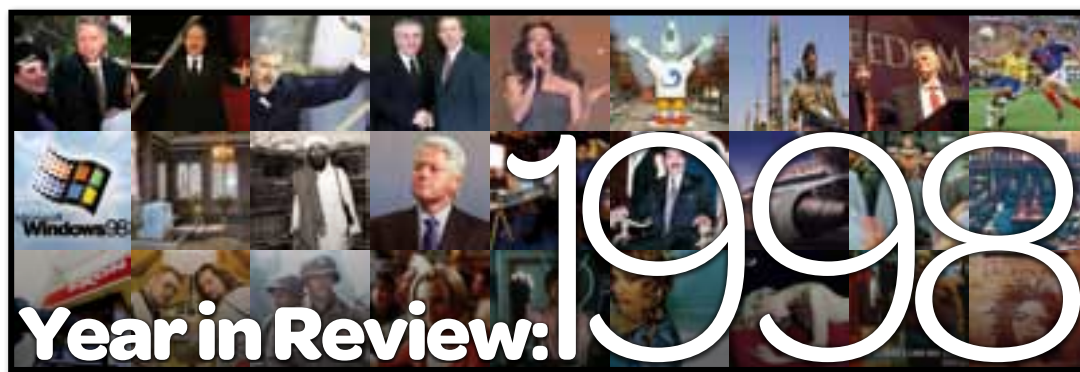
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WHAT WERE YOU DOING IN 1998? WHERE WERE YOU? HOW OLD WERE YOU? WHAT DO YOU REMEMBER? JOIN US ON A LITTLE TRIP DOWN MEMORY LANE TO 1998.

## Monthly trivia 1998

### January

- Smoking is **banned** in all California bars and restaurants.
- Nineteen European nations agree to forbid human cloning
- As part of the "Lewinsky Scandal", President Bill Clinton **denies** he has had relations with the former White House **intern** Monica Lewinsky.

### February

- The Cavalese cable-car disaster occurs. A US military pilot causes the deaths of 20 people near Trento, Italy, when his low-flying plane **slices through** the cable of a **cable-car**.

### March

- NASA announces that the Clementine probe orbiting the Moon has found enough water in craters to support a human colony.
- The 70th Academy Awards ceremony is **hosted** by Billy Crystal. The film *Titanic* wins a record 11 Oscars.
- The Food and Drug Administration approves Viagra for use as a treatment for male impotence.

### April

- Eighteen hours after the end of the **deadline**, an agreement is signed between the Irish and British governments and most Northern Ireland political parties. It is known as the Good Friday Agreement. Peace has come to Northern Ireland.

### May

- Israel wins the Eurovision Song Contest in Birmingham, England.
- India carries out 2 nuclear tests at Pokhran. The United States and Japan **impose** economic **sanctions** on India.
- Expo '98 is held in Lisbon, Portugal, with the title "Oceans, a Heritage for the Future".
- In response to the Indian nuclear tests, Pakistan explodes 5 nuclear devices of its own. The United States, Japan and other nations impose economic sanctions.

### June

- Actor Charlton Heston becomes president of the **National Rifle Association**.
- The 1998 FIFA World Cup begins in France.
- Microsoft release Windows 98 (First Edition).

### July

- At a conference in Rome, 120 countries vote to create a permanent International Criminal Court to prosecute individuals for genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression.
- In Saint Petersburg, Nicholas II of Russia and his family are **buried** in St Catherine's Chapel, 80 years after he and his family were **slain** by **Bolsheviks**.

### August

- US embassies in Dar es Salaam (Tanzania) and Nairobi (Kenya) are bombed killing 224 people and injuring over 4,500. The attacks are linked to terrorist

Osama Bin Laden.

- US President Bill Clinton admits that he had an "improper physical relationship" with White House intern Monica Lewinsky.
- The US military launches cruise missile attacks against alleged Al-Qaeda camps in Afghanistan and a suspected chemical plant in Sudan **in retaliation** for the embassy bombings.

### September

- Google, Inc. is founded in Menlo Park, California, by Larry Page and Sergey Brin.
- The US Congress passes the "Iraq Liberation Act", which states that the United States wants to **remove** Saddam Hussein **from power** and replace the government with a democratic institution.

### October

- American Airlines becomes the first airline to offer electronic ticketing in all the 44 countries it serves.
- British police **place** General Augusto Pinochet **under house arrest** during his medical treatment in the UK.

### November

- Tony Blair becomes the first Prime Minister of the UK to **address** the Dáil Éireann (the Republic of Ireland's parliament).

### December

- Exxon announces a US\$73.7 billion deal to buy Mobil, creating Exxon-Mobil – the second largest company on the planet by revenue. ✪

## Films of 1998

- *The Big Lebowski*
- *Elizabeth*
- *Happiness*
- *Saving Private Ryan*
- *Shakespeare in Love*
- *There's Something About Mary*
- *The Thin Red Line*
- *The Truman Show*

## Albums of 1998

- "Ray of Light" Madonna
- "This is Hardcore" Pulp
- "You've Come a Long Way" Fatboy Slim
- "A Thousand Leaves" Sonic Youth
- "Mezzanine" Massive Attack
- "Mutations" Beck
- "The Miseducation of Lauryn Hill" Lauryn Hill

## Sports Trivia

- Super Bowl XXXII ends with the victory of the Denver Broncos as they defeat the Green Bay Packers 31-24
- The 1998 Winter Olympics are held in Nagano, Japan.
- France defeats Brazil 3-0 to win the 1998 World Cup.

## GLOSSARY

- to ban** *vb*  
to prohibit
- to deny** *vb*  
to say that something isn't true
- to slice through** *exp*  
if A "slices through" B, A cuts B in half
- a cable car** *n*  
a vehicle (like a large container) attached to a cable for taking people up a mountain
- to host** *vb*  
if a country "hosts" an event it organises and manages that event
- a deadline** *n*  
a time limit by which time something must happen
- to impose sanctions** *exp*  
if country A "imposes sanctions" on country B, country A restricts trade and commerce with country B
- the National Rifle Association** *n*  
an organisation for the sport of shooting with rifles and pistols
- to bury** *vb*  
to put a dead body in the ground
- to slay** *vb*  
to kill in a violent way
- a Bolshevik** *n*  
a member of the left-wing group of the Russian Social Democratic Workers' Party – a communist
- in retaliation for** *exp*  
if you do something in "retaliation for" a bad act, you do something bad to the person who did that bad thing
- to remove from power** *exp*  
if a leader/ruler/dictator, etc. is "removed from power", someone stops them being a leader/ruler/dictator, etc.
- to place under house arrest** *exp*  
to force someone to stay in their house while an investigation is taking place
- to address** *vb*  
if a leader "addresses" a parliament, he/she speaks to the people in that parliament





Refer to unit 7 of your Advanced Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.



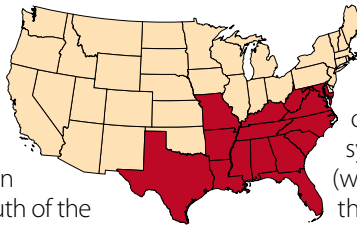
SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



OUR MONTHLY LOOK AT ENGLISH ACCENTS FROM AROUND THE WORLD IN BOTH ENGLISH-SPEAKING AND NON-ENGLISH-SPEAKING COUNTRIES. THIS MONTH: THE SOUTHERN US ACCENT.

**Location of the southern US accent**

This accent is mostly spoken in states in the south of the United States such as Texas, Alabama, Georgia, Tennessee, Mississippi, North Carolina and South Carolina.



first syllable. So, instead of "police" (with an accent on the second syllable), it's "police" (with an accent on the first syllable). This happens with words such as "behind, guitar, before" and "cement"

**Famous people from southern US states**

Owen Wilson (actor, Texas), Patrick Swayze (actor, Texas), Jennifer Love Hewitt (actress, Texas), Elvis Presley (singer, Mississippi), Tina Turner (singer, Tennessee), George Bush (politician, Texas), Dolly Parton (singer, Tennessee).

**Origins of the southern US accent**

This accent originated from immigrants from Britain and Ireland who moved to the South in the 17th and 18th centuries.

**Special features of the southern US accent**

Here are a few features of the southern US accent. Of course, not all southerners speak like this, and many speak "standard" American English.

The use of elongated vowel sounds. So, instead of a short "bed", it's a "beaaad".

Many nouns are stressed on the

The omission of auxiliary verbs. For example, "You nicer than Bute" (instead of, "You're nicer than Bute").

The use of "y'all" to mean "you all". For example, "How y'all?" ("How are you all?").

The use of past participles instead of past tenses. For example, "I seen him before."

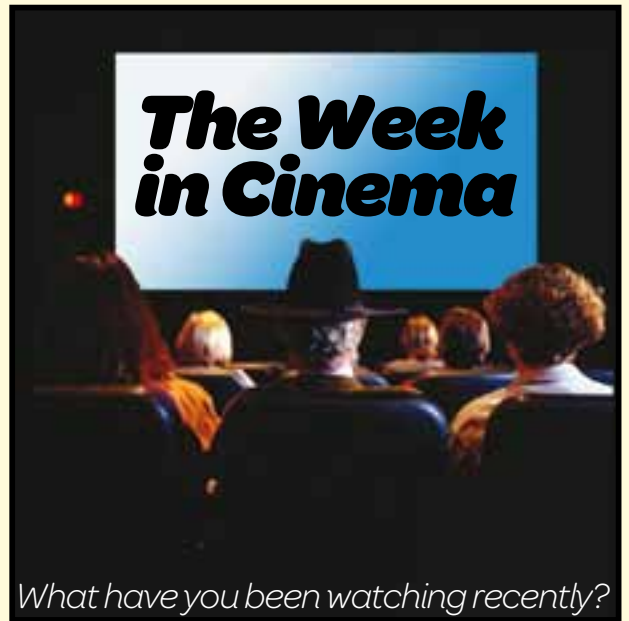
The use of "was" instead of "were" or vice versa. For example, "They was sitting on chairs."

The use of "been" instead of "have been". For example, "I been waiting here for two hours."

The use of non-standard negatives. For example, "He don't like it" (instead of "He doesn't like it").

**Listen & Learn**

Now sit back and listen to Bonnie Lee talking about the southern US accent in an authentic southern US accent. ✨



What have you been watching recently?

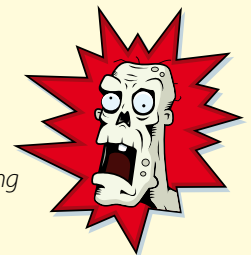
ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

**1 Pre-listening**

Look at the titles for the following films.

What do you think they are about?

- Film 1 = *Zeitgeist Zombie*
- Film 2 = *Nasty Piece of Work*
- Film 3 = *Birthday in Tirana*
- Film 4 = *Space Pirates from Planet Twang*



**2 Listening I**

You are going to listen to some film critics discussing a number of movies. Listen once to check your ideas from the Pre-listening activity.

**3 Listening II**

Listen again and answer the questions.

1. What is *Nasty Piece of Work* about?
2. What adjectives do the critics use to describe *Nasty Piece of Work*? Name three.
3. What is the central character in *Birthday in Tirana* doing in the kitchen?
4. Why is he doing this?
5. Why doesn't one of the critics like the film?
6. Why is one of the film critics so angry that the other critic has made the film *Space Pirates from Planet Twang*?

**4 Language focus**

**Expressions with "that"**

Look at this extract from the listening, "That you could even consider making a film with a title like that is..." The writer has used an expression with "that". Complete the following sentences with your own ideas.

1. That you could even think that I... is just beyond me.
2. That you could even suggest that I... makes me so angry.
3. That you could accuse me of... is so upsetting.
4. That you could possibly think that I would... is really disappointing.

**5 Discussion**

1. What's the weirdest film you've ever seen?
2. Do you like foreign films? From which country?
3. What's the film with the most unusual title that you've ever seen? What was it about?

# WAY IDIOMS



THIS MONTH, WE ARE LOOKING AT SOME "WAY" IDIOMS.



**All the way**

IF YOU SUPPORT SOMETHING "ALL THE WAY", YOU SUPPORT IT AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE AND UNTIL THE VERY END.

"If you want to decide to take them to court, I'll support you all the way."



**Along the way**

IF SOMETHING HAPPENS "ALONG THE WAY", IT HAPPENS WHILE YOU ARE DOING SOMETHING ELSE.

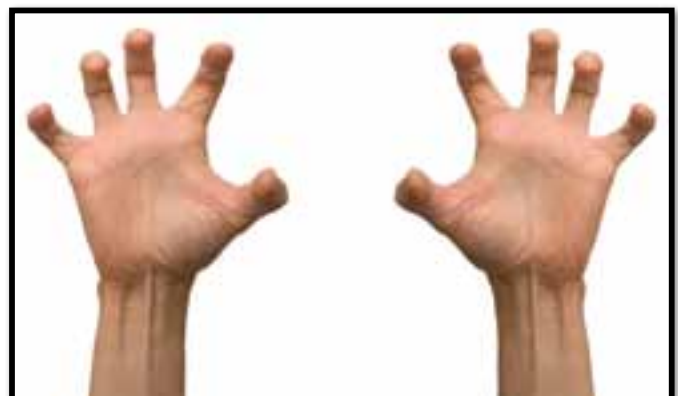
"I've been doing this job for about twenty years now and I've learnt a thing or two along the way."



**Be out of somebody's way**

IF A PLACE IS "OUT OF SOMEBODY'S WAY", IT ISN'T IN THE DIRECTION IN WHICH THEY ARE GOING.

"Jessica took me home last night which was nice because it was really out of her way."



**Claw your way back from something**

IF YOU "CLAW YOUR WAY BACK FROM" A BAD SITUATION, YOU SUCCEED IN IMPROVING YOUR SITUATION AGAIN BY MAKING A BIG EFFORT.

"The team were 6 nil down, but they managed to claw their way back to victory. It was incredible."



**Go out of your way to do something**

TO TRY VERY HARD TO DO SOMETHING NICE FOR OTHERS.

"They really went out of their way to make us feel at home."



**Pave the way for something**

IF A "PAVES THE WAY FOR B", A HELPS MAKE B HAPPEN - A CONTRIBUTES TO B.

"Everyone hopes that the environmental summit meeting will pave the way for a legally-binding commitment to reduce CO2 emissions."





Watch & Learn!  
Listen to two people discussing  
this topic in a mini-video at  
[www.hotenglishmagazine.com](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com)

Refer to unit 8 of your  
Advanced Skills Booklet  
for more explanations and  
exercises.



# Office Crime

*Who cares about paper clips, I want my biscuits back!* by Patrick Howarth

## 1 Pre-reading

Look at the list of items that are frequently stolen in offices. Which ones do you think are most likely to be stolen? Who is the thief most likely to be in each case?

paper clips pens pencils

post-it notes biscuits sandwiches

coffee mobile phones handbags

laptops wallets plants paintings

stools chairs shelves

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your ideas.

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. What percentage of people in the survey admit to having stolen post-it notes?
2. Who is most likely to be the victim of a theft in the work place?
3. Why is the office the perfect place for an internal would-be thief?
4. What were the group of men who entered the media agency office pretending to be?
5. What advice does Shabazz Nelson give?
6. What does Ben Willmott say you should do if you suspect a colleague is stealing from you?

## 4 Language focus

### Passive structures

Look at this extract from the article, "Eventually, they were challenged when..." In this example, the writer has used a passive structure ("were challenged"). Transform the following sentences into Passive ones.

1. They are writing the reports.
2. She has paid the money into the account.
3. They are going to finish the work later.
4. He'll take the car to the garage tomorrow morning.
5. They will have completed the work by this afternoon.

## 5 Discussion

1. Have you ever lost anything at your place of work? Did you suspect theft? Why?
2. Has the place where you work ever been broken into? What was stolen?
3. What can be done to increase security at work?



**Theft in the workplace is a major problem for many companies. Surveys suggest that 58% of office workers have taken office supplies for their personal use. The most commonly stolen items are pens/pencils (78% admit to this), followed by "post-it" notes (44%) and paper clips (40%). And that's not all. Figures also suggest that 2% are helping themselves to decorative items such as plants, paintings and office furniture, including stools, chairs and even shelves! But companies aren't the only victims.**

Research shows that it's the employee rather than the employer who is most likely to be the victim of a theft in the work place. A 2004 report on workplace theft among public sector workers such as nurses, teachers and fire service personnel, estimated that the average worker was losing £244 a year, which amounted to £96m over the previous three years. Just picture the situation. After a busy morning, you go to make yourself a cup of coffee. You're looking forward to a couple of the chocolate biscuits you bought the day before and left in a cupboard in the office kitchen. You put on the kettle and open the fridge to get your low-fat milk out. But it's not there. Neither are your biscuits! Who is taking your things?

Clearly the office provides fertile territory for any would-be thief. And it does so for a very basic reason: most of us would never dream of suspecting a colleague of theft and, therefore, take very few precautions to protect our possessions at work. Indeed, last year life assistance company CPP Group reported that 70% of us believe we can trust our work colleagues absolutely. As a result, mobiles are often left lying on desks, handbags under chairs and wallets in suit jackets while we attend meetings, make phone calls, write e-mails and do all the other hundreds of activities that make up office life.

However, when it comes to major theft, it's perhaps reassuring to learn that we are probably right to trust our colleagues. Most offices are open to outside contractors and, alarmingly, people who pose as outside contractors. There was a case at a media agency in London just recently when a group of men came in with clipboards purporting to check the fire extinguishers. Within seconds they had stolen a handbag, two wallets and six laptops. "It's easy for someone with a clipboard, a work order and enough chutzpah to access any number of locations," explains Shabazz Nelson, the director of training at Panther Security. "There are opportunists and gangs who will exploit a system, even if you have security." Nelson advises that wherever you are, you should make sure that your property is secure. "All personal items should be kept on your person at all times. Handbags should be touching your feet and wallets must be in sight on the desk. Above all, laptops should be locked away or hidden when they aren't being used.

This is obviously good advice, but what should you do if you suspect a colleague is stealing? Ben Willmott, employee relations adviser at the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, suggests, "With smaller things like bananas and biscuits, it's unacceptable and can lead to resentment. The thing is to look at the evidence. If you know who it is, have a quiet word in their ear. Keep it light-hearted, but tell them that if it continues you will raise it with a manager. If it's more serious things such as money, you need good evidence that an individual is responsible as there will be a disciplinary procedure, and the company would need to launch an investigation," he says.

So, thieves, be warned! Biscuit rustling, milk hi-jacking and sandwich robbery will no longer be tolerated! ✖

# READING I

# Pub Guide

How to survive the pub experience.



Watch & Learn!  
Listen to people discussing  
this topic in a mini-video at  
[www.hotenglishmagazine.com](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com)



ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

## 1 Pre-reading

Match the pub-related words (1 to 6) to the definitions (a-f).

1. Bartender
2. The bar
3. A round
4. A local
5. Bar staff
6. A pint



- a. A selection of drinks for everyone in the group you are with.
- b. A measurement of beer/lager which is about half a litre.
- c. A person who regularly goes to the bar/pub.
- d. A general word to refer to the people who work in the bar.
- e. The person who serves you a drink in the bar.
- f. The long table where you order your drinks.

## 2 Reading I

Read the article once. Do any of these tips apply to bars/pubs in your country?

## 3 Reading II

Read the article again and complete the information.

1. If you want to get served at the bar, you should...
2. When you order your drinks you should...
3. When you pay for your drinks you must...
4. If you are in a group, you should always...
5. In general, you should also...

## 4 Language focus Compound adjectives

Look at this extract from the article, "...from the top is time-consuming." The writer has used a compound adjective ("time-consuming"). Match a word from below to the adjectives (1 to 8). In some cases, more than one answer may be possible.

*gesture, tradition, process, lover, story, worker, error, climber*

1. An age-old
2. A time-consuming
3. A half-hearted
4. A broken-hearted
5. A sure-footed
6. An all-too-common
7. A long-winded
8. A part-time

## 5 Discussion

1. Do pubs in your country have any special traditions/customs? What are they?
2. What do you like/dislike about pubs/bars?
3. What's the funniest thing that's ever happened to you in a bar/pub?

Visiting a pub is an important part of any visit to the UK or Ireland. But pubs are complicated places with age-old traditions, timeless customs and unwritten rules of conduct. Read on and pick up some useful **tips** on how to survive the pub experience.

The first thing you need to know is how to get served at the bar. The big problem is that there's no queue. Most experts seem to agree that the best way to get served is to **lean over** the bar, to make eye contact with the bartender, to smile nicely and to wait patiently. Most bar staff will invariably serve people in the order in which they arrived at the bar. However, in busy times, or with a new bartender who hasn't seen the queue develop, they may say "Who's next?". If this happens, you should **point out** if someone was there before you.

Now you need to order your drinks. Rule number one is: decide what you all want *before* going to the bar. Don't get the bartender's attention then spend five minutes choosing what to drink. Also, tell the bartender your order in full, don't wait for each drink to be **poured** then ask for the next one. This **needlessly** slows down the process. And if you're drinking Guinness, ask for the Guinness first because it takes longer to pour and can be left to **settle** while the other drinks are made. If the pub is busy, don't order fancy cocktails or tea or coffee (go to a tea or coffee shop for that!), and never ask for a straw for your pint of beer or they may **escort you off the premises**.

Now it's time to pay for your drinks. In most pubs, you pay for your drinks as soon as you receive them. Hand the money directly to the bartender, don't hold out a handful of **loose change** and expect them to **pluck** the correct coins from your **sweaty** palm. Also, don't leave the money on the bar – wet notes are horrible, and removing multiple coins from the top is time-consuming. Oh, and remember to say please and thank you.

If you're in a group, you'll need to understand the rules of buying rounds. A "round" is a selection of drinks for everyone in the group you're with – not just your partner or "special" friends. Our top tip is, don't **hang back**! If you get your round in first, you'll be considered as friendly and generous. Also, the earlier you buy your round, the less chance you'll have of paying for one of those later "crazy" rounds when everyone orders a triple sambuca slammer. The cardinal rule is never ever avoid buying your round or you'll be known as a real **miser** from then on.

Apart from that, keep loud talking and shouting to a minimum, and avoid getting into discussions or arguments with people who have obviously **had one too many**. If you **knock over** someone else's drink, offer to replace it; and if you **bump into** someone, always say sorry – even if it isn't your fault. Finally, before putting your money on the pool table, establish the "local practices". And if you win against the locals, avoid any sort of triumphant gestures such as **thrusting** your fist into the air, doing a celebratory leg kick or shouting "YES!" in a loud and **obnoxious** voice. ❖



### GLOSSARY

- a tip** *n*  
a piece of useful advice
- to lean over** *phr vb*  
if you "lean over" the bar, you move your body forwards and over it
- to point out** *phr vb*  
to tell someone about something
- to pour** *vb*  
to put liquid from one container to another
- needlessly** *adv*  
unnecessarily; without need
- to settle** *vb*  
if a drink "settles", it stops producing bubbles/gas
- to escort someone off the premises** *exp*  
to force someone to leave a place by taking them out physically
- loose change** *n*  
coins (metal money)
- to pluck** *vb*  
to use your fingers to take something from a place
- sweaty** *adj*  
if someone's palm is "sweaty", it has liquid on it because the person is hot
- to hang back** *phr vb*  
to hesitate
- a miser** *n*  
someone who doesn't like to spend money
- to have one too many** *exp*  
if someone has "had one too many", he/she is drunk
- to knock over** *phr vb*  
to hit something and make it fall
- to bump into** *phr vb*  
to crash into someone/something
- to thrust** *vb*  
to push with force
- obnoxious** *adj*  
unpleasant; not nice



# READING II

## Dolphin Slaughter

Dolphin documentary film is a big hit.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

### 1 Pre-reading

Match the marine animals (1 to 6) to the photos (a-f).

1. A dolphin
2. A seal
3. A whale
4. A killer whale
5. A walrus
6. A narwhal



### 2 Reading I

Read the article once. What are the arguments for and against the killing of these mammals?

### 3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions

1. What do they use to drive the dolphins into the cove?
2. What happens to some of the dolphins?
3. In which other places does this form of killing occur?
4. What did they use to make the film?
5. How is Ric O'Barry's life a contradiction?
6. What does Masashi Nishimura think about the killings?

### 4 Language focus Verbs + prepositions

Look at this extract from the article, "Once there, the dolphins are prevented from escaping..." The writer has used a verb + a preposition ("prevent from"). Complete the following sentences with your own ideas.

1. The prisoners escaped from the prison by...
2. The film version of the book is different from...
3. She borrowed the money from...
4. This jacket will protect you from...
5. They translated the document from English into...

### 5 Discussion

1. What do you think of this issue? Do you think it's important? Why? Why not?
2. What are some of the worst abuses that humans commit against animals?
3. What other forms of protection can be given to animals?



When was the last time you saw some dolphins at an aquarium? Was it fun to watch? Do you think the dolphins enjoyed it? A new film shows just exactly where some of these dolphins come from. And it isn't pleasant.

*The Cove* is a **documentary film** with a lot of blood... dolphin blood. It's all about dolphin drive hunting, which is a method of hunting dolphins that fishermen use. They use boats to drive the dolphins into a bay or onto a beach. Once there, the dolphins are prevented from escaping and are then killed in the water with knives or **spears**. The dolphins are mostly hunted for their meat, but some are captured and end up in dolphinariums, including the world-famous SeaWorld parks.

This form of dolphin killing takes place in many places around the world. There are dolphin drive hunts in the Solomon Islands, Peru and the Faroe Islands (a group of islands that lie between Scotland and Iceland and that belong to Denmark). In the Faroe Islands, it's mostly Pilot Whales that are killed for their meat, but dolphins also end up **slaughtered**. In this case, the animals are driven onto the beach or **dragged** there with **hooks** and then killed **mercilessly**.

*The Cove* focuses on a particular dolphin hunt near the town of Taiji in Japan. Every year, more than 2,000 dolphins are driven into a **cove** near the town and killed. The documentary film is directed by former National Geographic photographer Louis Psihoyos, and was made secretly throughout 2007 using underwater microphones, high-definition cameras as **headlamps** as rocks and a **camouflaged** camera **crew** hidden on **headlands**. Also appearing in the film is Ric O'Barry, the director of Save Japan Dolphins coalition and a marine mammal expert. He trained dolphins for the popular 1960s TV series *Flipper*. He is **credited with** having started the dolphin entertainment industry, but has spent most of his life fighting against it.

So, what do the people of Taiji (population circa 3,400) think about it? Many feel that they are being unfairly **singled out**. The town of Taiji has a 400-year history of whale and dolphin hunting; and its fishermen only catch about 20% of Japan's yearly dolphin quota. Town-council chief Katsutoshi Mihara told the Yomiuri Shimbun newspaper, "Almost all the dolphins caught in Japan are sold for meat near the towns where they're caught, and only 1% (about 12) are sold live to aquariums." Masashi Nishimura, manager of the Japan Fisheries Association's international section said, "I don't think it's a big topic here," he says. "As long as the killing is humane, dolphins are like other animals to us." But for many people, dolphins are special. They are clearly highly intelligent mammals and they often form strong **bonds of friendship** with humans. Primates such as chimpanzees, gorillas and orang-utans are all protected species. Should these levels of protection be extended to marine mammals too? Many believe they should. ✪

### The Cove

An American documentary film about the slaughter of dolphins in Japan which is directed by Louie Psihoyos.



### Dolphins

Dolphins are marine mammals that are closely related to whales and porpoises. They vary in size from 1.2 metres and 40 kilos to up to 9.5 metres and 10 tonnes. Dolphins are among the most intelligent animals on the planet.



### GLOSSARY

- a documentary film** *n*  
a television or radio programme which is about real events / nature, etc.
- a spear** *n*  
a weapon that consists of a long wooden pole with a sharp point at the end
- to slaughter** *vb*  
to kill in a cruel, unjust or unnecessary way
- to drag** *vb*  
to use force to pull something along the ground
- a hook** *n*  
a piece of metal with a sharp end in the form of a "U" that is used for catching or holding things
- mercilessly** *adv*  
without pity or mercy; cruelly
- a cove** *n*  
a small bay (a part of the coastline where the land curves inwards)
- disguised as** *exp*  
if A is "disguised as" B, A is made to look like B
- to camouflage** *vb*  
to use leaves, branches, paint, etc. to make something difficult to see
- a crew** *n*  
the people who are working together on a special project
- a headland** *n*  
a narrow piece of land which goes out into the sea
- to credit someone with something** *exp*  
to say that someone is responsible for something
- to single out** *phr vb*  
to give a person/group, etc. special attention or treatment
- a bond of friendship** *exp*  
a strong feeling between two people (or people and animals) of love / friendship / shared beliefs, etc.

# PHRASAL VERB THEMES

# The News

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

**PULL OUT OF (TALKS)**  
TO STOP PARTICIPATING IN TALKS / NEGOTIATIONS.



"AFTER NEWS OF THE SCANDAL HIT THE NEWSPAPERS, THE LIBERAL PARTY REPRESENTATIVES DECIDED TO PULL OUT OF THE TALKS."

**BREAK DOWN (TALKS)**  
IF TALKS "BREAK DOWN", THEY FAIL BECAUSE ONE OR BOTH OF THE PARTIES REFUSES TO CONTINUE.



"TALKS BETWEEN THE TWO SIDES BROKE DOWN AFTER NEWS OF THE ATTACK BECAME KNOWN."

**PLAY DOWN**  
IF YOU "PLAY DOWN" SOMETHING, YOU TRY TO MAKE PEOPLE THINK THAT IT IS LESS IMPORTANT THAN IT REALLY IS.



"THE OIL COMPANY WAS KEEN TO PLAY DOWN THE SERIOUSNESS OF THE OIL SPILL."

**SPEAK OUT ABOUT**  
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# TAPESCRIPTS & BAR CHATS

## Free-Time Fun (track 8)

What are you doing this weekend?

**Ray:** Harry, how are you?  
**Harry:** Fine, Ray.  
**Ray:** So how's your nose?  
**Harry:** It's broken, Ray.  
**Ray:** Is it?  
**Harry:** Yes, Ray. You broke it. Remember.  
**Ray:** Well, gardening's a dangerous hobby, Harry.  
**Harry:** I wasn't gardening, Ray. I was in my garden. You hit me with a football.  
**Ray:** Well, football's a dangerous hobby too. You'll soon be better. Don't worry.  
**Harry:** I wasn't playing football. You were playing football in your garden. I was sitting and reading a book in my garden.  
**Ray:** Well, reading's a dangerous hobby too, Harry. It's bad for the eyes. Anyway, I wasn't playing football, I was playing with my dog, Mungo.  
**Harry:** I know you were. He bit me.  
**Ray:** No, he didn't. Mungo's a lovely dog.  
**Harry:** Yes, he did. I wouldn't give him back his football, so he bit me. Twice.  
**Ray:** Well, he's only a dog, Harry.  
**Harry:** And because I have a broken nose and dog bites on my leg, I can't play football this weekend.  
**Ray:** It doesn't matter. Your team are terrible. They'll lose. They always lose.  
**Harry:** No, we don't.  
**Ray:** Well, they'll lose if you aren't playing. You're the best player. The goalkeeper.  
**Harry:** Yes, I know.  
**Ray:** Now what are you doing tonight?  
**Harry:** I'm going out with Mary. I'm meeting her outside the cinema at 8.00pm.  
**Ray:** She'll be late.  
**Harry:** No, she won't.  
**Ray:** Yes, she will. She's always late. What are you going to see?  
**Harry:** It's called *Who Killed Norman Jones?* It's a thriller.  
**Ray:** Oh, you'll love it. I saw it last night.  
**Harry:** (uninterested resignation) Really?  
**Ray:** Yes, and you'll never guess the ending. I couldn't believe it – Norman's sister is the murderer. It was a real surprise.  
**Harry:** Ray, you've just told me the ending of the film.  
**Ray:** Have I? Oh, sorry. So, what are you doing after the film?  
**Harry:** I'm going to take her to that new Indian restaurant.  
**Ray:** Oh, she won't like that. She hates Indian food.  
**Harry:** No, she doesn't. She's Indian. She loves Indian food.  
**Ray:** Are you sure? Well, you know best.  
**Harry:** And this weekend we're going to Paris for the day on the Eurostar.  
**Ray:** What, Paris? What are you doing that for? Mary will hate Paris.  
**Harry:** She's studying French at university, Ray.  
**Ray:** Well, she won't want to spend the weekend speaking French then, will she? She'll want a rest. Anyway, can you come to my house this weekend?  
**Harry:** No way, Ray. I'm going to France with Mary.  
**Ray:** But I really need your help, Harry.  
**Harry:** What for this time?  
**Ray:** Well, it's Mungo, my dog.  
**Harry:** What!  
**Ray:** You see I'm going to Paris with some friends and I need someone to look after the dog while I'm away. He's very friendly, Harry. Mary and you can take him for a walk. In fact, could you take him to the vets? He's not feeling very well.

## Eco-Warriors (track 11)

Saving the planet, helping the environment.

**Interviewer:** Hello, tonight on *Save the Earth* we're talking to Rupert and Camilla Pongleton-Jones, environmental activists and self-styled "eco-warriors".  
**Camilla:** Good evening, Rupert and Camilla.  
**Ray:** Well, good evening to you Max. It's

**Rupert:** simply lovely to have you here Power to the trees, Max, power to the trees. Let me hug you.  
**Interviewer:** Er, yes. Thank you, Rupert. Now recently I believe you were fighting the local government about a tree near your house.  
**Camilla:** Yes, that's right. Those horrible politicians wanted to cut down a beautiful oak tree.  
**Rupert:** It was the oldest tree in our village. Over 300 years old.  
**Camilla:** Well, we had to try to stop them.  
**Interviewer:** And why did the government want to cut down the tree?  
**Rupert:** Well, the tree was dead. And it was next to the primary school. And the local people said that the tree would fall on the school.  
**Interviewer:** So, what did you do?  
**Rupert:** We climbed the tree and lived in it. It was the only way to stop the local government cutting it down.  
**Interviewer:** And how many weeks did you live in the tree?  
**Camilla:** Well, not weeks. We had to go to work, you know. We have busy lives. But I drove past the tree every Wednesday evening on my way to my tennis lessons. Finally Rupert climbed up there last Saturday afternoon on his way to play golf.  
**Interviewer:** That was when the tree came down, I believe.  
**Camilla:** Yes, that's right. It fell onto Rupert's Range Rover. The poor darling had parked it under the tree, you see. But we were correct. It didn't fall onto the school. The tree was completely safe. It was a victory for environmentalists everywhere. Power to the trees.  
**Camilla:** Oh, yes. Power to the trees.  
**Interviewer:** And what of the future? What are your next projects?  
**Rupert:** Stop the hospital!  
**Camilla:** Oh, yes. Stop the hospital!  
**Interviewer:** Stop the hospital?  
**Camilla:** Yes, it's those terrible politicians again. They want to build a new hospital right here in the centre of the village.  
**Rupert:** We're going to stop them, however. Stop the hospital!  
**Interviewer:** But they're going to build it over a car park. There are no trees or plants or animals here.  
**Rupert:** But we park there when we go shopping. Where are we going to park if there's a great hospital there full of sick people?  
**Interviewer:** So what are you going to do?  
**Rupert:** We're going to live in the car park.  
**Camilla:** It worked last time with the tree and it'll work again.  
**Interviewer:** So you're going to live, eat and sleep here in the car park?  
**Rupert:** Oh, no. Don't be stupid. How am I going to get any work done if I'm living in a tent in a car park?  
**Interviewer:** Now, I also believe you're organising a protest meeting to discuss action against the hospital.  
**Rupert:** Yes, that's right. It's next Saturday. Unfortunately Camilla and I can't be there – we have a dinner party in London – but we've told Svetlana, that's our au pair, to go along. It's going to be a great success.  
**Camilla:** Stop the hospital!  
**Rupert:** Stop the hospital!  
**Rupert & Camilla:** Stop the hospital! Stop the hospital!

## British Bar Chat (track 18)

The Ig Nobels

**Nigel:** So, I was reading about those Ig Noble awards. Have you heard about them?  
**Simon:** No, no, I haven't. What are those all about?  
**Nigel:** They're like, for like weird scientific research, some of it is quite funny actually,

there's like, they look into things like why pregnant women don't topple over.  
**Simon:** Er, oh yeah, that's a bit of a strange thing to, to, er, investigate, isn't it?  
**Nigel:** Yeah, but, you know, [they] got big quite a heavy baby in there, why don't they topple over.  
**Simon:** Yeah, well, I guess it's quite interesting, I suppose. So what sort of other things do they...?  
**Nigel:** Yeah, there was another one about bras and converting bras into gas masks.  
**Simon:** I think I heard about that, they were talking about that on the news I think.  
**Nigel:** Yeah, yeah, yeah. I mean there's a lot of weird research and they, they, I think Harvard University gives them awards...  
**Simon:** Oh, right.  
**Nigel:**... in different categories like biology, physics, chemistry and things like that.  
**Simon:** Oh, OK.  
**Nigel:**... history, things like that.  
**Simon:** What I wonder, though, I mean, it's all very interesting but what's the point, I mean, who cares why pregnant women fall over or, oh, there was something, something about butter I heard...

## US Bar Chat (track 19)

The Classified Ad

**Laura:** Hey, John, haven't seen you in a while. How you been?  
**John:** Hey, Laura, how are you? Can I get you a drink? What are you having?  
**Laura:** Definitely, a Margarita please.  
**John:** A Margarita, barman, one Margarita, thanks.  
**Laura:** So what's new?  
**John:** Er, you know, the usual and yourself?  
**Laura:** Er, I just moved. Actually, I moved my mom into another house and she had this huge mirror, so I had to, like, put it into a classified ad and try to get rid of it.  
**John:** Er, right, you put an ad in the newspaper or online or...  
**Laura:** Yeah, these free ads where you have up to about 30 words and you, you just put in, you know, antique looking mirror best offer. So, what happens is somebody comes by, almost buys it, goes out to the car, says she's gonna get the money and then she doesn't come back.  
**John:** Er, no way.  
**Laura:** Yeah, yeah and, you know, where the mirror is now?  
**John:** No.  
**Laura:** On the side of my mom's house and the rain has gotten it, it's got a crack in it now, so now we'll never get any money for it.

## Health & Safety (track 20)

Making sure that everything is nice and safe.

**Inspector:** Come in! Oh, you must be Mr Spanner. Come in.  
**Caretaker:** I'm here for the meeting.  
**Inspector:** The meeting was supposed to start at 12.00, Mr Spanner.  
**Caretaker:** Was it? I'm terribly sorry, I thought it was at 12.30.  
**Inspector:** As you know, Mr Spanner, this week the school is being visited by government school inspectors.  
**Caretaker:** Absolutely.  
**Inspector:** Mr Spanner, you are the health and safety officer for this school. Is that correct?  
**Caretaker:** Guilty as charged.  
**Inspector:** Yes. Well, perhaps you can answer some questions that I have.  
**Caretaker:** Absolutely. Fire away.  
**Inspector:** First of all, the fire escape, Mr Spanner.  
**Caretaker:** Yes?  
**Inspector:** Where is it?  
**Caretaker:** The fire escape.  
**Inspector:** Yes, Mr Spanner. Where is the fire escape?  
**Caretaker:** I'm glad you asked me that. I'm working on it at this very moment. It should be finished within the next couple of days.  
**Inspector:** And what about fire extinguishers, Mr

**Spanner?**  
**Caretaker:** Well, there are two in the dining room.  
**Inspector:** They are both empty, Mr Spanner.  
**Caretaker:** Really? I wonder how that could have happened? They were full a year ago.  
**Inspector:** When the school was inspected two years ago you promised that you would buy new fire extinguishers, Mr Spanner.  
**Caretaker:** Yes, I know. But there must have been a problem with the suppliers. We're still waiting for them.  
**Inspector:** Where is the order form for the fire extinguishers, Mr Spanner?  
**Caretaker:** I rather think I might have lost it. I'm useless with paperwork.  
**Inspector:** Moving on. The school kitchens are extremely dirty, Mr Spanner.  
**Caretaker:** Yes, well we don't use the kitchens much. Not after the whole school went down with food poisoning six months ago. All the children bring their own lunches to school now. It's safer.  
**Inspector:** Why didn't you report the food poisoning, Mr Spanner?  
**Caretaker:** Sorry, I thought I had. I must have forgotten.  
**Inspector:** The school swimming pool, Mr Spanner.  
**Caretaker:** Yes?  
**Inspector:** According to my notes, the pool is an indoor covered pool.  
**Caretaker:** Ah, yes, well it used to be. It's outdoor now.  
**Inspector:** Why?  
**Caretaker:** Well, the roof wasn't very good. And we had some very windy weather last March. And what with one thing and another... the roof sort of... fell off. Well, actually it fell down. Into the pool.  
**Inspector:** And it's still in the pool, Mr Spanner.  
**Caretaker:** Are you sure? I must have forgotten to clear it up. I'll see to it immediately. Before the next summer term at the latest.  
**Inspector:** Very well, Mr Spanner. I am going to return to the school in three weeks. I want to see a fire escape, fire extinguishers which are not empty, clean kitchens and a fully-functioning indoor swimming pool.  
**Caretaker:** Absolutely.  
**Inspector:** Now I am going to inspect the science laboratories, Mr Spanner. I hope they are in a better condition than the rest of the school.  
**Caretaker:** Ah, yes. Now it's funny you should mention the science labs. I may have forgotten to tell you about the explosion last September.  
**Inspector:** Explosion?  
**Caretaker:** Yes, some of the kids were playing with some dynamite in the chemistry lab. Well, one of them was smoking and... well, you can imagine what happened. [There's an explosion.] Oh dear. I think it might have happened again.

## Accent Alert (track 23)

The Southern US accent

Well, howdy Andy. I think, we... in Texas we like to make our words a lot longer. We got a lot of time in Texas, so we just make the words as long as we can make 'em.  
 Yeah, like the word, the word "bed", you know, that's where I go to "bed" at night, but sometimes the people up north don't understand me. Well, pretty much any word that has that... any word like "friend" or "pen", you know, if I need to borrow a "pen", sometimes people think I'm talking about something that you make bread in ("a pan"), but I'm talking about a "pen" to write with. Well, down in Texas, we like to say things like "howdy," "how ya'll doin'?" "Wassup?"  
**Well, sure.** I was taking this art class once, and we were talking about this girl's drawing, and we thought that... And the teacher said "well that drawing is really 'special'" and it took us a while to figure out if she meant that it needed some more space ("spatial"), if it had a lot of space, or if it was



really special, you know like a birthday or something.

## The Week in Cinema (track 24)

What have you been watching recently?

**Presenter:** Good evening and welcome to *The Week in Cinema*, the programme that brings you all the latest news and reviews from the world of film. This evening I'm very lucky to be joined by two eminent critics: Dorian Blakeney, who has reviewed films for over forty years and who is the author of the book *Moving Pictures: Film as an Emotional Pilgrimage*. Good evening, Dorian. Enchanté, Michael.

**Dorian:** And Jason Mullet, who writes about film for the *La Paz Review of Film* and who is visiting professor of animation at the University of Moosejaw, Saskatchewan, in Canada. Jason recently made his directorial debut with *Zeitgeist Zombie*.

**Jason:** Yes, thank you, Michael.

**Presenter:** So, Jason, what did you see this week?

**Jason:** *Nasty Piece of Work*, the latest London gangster thriller from director Terry Throttle.

**Presenter:** Tell us about it?

**Jason:** Throttle's vision of London as the most violent place on earth is one that I find extremely appealing, Michael. I would even say I find it enchanting. And this is certainly true of *Nasty Piece of Work* which is a vintage Throttle underworld bloodbath.

**Presenter:** An enchanting bloodbath, Dorian?

**Dorian:** His suggestion that this film is enchanting is just too much for me. I found the work a violent, disgusting, disturbing, nasty piece of work. Nasty cinematic work. It made me sick.

**Jason:** Dorian's right, for once. *Nasty Piece of Work* is a violent, disgusting, disturbing, nasty piece of work. And I loved it. It's also very funny.

**Presenter:** OK, so that was *Nasty Piece of Work* by Terry Throttle. What's your film of the week, Dorian?

**Dorian:** I have long had a passion for the work of the Albanian director Enver Zog, so you can imagine my delight when his latest film, *Birthday in Tirana*, opened this week. This is film as poetry. Every scene contains a surprise and prompts a tear. I found the opening scene extraordinary. The central character – we can never learn his name – is in the kitchen making a carrot cake. He painstakingly mixes the ingredients, the most important of which is clearly love itself, in an effort to create a fitting tribute for the unknown birthday celebrant. Gradually, it becomes apparent that it is his birthday. He is making his own cake because he has no one to make a cake for him. I found it unbearably moving. I for one will never be able to eat carrot cake again.

**Presenter:** Moving, Jason?

**Jason:** No! What Dorian has failed to mention, Michael, is that the scene lasts two and a half hours. We actually see him make the cake in real time. Indeed the whole film lasts 24 hours and it shows every tedious minute of this loser's birthday. It's incredibly slow and depressing. There's no violence to lighten the mood, not a single death to inject some comedy. I'm not planning to celebrate my birthday in Tirana.

**Presenter:** So much for *Birthday in Tirana*. Finally, I understand you both went to see the Hollywood classic *Jaws*, which has just been re-released with enhanced sound and visual effects. Is *Jaws* worth revisiting, Jason?

**Jason:** No, it is not. The fact that the film made nearly \$500 million dollars at the box office means it can't be any good.

**Presenter:** Doesn't that suggest that lots of ordinary people thought the film was good?

**Jason:** Exactly "ordinary people"! What do "ordinary people" know about cinema? People like Dorian and I know about cinema, not ordinary people.

**Presenter:** Well, as always, it's been a lively evening of debate here on "The Week in Cinema". Join us next week when we'll be looking at the multi-million dollar blockbuster that is taking America by storm *Space Pirates from Planet Twang*, and talking to its director, Jason Mullet. So see you next week, Jason.

**Dorian:** What? You... you made a commercial film!

**Jason:** Er... I thought we weren't going to talk about that, Michael.

**Dorian:** That you could even consider making a film with a title like that is beyond me. You fraud! You unspeakable populist excuse for a film maker! You sell-out! You hypocrite! You... Spielberg!

[fade out]

## Off the Cuff (track 28)

Question: Who was your worst neighbour?

Well, I remember when we lived in Brighton and we had a flat there. We had the top flat but we had some neighbors below and they were just so loud, you'd hear them really late at night, shouting, playing music, it was awful. Well, usually, I'd get so fed up that I'd go down, knock on the door, ask them to keep the noise down. Normally, they'd turn the music down a bit, and then as soon as I got back upstairs they'd just turn it back up again. Oh, they were a nightmare.

Erm, when I was about, when I was living at home with my parents and I was about 18, I'd just passed my driving test and we never really used to have anything to do with our neighbours, and when I first passed my test I'd park outside and occasionally I would park slightly over their drive, and they would get very, very annoyed and as soon as I'd pull at them, they'd come running out of the house and start yelling and screaming at me like absolute mad people.

## Answers

### World Facts (page 4)

#### 1 Pre-reading

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

#### 3 Reading II

1. 94.3 = the number of computers per 100 Canadians.

2. 35.9 = the number of broadband subscribers per 100 Danes.

3. 176.5 = the number of phones per 100 people in the UAE.

4. 821 = the number of newspapers sold in Iceland per 1,000 people.

5. 162 = the number of minutes the Turks spend enjoying their meals.

6. 530 = the number of minutes a day the French sleep.

#### 4 Language focus

1. I might see her later.

2. They should not do that.

3. We can do it later.

4. Can you swim fast?

5. You mustn't / shouldn't walk on the grass.

### Boring Viewing (Page 5)

#### 3 Reading II

1. 25 seconds;

2. 45 minutes;

3. an aeroplane;

4. It is very boring – nothing happens;

5. a Bosch;

6. ten minutes.

#### 4 Language focus

1e 2a 3d 4c 5b

### On your Own (Page 10)

#### 3 Reading II

1. 60 million copies;

2. 150 million;

3. the US market for self-help books;

4. 2400 BC;

5. 1542;

6. Samuel Smiles;

7. 1936.

#### 4 Language focus

1. I can see you.

2. Can you skate?

3. They can do it tomorrow.

4. He can swim really fast.

### Error Correction (Page 13)

1. Have you got any sugar?

2. We have some water in the fridge.

3. There isn't any chocolate.

4. There is a pizza on the table.

5. I don't want any salt with this.

6. Are there any potatoes?

### Free-Time Fun (Page 13)

#### 3 Listening II

1. Harry has a broken nose.

2. Ray hit Harry with a football.

3. Harry was sitting in his garden.

4. He was reading a book.

5. Ray's dog bit Harry.

6. Harry is going to meet Mary outside the cinema.

7. Ray tells Harry the ending of the film.

8. After the cinema, they're going to an Indian restaurant.

### Grammar Fun (Page 14)

1. can't 2. could / might 3. can't

4. could / might 5. can't 6. could / might 7. can't 8. must

### Avant-Garde (Page 15)

#### 3 Reading I

1. 4 minutes and 33 seconds of silence;

2. his assistant; 3. a car; 4. a platform;

5. \$1 million; 6. the black ones.

#### 4 Language focus

1. The money was taken to the bank.

2. The e-mail was sent.

3. All the food was eaten.

4. The document was printed.

5. The money was stolen.

### Neighbours from Hell (Page 16)

#### 3 Reading II

1. Simon Cowell; 2. David Beckham; 3. Madonna; 4. Simon Cowell; 5. Simon Cowell; 6. Kate Moss; 7. Ozzy Osbourne;

8. Madonna

#### 4 Language focus

1. Which; 2. What; 3. Which; 4. What

### Classified Humour (Page 17)

#### 1 Pre-reading

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

#### 3 Reading II

1. \$2 + costs; 2. no; 3. over 1,300; 4. they're too small and irritating to the skin; 5. on Sunday; 6. no; 7. a teddy bear's belly; 8. all over the world.

### Eco-Warriors (Page 19)

#### 3 Listening II

1. 300; 2. government; 3. Wednesday;

4. car; 5. hospital; 6. Saturday; 7. au pair.

### Street Style (Page 26)

#### 1 Pre-reading

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

#### 3 Reading II

1. True; 2. False; 3. True; 4. False;

5. False; 6. True

### On Expenses (Page 27)

#### 3 Reading II (answers may vary)

1. Derek Conway employed his son as a parliamentary assistant.

2. As a result of the scandal, Conway was expelled from the party.

3. Some of the more ridiculous claims included expenses for dog food, tin openers, toilet seats and cleaning products

4. Many MPs have a right to buy a second home.

5. Some MPs were claiming for a second home even though they live close to Westminster.

6. Jacqui Smith didn't really need a second home.

#### 4 Language focus

1. The room is being cleaned.

2. The e-mail is being sent.

3. The photo is being taken.

4. The report is being written.

### Technophobia (Page 29)

#### 1 Pre-reading

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

#### 3 Reading II

1. They don't usually use many forms of modern technology.

2. Machines taking away their jobs.

3. They were arrested and executed.

4. Those who hate technology and those who are afraid of it.

5. 23%.

6. What could happen if humans begin to experiment with human life.

7. Instead of icons and menus the Jitterbug phones ask users simple "yes/no" questions and have larger keyboards.

#### 4 Language focus

1. that (or no pronoun); 2. that (or no pronoun); 3. whose; 4. that (or no pronoun); 5. who.

### Riddles (page 31)

1. One! After that it isn't empty.

2. Post office!

3. A sponge!

### Health & Safety (page 33)

#### 3 Listening II

1. Within the next couple of days.

2. They are both empty.

3. Mr Spanner thinks he might have lost it.

4. They are extremely dirty.

5. Because there was a serious food poisoning incident.

6. It fell into the pool

4 **Language focus** (answers may vary)

1. gone; 2. taken/had/chosen; 3. taken;

4. seen/watched.

### The Week in Cinema (page 37)

#### 3 Listening II (answers may vary)

1. London gangsters; 2. enchanting, violent, disgusting, disturbing, nasty, etc; 3. making a carrot cake; 4. It's his birthday; 5. because the scene lasts for two and a half hours; 6. because it's a multi-million dollar blockbuster and a commercial film.

### Office Crime (Page 39)

#### 3 Reading II (answers may vary)

1. 44%; 2. an employee; 3. Because no one would suspect their colleagues of theft; 4. fire-safety officers / outside contractors / health and safety officers;

5. Always make sure your property is secure; 6. Have a quiet word with them. But if it continues, raise it with a manager.

#### 4 Language focus (answers may vary)

1. The reports are being written.

2. The money has been paid into the account.

3. The work is going to be finished later.

4. The car will be taken to the garage tomorrow morning.

5. The work will have been completed by this afternoon.

### Pub Guide (page 40)

#### 1 Pre-reading

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

#### 3 Reading II (answers may vary)

1. ... lean over the bar, make eye contact, smile nicely and wait patiently.

2. ... tell the bartender your order in full, order Guinness first, and make sure you know what you want before ordering.

3. ... give the bartender the right change and hand the money directly to the bartender.

4. ... buy everyone in that group a drink.

5. ... keep loud talking and shouting to a minimum, avoid getting into arguments, establish local practices before playing games, etc.

#### 4 Language focus (answers may vary)

1. an age-old tradition;

2. a time-consuming process;

3. a half-hearted gesture;

4. a broken-hearted lover;

5. a sure-footed climber;

6. an all-too-common error;

7. a long-winded story;

8. a part-time worker.

### Dolphin Slaughter (page 41)

#### 1 Pre-reading

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

#### 3 Reading II (answers may vary)

1. boats; 2. They are sold to dolphinariums; 3. Japan, the Solomon Islands, Peru and the Faroe Islands;

4. underwater microphones, hidden cameras and a camouflaged camera crew; 5. He is credited with having started the dolphin entertainment industry, but wants to end it. 6. He's fairly philosophical about it – they're just animals.

# WORD OF THE MONTH



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

A simile is an expression which describes a person or thing as being similar to someone or something else. For example:

- a) He's as white as a sheet.
- b) She drinks like a fish.

We can form similes with the construction "as... as" using adjectives. For example:

- a) He's **as cunning** as a fox. (He's very cunning.)
- b) It's as regular as clockwork. (It is very regular.)

Many similes convey a stereotypical view of people, animals and things. For example:

- a) He's as strong as an ox.
- b) They were as quiet as mice.
- c) She's as **stubborn** as a mule.
- d) He was as drunk as a skunk.
- e) She's as slow as a sloth.
- f) He's as **proud** as a peacock.



Some similes convey an ironic meaning (i.e. they say the opposite to what they mean). For example:

- a) He's as cuddly as a cactus. (He isn't cuddly at all.)
- b) It's as smooth as sandpaper. (It isn't smooth.)

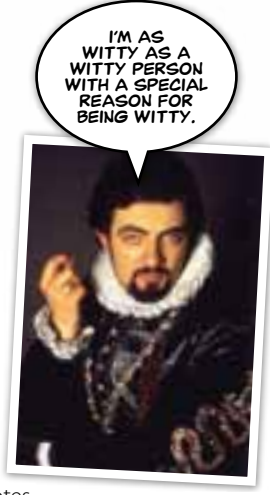
We can also make similes with "like" followed by a noun. For example:

- a) He fights like a lion.
- b) He runs like a cheetah.
- c) She kicks like a mule.



Similes are often used for comic effect. Blackadder (a famous British comedy character from the series of the same name) popularised the use of exaggerated simile. Here are some of his most famous sarcastic "simile" quotes.

- a) Madam, without you, life was like a broken pencil... it was **pointless**.
- b) I'm as excited as a terribly excited person who has a really good reason for being terribly excited.
- d) I'm as bored as a pacifist pistol.
- d) I'm as nervous as a turkey at Christmas.
- e) That's about as useful as a chocolate hat in the desert.



Finally, have a look at these similes. What do you think they mean?

- As white as a ghost.
- As fit as a fiddle.
- As clear as day.
- As gentle as a lamb.
- As happy as Larry.
- As keen as mustard.
- As smooth as velvet.
- As tough as old boots.
- As different as chalk and cheese. ✨

**GLOSSARY**  
**cunning** *adj*  
 with an ability to achieve things by tricking people in a clever way  
**stubborn** *adj*  
 someone who is "stubborn" is determined to do what they want  
**proud** *adj*  
 someone who is "proud" is very pleased with the way they are  
**pointless** *adj*  
 two meanings: a) serving no useful purpose; b) with no sharp "point" at the end

next month in  
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**Daniel Day-Lewis**

**Musical Special**

**TV Prank Shows**

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