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No.283

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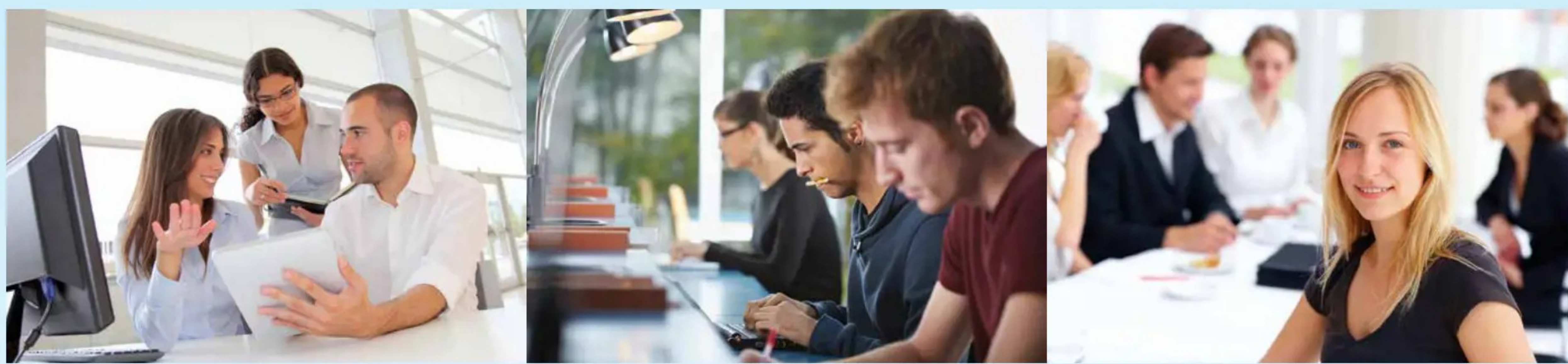
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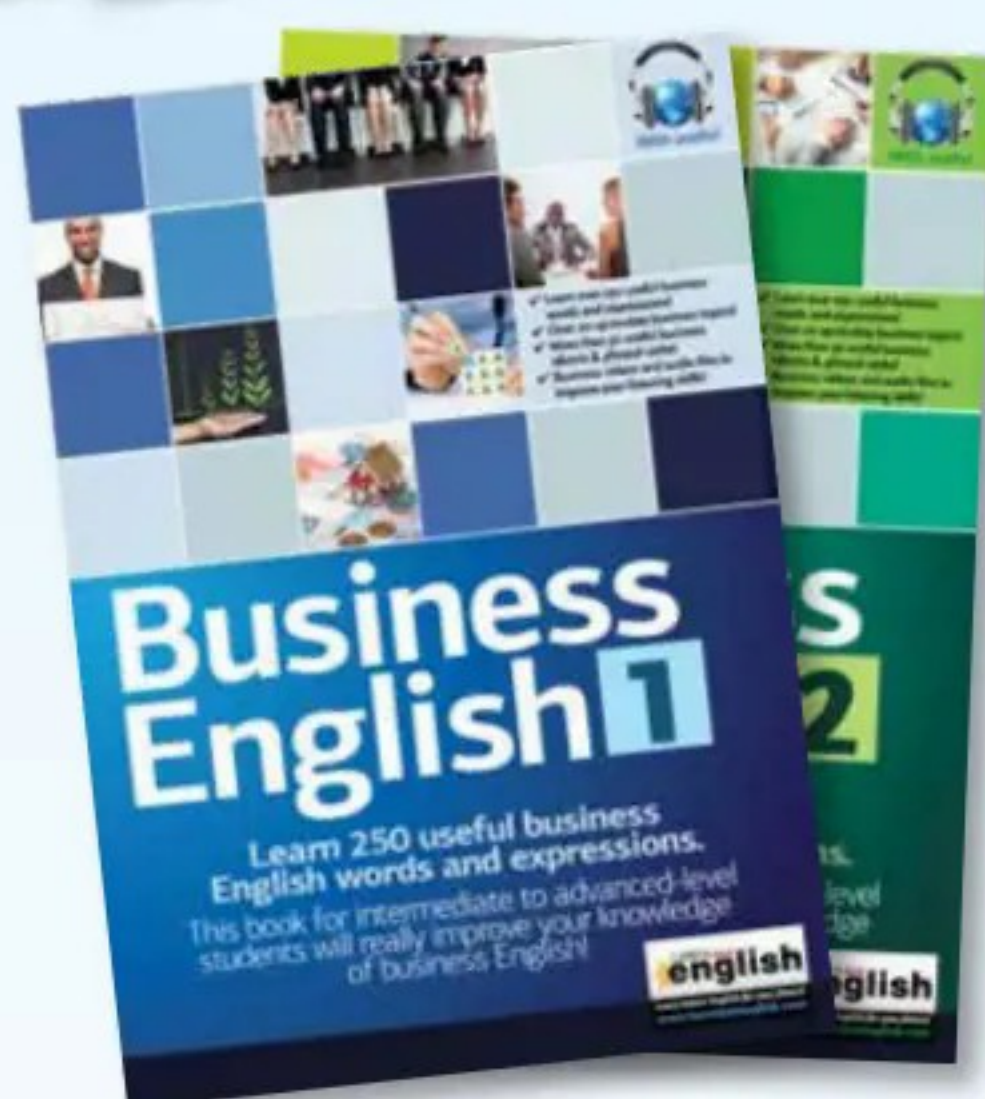
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EDITOR'S INTRO

How you learn English with Hot English magazine

Why are you learning English? To get a better job, to pass an official English exam, to travel, or just to communicate in English? Hot English magazine helps with all this.

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❑ **Improve your listening.** Every magazine has 60 minutes of spoken English audio. You'll learn to understand English, plus you can hear lots of different accents!

❑ **Exam English.** Hot English helps prepare you for official English exams (First Certificate, IELTS, TOEFL, etc.). How? Exams test your ability to speak and your range of vocabulary. Hot English improves your communication skills and your knowledge of words and expressions.

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❑ **Social English.** How do native English speakers really talk? Learn with our natural English conversations. Also, learn English slang. Plus, in Hot English you'll read about current events (news, culture, music, films) so you can make conversation with native English speakers.

❑ **Want to learn even more?** Get an English Unlocked book. You'll learn extra vocabulary, grammar, social English and business English. The English Unlocked books are linked to the topics in Hot English magazine. Visit our website for more details.



Hi, and welcome to another issue of *Learn Hot English* – the practical magazine for learning English. In this month's issue, we're looking at a very important language pair: Make & Do. These two 'simple' words appear everywhere in

English: in casual conversation, formal writing, idioms, expressions, and even grammar tests. However, they're easily confused. But don't worry, we have a few simple tricks that will help you learn the difference between them. Of course, that's not all and we're also looking at the third part of our 10-part Victorian murder mystery (The Trousers Snatcher), renting a car, brand names, electronic music, the dentist, air pollution, lobbying, idioms, phrasal verbs, useful vocabulary and lots, lots more. Well, we hope you enjoy reading and listening to this issue of *Learn Hot English*. Have fun, learn lots of English and see you all next month!

Andy

PS Remember to sign up for our newsletter so you can receive lots of FREE language lessons, and find out what we're doing. Just visit our website (www.learnhotenglish.com) and enter your name and e-mail address in the box on the right-hand side of the page. Don't forget to check out the blog on our website: www.learnhotenglish.com/blog for free lessons and articles on how to learn English. Or "like" us on Facebook or Twitter (@LearnHotEnglish) so you can keep up with our latest news.

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HotEnglishMagazine

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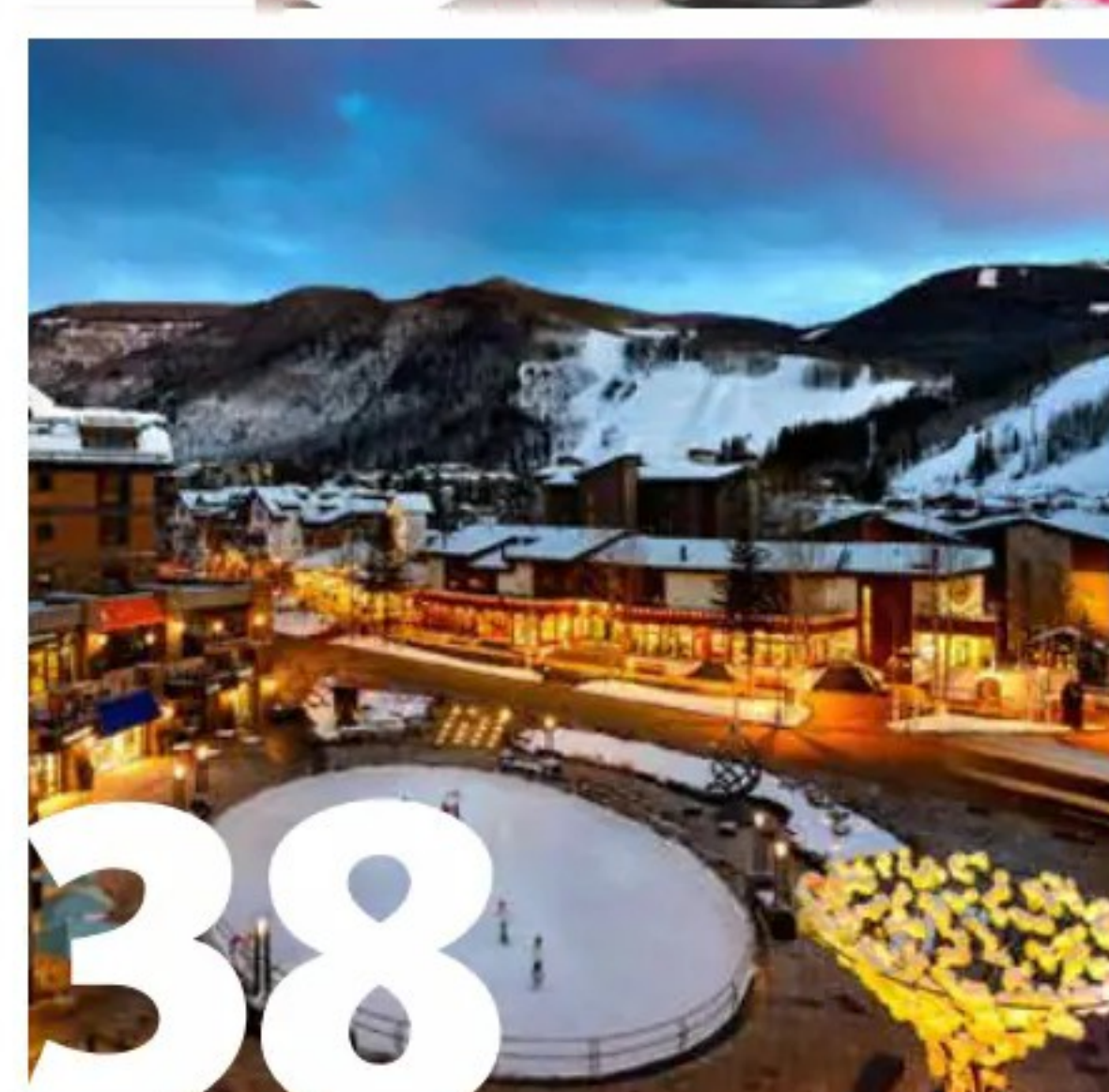
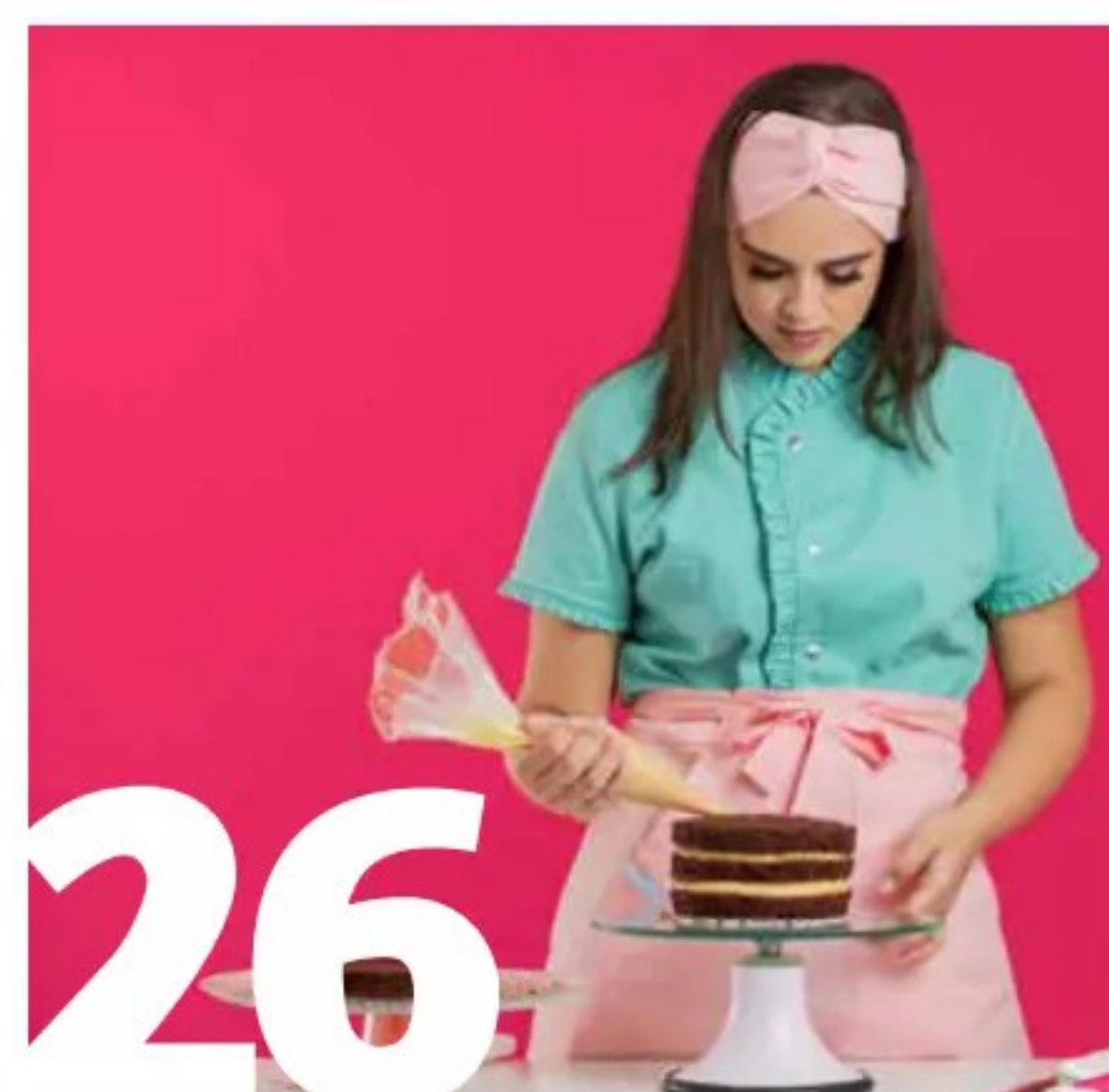
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AUDIO

TRAVEL ENGLISH

THE DENTIST

Learn some useful words and expressions to talk about dentists and teeth.

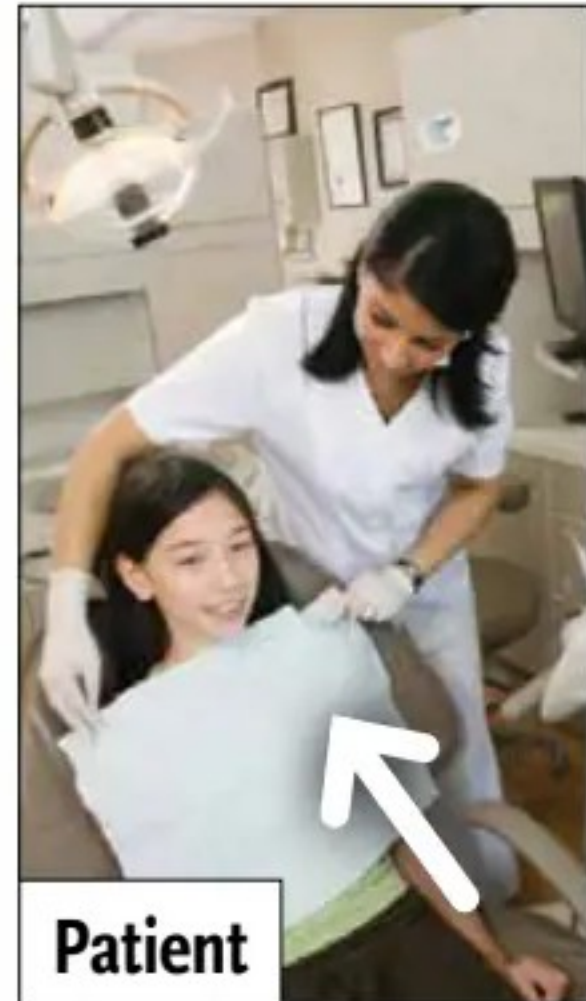
Useful words



Dentist



Tooth (plural: teeth)



Patient



1 Incisors
(for cutting food)

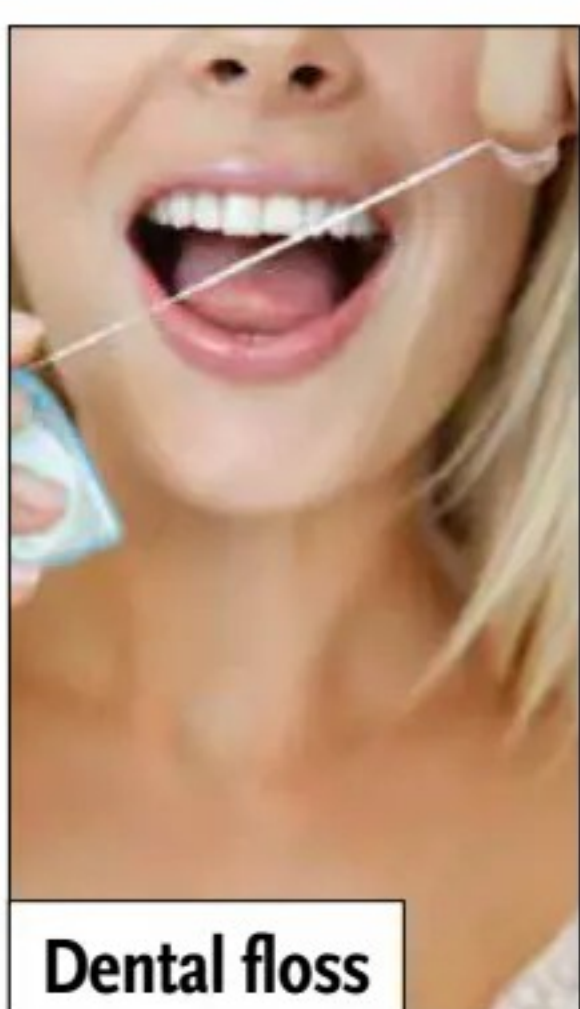
2 Canine teeth
(for ripping and
tearing tough food
such as meat)

3 Molars
(for grinding food)

4 Wisdom
teeth



Brace



Dental floss



(Dental) drill



Toothbrush



Toothpaste



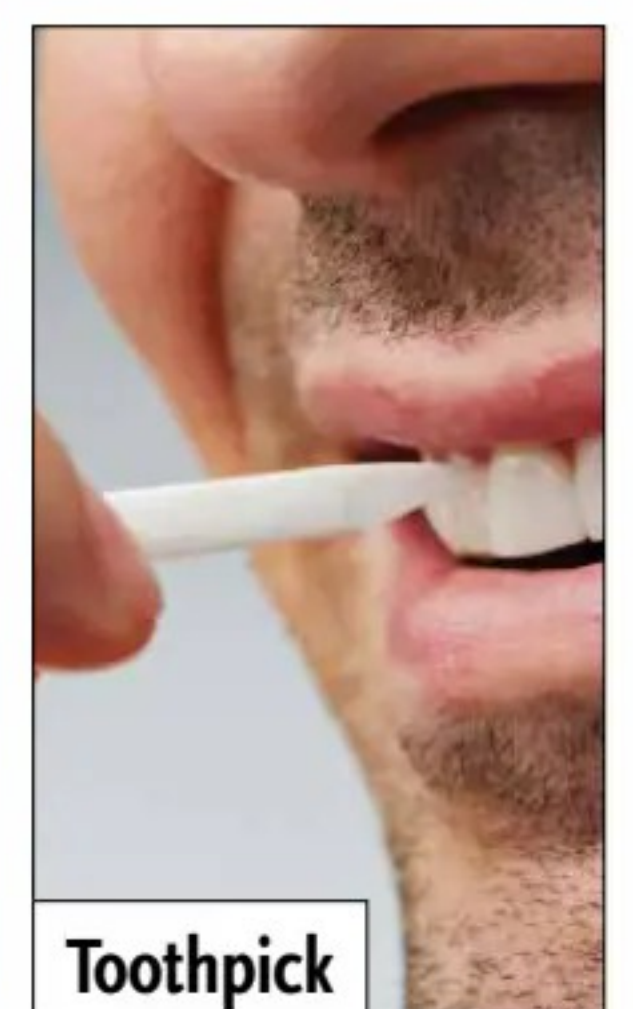
Electric
toothbrush



Mouth wash



Gum



Toothpick

Words to describe

- **The dentist's** – the place where you go to see the dentist.
- **Dental appointment** – if you have a “dental appointment”, you have arranged to see the dentist at a specific time.
- **A (dental) clean** – when you “have a clean”, the dentist cleans your teeth.
- **Brush your teeth** – to use a toothbrush to clean your teeth.
- **Floss your teeth** – to use dental floss to clean between your teeth.
- **Rinse your mouth out** – to use water to clean your mouth.
- **The waiting room** – the room where you wait for the dentist to see you.
- **A (dental) check-up** – if you have a “check-up”, the dentist examines your teeth to see if there are any problems.
- **Caries** – if you've got “caries”, your teeth are bad and rotten, and you've got tooth decay.
- **A cavity** – a hollow space in a tooth produced by caries.
- **Tooth decay** – if you've got “tooth decay”, your teeth are bad and rotten.
- **Crown** – an artificial top piece fixed over a broken or decayed tooth.
- **Root canal treatment** – if you have “root canal treatment”, the dental operates on your teeth to eliminate bacteria from the centre of your tooth.
- **A (dental) filling** – if you have a “filling”, the dentist fills a cavity with a special substance.
- **Plaque** – this is the invisible mass of **harmful germs** that live in your mouth.
- **Tartar** – this is plaque that has formed on your teeth. It is often yellow in colour.
- **Toothache** – if you've got a “toothache”, your tooth hurts.

Dialogue: The street market

Chinese tourist Ariel is visiting the dentist's.
[Listen once and complete the text with the correct words.]
Dialogue: R=Receptionist A=Ariel D=Dentist



R: Hello, can I help you?
A: Hi, I've got an (1) _____ to see Dr Nelson.
R: What was your name, please?
A: Ariel Kwan.
R: Have you got your European Health Insurance (2) _____, please?
A: Yes, here it is.
R: OK. Take a seat through there in the (3) _____, please, and Dr Nelson will see you in just a minute. [two minutes later] Could you come this way, please? Dr Nelson will see you now.
A: OK.
D: So, how are you Ms Kwan?
A: Erm, fine thanks, but I've got a bit of a (4) _____.
D: OK, just sit down here, please. [inspecting her teeth] Mmm...

there's a bit of tartar and plaque. And there's some inflammation of the (5) _____ too. Now, open wide. Mmm... yes, I can see a bit of tooth decay. You'll probably need a filling, but I'll need to take an (6) _____ just to make sure. Rinse your mouth out over here, please. [She gargles and spits.] Have you been flossing regularly?
A: Once a day, before I go to bed.
D: And how often have you been brushing your (7) _____?
A: About twice a day.
D: You really need to brush them three times a day – once in the morning, once after lunch and once before you go to (8) _____. Now, open wide again, I just need to check that... [drilling sound] [fades out]

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AUDIO

QUIZ ARE YOU AN ATENTION SEEKER?

Are you an attention seeker? Are you the kind of person who loves attention at work? Or do you prefer to remain anonymous? Do our quiz and find out whether you are an **attention seeker** or not. **Quiz Analysis** on page 65

1. Work is an opportunity to:
 - a) Progress in the profession of my choice.
 - b) Show everyone what a great and fantastic person I am.
2. How do you like to work?
 - a) In silence.
 - b) With my music **on full blast**, moving my body in rhythm to the beat. Every now and then I get up for a little dance. Irish River Dancing is my favourite. Everyone loves to watch me.
3. It's Friday late afternoon and work is just finishing. What's happening?
 - a) I'm trying to finish off as much work as possible so I don't have to take any work home with me.
 - b) I'm organising a work **outing** to the local pub for a few after-work drinks. "Last one to the pub's a **dork**!"
4. What type of clothes do you wear to work?
 - a) Something that says that I'm professional.
 - b) Anything which will get me noticed: a **flashy** pink **tie**, a pair of really tight trousers, brightly-coloured shoes – you name it, I'll wear it.



5. You're in a staff meeting. What are you doing?
 - a) Taking notes quietly.
 - b) Telling jokes, making funny comments, and putting my hand up at every opportunity so I can



answer all the questions.

6. How often do you stop for a break during the day?
 - a) Once in the morning and once in the afternoon.
 - b) About every ten minutes. That way I can **keep people up-to-date** with the **latest** news, **gossip** or rumours. It's important to let people know about these things.

7. Your biggest fear at work is...
 - a) Losing my job.
 - b) **Being stuck** in a room on my own with no one to talk to.

8. It's first thing Monday morning. What are you doing?
 - a) I'm **catching up on** all my e-mails.
 - b) I'm telling everyone what a wonderful weekend I had. I sometimes bring in videos of me with my family or friends to show everyone what a great, fun person I really am.

9. What do you do for lunch?
 - a) I bring in a packed lunch and eat it at my desk.
 - b) I bring in loads of food and share it with everyone in the office. People love my cooking. ★



GLOSSARY

an attention seeker *n*
a person who does things in order to get attention from others

on full blast *adj*
at the maximum amount

an outing *n*
a trip organised for a class/office

a dork *n inform*
an idiot

flashy *adj*
that is bright and very colourful

a tie *n*
an object men wear around the neck and on a shirt

to keep people up-to-date *exp*
to tell people about the latest information

the latest *adj*
the most recent

gossip *n*
information about other people's private lives

being stuck *exp*
being trapped

to catch up on something *exp*
to deal with all the jobs and work that has accumulated over a period of time

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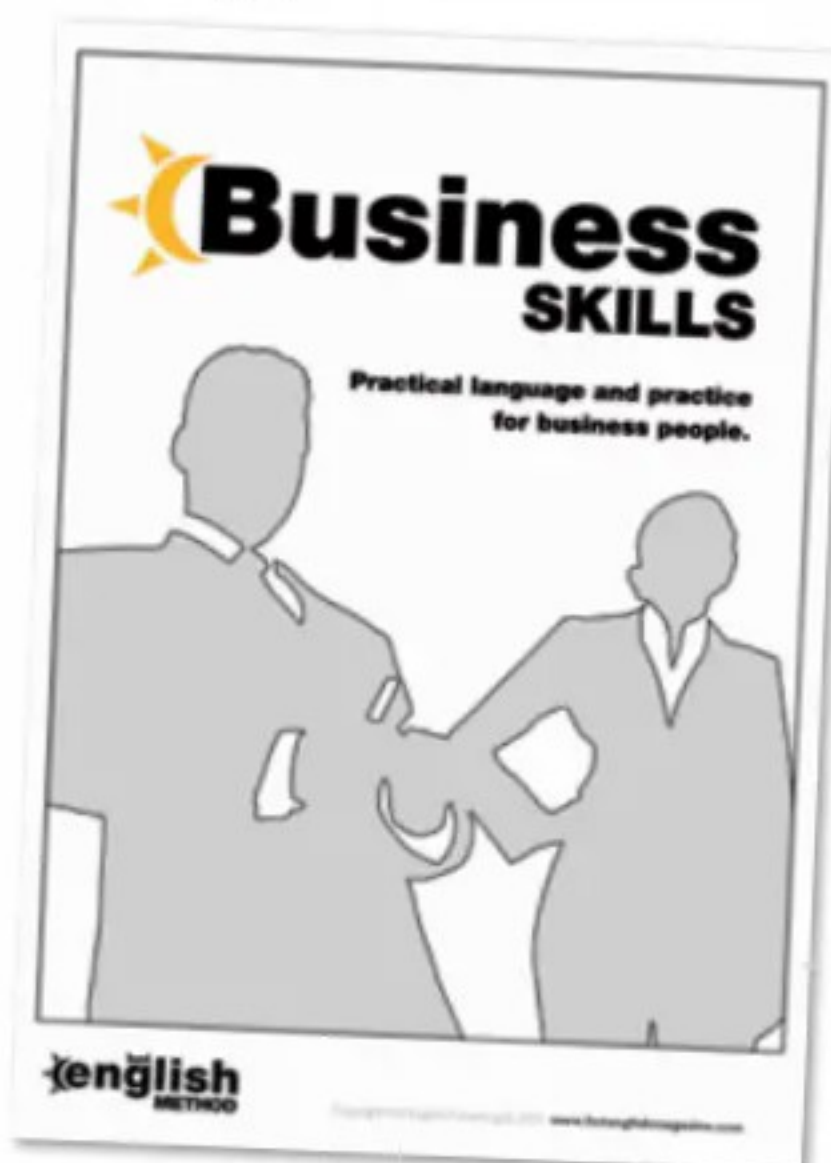


See page 11 for more info.

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AUDIO

Social English

Renting a car

Learn the kind of English you need for social occasions.
This month: renting a car. Listen and repeat these expressions.

What you say

- I'd like to **rent** a car, please.
- How much is it per hour?
How much is it per day?
How much is it per kilometre?
- How much is the **insurance**?
- Do you need to see my **driver's licence**?
- Can I leave the car in another city?
- Is it petrol or diesel? Does it take petrol or diesel?
- There appears to be a **dent** in the bodywork.
- There's a **scratch** at the back.



- Where is the car?
- What's the car **registration number**?
- Where do I have to leave it when I've finished?

- What do I do with the keys?
- Is it manual ("stickshift" US) or automatic?
- Sorry, but I put diesel in the petrol **tank**.
- I'm sorry but I crashed the car.
- I'm sorry but I've **written the car off**. I've **totalled** the car (US)
- The car is a **write off**. Can you give me another one?

What you hear

- It comes with a full tank of petrol.
- Please return it with a full tank.
- The keys are here.
- The car is parked in the car park, in **bay 24**, **parking space B23**.
- Just phone this number if you have any difficulties.
- The registration number is PY2 4TZ.
- Just fill out this form, please
- May I see your driving licence, please?
- I'll just take down your details.
- It's got **unlimited mileage**.
- I need to **swipe** your credit card.
- You will be liable for the **excess**, which is 200 pounds. ★

Part II Now listen to this social English dialogue. In this conversation, Sally is in a car rental office. She wants to rent a car.

- Sales: Good morning. How may I help you?
Sally: Good morning. I'd like to rent a car for the day.

Sales: OK. Any car in mind?
Sally: Just an ordinary four-door car.
Sales: We've got a Peugeot 206 if you like.
Sally: Yes, that would be fine. How much is it per day?
Sales: It's 80 pounds per day with unlimited mileage, and that includes insurance.
Sally: That sounds all right.
Sales: And the excess is 200 pounds.
Sally: What does that mean?
Sales: Well, if you have an accident, you have to pay the first 200 pounds.
Sally: OK. I'm not really planning on having an accident.
Sales: Very wise. So, just fill in this form, please. And I need to see your driving licence, and I'll have to swipe your credit card.
Sally: OK. Here you are.
Sales: Very good. Here are the keys. The car is in bay 62, in parking space 91. It's a blue Peugeot 206 station wagon.

Sally: Great.
Sales: Drive safely.
Sally: Thanks. Bye.
Sales: Bye.



GLOSSARY

to rent/hire *vb*
to pay money to use something for a limited period of time

insurance *n*
if you pay for "insurance", you receive money/compensation if you have an accident

a driver's licence *n*
a formal document that shows you have permission to drive

a dent *n*
a hole in the surface

a scratch *n*
a small cut on the surface of something

a registration number *n*
the numbers and letters at the back and front of a car that identify a car

a tank *n*
the object in a car in which you put petrol/gas/diesel

to write a car off *exp*
to destroy a car completely

to total a car *exp US*
to destroy a car completely

a write-off *n*
if a car is a "write-off", it is completely destroyed

a bay *n*
an enclosed area in a building that is used for a specific purpose

a parking space *n*
an area in a car park where you can park a car

unlimited mileage *n*
if the car has "unlimited mileage", you can travel as far as you like without being charged for it

to swipe *vb*
if they "swipe" your card, they put your card into a little machine in order to register it

the excess *n*
a limited amount of money you must pay for repairs if you have an accident



DR FINGERS' PRONUNCIATION

Part I

Individual Sounds - The "Schwa" Sound

This month, we are going to look at a very common sound in the English language called the "schwa" sound. It sounds a bit like "uh". It is called a very weak sound because it is not stressed and it appears in many, many words, particularly in spoken conversations and in connected speech. As we saw last month, sometimes the same word can have two different pronunciations. Listen to this example with the word "and":

Child: I want fish **and** chips.

Mother: You can't have both - you'll get too fat. You can have fish or chips.

Child: But I want fish **AND** chips.

In the first example, the word "and" is unstressed. It is a weak sound. We use the unstressed form of this word when we are speaking in connected sentences and we don't need to emphasise the word. The sound that appears in this unstressed example is the "schwa" sound "uh". However, the second sound is a strong sound. We use this strong sound when we want to emphasise something, or when we are speaking clearly.

There are many other words that have a "schwa" sound in English with many different combinations of letters. For example "water". Can you hear how the final syllable of this word has the "schwa" sound "uh". In fact, "er" at the end of a word is nearly always pronounced with this sound.

Listen to these words and repeat:

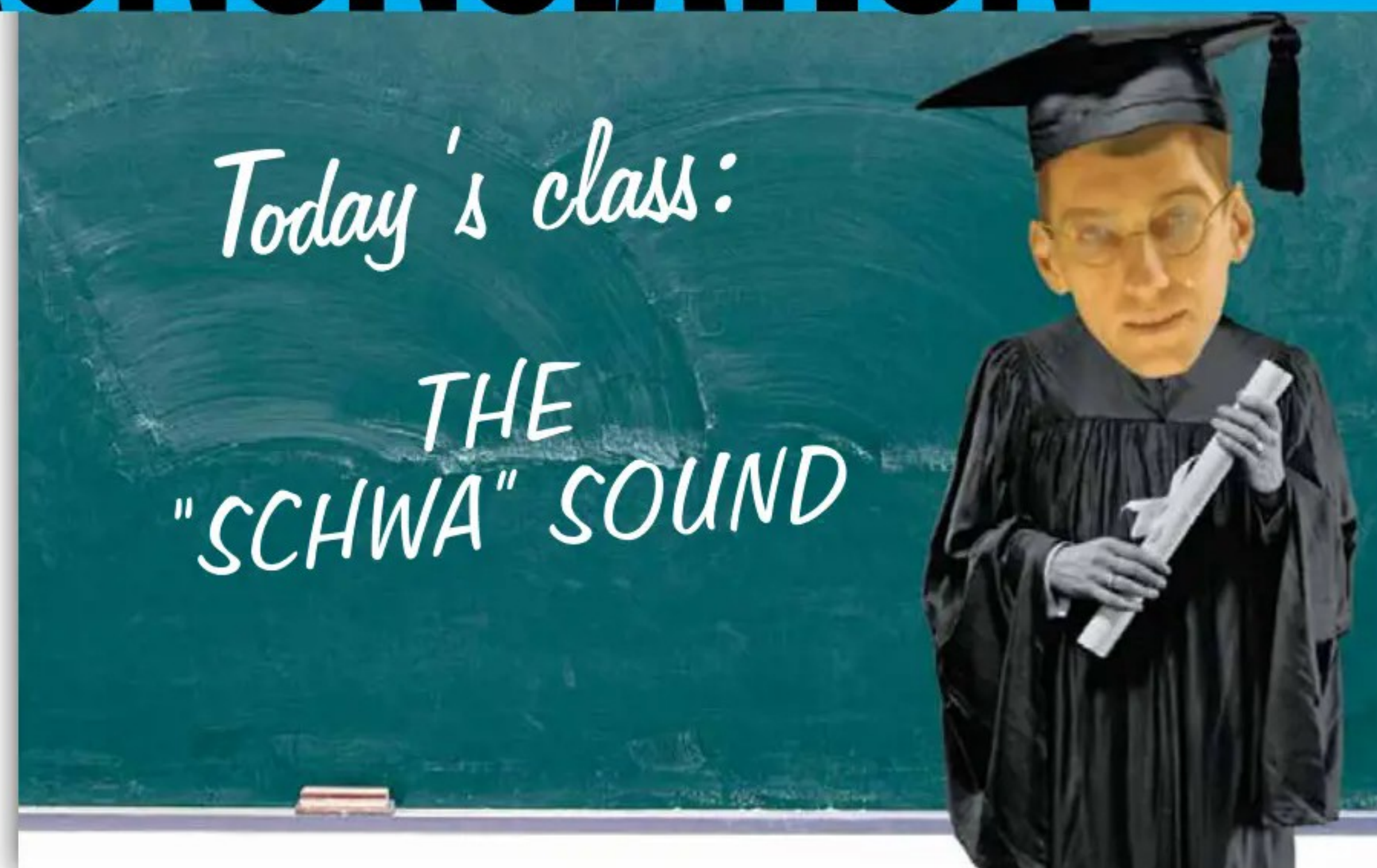
Teacher
Doctor
Footballer
Weather
Washer
Worker
Walker
Speaker
Heater
Drinker



Now let's try an activity. Listen to the following words and say if they have a "schwa" sound or not. Write an "s" next to the word that has the "schwa" sound, and an "x" next to the other words. See if you can guess what the rule is:

Exercise I

1. Daughter
2. Camera
3. Station
4. Table
5. Doctor
6. Neighbour
7. Stiff
8. Teacher
9. Pork
10. Cough
11. Sword
12. Vegetable
13. Son
14. Chocolate
15. Bed



The rule is that in multi-syllable words, unstressed syllables usually have the "schwa" sound.

Part II

Connected Speech

Now we're going to look at the "schwa" sound in connected speech and do a couple of exercises. In this first exercise you are going to look at some sentences and you have to guess which words, or parts of words, you think will have the "schwa" sound when spoken. Mark them by putting a circle around them. Do this before listening to the sentences on the CD. Here they are:

Exercise II

1. Where's your daughter?
2. Have you got any sugar?
3. She's another one of those sisters.
4. There isn't any of it left.
5. She's the only person I've told.
6. What's the time?
7. We did it together.
8. She tickled me with a feather.

Did you notice anything about this? Many of the "schwa" sounds appear in prepositions, articles and multi-syllable words, usually at the end of words. These are all words or parts of words that are often unstressed.

Bye for now and happy talking!

THE COMPLETE *Learn*^{hot} english METHOD

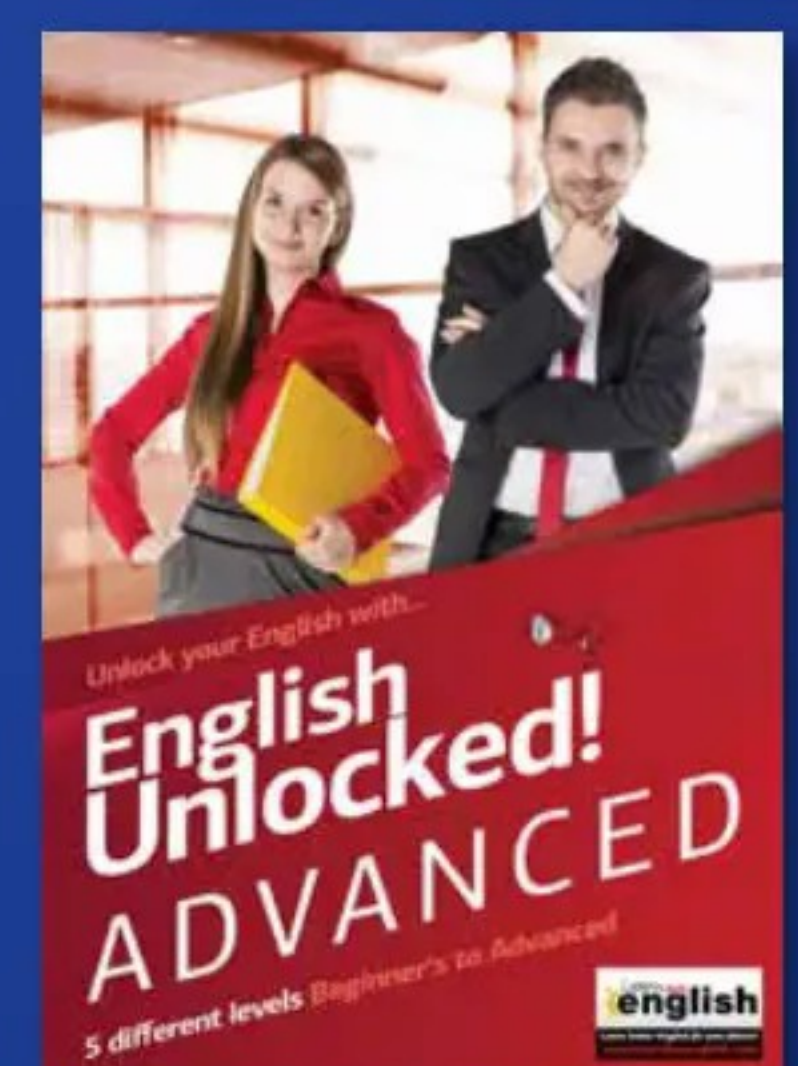
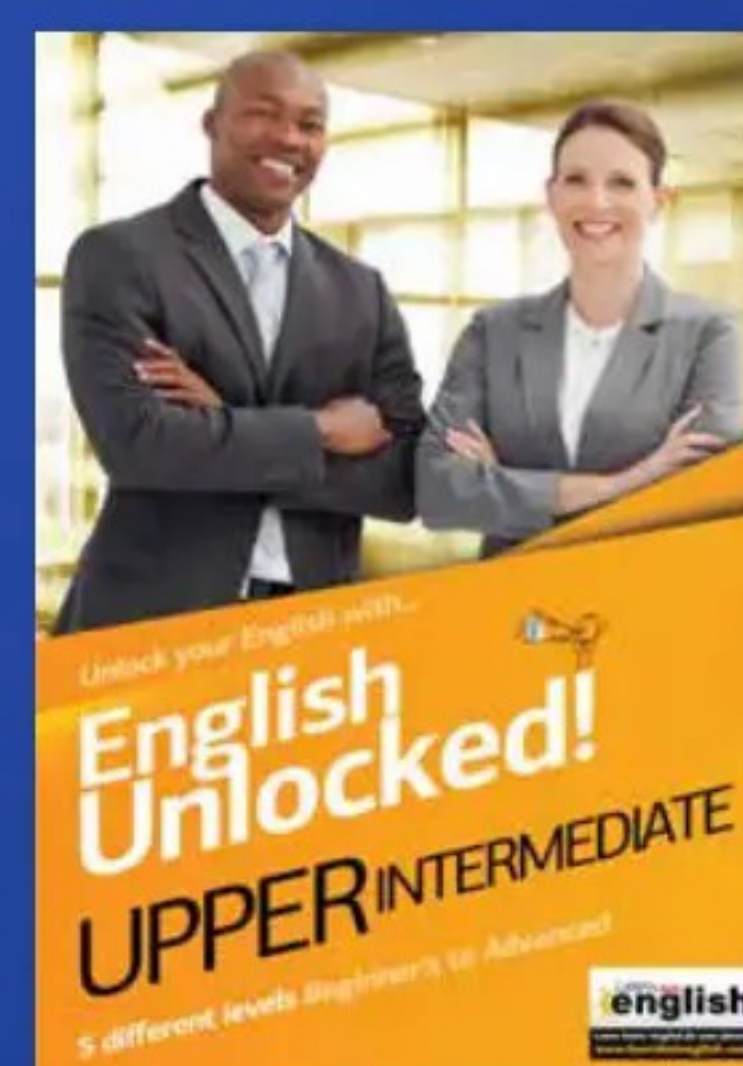
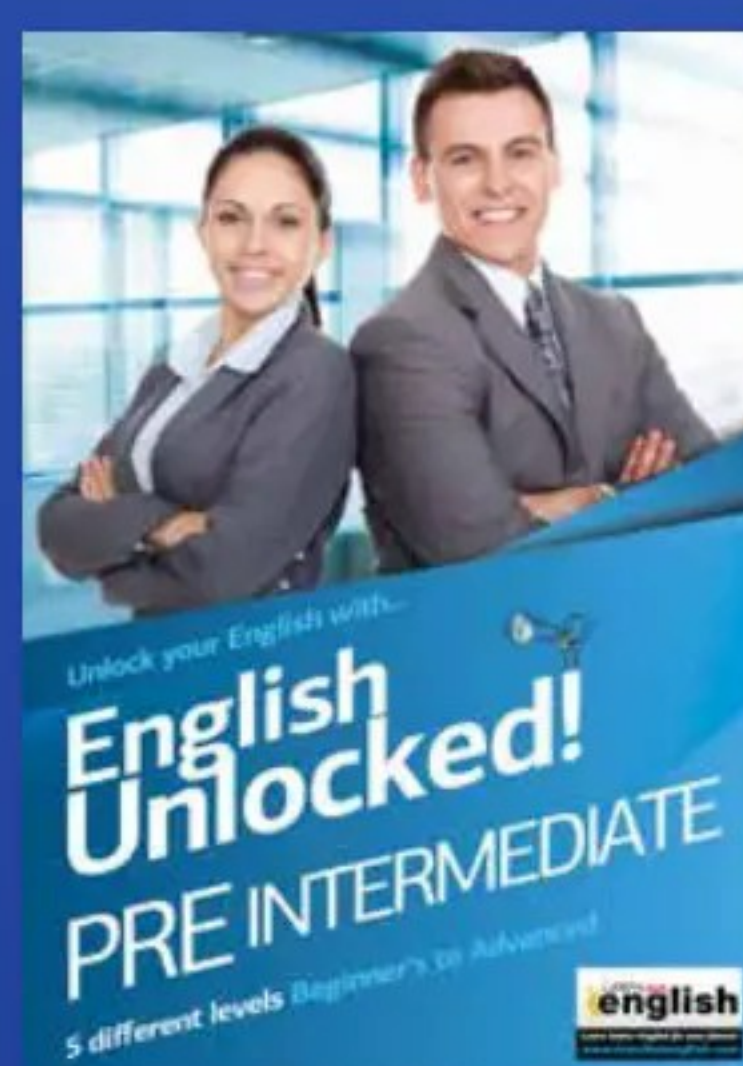
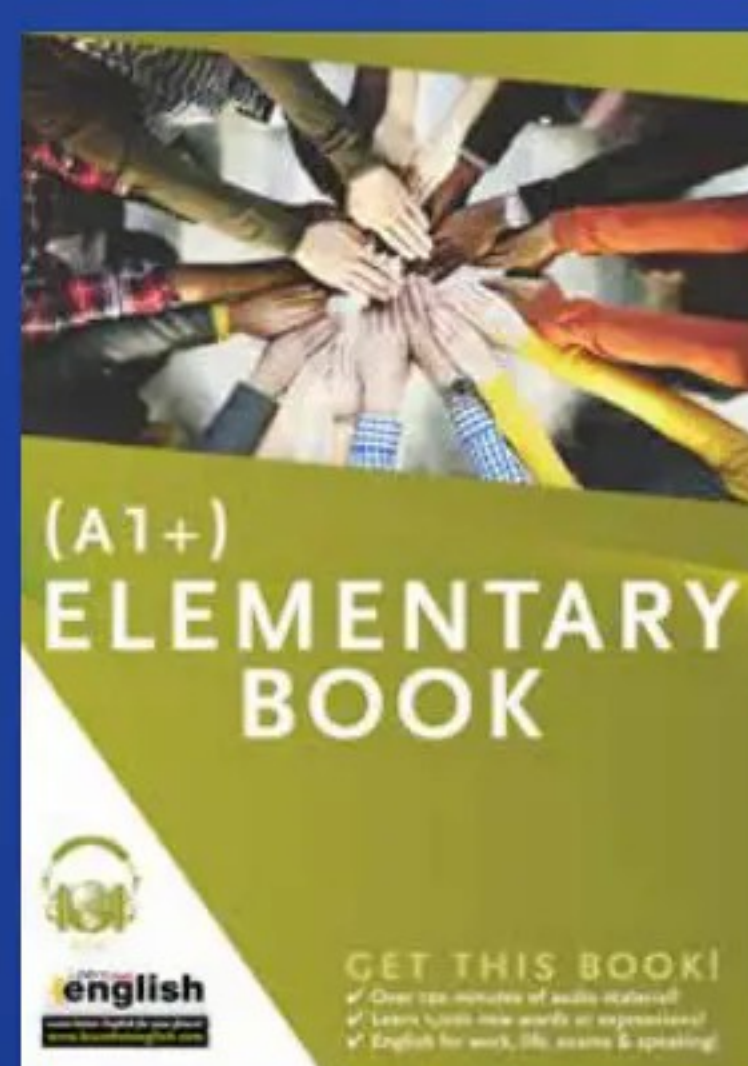
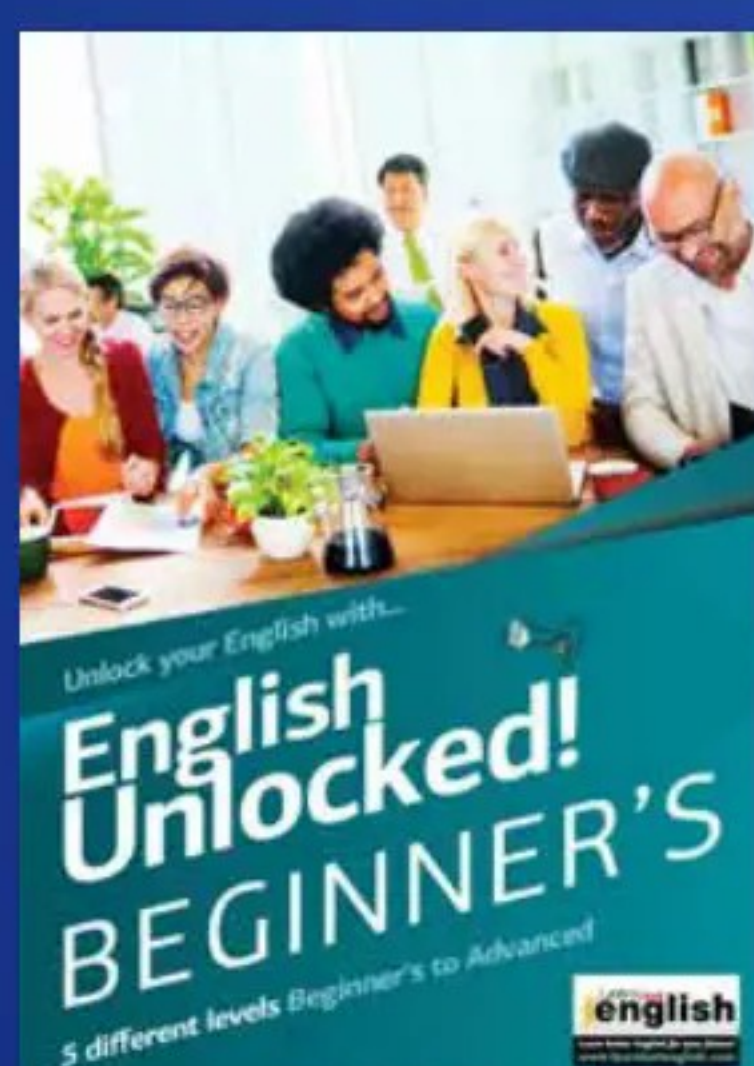
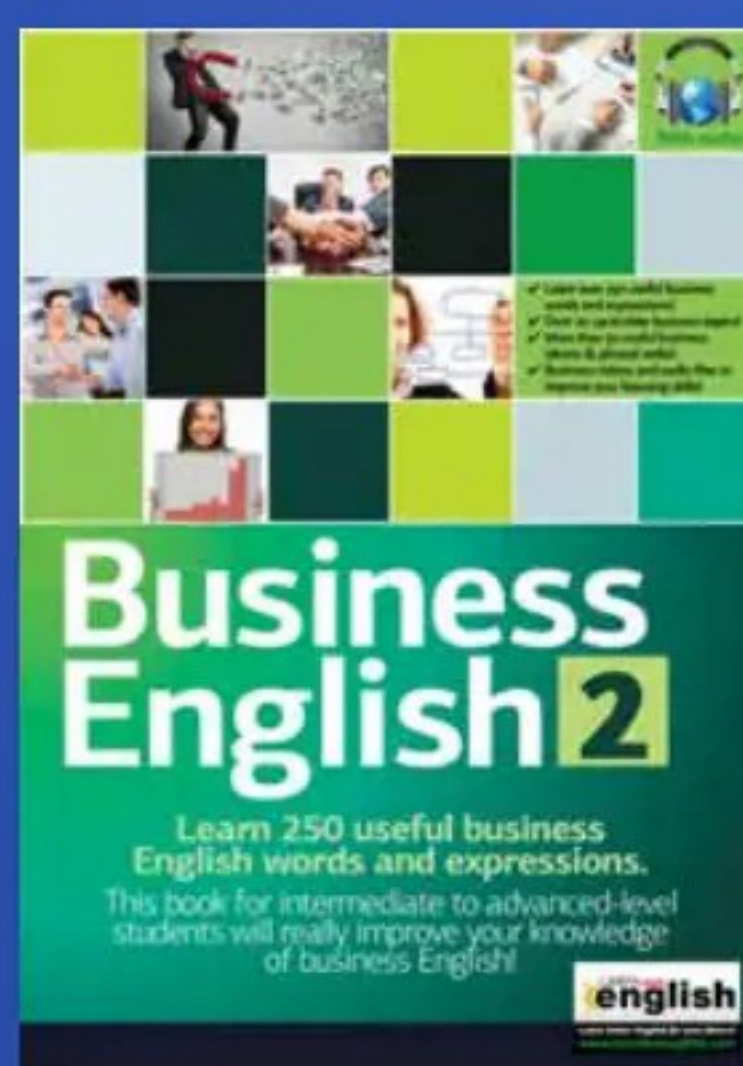
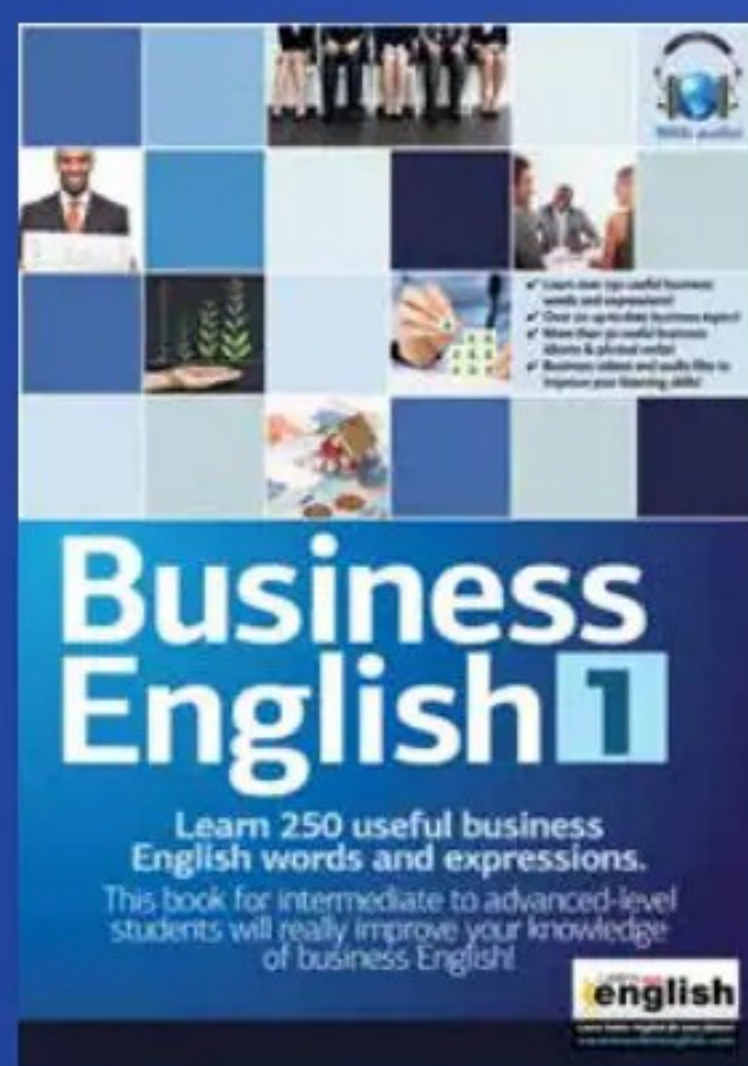
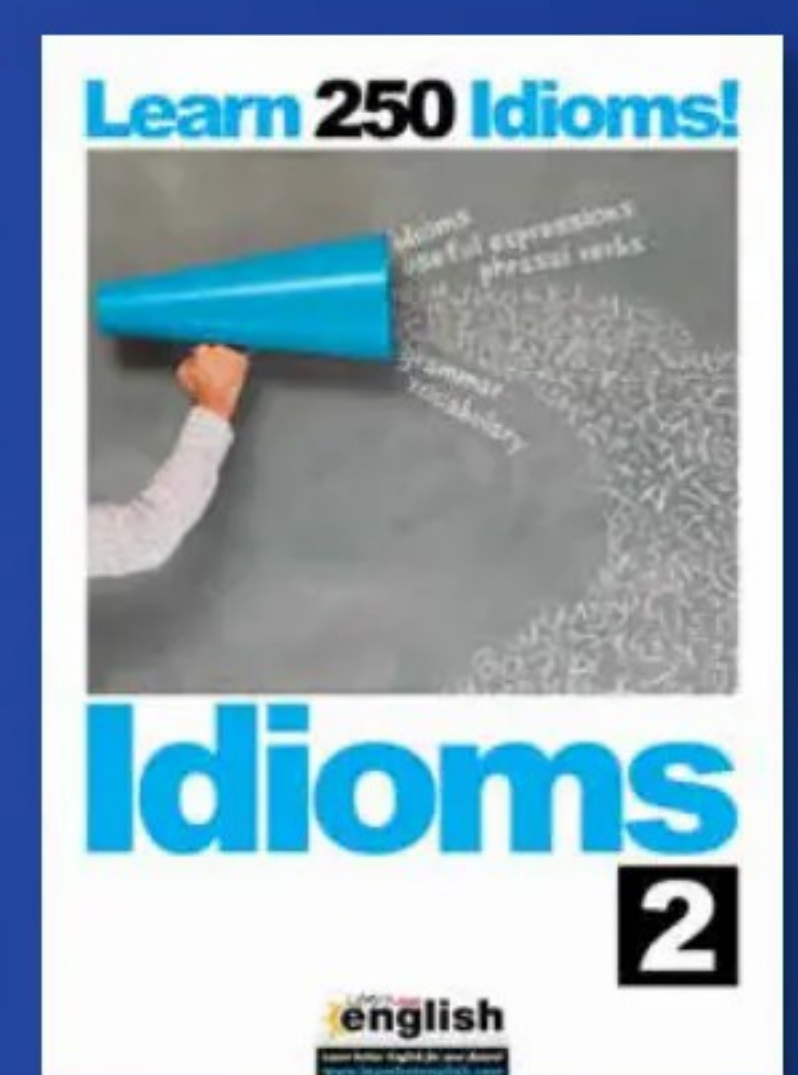
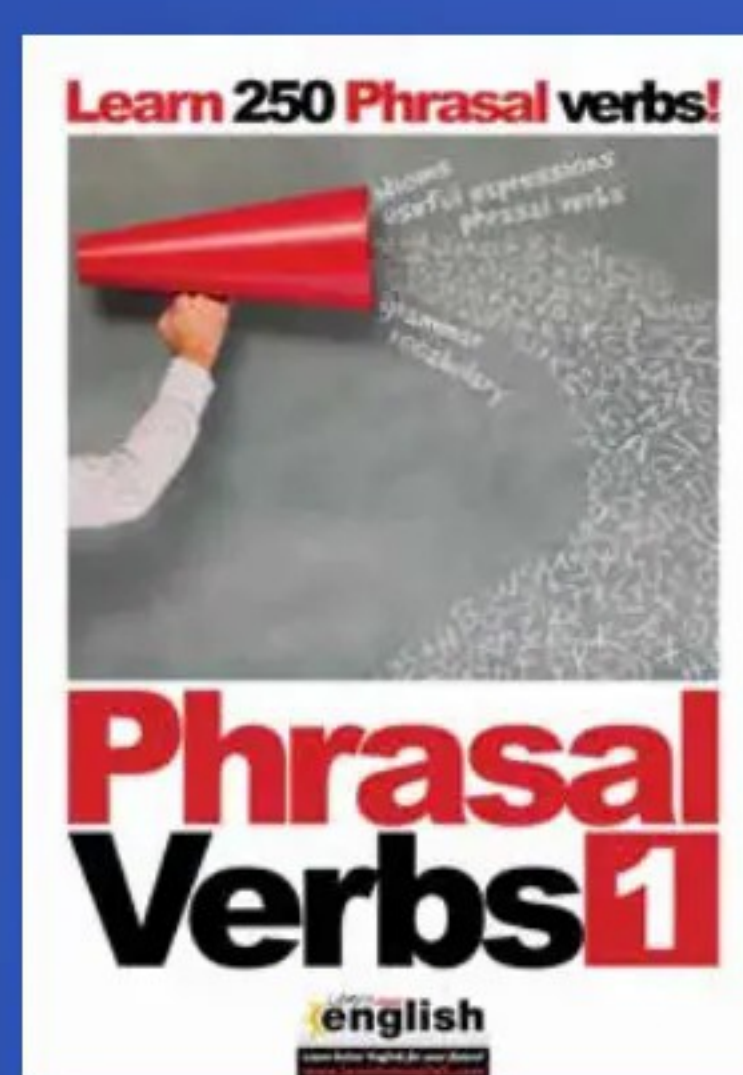
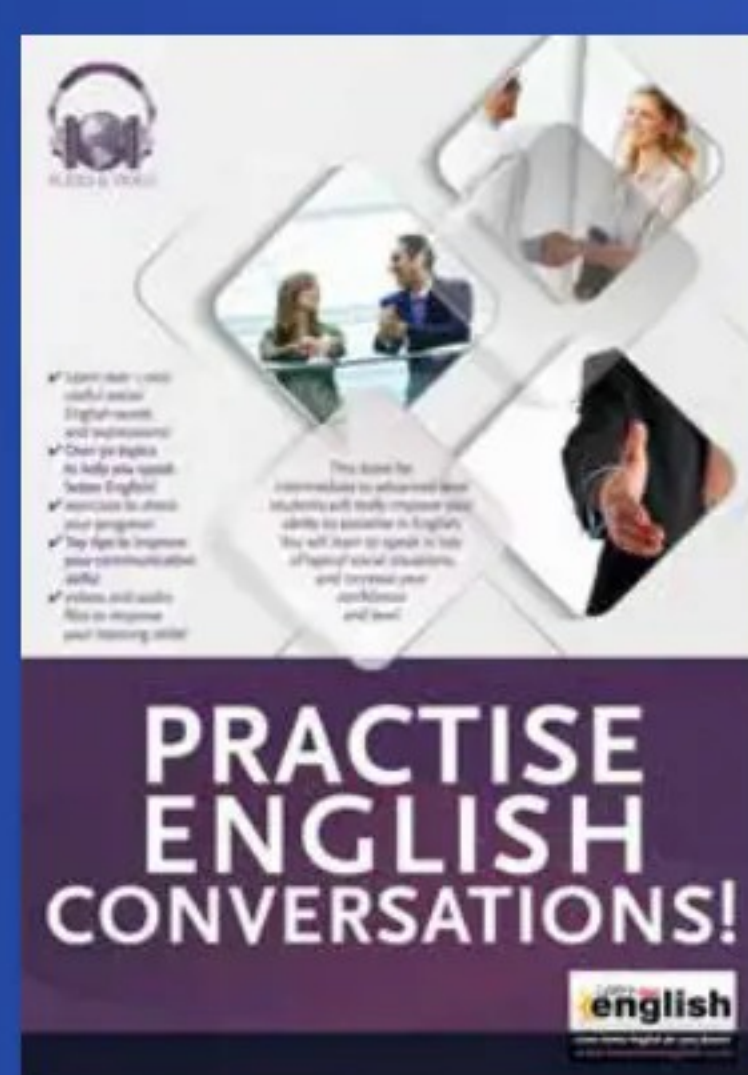
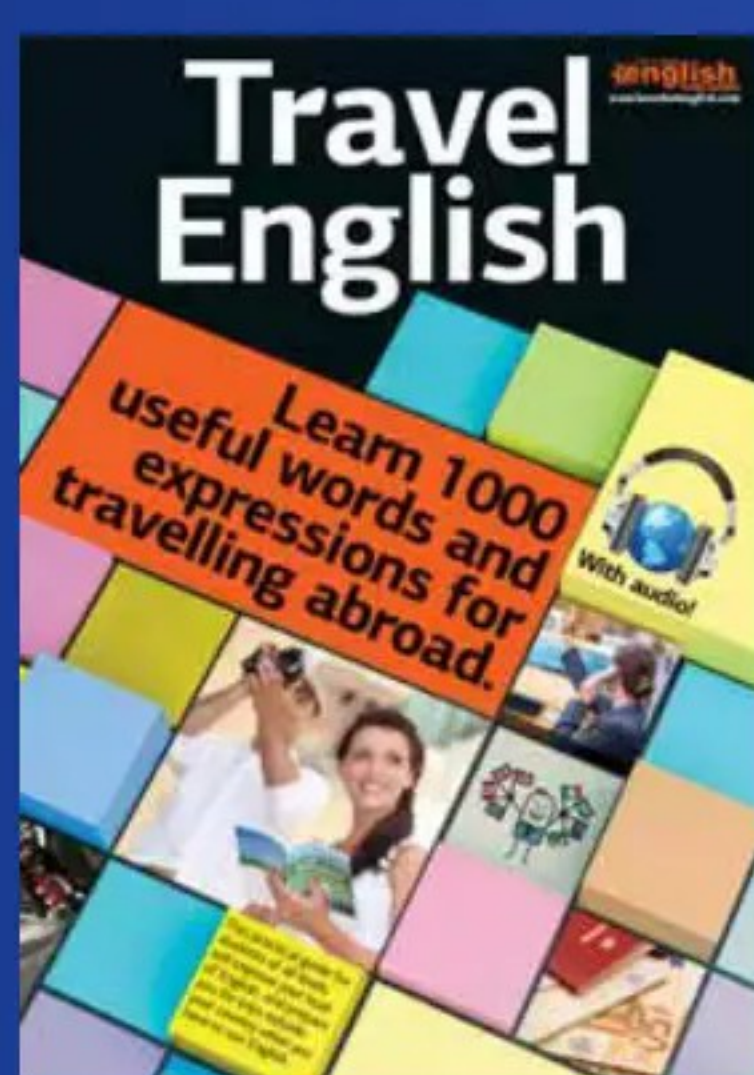


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DR FINGERS' GRAMMAR CLINIC

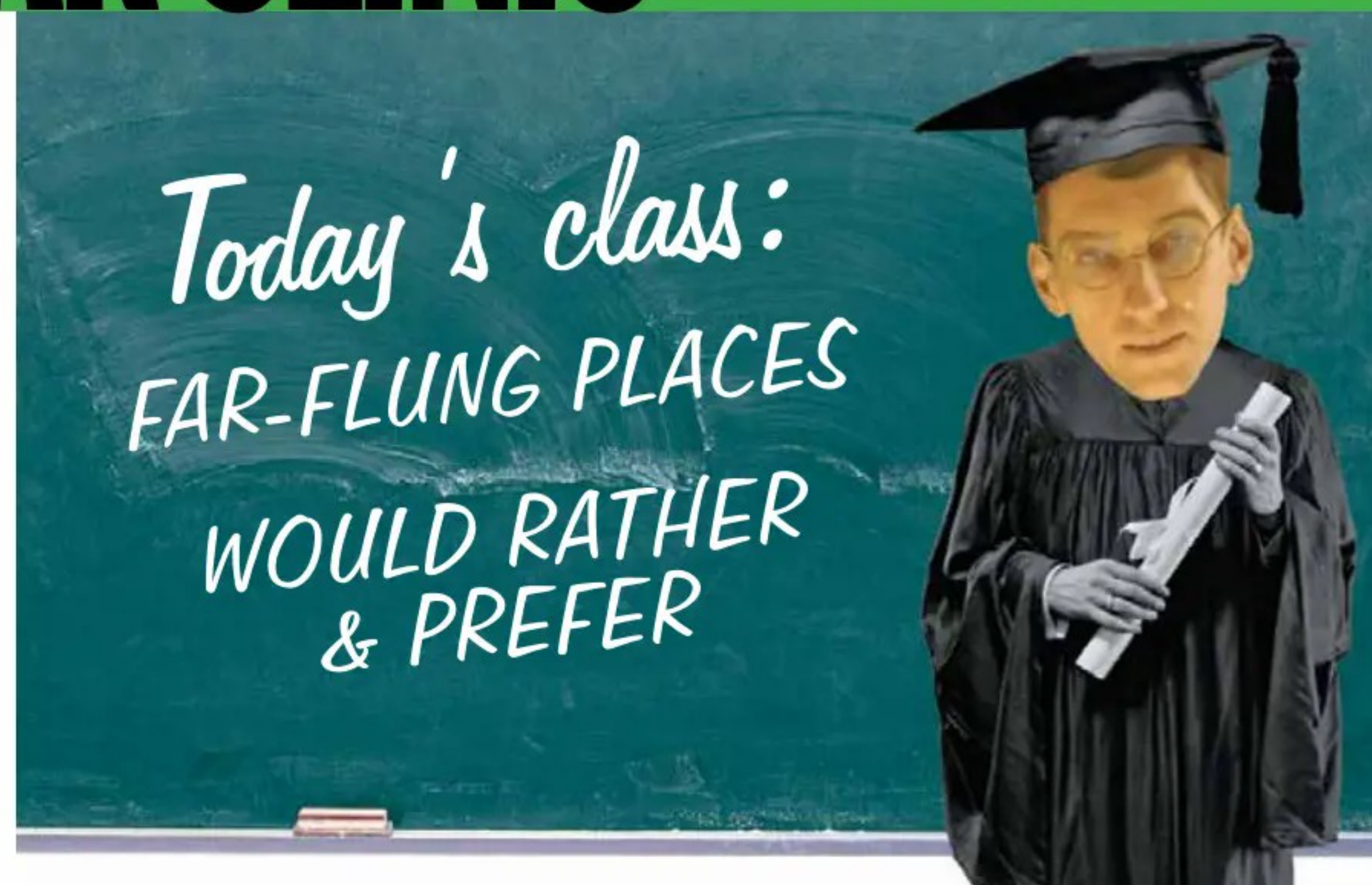
Dear Dr Fingers,
Please could you help me? What is the meaning of "far-flung places"? I saw it in a magazine.
Pedro (by e-mail)

Hi Pedro, this two-word expression means "far away". For example:
"They came from far-flung places." = "They came from countries (or cities) that were very far away."

Yours, Dr Fingers.

Dear Dr Fingers,
In English there are two expressions, "would rather" and "prefer" that both seem to mean the same thing. In my language (I am from Italy) we have just one expression for this. Please could you explain the difference between "would rather" and "prefer"?
Thank you, Paula (by e-mail)

Dear Paula,
I'll try to answer your question on "would rather" and "prefer". The first thing to remember is that "would rather" and "prefer" both mean the same thing:
"I'd rather eat at home." = "I'd prefer to eat at home."



"She'd rather not talk about it." = "She'd prefer not to talk about it."

Notice how it is common to use the contraction "-d" with "would rather". Here are some of the typical contractions:

"He'd rather not do it."

"They'd rather play here."

"We'd rather see it today."

"You'd rather go by train, wouldn't you?"

Now compare these two sentences with "would rather" and "prefer":

"I'd **rather start** the work later."

"I'd **prefer to start** the work later."

Do you notice any difference in the grammar? "Would rather" is followed by an infinitive without "to"; and "prefer" is followed by an infinitive with "to". Here are some more examples of this:

"I'd **rather go** now."

"I'd **prefer to go** now."

"She'd **rather leave** early."

"She'd **prefer to leave** early."

"Would rather" can also be used with more than one subject in the same sentence. In the following example there are two subjects: "I" and "she":

"I'd rather **she** didn't do that."

And in this example there are two subjects: "I" and "they":

"I'd rather **they** didn't come to the party tonight."

Notice how the past tense is used. In these examples the past tense has a future meaning:

"I'd rather she didn't see it **tomorrow**."

"I'd rather they didn't come **next week**."

Well, Paula, I hope that has answered your question. Goodbye and see you all next month.



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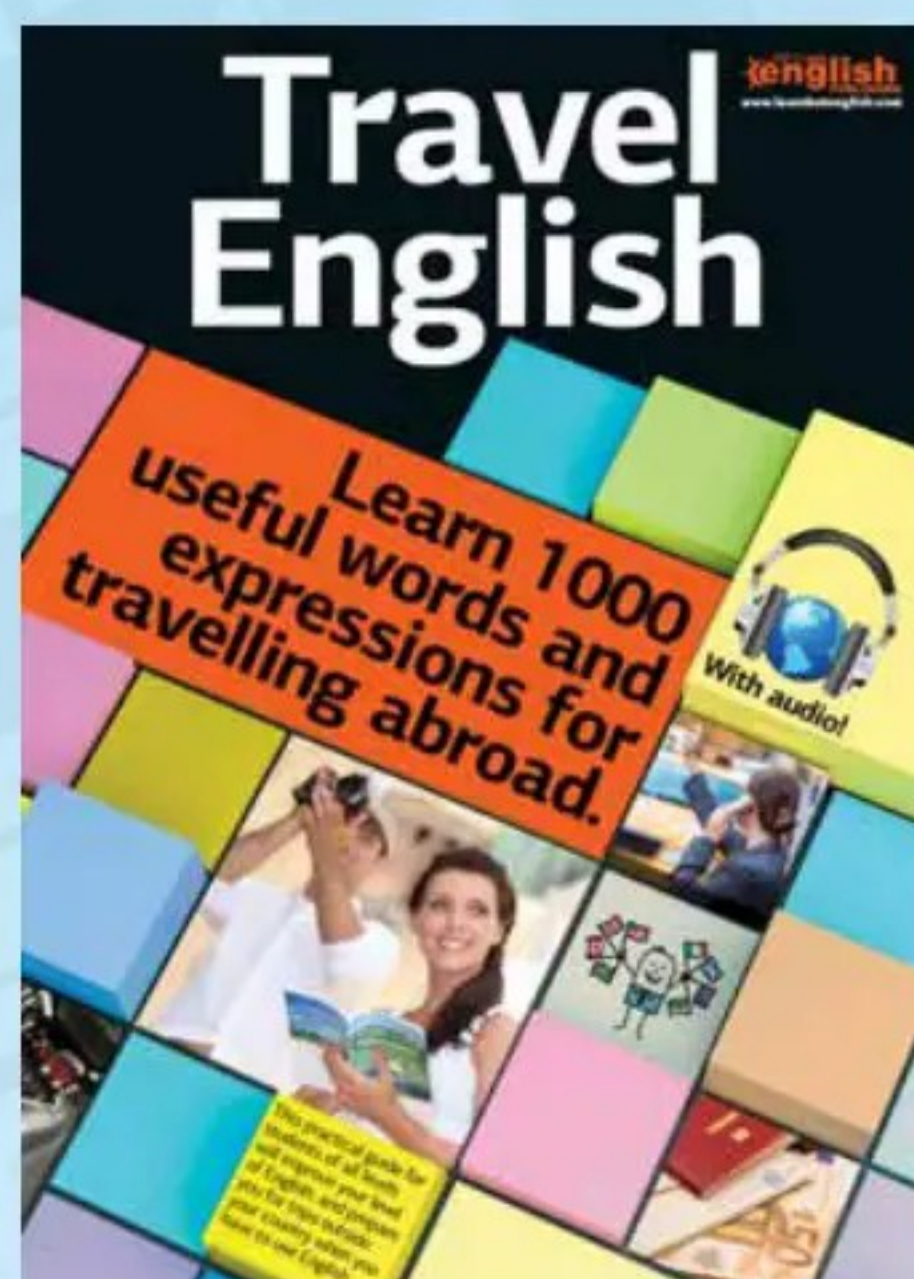
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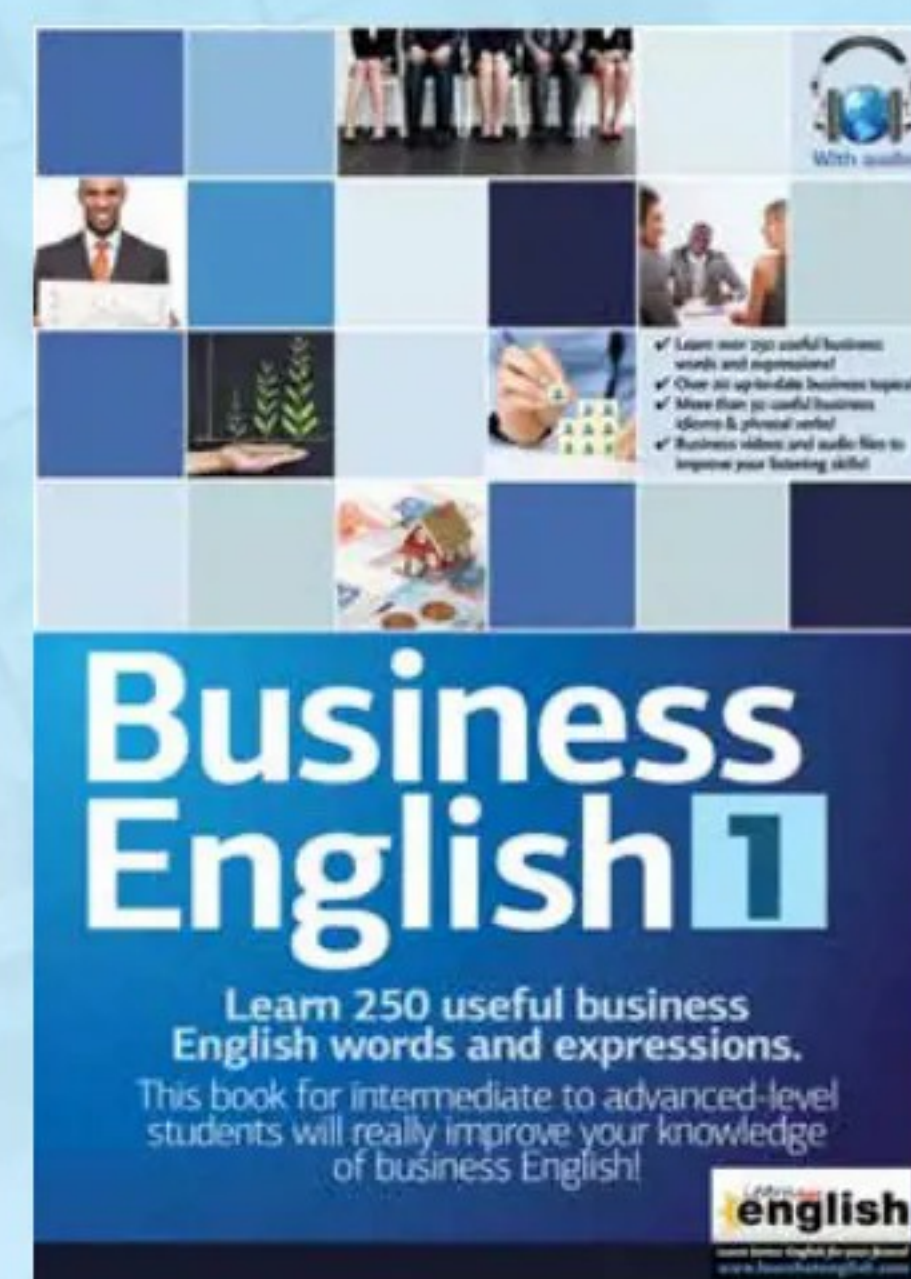
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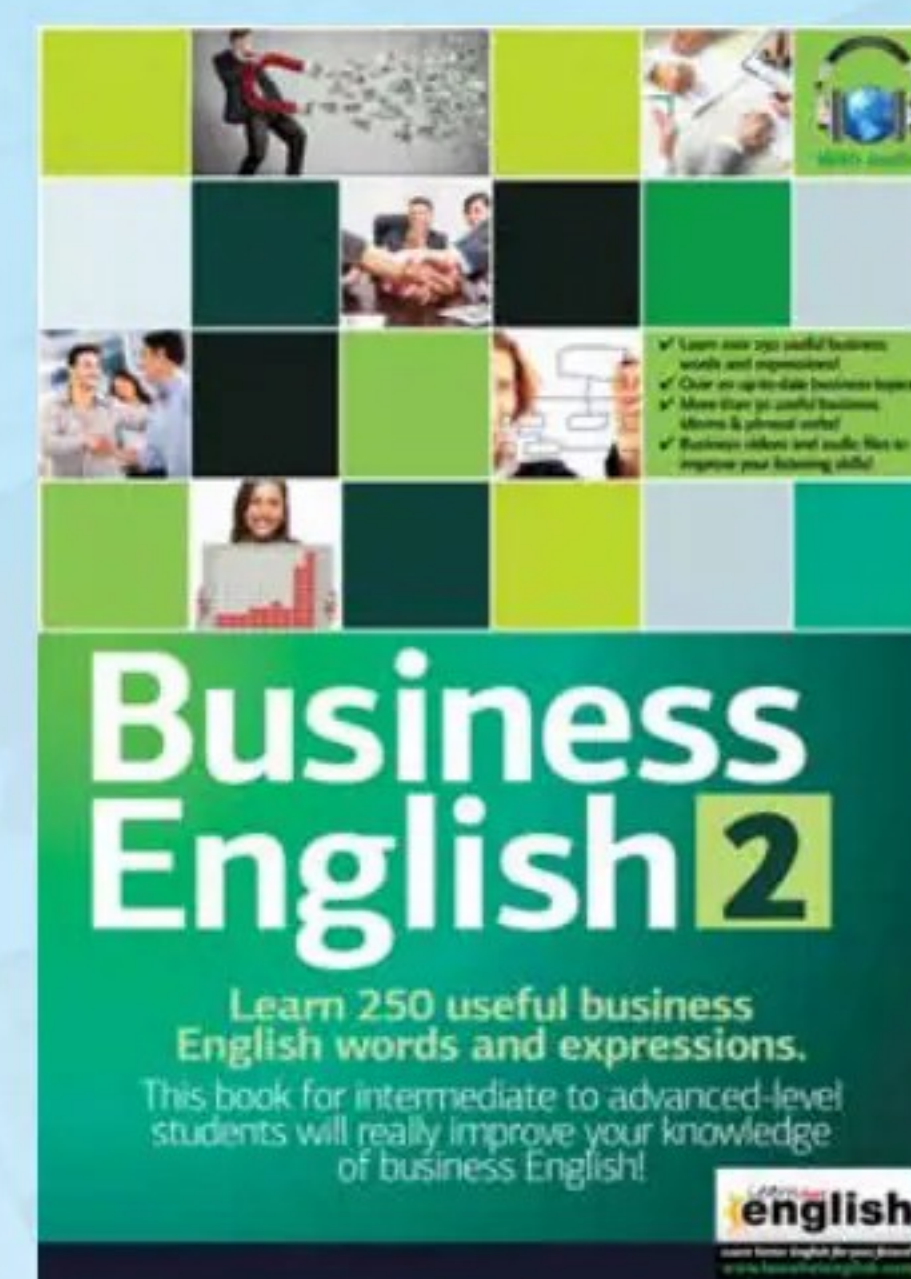
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AUDIO

Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it Have you had to make any calls to a business lately? What was it for? When was the last time you had to deal with a customer services department? Why were you calling? What were you hoping to achieve? Have you ever had a problem with your boiler? What was wrong with it?

Exams This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as FCE, IELTS and TOEFL.



Answers on page 65

1 Pre-listening

What excuses could a company give for...

- ...not delivering something on time?
- ...not sending someone round to fix something at your home?

Note!

Don't read the audio script until you've completed the exercises and activities.

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to two telephone conversations. Listen once and compare your ideas from the Pre-listening activity. Were any of the things you thought of mentioned?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then answer the questions.

Telephone call I

- What's Megan calling about?
- When was she expecting the delivery?
- When did she place the order?
- Why wasn't it sent?
- When are they going to deliver the goods finally?

Telephone call II

- What's Lily's customer code number?
- What's her service guarantee number?
- Why can't they fix the boiler right now?
- What does the man initially offer Lily?
- What does he offer her in the end?

4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct words.

Audio script

1 The order

John: John Biggins. How can I help you?

Meg: Megan Spears from The Home Hub calling.

John: Oh, hi Megan. How's it going?

Meg: Fine. I was just calling (1) _____ we placed for 600 pots of paint about two weeks ago, which haven't arrived. We were told that they'd be in our warehouse by (2) _____. Can I get a revised delivery date?

John: Erm, let me just check. Can you remember when you placed the order?

Meg: 7th March.

John: And who did you talk to about it?

Meg: Mr Hargreaves.

John: Did you (3) _____?

Meg: March 22nd – the end of last week.

John: Erm, well I can't see a delivery date on the form – it just says "To Be Confirmed by the client".

Meg: Well, I definitely specified the delivery date (4) _____. We need those pots urgently. Do you have any available in your warehouse?

John: Erm, let me see [checking on the computer]. Yes, it seems that we do have some in stock. So, it shouldn't be a problem.

Meg: Great. Then, we'd like the 600 pots (5) _____. Could I get an estimated delivery date, please?

John: Yes, we can have them to you by the end of, erm, tomorrow.

Meg: Great.

John: No problem. Bye.

Meg: Goodbye.

2 The boiler

Mike: Heating Systems Delight. Mike Saunders speaking. How may I help you?

Lily: Oh, hi, this is Lily Burroughs. I called a week ago

about (6) _____. They said that they'd send someone round but no one's been over to fix it yet.

Mike: Can I have your name again, please?

Lily: Lily Burroughs.

Mike: And your customer code?

Lily: X856 CR306

Mike: Have you got your inventory number?

Lily: 3568982345.

Mike: And your service guarantee code number – it's (7) _____.

Lily: PTY4698.

Mike: And the name of the person you spoke to?

Lily: I can't remember.

Mike: OK. So, erm, what seems to be the problem?

Lily: It's our boiler. It needs fixing.

Mike: Erm, yes, I can see from this (8) _____ that we need to replace some parts, but we're still waiting for them from our factory in the Far East, so it may take a while.

Lily: What exactly do you mean?

Mike: Well, it could take a few weeks. They ship it over. We're trying to sort it out, but (9) _____.

Lily: What a disaster!

Mike: Look, we can offer you a replacement boiler but you'll have to pay for the installation and leave a £300 deposit.

Lily: You're joking! You want me to (10) _____ of a boiler that might break down and leave a deposit that I could lose if it does. What sort of customer service is that?

Mike: Erm, yes, erm, I tell you what, we'll install it for free and you won't have to pay the deposit.

Lily: Great. So, (11) _____.

Mike: Erm, OK, yes, on Friday. See you then.

Lily: Goodbye.

Mike: Bye.

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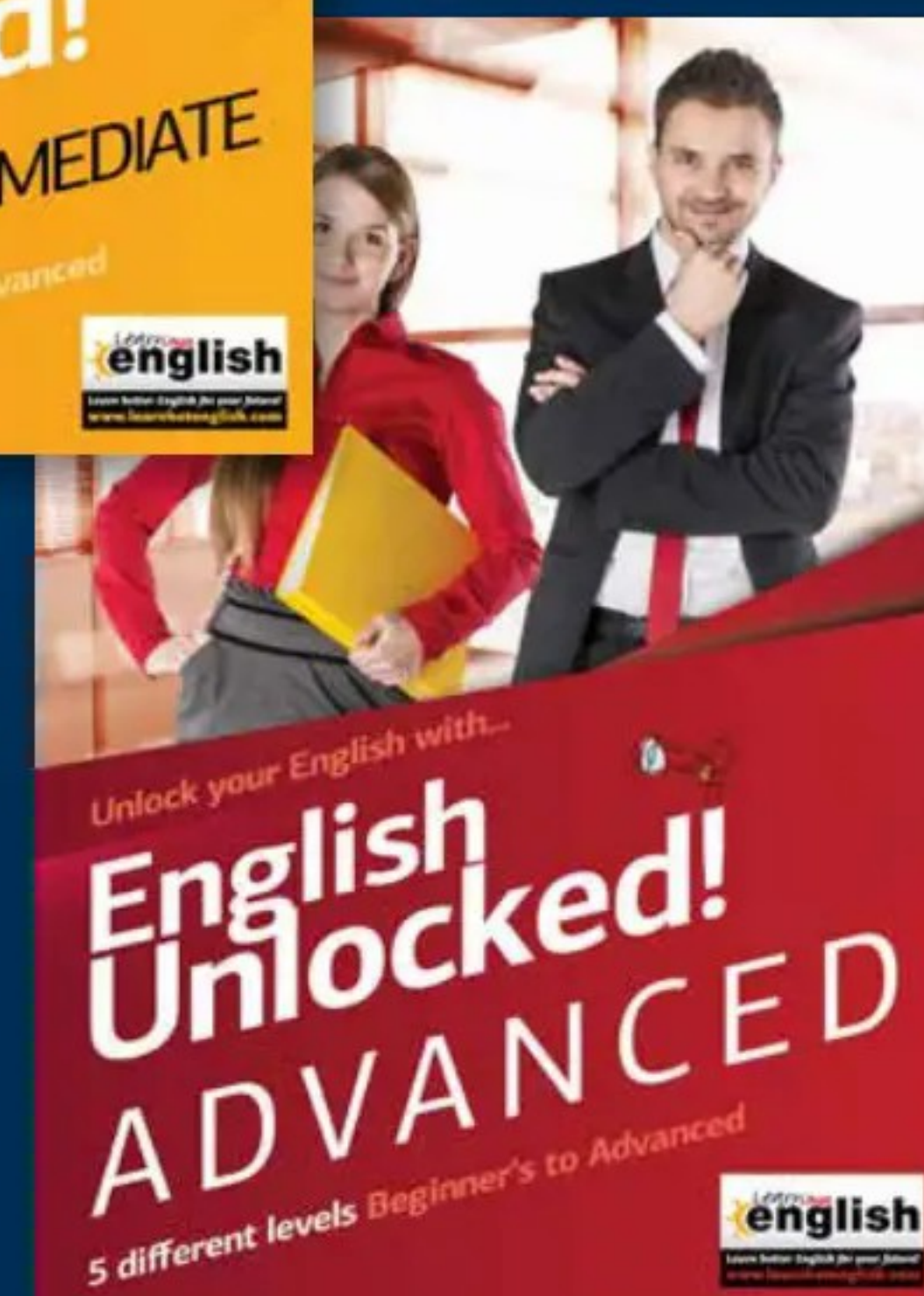
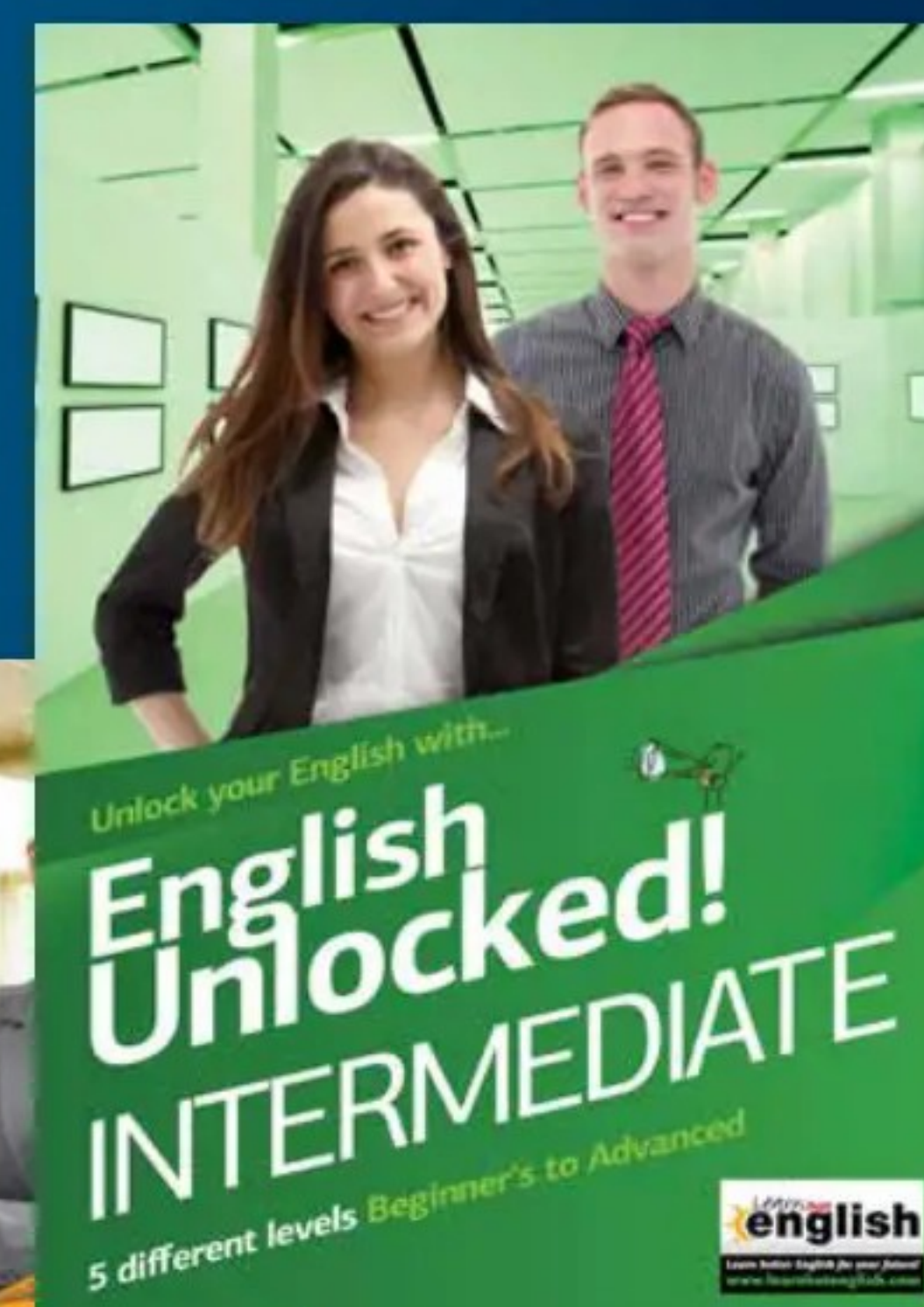
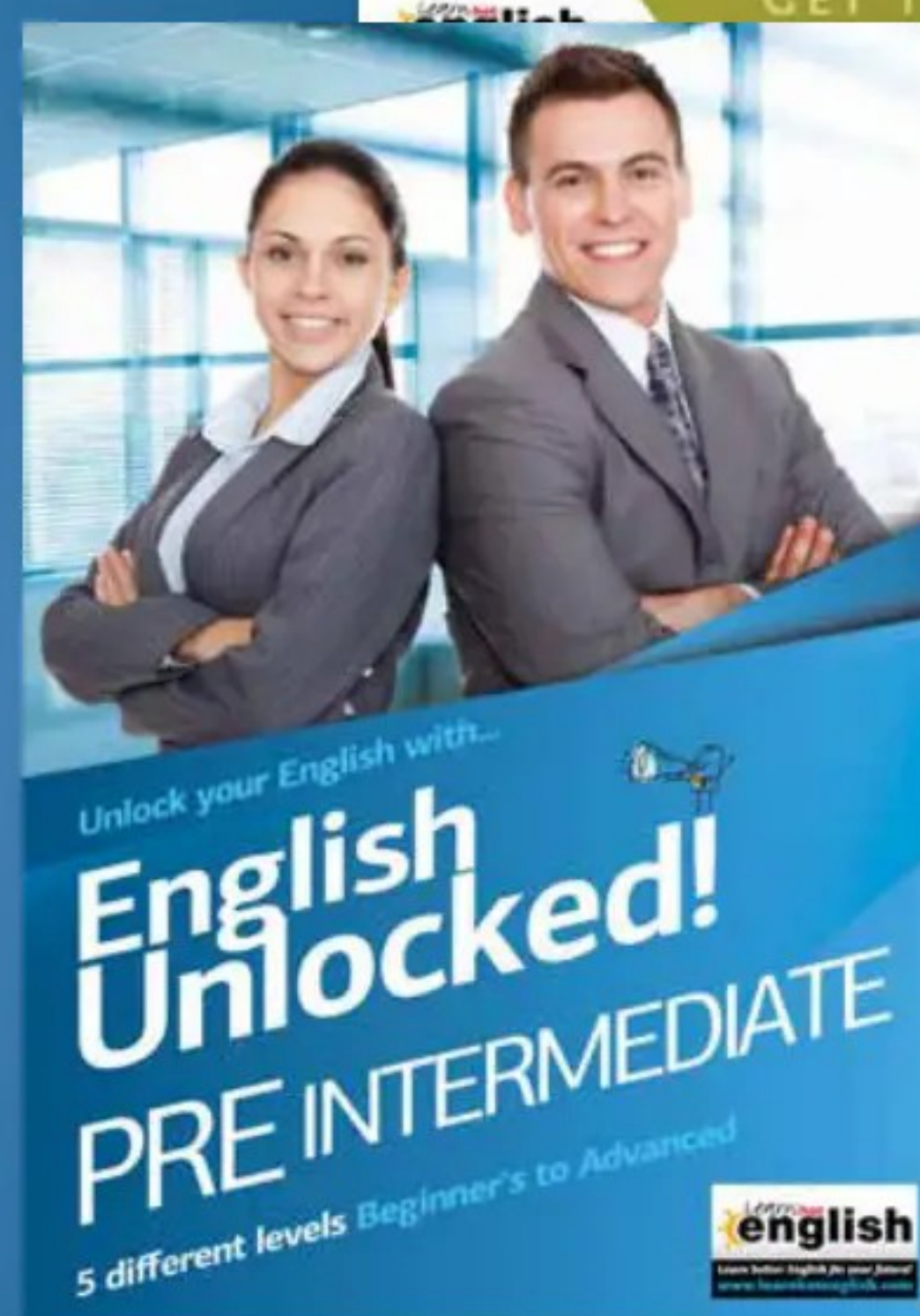
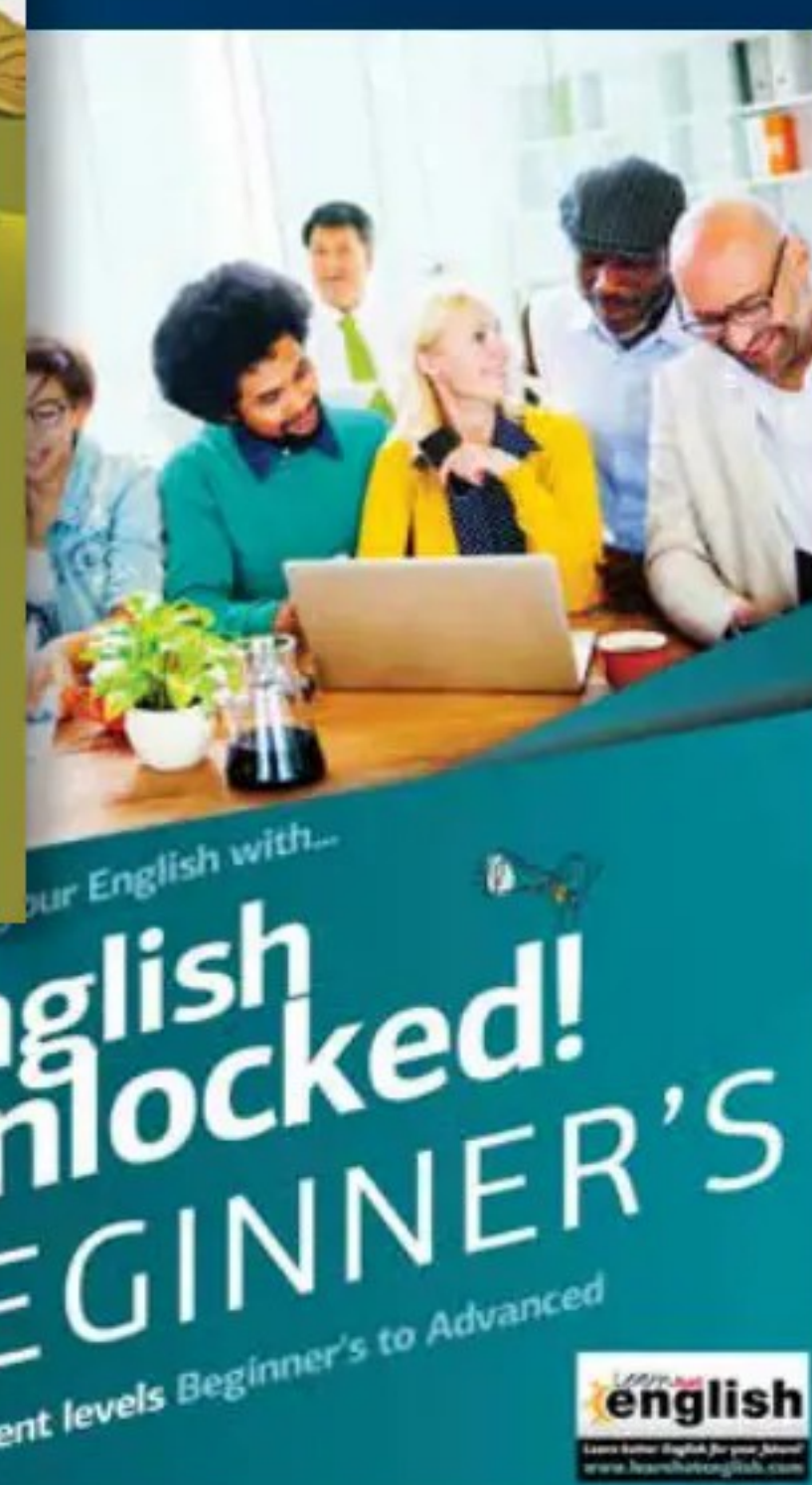
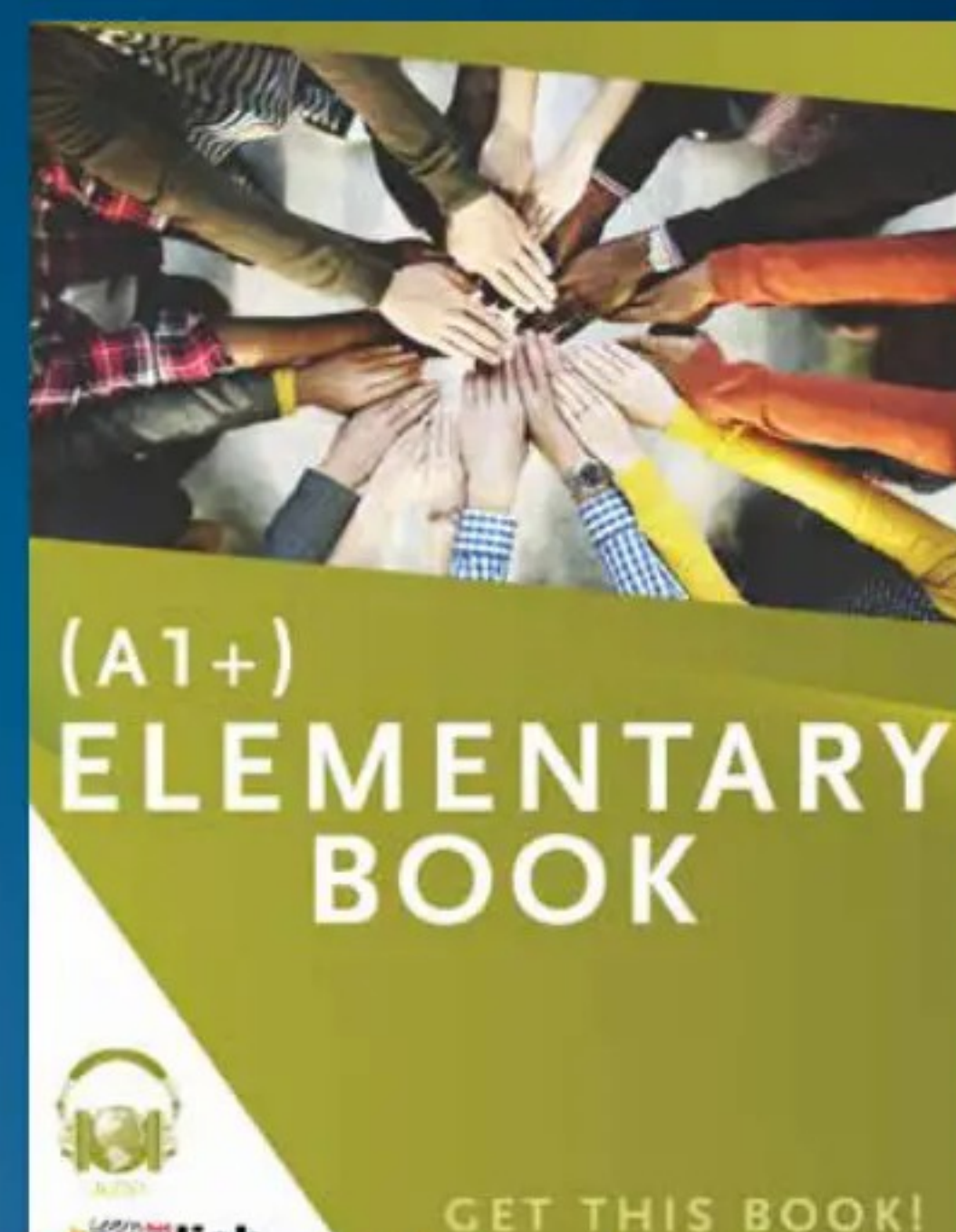
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AUDIO

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it When was the last time you went camping? Where did you go? What do you like or dislike about camping? Do you know any survival tips? What are they? Have you ever been out in the wild? What did you do?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as KET and TOEFL.



THE RULE OF THREES

Here's Bear Grylls' "Rule of Threes" – important information to remember when you need to decide what you need to do first. You can survive for...

... 3 seconds without blood.

... 3 minutes without oxygen.

... 3 hours unprotected in the cold or heat.

... 3 days without water.

... 3 weeks without food.

GLOSSARY

survival *n*
a "survival" expert knows how to live in mountains, deserts, etc.

the wild *n*
a area of land with mountains, etc. that's far away from towns

a priority *n*
if something is a "priority", it's very important and you must do it soon

vegetation *n*
plants, trees and flowers

to boil *vb*
if you "boil" water, you cook it at 100°C

a sandstorm *n*
a strong wind in a desert area, which carries sand through the air

fine *n*
very thin

dust particles *n*
very small dry pieces of earth or sand

lungs *n*
the two organs in your body that you use for breathing

to breathe *vb*
when you "breathe", you take air into your lungs and let it out again

to stay still *exp*
if you "stay still" in a place, you remain there and you don't move

to die down *phr vb*
when a storm "dies down", it becomes less intense and stops

a blizzard *n*
a very bad snowstorm with strong winds and lots of snow

life threatening *adj*
something that's "life threatening" can kill you

to purify *vb*
if you "purify" water, you clean it so you can drink it

to keep at bay *exp*
if you "keep" a wild animal "at bay", you stop it from coming close to you

a lighter *n*
a small device that produces a flame that you can use to light cigarettes

a match *n*
a small wooden stick that produces a flame when you rub it along a matchbox

flint and steel *n*
"flint" is a hard type of rock that produces a small piece of burning material (called a spark) when it is hit by steel (a type of metal)

tinder *n*
small pieces of dry wood or grass that burns easily

a twig *n*
small thin things that grow out of the main branch of a tree

to rub *vb*
if you "rub" two things together, you move them backwards and forwards or up and down while pressing it against the surface

Answers on page 65

1 Pre-reading

What advice would you give about the following to someone who was planning a trip in the wild: water, sandstorms, blizzards, fire... anything else?

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write **Water, Sandstorm, Food, Blizzard or Fire** next to each statement.

1. You should boil it first before using it.
2. You can make it by rubbing two sticks together.
3. You should dig a hole in the snow to protect yourself from it.
4. You should make finding it your priority.
5. You can only survive without it for three days.
6. You can survive without it for three weeks.
7. You should cover your nose and mouth to protect yourself from it.
8. You can use it to dry your clothes.

TOP TIPS FROM SURVIVAL EXPERT BEAR GRYLLS!

Bear Grylls is a British survival expert. You can see him on TV shows such as *Man vs Wild* (on the Discovery Channel) demonstrating his skills at surviving in the wild. Here are some of his top tips.

Water

If you're ever lost in the wild, make finding water your **priority**. You can survive for three weeks without food, but only three days without water. Look for signs of **vegetation** as plants need water and this could be an indication that there's some nearby. Once you've found a source of water, **boil** it before drinking it – even if it appears to be clean, fresh water.

Sandstorms

During a sandstorm, cover your nose and mouth with a T-shirt and keep low to the ground as all the **fine dust particles** that get into your **lungs** and stop you from **breathing** will be higher up in the air. Also, stay **still until**

the storm has **died down** as walking in a sandstorm is impossible.

Blizzards

The cold and wind that you experience during a **blizzard** are the two things that are most **life threatening**. So, if you ever find yourself in a blizzard, dig a hole in the snow to protect yourself from the wind and cold. And once again, stay still until the storm has died down.

Fire

Making a fire is essential if you're out in the wild. With fire, you can dry your clothes, cook food, boil water to **purify** it, and **keep** wild animals **at bay**. Use a **lighter**, waterproof **matches**, or **flint and steel** to make a fire. However, if you don't have any of those things, prepare three piles of dry material: some **tinder**, some **twigs** and some firewood. Then, start **rubbing** two sticks together.

Stay away from the bears! 🐻

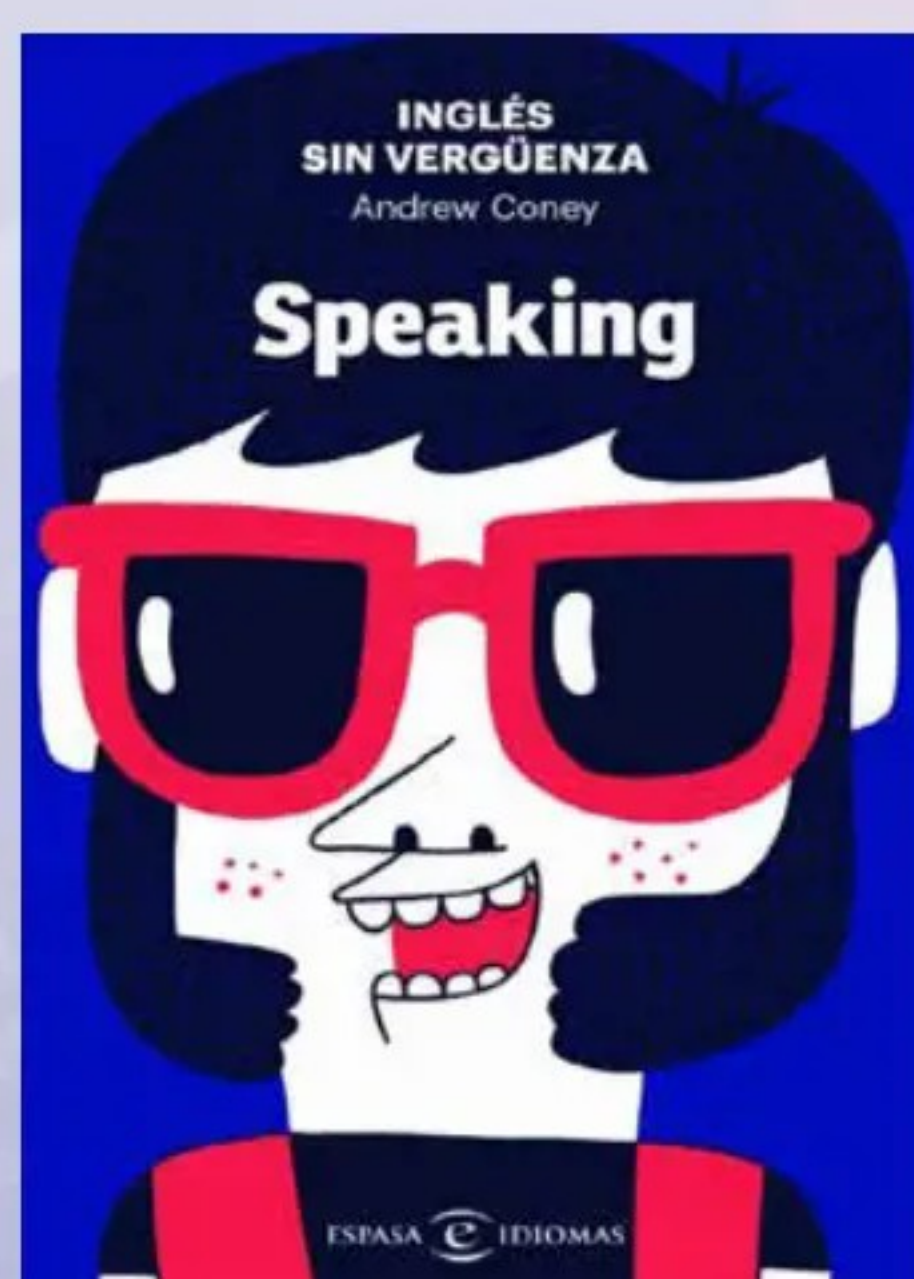
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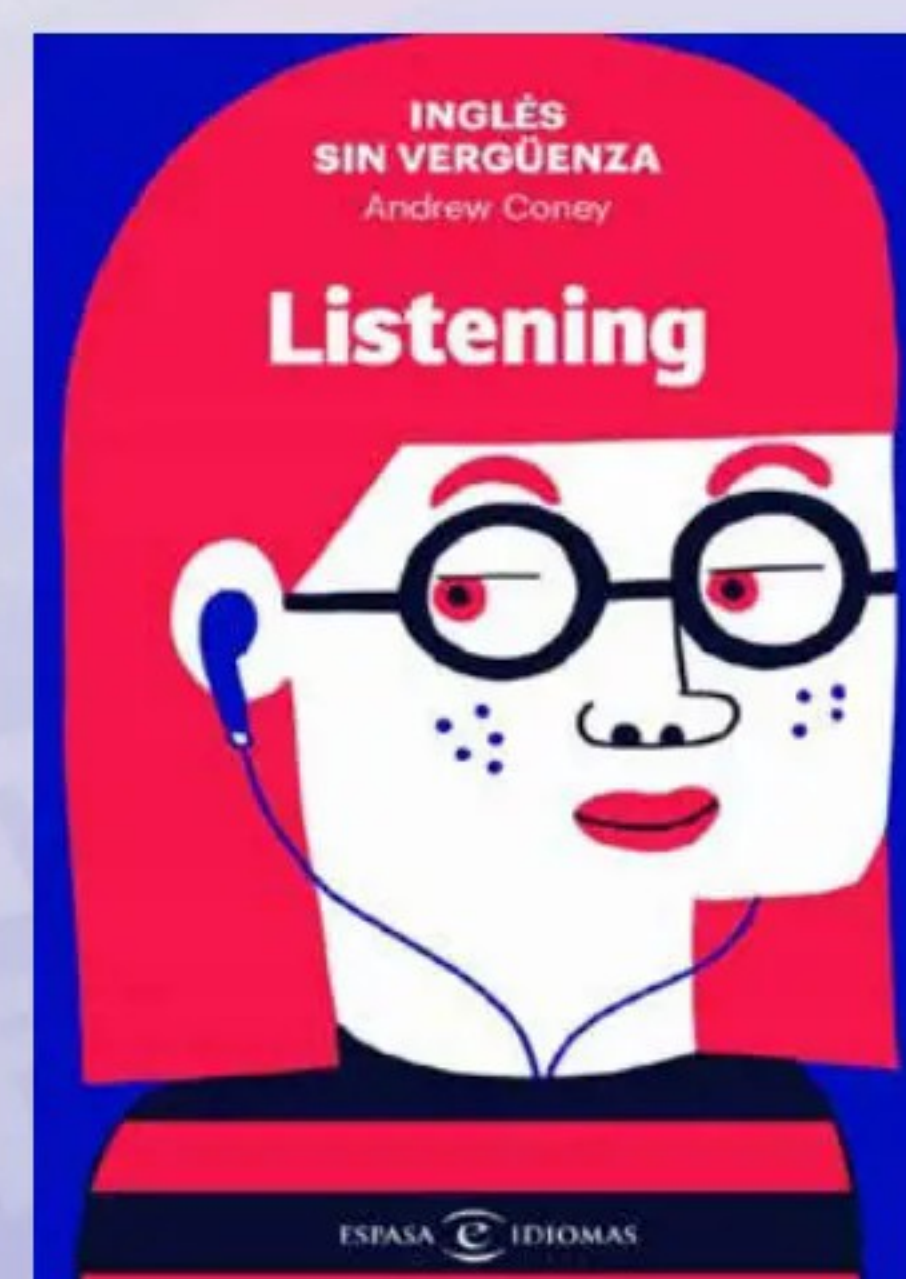
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Todo sobre la gramática inglesa de manera sencilla y amena. Aprende sobre la estructura sintáctica de la oración, modelos de conjugación, y la función de las frases verbales, entre muchas otras cosas.



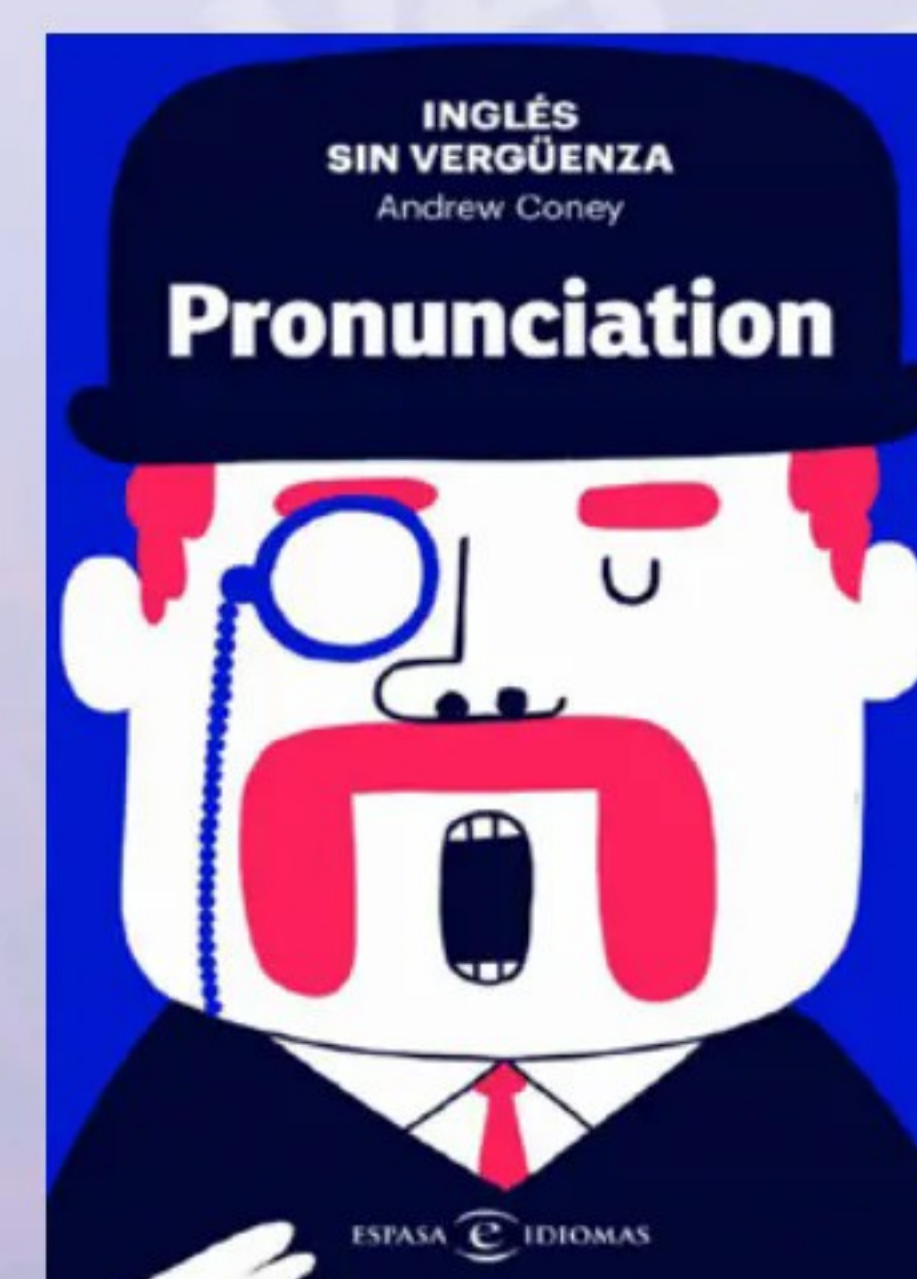
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¿Quieres hablar mejor inglés? Este libro, te enseñará a saber qué decir en situaciones habituales, expresar lo que quieres decir fácilmente y mantener una conversación, entre otras cosas.



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La comprensión auditiva es la clave para dominar un idioma. Una vez que entiendas lo hablado, aprenderás nuevos términos con rapidez. En este libro aprenderás trucos para poder entender mucho mejor.



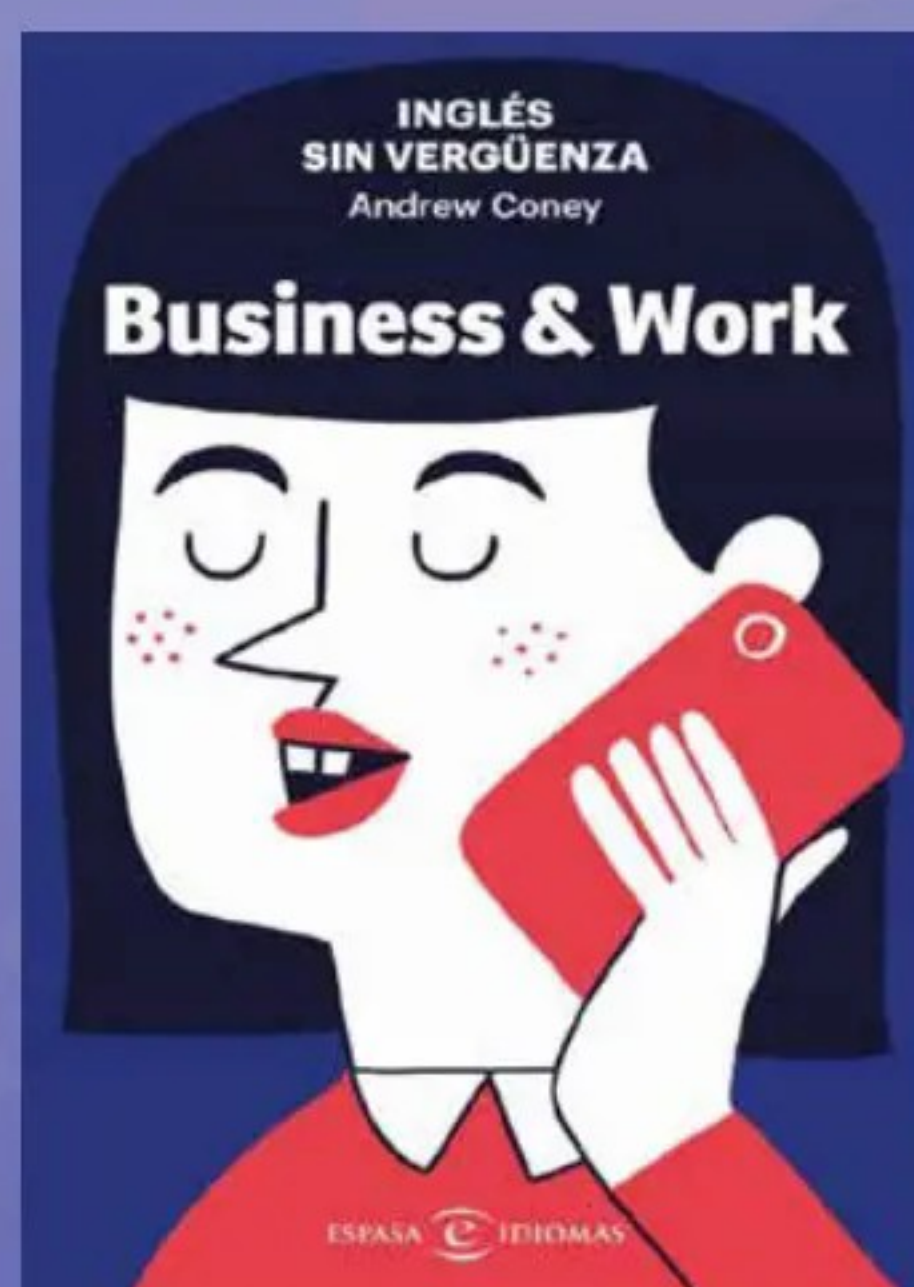
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Aprende a utilizar los verbos ingleses con soltura. Te explica sobre los tiempos, modos, usos y modelos de conjugación de verbos regulares e irregulares. Además, aprenderás de los phrasal verbs más utilizados.



AUDIO



Answers on page 65

1 Pre-reading

Look over the list of brand names below. Which ones are used as ordinary words in your country? *Hoover, Escalator, Aspirin, Bubble Wrap, Jet Ski, Jacuzzi, Bikini, Yo-Yo, Trampoline, Boogie Board, Hi-Liter, Thermos, Blu-Tak, Tippex, Dental Floss, Breathalyzer, Rollerblades, Chapstick, Tupperware, Velcro, Post-It, Kleenex, Frisbee*

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article about brand names. Which information is the most surprising or interesting?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

- Who invented the Breathalyzer?
- When were Rollerblades invented?
- When was Tupperware introduced to the market?
- What animal helped George de Mastreal invent Velcro?
- When was Kleenex introduced to the market?
- Who invented the Frisbee?

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you ever been on Rollerblades? Where did you go? How often do you go? When was the last time you used some Chapstick? Why? Have you ever had to blow into a Breathalyzer? Where were you at the time? Do you ever use Tupperware? What for? Have you got anything with Velcro on it? What?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as KET and TOEFL.

Brand names that we use as ordinary words!

Aspirin, Kleenex, Escalator, Tupperware, Velcro, Bubble Wrap... they're all brand names that we often use as ordinary words. But what are their origins?



Breathalyzer

The **Breathalyzer** was invented by Indiana University professor Rolla

Harger in 1931. It was originally called the Drunk-O-Meter.

Typical sentence: "The police officer asked her to blow into the Breathalyzer."



Rollerblades

Two hockey player brothers designed Rollerblade inline skates

from a pair of old roller-skates in 1979. Until the mid-80s, they were the only brand available.

Typical sentence: "We went Rollerblading at the weekend."



Chapstick

This brand name of lip balm was originally produced by pharmaceutical

giant Pfizer.

Typical sentence: "I put some Chapstick on because my lips were dry."



Tupperware

Tupperware got its name from creator Earle Silas Tupper. It was introduced to the

public in 1948.

Typical sentence: "I take my lunch to work in Tupperware."



Velcro

George de Mastreal invented **Velcro** after noticing how plants stuck

to his dog's fur after a walk in the country. These days, Velcro is used on a whole range of products including shoes and bags.

Typical sentence: "His shoes had Velcro instead of laces."



Post-It

Dr Spencer Silver invented this adhesive in 1968 and scientist Art Fry

thought up a practical use for it in 1974. **Post-its** were initially available for sale under the name Press 'N Peel.

Typical sentence: "She wrote the message on a Post-it."



Kleenex

This brand of tissue was introduced into the market in 1924 and is a

registered trademark of Kimberly-Clark Worldwide, Inc.

Typical sentence: "Have you got any Kleenex? I need to blow my nose."



Frisbee

What would a day out at the beach be like without a Frisbee? Walter

Morrison came up with the idea for this flying disc in 1937.

Typical sentence: "She threw the Frisbee to him."

How many of these brand names exist in your country? ☆

VIDEO

You Tube

Watch this video on brand names. Search YouTube for "25 Common Words That You Didn't Realize Are Actually Brand Names".

TRADEMARKS

When using a trademark in text, you should give it a capital letter, make it all capitals or add the ® symbol to it. For example:

- Canon cameras
- CANON cameras
- Canon® cameras

Officially, you should also only use a trademark as an adjective, not as a noun or verb. For example, you should say, "I had a Budweiser beer" (NOT, "I had a Budweiser").

The ® symbol is used for marks that have been registered with an official patent office.



GLOSSARY

a **Breathalyzer** ⁿ

a machine that can tell you how much alcohol someone has had

inline skates ⁿ

a type of shoe with a line of four or five wheels. Also called Rollerblades

roller-skates ⁿ

shoes with four small wheels on the bottom

lip balm ⁿ

a cream that you put on your lips

lips ⁿ

the part of your mouth that you use for kissing

Tupperware ⁿ

a range of plastic containers with tight-fitting lids (tops) for storing food

Velcro ⁿ

a material with two strips of nylon fabric which you press together to close things such as pockets and bags

to stick ^{vb}

if A "sticks" to B, A becomes attached to B and it's hard to take it off

fur ⁿ

the hair on an animal's body

laces ⁿ

the pieces of string on your shoes that you use to tie them

an adhesive ⁿ a substance such as glue which is used to make stick (join) things together

Post-it ⁿ

a piece of paper with an adhesive strip on one side. You can write notes on it

a tissue ⁿ

a piece of thin soft paper that you use to blow or clean your nose



Objective To learn some useful words and expressions for expressing concern.

Think about it When was the last time you had an argument? What was it about? What do you generally argue about at home? What about at work? What are your top tips for arguing? What do you like or dislike about arguing?

PRACTICAL ENGLISH

HOW TO ARGUE IN ENGLISH

Complaining about something

- You never tidy up.
- You said that you'd do it.
- You told them that you'd help.
- You promised that you'd clean the living room.
- You're always leaving your clothes lying around.

Reacting to a complaint

- What are you talking about?
- You're joking!
- Don't make me laugh!
- Are you serious?
- Excuse me?
- I beg your pardon?
- You would say that, wouldn't you?
- That's typical of you!

Saying no / dismissing something

- I did not.
- Rubbish!
- I never said that.
- No way!
- Never!
- Over my dead body!
- Not in a thousand years!
- That's crap! (*informal*)

Criticising the your opponent

- Speak for yourself!
- You can talk!
- You're one to talk!
- People in glass houses... (shouldn't throw stones!)
- What a hypocrite!

Correcting information

- I didn't do that.
- That wasn't me.
- No, I didn't take it.
- No, it was me who helped them.
- You didn't have anything to do with it.
- I was the one who took it back to the shop.

Getting serious

- Right! That's it!
- I've had enough of this!
- That does it!
- You've gone too far!

Ending the argument

- OK, if you say so!
- Just drop it!
- Whatever you say!
- You haven't heard the last of this!
- Let's just move on, shall we?
- I can't be bothered to argue about this any longer.
- I think we're going to have to agree to disagree.



Dialogue: The argument

Flatmates Jen and Mike are having an argument.
[Complete the dialogue with the correct words.]

Jen: Erm, I've just seen that the rubbish bags are still in the kitchen. Didn't I tell you to take them down?

Mike: I'm going to. Give me a chance.

Jen: You never take the (1) _____ down.

Mike: Yes, I do.

Jen: No, you don't. [noticing a dirty cup on the table] Just look at this mess. Do you think that dirty (2) _____ is going to wash itself?

Mike: Probably not.

Jen: Well, would you mind taking it to the (3) _____ and washing it up?

Mike: I will, when I've finished.

Jen: I'm sick and tired of tidying up after you. You never do the washing up.

Mike: I did the washing up last (4) _____.

Jen: Wow! For once in your life you did some washing up!

Mike: I always do the washing up.

Jen: Don't lie! [noticing some mess on the floor] Just look at this mess on the floor. Whose (5) _____ are those?

Mike: Mine. I'm just about to put them on. Look, I've got to go to work, so do you mind?

Jen: Is this bowl of (6) _____ yours?

Mike: Yes... and?

Jen: I don't suppose you left any milk for anyone else, did you? You're always doing that. Now, no one else has got any milk for their tea or cereal, have they?

Mike: I always go to the (7) _____ to get the milk.

Jen: No, you don't.

Mike: Yes, I do. Anyway, you can talk. You never go.

Jen: What a liar! I went to the shops last week.

Mike: Look, I haven't got time to stand around arguing with you all day. I'm going to the (8) _____, and then I'm going to work.

Jen: Well, don't spend too long. You were in there for hours yesterday.

Mike: What a hypocrite! I had to leave for work without brushing my (9) _____ the other day because you were taking so long!

Jen: Rubbish! I never...
[fades out]

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video on how to win an argument. Search YouTube for "How to Win Any Argument".

Now test your English. Good luck! Answers on page 65.

Exercises

PHRASAL VERBS

This month we are looking at phrasal verbs with the preposition **down**.

We can use **down** to talk about decreasing and reducing things:

To reduce: "You should **cut down** on the number of cigarettes you smoke." "After a long time, the noise **died down**."

To reduce a price: "They want to **bring** alcohol prices **down**." "We asked the man to **come down** three hundred euros." "We **knocked** the saleswoman **down** to half the price."

To reduce activity and stress: "Please try and **calm down**." "The children were wild, but now they have **settled down**."

PHRASAL VERB MATCHING

Match the sentences with numbers to the sentences with letters:

1. We wanted to pay less
2. You'll have to calm down
3. She's got to cut down
4. The noise didn't die down

- A: on the amount of milk she drinks.
B: until three in the morning.
C: if you want to talk to me.
D: so we knocked them down

CHOOSING

Put one of the following verbs in each sentence:

Settle, die, knock, cut

1. The government wants to _____ down the level of CO2 emissions.
2. These children are wild - they won't _____ down.
3. What time did the noise _____ down?
4. They asked for a high price but we managed to _____ them down eventually.

WORD GAME

Here is an eight-letter word. See how many English words with four or more letters you can make from the letters in this word. You can only use each letter once for each word.

ALPHABET



ANAGRAM

Here is a two-word expression that has been mixed up to make two new words. See if you can discover the expression. It refers to one of the topics in this month's magazine. Write the letters on a piece of paper in a circle. This will help you find the words.

S H O T W A L K

JOKES

Here are two halves of some very ridiculous jokes. See if you can match the two halves. Good luck, and try not to laugh too much!

1. Teacher: You aren't paying attention to me. Are you **having trouble hearing**?
2. What is the safest way to see a **shark**?
3. Husband to wife: What do you think the neighbours will say if I go out with no clothes on?
4. What would happen if pigs could fly?
5. Who designed King Arthur's round table?

- A: The price of bacon would go up.
B: No, teacher I'm having trouble **listening**!
C: Sir Cumference.
D: On television.
E: That I only married you for your money.

GRAMMAR - "SO & SUCH"

Put "so" or "such" in the spaces:

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

GRAMMAR "PREFER" & "WOULD RATHER"

Put either **prefer** or **would rather** in the following sentences:

1. I _____ to do it now.
2. She _____ go today.
3. They _____ to play on Fridays.
4. I _____ not to eat meat.
5. He _____ see them tomorrow.
6. We _____ speak to her alone.



GLOSSARY

to have trouble *exp*
to have difficulty, to have problems
to hear/listen to *exp*
"to hear" is to absorb a sound passively,
"to listen to" is to pay attending to a sound

a shark *n*
a large fish with big teeth. Some eat humans

WORDSEARCH

Now see if you can find these:



LIFT	SELFISH
FUR	BAN
DEBT	MORTGAGE
BOO	THREATEN
PIMP	TRADE
OUTRAGEOUS	CROWDED
FAKE	MELT



MATCHING

See if you can match the letter with the number:

Answers on page 65.

- | | |
|-----------------------|---|
| A: A lift | 1. Shocking, scandalous |
| B: Fur | 2. Money that the bank gives you to buy a house |
| C: A debt | 3. To do business |
| D: To boo | 4. To shout "boo" at someone because you don't like them |
| E: Pimp | 5. An electronic object like a chair that goes up a mountain |
| F: Outrageous | 6. Not real, or not honest |
| G: A fake | 7. To go from a solid to a liquid |
| H: Selfish | 8. Always thinking about yourself |
| I: To ban | 9. To promise to do something bad to someone |
| J: A mortgage | 10. Full of people |
| K: To threaten | 11. Animal hair that is used to make coats |
| L: To trade | 12. A person who makes money from prostitutes |
| M: Crowded | 13. Money that you have to pay back |
| N: To melt | 14. To prohibit |



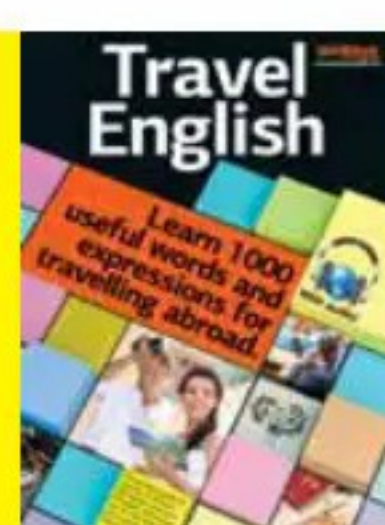
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LETTERS

Hello Hot English,

I'm studying for an important exam and I've been given some notes. There are two words that don't sound very English to me ("compressive" and "comprension"). I looked them up in the dictionary and couldn't find them. This is the text:

"We must learn to listen in a **compressive** way."

"We must stimulate students to develop their **comprension**."

Do they fit in the text? If not, what would it be right to say?

Thank you very much, Erika (by e-mail)

Hi Erika,

I think this is a bit of Spanglish - a mixture of English and Spanish. In the first example, I think the word you're looking for is "comprehensive"; and in the second example, I think it's "understanding".

"We must learn to listen in a **comprehensive** way."

"We must stimulate students to develop their **understanding**."

I hope that has helped you, Erika.

Mr Editor.



Dear Hot English, I have a funny story for you. This summer I went to Canada and I had a strange experience. On the first day I had dinner with my host family. Everybody was eating and I said, «it's delicious», and they all answered "no, no". I was a bit confused, but later on I found out that they had understood, "I will clean the dishes", instead of "it's delicious". We all laughed about it and later I cleaned the dishes anyway.

I think your host family were doing what we call "wishful thinking" - imagining that they heard something that they wanted to hear.

Mr Editor.

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AUDIO

MUSIC...
IN ENGLISH

By Shikha Bansal

music. Electronic

Electronic music is a general term used to describe music produced by instruments such as **sound synthesizers** and **drum machines**. Famous electronic artists and groups include Daft Punk, Moby, The Chemical Brothers, The Prodigy, Kraftwerk, Depeche Mode, Erasure and New Order.



Daft Punk

Daft Punk consist of French duo Thomas Bangalter and Guy-Manuel de Homem-Christo.

Formed in Paris in 1993, they're famous for their futuristic robotic helmets, and for having composed the **score** for the film *Tron: Legacy*. Daft Punk **toured** throughout 2006 and 2007 and **released** the album *Alive* 2007, which won a **Grammy Award** for Best Electronic/Dance Album. In January 2013, Daft Punk released *Random Access Memories*. The lead single *Get Lucky* became an international success, **peaking** in the top 10 in 32 countries. The album won five Grammys in 2014 including Album of the Year and Record of the Year (for *Get Lucky*).

Song extract: *Get lucky*

*Like the **legend** of the **phoenix**,
All ends with beginnings,
What keeps the planet **spinning**,
The force from the beginning.
We've come too far to give up who we are...*



Moby

Musician Richard Melville Hall is better known by his stage name Moby. This American singer, songwriter, photographer and DJ was born in New York City in 1965. One of his first hits was the single *Go*, which appeared in 1990. In 1995, he released his

first album *Everything is Wrong*. Well-known for his **vegan** lifestyle and support of animal rights, Moby has sold over 20 million albums worldwide. He has also co-written, produced, and remixed music for Michael Jackson, David Bowie, Daft Punk, Brian Eno, Pet Shop Boys, Britney Spears, New Order, Public Enemy, Guns N' Roses and Metallica.

Song extract: *Porcelain*

*In my dreams I'm dying all the time,
As I wake its **kaleidoscopic** mind,
I never meant to hurt you...*



The Chemical Brothers

The Chemical Brothers are a popular electronic music group. They're comprised of musicians Tom Rowlands and Ed Simons.

Starting out in Manchester (England) in the late 1980s, some of their top hits include *Galvanize*, *Hey Boy Hey Girl* and *The Salmon Dance*. In the UK, they've had five number-one albums and 13 top 20 singles, including two number-ones. They've also won several awards, including two Grammys for Best Electronic/Dance Album. In 2000, they won a **Brit Award** for Best British Dance Act.

Song extract: *Galvanize*

***Don't hold back!** Cos you woke up in the morning with initiative to move,
So I'll make it harder,
Don't hold back! Cos you think about it, so many people do,
Be cool, man, look smarter,
Don't hold back! And you shouldn't even care about those **losers** in the air,
And the crooked stares,
Don't hold back! Cos there's a party over here, so you might as well be here,
Where the people care, don't hold back! ☆*

Objective

To improve your English by reading about music and listening to song lyrics.

Think about it

Have you heard any of the songs, singers or groups mentioned in this article? What electronic music bands or musicians do you like? Are there any electronic music bands or musicians in your country? Who are they? Are they famous in the world?

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch the Russian police choir sing *Get Lucky*. Search YouTube for "**Russian police — Get lucky**".

GLOSSARY

a sound synthesizer *n*

an electronic machine that produces music or other sounds

a drum machine *n*

a machine that produces drum beats and sounds

a score *n*

the music for a film

to tour *vb*

if a band "tours", they travel to different places or countries doing concerts

to release *vb*

when a song is "released", you can buy it in the shops

a Grammy Award *n*

an award (prize) by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences of the United States for musicians, bands, etc.

Also known as a Grammy.

to peak *vb*

if a song "peaks" in the charts, it reaches its highest point in the charts (the list of popular songs)

a legend *n*

a very old and popular story that may be true

a phoenix *n*

an imaginary bird which burns itself to ashes every five hundred years and is then born again

to spin *vb*

to turn around and around

vegan *adj*

someone who never eats meat or any animal products (not even milk, butter, cheese)

a lifestyle *n*

the way that someone lives: their behaviour, habits, customs, etc.

kaleidoscopic *adj*

something "kaleidoscopic" has lot of very different parts, colours, shapes, patterns, etc.

a Brit Award *n*

an award (prize) by the British Phonographic Industry for songs, musicians, groups, etc.

don't hold back *exp*

don't hesitate, just do it, don't stop yourself

cos *abbr* informal

because

smart *adj*

if someone looks "smart", they appear to be elegant neat and clean

a loser *n* informal

a "loser" is someone you think is unsuccessful, not cool, boring, etc.

a crooked stare *n*

if someone has a "crooked smile", they're smiling with one corner of their mouth higher than the other. A "crooked stare" could be a version of this. If you "stare" at someone, you look at them continuously and without stopping

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LEARN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MAKE & DO!



Whether you're **making a mistake** or **doing your homework**, learning the difference between the verbs *make* and *do* is an essential part of your journey toward English fluency. These two 'simple' words appear everywhere: in casual conversation, formal writing, idioms, expressions, and even grammar tests. In this lesson, we're looking at the main uses of *make* and *do*. This will help you sound more natural, precise and confident in everyday English. So grab your pen, get ready to **do** some learning. But don't worry because we're going to **make** it really simple.

Quick overview of *make* versus *do*

- **Make** = to build, produce or create something with your hands 🖐️ + work & business activities.
- **Do** = to do general things + housework activities.

The verb to *make*

1 We generally use **make** to refer to things that we **build, produce or create** with our hands:

- I **made** the lunch.
- She **made** a model of the house.
- He **makes** delicious cakes.
- The company **made** a new version of the car.
- The builders **made** the house in three months.



2 There are also many **work and business expressions** with **make**: *make a phone call, make money, make/take a decision, make a copy of something, make a slide for a presentation, make an appointment, make a complaint, make progress, make a mistake, make changes, make a list, make an effort, make an impression on someone, make a sale, make a bank transfer* ('do a bank transfer' is also possible)...

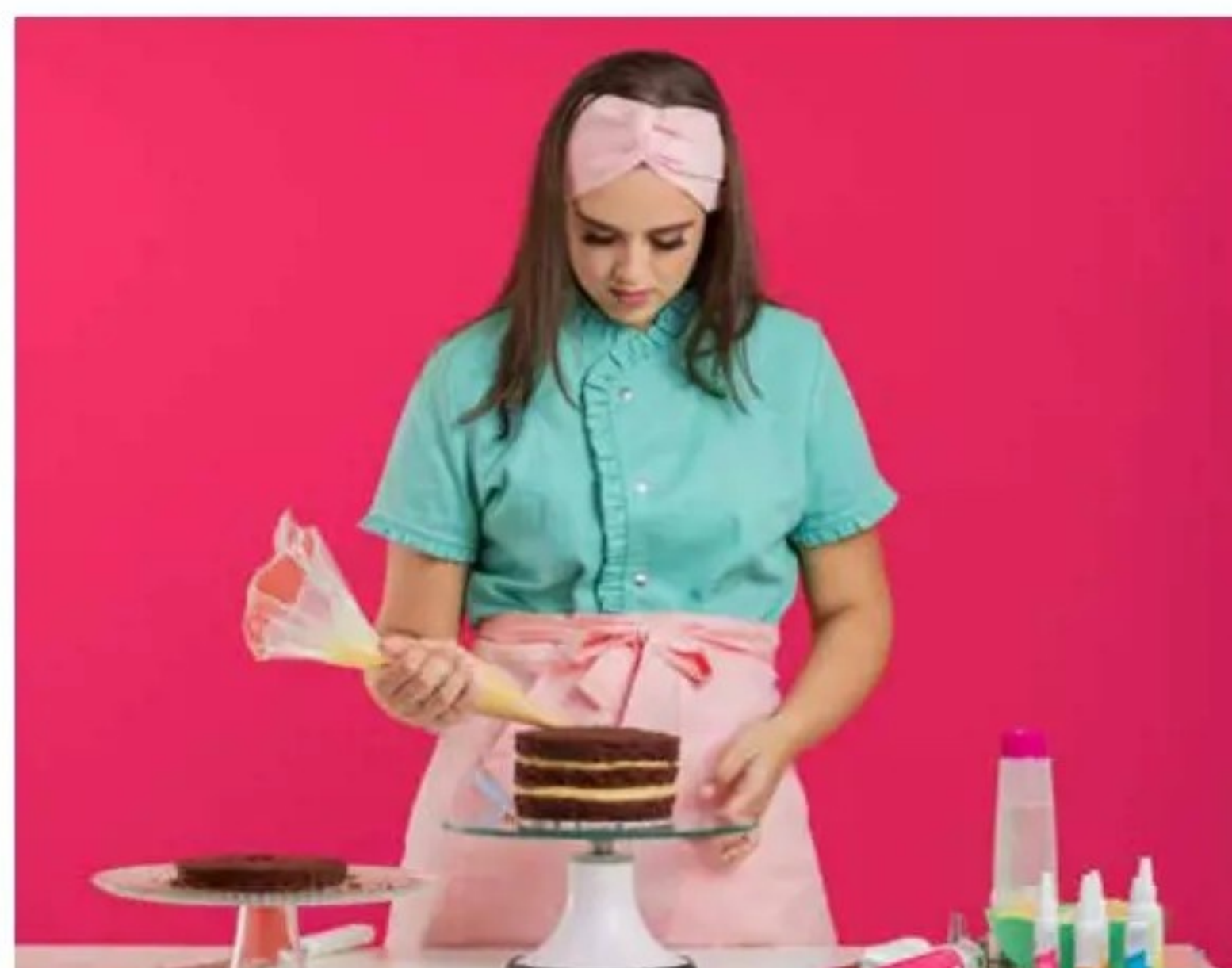
Exception: to do business with someone: *We do a lot of business with them.*

3 Here are some more expressions with **make**: *make fun of someone, make a noise, make someone happy, make a reservation, make a bed, make an excuse, make something simple...*

Questions with *make*

Answer any of the questions below. Invent and improvise.

- When was the last time you **made lunch**? What did you make?
- Have you ever **made a cake**? What type of cake was it?

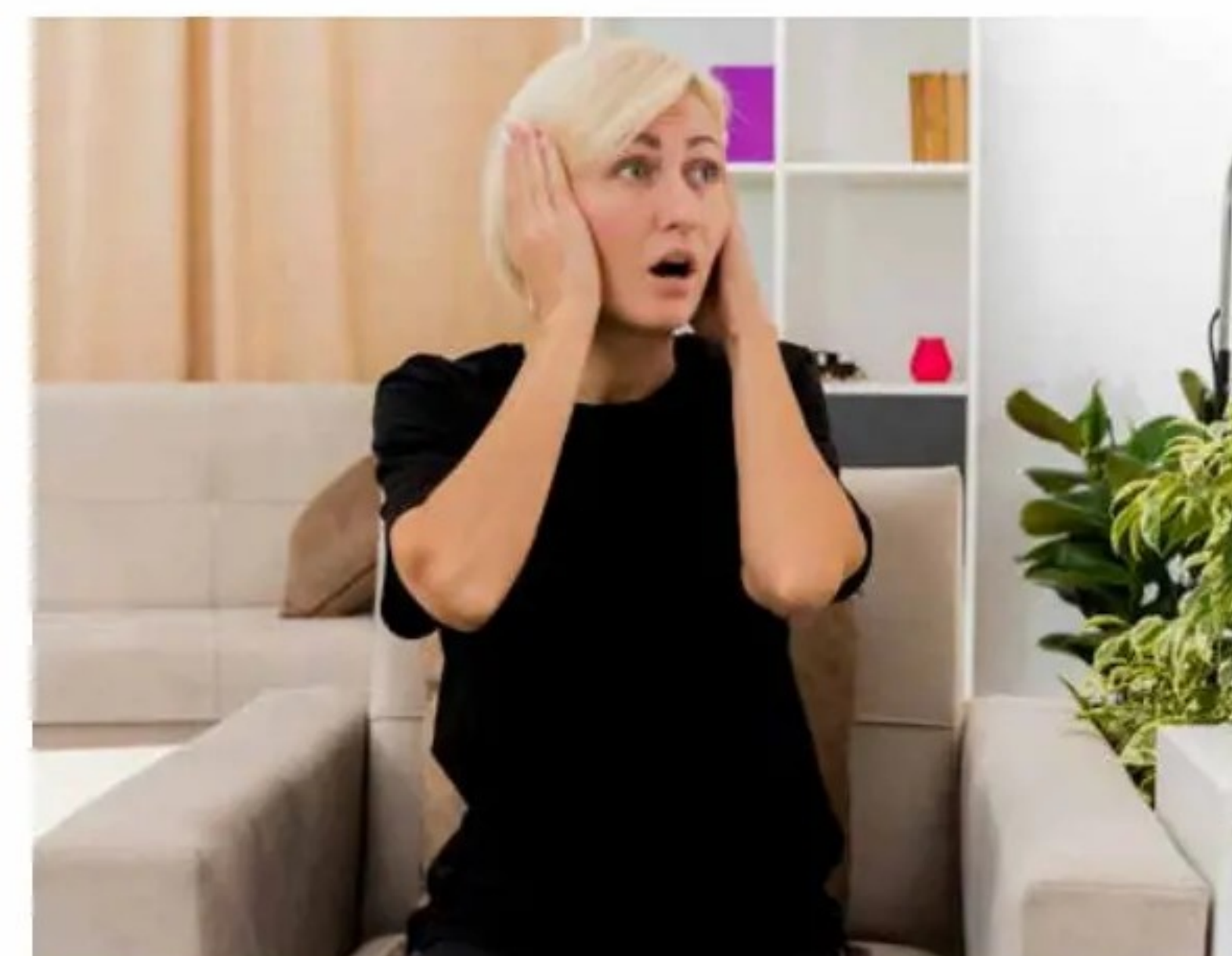


- Have you ever **made a model** of something? What was it?
- Who did you **make a call** to yesterday?
- How much **money** have you **made** with your stocks and shares?
- When was the last time you had to **make** an important **decision**?
- When was the last time you **made a photocopy** of something? What was it?



- When did you last **make an appointment** to see the dentist or doctor? What happened?

- Have you ever **made a complaint** at a restaurant or hotel? Why? What happened?
- Are you **making** good **progress** at work? Give details.
- Do your neighbours ever **make a noise**? When?



- What **changes** have you **made** at work recently?
- When was the last time you **made a mistake**? What was it?
- When was the last time you **made** a hotel **reservation**? Where was the hotel?
- Do you **make your bed** every morning? Why? Why not?



- Are you **making an effort** at work? Why? Why not?

The verb to do

1 We generally use *do* when we want to refer to an activity **in general**:

- What did you **do** last night?
- She wants to **do** something interesting this afternoon.
- What are you **doing** at the weekend?
- What sport did you **do** last week?



As you can see in the following examples, we use *do* for very **general, non-specific activities**:

- They **did** nothing all day.
- I **do** everything around here!
- Is there anything I can **do** to help?
- I don't feel like **doing** anything this morning.
- What did you **do** while you were there?
- What are you **doing** at the weekend?
- Could you **do** it for me?

2 We also use *do* with many expressions related to housework tasks: *do the ironing, do the washing (clothes), do the washing up (plates, etc.), do the cleaning, do the dusting, do the shopping, do housework...*

Exception: make a bed: *He makes his bed every morning.*

We sometimes use *do* instead of a more exact verb when the meaning is clear from the situation. For example:

- I'm going to **do** my room. [This could mean *tidy* or *paint*, etc.]
- When are you going to **do** the car? [This could mean *fix* or *wash*, etc.]

Finally, here are some more expressions with *do*: *do a course, do someone a favour, do well, do badly, do an experiment, do homework (i.e. tasks your teacher gives you)...*

Questions with do

Answer any of the questions below.

- What did you **do** last night?
- What did you **do** at the weekend?
- When was the last time you **did** something nice for someone?
- What sport did you **do** last week?
- How much exercise **do** you do during the week?
- What did you **do** for your last holiday?
- What do you **do**? [What's your job?]
- How often do you **do the ironing**?



- How often do you **do the washing**? [clean the clothes]
- How often do you **do the washing up**? [clean the plates]
- When did you last **do the shopping**? What did you buy?
- Have you ever **done an experiment**? What was it?

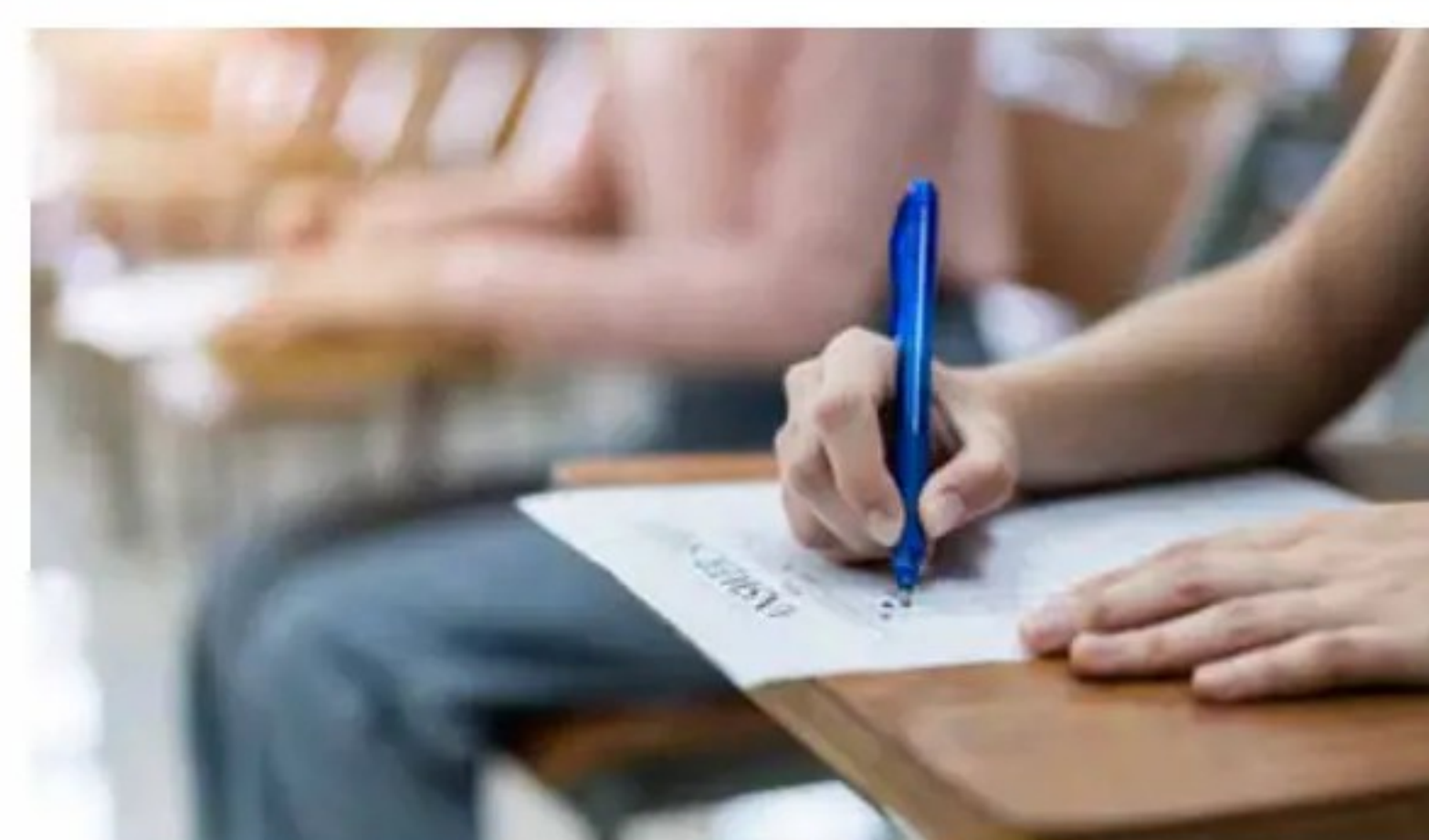
- Do you ever **do the cleaning** at home? What do you do?



- Did you **do** anything interesting last month? What was it?
- What do you feel like **doing** this weekend?
- What did you **do** while you were on your last holiday?



- What are you **doing** at the weekend?
- When was the last time you **did a course**? What was it about?
- When was the last time you **did** someone a **favour**? What was it?
- How well did you **do** in your last exam?



- When was the last time you **did** something really well? What was it?

Comparison!

Look at the image and compare the two sentences. Can you see the difference?:



- We **made** a barbecue = We built a barbecue with our hands.



- We **did** a barbecue = We had a barbecue party and cooked some food!

LEARN THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MAKE & DO! EXERCISE!



Quick overview of *make* versus *do*

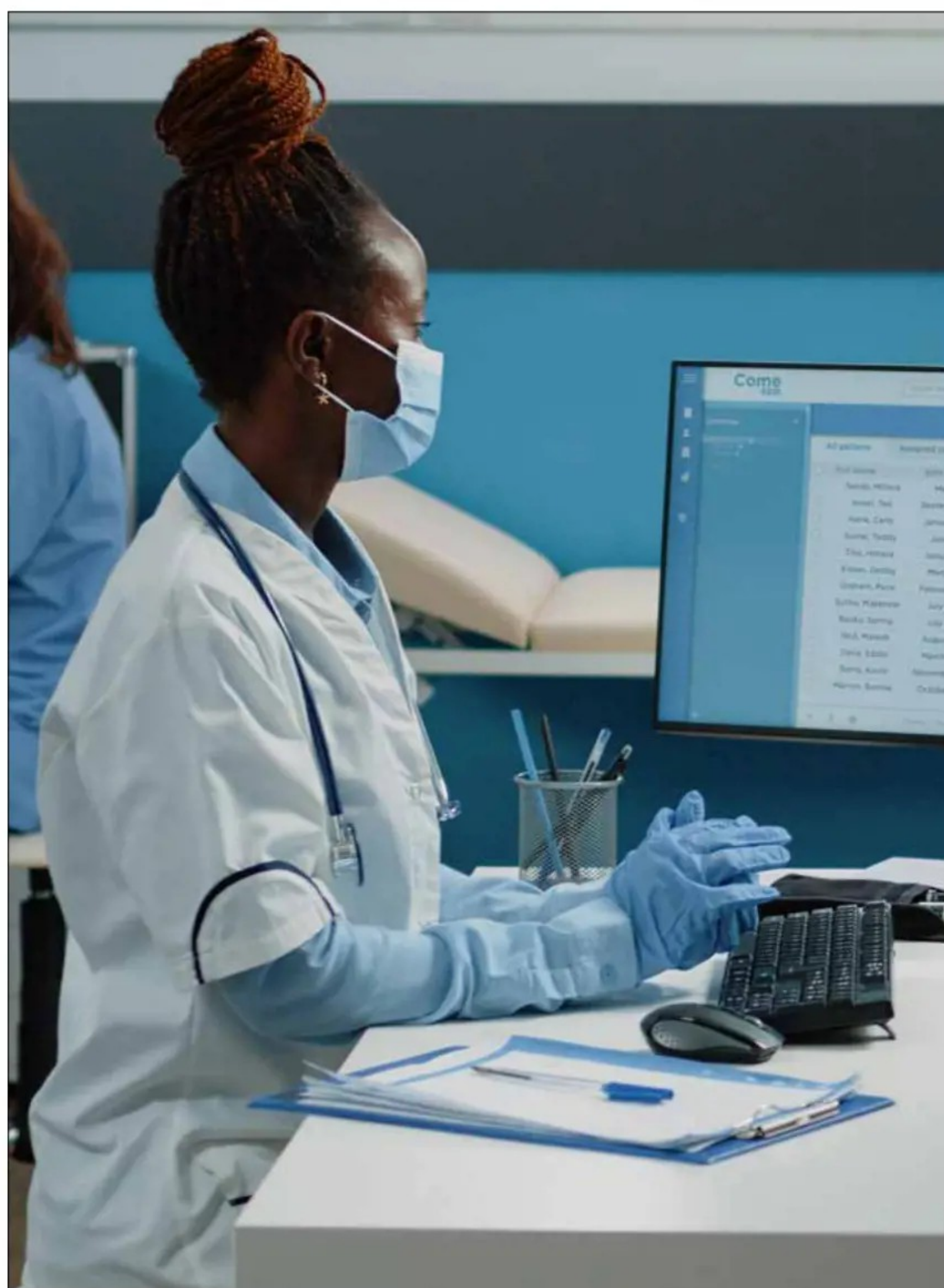
- **Make** = to build, produce or create something with your hands 🖐️ + work & business activities.
- **Do** = to do general things + housework activities.

Answers on page 65

Exercise

Complete the sentences with a form of *make* or *do*.

- I **made** a little wooden box for you all by myself. I hope you like it.
- What did you _____ last night?
- She _____ a model of the house.
- She wants to _____ something interesting this afternoon.
- What are you _____ at the weekend?
- I can't attend to the client right now. Could you _____ it for me, please?
- They _____ the house in three months – building it with their own hands!
- He _____ a phone call. [business]
- Do you _____ much exercise?
- They _____ a new version of the car. [manufactured]
- She _____ a lot of money. [work-business]
- Could you _____ a few calls to our clients this afternoon, please? [work-business]
- She _____ a copy of the report. [work-business]
- What sport did you _____ last week?
- What do you _____? [What's your job?]
- They _____ a complaint about the service. [work-business]
- I quite like _____ the ironing. [housework]
- Who's going to _____ the washing up? [housework]
- I'll _____ the cleaning later. [housework]
- They _____ a good decision. [work-business]
- Have you _____ your homework yet?
- Did you _____ anything interesting at the weekend?
- He _____ an appointment to see the doctor.
- Is there anything I can _____ to help?



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TV QUOTES

The following is a collection of things that people have said about the television



"Getting an **award** from TV is like getting kissed by someone with bad breath." Mason Williams.



"People will soon get tired of looking at a wooden box every night."
Film producer Darryl F. Zanuck, 1946.



"Television is **chewing gum** for the eyes."
Frank Lloyd Wright.



"Television has proved that people will look at anything rather than each other."
Ann Landers.

"Why should people pay good money to go out and see bad films when they can stay at home and see bad television for nothing?"
Sam Goldwyn.



"I find television very educating. Every time someone turns on the **set** I go into the other room and read a book." Groucho Marx.



"There's too much **celebrity bullshit** these days. Every time you turn around, there's another **goddam TV talk show**."
John Goodman.



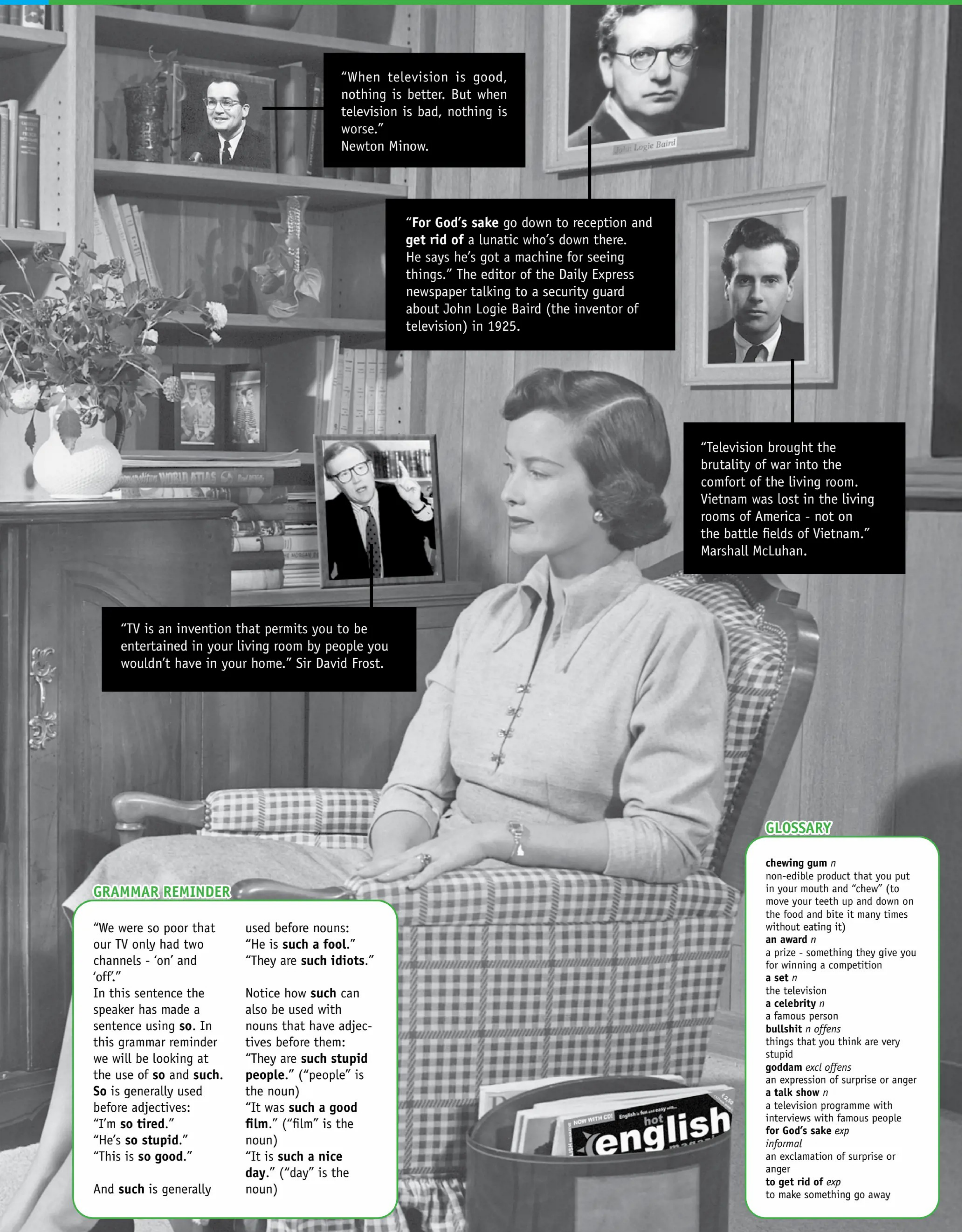
"Such an ugly piece of furniture."
John Waters.



"TV? Never! I don't want my audience going for a piss or making tea while I'm hard at work." Dirk Bogarde.



"Television has brought murder back into the home - where it belongs."
Alfred Hitchcock.



"When television is good, nothing is better. But when television is bad, nothing is worse."
Newton Minow.

"For God's sake go down to reception and get rid of a lunatic who's down there. He says he's got a machine for seeing things." The editor of the Daily Express newspaper talking to a security guard about John Logie Baird (the inventor of television) in 1925.

"Television brought the brutality of war into the comfort of the living room. Vietnam was lost in the living rooms of America - not on the battle fields of Vietnam."
Marshall McLuhan.

"TV is an invention that permits you to be entertained in your living room by people you wouldn't have in your home." Sir David Frost.

GRAMMAR REMINDER

"We were so poor that our TV only had two channels - 'on' and 'off'."

In this sentence the speaker has made a sentence using **so**. In this grammar reminder we will be looking at the use of **so** and **such**. **So** is generally used before adjectives: "I'm **so** tired." "He's **so** stupid." "This is **so** good."

And **such** is generally

used before nouns: "He is **such** a fool." "They are **such** idiots."

Notice how **such** can also be used with nouns that have adjectives before them: "They are **such** stupid people." ("people" is the noun) "It was **such** a good film." ("film" is the noun) "It is **such** a nice day." ("day" is the noun)

GLOSSARY

- chewing gum** *n*
non-edible product that you put in your mouth and "chew" (to move your teeth up and down on the food and bite it many times without eating it)
- an award** *n*
a prize - something they give you for winning a competition
- a set** *n*
the television
- a celebrity** *n*
a famous person
- bullshit** *n* *offens*
things that you think are very stupid
- goddam** *excl* *offens*
an expression of surprise or anger
- a talk show** *n*
a television programme with interviews with famous people
- for God's sake** *exp* *informal*
an exclamation of surprise or anger
- to get rid of** *exp*
to make something go away

SING ALONG

Here are some more classic songs from the world of pop and rock. Have fun singing along with them.



"Ironic"
Alanis Morissette
An old man turned ninety-eight,
He won the lottery and died the next day,

It's a black **fly** in your **Chardonnay**,
It's a **death row pardon** two minutes too late,
Isn't it **ironic**... don't you think?

It's like rain on your wedding day,
It's a free **ride** when you've already paid,
It's the good **advice** that you just didn't take,
Who would've thought... **it figures**.



GLOSSARY

a fly *n*
a small black insect that likes to sit on food
Chardonnay *n*
a type of French wine
death row *n*
the area in a prison for prisoners who are sentenced to death
a pardon *n*
if a convicted person is given a "pardon", they can leave prison
ironic *n*
strange - the opposite of what you think should happen
a ride *n*
an attraction at a fair
advice *n*
help, information about how to do something
it figures *exp*
it makes sense



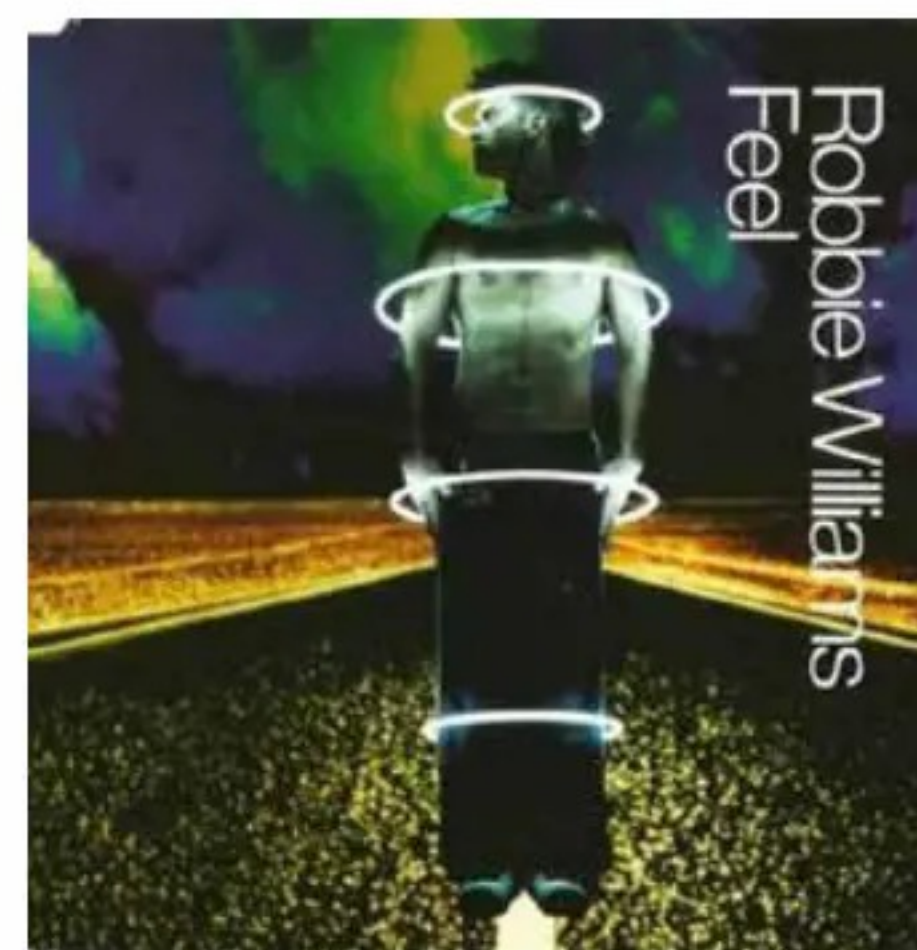
"Ace of Spades"
Motorhead
If you like to **gamble**, I tell you I'm your man,
You win some, lose some, it's

all the same to me,
The pleasure is to play, it makes no difference what you say,
I don't share your **greed**, the only card I need is,
The **Ace of Spades**, the Ace of Spades.



GLOSSARY

the ace of spades *n*
the most important card
to gamble *vb* to place money on the result of something, often games
I don't share *exp*
I don't like, I don't agree with
greed *n*
the desire to have more of something, such as food or money



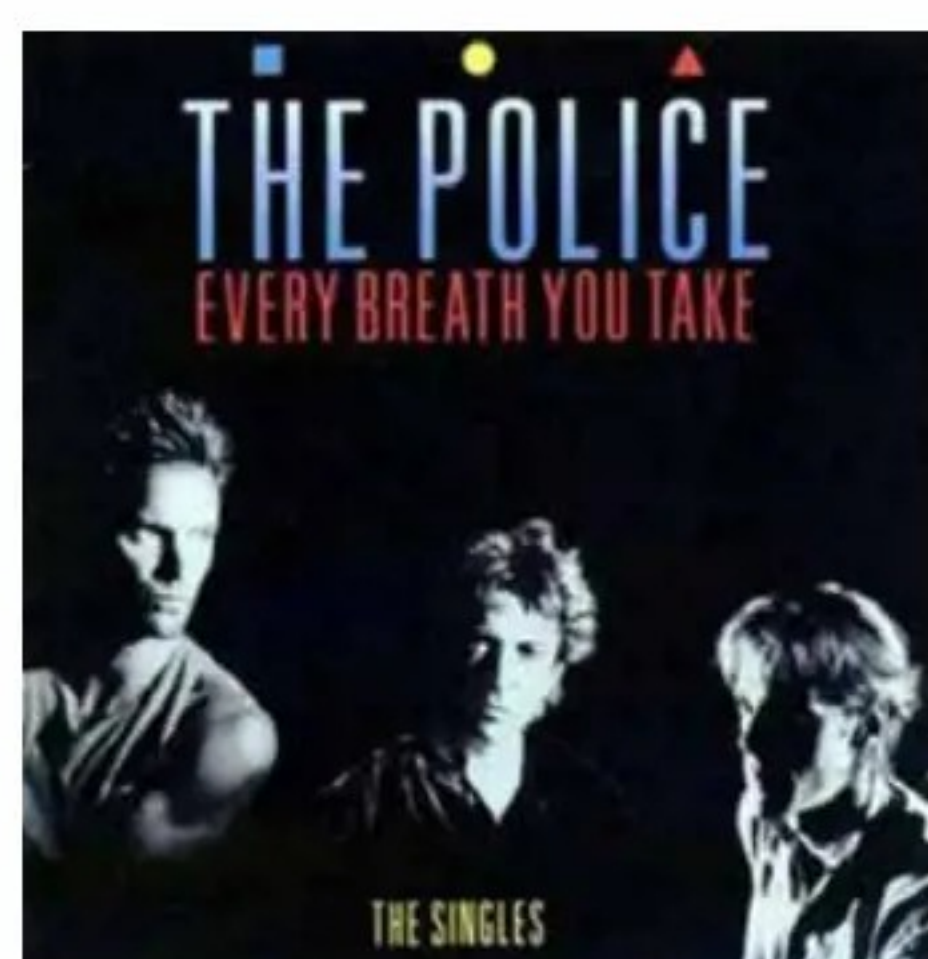
"Feel"
by **Robbie Williams** from the album **"Escapology"**.
Come and hold my hand, I wanna contact the living,

Not sure I understand, this **role** I've been given,
I sit and talk to God, and he just laughs at my plans,
My head speaks a language, I don't understand,
I just wanna feel, real love fill the home that I live in,
Cos I got too much life, running **thru** my **veins**,
Going to waste, I don't wanna die, but I **ain't keen** on living either
Before I fall in love, I'm preparing to leave her.



GLOSSARY

a role *n*
the character an actor plays in a particular film, play, TV series, etc.
cos *abbr*
because
thru *abbr*
through
a vein *n*
blood runs through veins in your body
I ain't *abbr*
I am not
keen *adj*
if you are "keen" on something, you really like that thing



"Every Breath You Take"

The Police

Every **breath** you take, every move you make, Every **bond** you break,

every **step** you take, I'll be watching you.

Every single day, every word you say,
Every game you play, every night you stay,
I'll be watching you.

Oh can't you see, **you belong to me**,
How my poor heart **aches**,
With every step you take.



GLOSSARY

a breath *n*

when you take in air through your mouth or nose

a bond *n*

a promise - usually this has been written down as a legal document

a step *n*

when you place one foot on the ground while you are walking

you belong to me *exp*

you are mine

to ache *vb*

to hurt, to give you pain



"Ain't No Mountain High Enough"

Marvin Gaye & Tammi Terrell

Listen baby, **ain't** no mountain high,

Ain't no **valley** low, ain't no river wide enough, baby.

If you need me, call me, **no matter where you are**,

No matter how far, Don't worry baby.

Just call my name, I'll be there **in a hurry**,
You don't have to worry.

'Cause baby, there ain't no mountain high enough,

Ain't no valley low enough, Ain't no river wide enough,

To keep me from getting to you, babe.



GLOSSARY

ain't *n*

there isn't. Notice how there are two negatives: "ain't no". This is typical in spoken, informal English

a valley *n*

the area between two mountains - there is usually a river going through it

no matter where you are *exp*

wherever you are

in a hurry *n*

very quickly

'cause *abbr*

because



SK8ER BOI by Avril Lavigne

from the album "Let Go"

He was a boy, she was a girl,
Can I make it any more obvious, He was

a punk, she did ballet, What more can I say,
He wanted her,

she'd never tell secretly she wanted him as well,
But all of her friends, **stuck up their nose**,
They had a problem with his **baggy clothes**.

He was a **skater boy**, she said see you later boy,
He wasn't good enough for her,
She had a pretty face, but her head was up in space,
She needed to **come back down to earth**.



GLOSSARY

to dump *vb*

to stop going out with someone

to stick up your nose *exp*

to show that you think something or someone is inferior. Literally, people who feel this way make their head go up and "stick up their nose"

baggy clothes *n*

clothes that are too big for you - this is common amongst skaters

a skater boy *n*

a boy who likes to skate (to go on a piece of wood with wheels).

Notice how the writer has written this word,

"SK8ER BOI"

to come back to earth *exp*

to return to reality

Illustration by Vanesa Carosia

QUIZ: Are You A TV Addict?

QUIZ



Are you addicted to the television? Do you spend hours in front of the telly watching programme after programme? Or do you find other ways to pass your time? Do our quiz and find out whether you are a "TV addict", or not.

- 1** How many hours of television do you watch a day?
 - a) 1 hour or less
 - b) 2 hours
 - c) Something between two and fifteen hours
- 2** What's your idea of a romantic night?
 - a) The theatre, a **candlelit dinner** and back to my place for coffee
 - b) A night on the sofa watching my favourite TV programmes
 - c) Dancing all night in a disco
- 3** If there were a fire in your house, what would you save first?
 - a) My children, my partner and my pets - in that order
 - b) Jewellery, money and expensive furniture
 - c) The television and my video collection
- 4** What's the first thing you do when you get home?
 - a) Prepare some food - I'm usually **starving**
 - b) Do some exercise, eat then get ready to go out
 - c) **Kick my shoes off**, lie down on the sofa, pick up the **remote control** and start **zapping**



- 5** It's sunny outside and you don't have to go to work. What are you going to do?
 - a) Turn on the television and see what's on
 - b) Get my bicycle and **go for a ride**
 - c) Head for the nearest bar and spend the afternoon drinking with friends
- 6** Your partner would like to do something different from the sort of things you normally do. You suggest:
 - a) Doing a new sport such as **bungee-jumping**
 - b) Subscribing to a new streaming platform (Netflix...)
 - c) Going to the nearest travel agency and buying two tickets to a far away country

- 7** What's the best way to educate a child?
- Stick** them in front of the television for 12 hours a day
 - Fill their free time with lots of different activities
 - Buy them some books and tell them to get reading
- 8** What are your favourite topics of conversation?
- Politics and religion
 - I don't really have any favourites - I just see where the conversation is going and try to say something interesting and **relevant**
 - The things that have happened in the previous episode of my favourite television series or **soap opera**
- 9** How would you react if you had no television for a week?
- I'd pull out all my hair, bang my head repeatedly against the wall and try to jump off a bridge
 - I'd go to sleep
 - I probably wouldn't notice the difference
- 10** It's late at night and you're watching TV but **there's nothing good on**. What do you do?
- Turn the TV off and go to sleep
 - Sit down and wait - **there's bound to be something good on soon**
 - Get a book - that's much better than watching the **rubbish** they put on these days
- 11** What's your idea of the perfect dinner?
- Lots of friends, great food, loads of wine and a lively conversation
 - Beer, a pizza, a **bucket** of ice-cream and my best friend to talk to
 - Alone on the sofa with a bag of **crisps**, a beer and the TV



- 12** What's your opinion of television and how do you think it can affect our lives?
- It can teach us how to deal with problems and communicate with others. It can also act as a great substitute for a real life
 - We should never let television influence or dominate our lives in any way
 - It can lead to an increase in violence and the use of **foul language**

SCORE

Calculate your score, then read the analysis below to find out...

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| 1 a1 b2 c3 | 7 a3 b2 c1 |
| 2 a1 b2 c3 | 8 a1 b2 c3 |
| 3 a2 b1 c3 | 9 a3 b2 c1 |
| 4 a2 b1 c3 | 10 a1 b3 c2 |
| 5 a3 b2 c1 | 11 a1 b2 c3 |
| 6 a1 b3 c2 | 12 a3 b1 c2 |



1-12

Television has very little importance for you. You seem to know how to fill your time constructively

13-24

You like watching the television every now and then but you seem to have your "addiction" under control

25-36

You are completely addicted to the television - get a life you couch potato!



GLOSSARY

a candlelit dinner *n*

a romantic dinner. A "candle" is a long, thin object that you burn to give you light

starving *adj*

very hungry

to kick off your shoes *exp* to push your shoes off by using your feet

the remote control *n*

the object that you use to change television channels while sitting on the sofa

to zap *vb*

to constantly change from one channel to another

to go for a ride *exp*

to get on a bicycle and go somewhere

bungee-jumping *n*

jumping from a bridge with an elastic cord attached to your feet

to stick *vb*

to put

relevant *adj*

that is related to the thing you are talking about

a soap opera *n*

a television series about the lives of people

there's nothing good on *exp*

there is nothing good on the television. The preposition "on" is used to talk about what is "on" the television. For example, "what's on?" = "what's on the television?"

there's bound to be (something good on soon) *exp*

I am sure there will be (something good on the television soon)

rubbish *adj*

very bad quality

a bucket *n*

a large container that you fill with water when you clean the house

crisps *n*

small, round pieces of fried potato that you buy in a bag. "Chips" in US English

foul language *n*

bad language - taboo words

passers-by *n*

people who are walking in the street

a sledge *n*

an object for going on the snow. They are often pulled by dogs and Santa Claus has one pulled by a reindeer called Rudolf



SKI BUM



"Skiing is more than just a sport - it's a way of life," John Lieround, winner of "Mr Ski Bum 2002".

A ski **bum** is someone who leaves ordinary society and goes to live in a **ski resort**. Most people decide they want to become ski bums **right after** college. This is the time when they aren't sure what to do in life. Ski bums generally work in the mornings, ski in the afternoon and party at night - an extremely **strenuous** lifestyle **that is more suited to** the young.



Destination Anywhere

The first thing a ski bum has to do is choose a destination. American ski bums choose American ski resorts such as Sun Valley or Aspen, Colorado. Europeans tend to go to the bigger resorts in the Alps. Australians also prefer Europe. In the end, the choice of resort usually depends on where the ski bum can find employment.

Work

Most ski bums are obliged to work at some point in their lives. Some choose to do this during the summer months, where they desperately try to earn enough to be able to spend the winter months in a ski resort. Others have to work at the ski resort, usually doing part-time work. This gives them time to ski. Poorer ski bums may even have to do several different jobs in order to pay for the expensive apartments, **ski passes** and nightlife. Typical ski bum jobs include being a waiter, bartender, ski instructor or hotel clerk. [In the US, there is actually a phone service called 1-800-ski-bums, which will help you find a job in the ski resort of your choice]

Names

Once your life as a ski bum has started you may like to choose a name for yourself. Typical ski bum names may be something like "Scooter", "Rainbow", "Tiger" or "Flash".

Categories Of Ski Bum

There are various categories of ski bums. Here are a few of them:

1. "Hardcore"

The "hardcore" or "extreme" ski bum has a total commitment to his or her profession as a ski bum. They want to get in "mountain-time" every single day that the **lifts** are open. They often consider themselves "**thrill-seekers**" and like to go off the **marked trails**. Hardcore ski bums spend the rest of their time talking about all the wild things they did during the day.



2. "Trust-Funder"

A trust-funder is someone who does not need to work because they have rich families, or whose parents have a second home that needs **house-sitting**. Trust-funders have no urgent need for employment, and spend their non-skiing time partying and driving around in an **SUV**.



3. The "Granola"

The "granola" is a form of hippy who likes to ski. Granolas want to catch some "vibes" on the **slopes** and **become at one with nature**. The granola is generally vegetarian, eats only organic food and listens to hippy music all the time. They are most notable for their **laid-back** perspective on life, which is assisted by large quantities of marijuana.



Activities

Ski bums enjoy socialising with other ski bums and can often be found in bars at night. Their topics of conversation are generally limited to the day's activities on the mountain and who is going out with who. Ski bums feel superior to ordinary tourists, who only come to the ski resort for a limited period of time.

Clothes

It is important to have the right look if you want to become a ski bum. This generally means wearing ski clothes all the time. Never wear clothes with **designer logos**, **one-piece jumpsuits**, or anything with **fur** - the granolas will instantly dislike you if you wear dead animal hair!

The End

The life of a ski bum is generally quite short. At most, they will spend three **seasons** in a ski resort, after which they will realize that there is more to life than the pursuit of pleasure and that it's time to get a real job. More frequently, it happens when their **debts** get too big or their parents **refuse** to continue funding them. ✨



GLOSSARY

a bum *n US*

a person who does nothing in life; also, a person with no job and no home who lives in the streets

a ski resort *n*

a town or place where you can go skiing

right after *exp*

immediately after

strenuous *adj*

physically demanding

that is more suited to *exp*

that is better for

a ski pass *n*

a pass that lets you ski in the ski area

a lift *n*

an electronic object like a chair that takes you up to a ski area

a thrill-seeker *n*

someone who likes danger and strong emotions

a marked trail *n*

the area in a ski resort where you can ski safely

house-sitting *n*

staying in a house for someone to protect it when they are not there

an SUV *abbr*

a type of big car - a "Sports Utility Vehicle", also called a 4-by-4

a slope *n*

the area that you ski down

to become at one with nature

exp

to spiritually join yourself with nature

laid-back *adj*

relaxed

a designer logo *n*

a logo that says who the designer of the clothes is

a one-piece jumpsuit *n*

a jacket and trousers that are joined together with a long zip down the front

fur *n*

animal hair that is used to make coats

a season *n*

the part of the year when you can do a particular activity. The ski season is in winter

a debt *n*

money that you have to pay back to people such as banks, etc

to refuse *vb*

to say that you will not do something

A look at some cool places from around the world.

Amazing World



US SKI RESORTS

There are so many great places to go skiing around the world that you may not have considered the States as a skiing destination. However, there are some fantastic resorts there. Here are a few of them. By Heidi Lenze.

Aspen

Aspen ski resort is in the state of Colorado and it's a great place for upper-intermediate and advanced skiers. The ski area is enormous and there are lots of **steep runs** and **moguls**.

When you get tired of skiing, you can do a bit of **star spotting** as Aspen has a reputation for being a playground for the rich and famous. You can find all sorts of celebrities there, from film stars to pop stars to politicians.

The night life in Aspen is also great. Ski magazines and travel agencies consistently rate Aspen as the top place for nightlife in the States. Here are a couple of our favourite bars:

Shooters Saloon: this is a country-and-western style saloon that has non-stop **partying** and dancing.

Eric's Bar: this has a superb selection of Scotch whisky and it's a great bar to visit after a cold day out on the **slopes**.

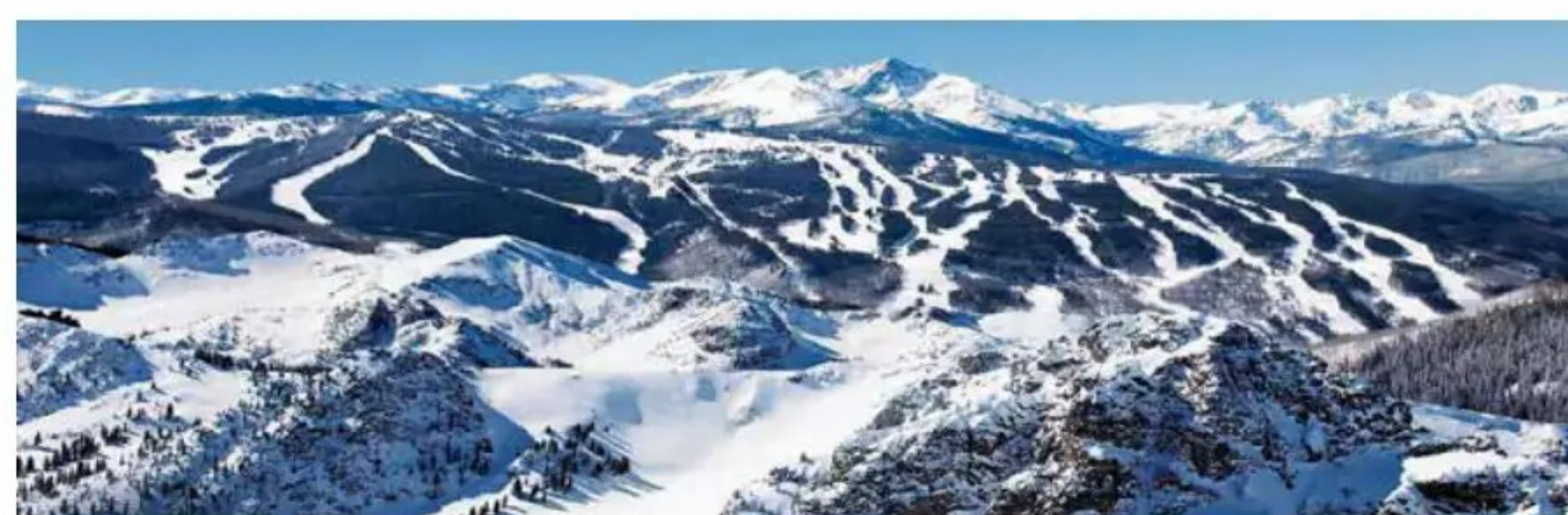
Double Diamond: if you like dancing this is the place to go.

Be sure to wear your **smartest clothes** as they have a **strict dress code**.

Vail

Vail is also in the state of Colorado and is known as the "granddaddy" of American ski resorts as it's one of the oldest. It is **rated** as one of the top ski areas in North America and has earned this title for its snow conditions and **challenging** slopes. The town of Vail (just 100 miles to the west of Denver) is a beautiful Tyrolean-style village with lots of shops, restaurants, and bars.

Our favourite bar is the Altitude Billiards & Sports Club, which has consistently been voted the number one bar by locals. If you're looking for a bit of live entertainment and top quality bands then go to The Club.



Park City

Park City is where they held the Alpine slalom, giant slalom and snowboarding events for the 2002 Winter Olympics. It's a great place to ski; the only drawback is that Park City is in the state of Utah, which has strict **liquor laws**. However, you can still find a few bars that serve alcohol. Here are a couple of our favourites:

Plan B: this is Park City's main night-club

J.B. Mulligans Club & Pub: this is a great place to relax and enjoy your favourite American beer and listen to some great music.

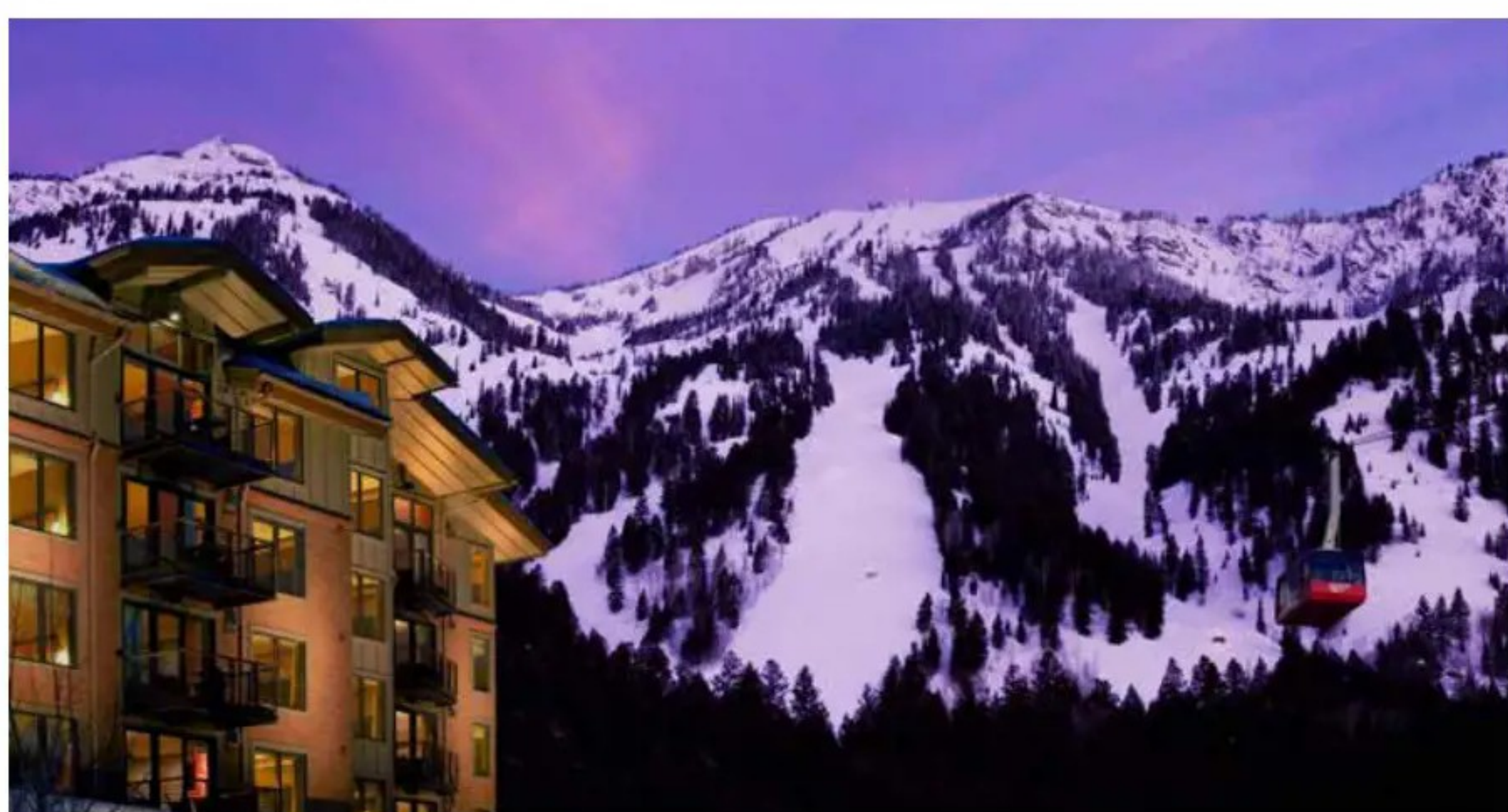
Park City also hosts the Sundance Film Festival, which takes place in January. All the top independent film directors come here to show their latest films. Apart from the chance to watch lots of great films, there are also loads of parties and cocktail presentations. We guarantee there's plenty to do in Park City.

Jackson Hole

Jackson Hole is in the state of Wyoming and has some of the most difficult terrain in the States. There are two mountain peaks with some fantastic runs, and even the most advanced skiers will find them challenging. There are a few easier runs for beginners down at the village area.

Jackson Hole is also worth visiting for its rugged, **Old West** atmosphere. The town area has wooden **boardwalks**, typical cowboy **saloons** and even a few cowboys walking about. But don't worry, there aren't likely to be any **shootouts** these days.

Jackson Hole also has great nightlife. If you like bar games, go to the Rancher, which has more **pool** tables than any other bar in the world. Another great bar is the Mangy Moose, which has an authentic Old West feel to it.



Sun Valley

Sun Valley is in the state of Idaho and is part of the Sawtooth **mountain range**. This is another resort with an Old West feel to it. It's also known as America's sunniest resort as it has more sunny days than any other resort. Once again, it's a great place for advanced skiers. In fact, **hardcore** skiers consider it to be one of the best ski resorts in the US.

Sun Valley also has a great après-ski scene. Here are a few of our favourite bars:

Whisky Jacques: this is a **hot spot** for tourists and locals alike
The Roosevelt: this bar is popular with college kids. The Sawtooth, and the recently opened Cellar, are similar

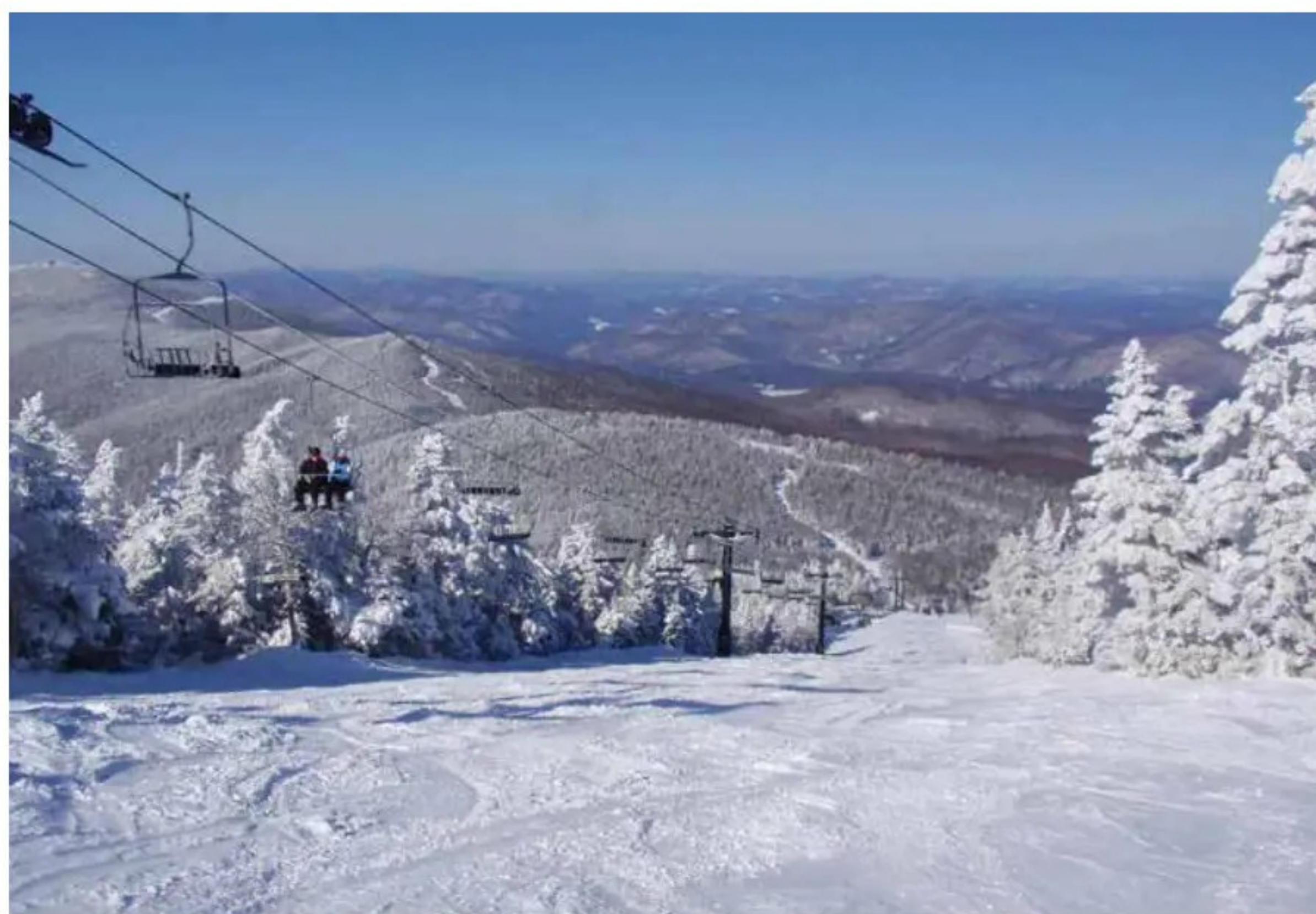
Grumpy's: this is a great bar if you're looking for a more relaxed atmosphere. They serve a **schooner of beer** that looks like a **fishbowl**

Sun Valley also has a Casino.



Killington

Killington is the largest ski & snowboard resort in the East and the ski area is made up of 7 interconnected mountains. This resort is great for all levels and has some of the steepest runs in the States. The only problem is that there's no town center or central area where you can **party** after your day on the slopes. Basically, you start skiing from wherever you park your car.



Sugarbush

This is another East Coast resort and it has some of the most challenging natural terrain in the East. Unlike Killington, Sugarbush has some great nightlife. One of the best bars is the Blue Tooth, which has live music, pool tables and friendly staff.

Canada

We know this is a guide to US ski resorts, but we can't go without mentioning some of the great ski areas in neighbouring Canada. Blackcomb and Whistler, both in British Columbia, are possibly the best ski resorts in the world. They've got everything from advanced ski areas, that include skiing on glaciers, to beginners' areas. More importantly, Whistler Village is a great party spot with plenty of bars and clubs to keep skiers entertained **well into the evening**. 🍷

GLOSSARY

steep *adj*

if a mountain is steep, it goes up very high, very quickly

a run *n*

a marked area where you can ski

a mogul *n*

a high area on the ski run that you can go over or go around. It is more difficult to ski when there are moguls

star spotting *n*

trying to see famous people

partying *n*

drinking, dancing and having a good time

a slope *n*

a marked area where you can ski

smart clothes *n*

elegant clothes that make you look nice

a strict dress code *n*

if a bar has a "strict dress code", they specify what type of clothes you have to wear - usually a shirt and tie for men

rated *adj*

valued very highly

challenging *adj*

difficult even for experienced people

a liquor law *n*

a law that restricts or prohibits the drinking of alcohol

the Old West *n*

the area of the United States where there used to be many cowboys and few big cities

a boardwalk *n*

a high wooden area next to the shops where you can walk

a saloon *n* (US)

a bar

a shootout *n*

when two or more people are shooting guns at one another

pool *n*

a game like billiards frequently played in pubs and bars

a mountain range *n*

an area with many mountains

hardcore *adj*

very serious and obsessed

a hot spot *n*

a popular place

a schooner of beer *n*

a large glass filled with beer

a fishbowl *n*

a round container made of glass that is used for keeping fish

well into the evening *exp*

until very late at night

Living Abroad



ASPEN, COLORADO

Brian in Aspen, Colorado

Every month we interview someone about their experiences of living abroad. This month we are speaking to Brian, a British guy, who worked in Aspen, an **up-market** ski resort in the state of Colorado.

Brian, how did you get the job?

Well, I was working for an oil company in Galvestone, Texas, when there was a **slump** in the industry and I lost my job. I didn't know what to do and was about to go back to England when a friend phoned to say he needed someone to manage his bar in Aspen, Colorado. I had nothing better to do so I decided to **go for it**.

What were your first impressions?

Aspen is famous for being the place to go for rich, **trendy** Americans. But apart from that it's just like most other resorts with lots of hotels, bars, mountains, **ski runs** and **ski lifts**.

Where were you staying?

Well I was working in this hotel bar so I had a room there. The hotel itself was great as it was right next to the ski lifts and you could go out skiing without having to drive or walk carrying all the **stuff**.

The hotel had an Alpine look to it and it had this great entrance hall with a big **stuffed bear**. Every evening around 5pm we served free **mulled wine** just as the lifts were closing. This used to fill the bar up quite quickly as people would sit there drinking and talking about their adventures out on the **slopes**.



Could you describe a typical day for you in Aspen?

When I first got there, I tried to do as much skiing as possible. I'd get up fairly early, about 8.30, go down to get some breakfast, **get all my gear on** and **head out** to the slopes. I'd come back about 1pm and get some lunch. I opened the bar around 3pm. But after a few weeks of that I got pretty tired so I did a lot less skiing.

What was the work like?

It was all fairly easy. I was in charge of about 4 other bartenders and we worked till 12 midnight. After closing the bar, it took about an hour to get everything cleaned up. I usually got to bed about 1.30, unless I decided to **go for a night out on the town**.

What were the best things about working in Aspen?

Well I loved the job. I got to meet loads of really interesting people, and made lots of useful contacts. Also, the weather is great: blue skies and cold weather - which is great for skiing as the snow doesn't **melt** too much in the afternoon. And because Aspen is so expensive, it never gets too **crowded**.

And what were the worst things about Aspen?

I don't really have anything bad to say about Aspen except that I think it's a bit expensive. But **that didn't bother me** because I got everything free, including a **ski pass**.



What was the funniest thing that happened to you while you were there?

A lot of my friends from the oil company came to visit me. One of them was this guy called Al. He's the typical guy who has to have all the latest gear when he does a sport. On our first day out, he had this really expensive jacket, a hand-held **GPS compass** and skis that must have cost a fortune. I'd never been skiing with him before so when I saw all the stuff he'd brought with him I assumed he must be a top-level skier.

I was wrong. That morning, we got up early and went up the first ski lift. Just as he was getting off, he lost control, started **sliding down** the slope and crashed into a tree. The rescue services had to come and **pick him up**. Later on he found out that he'd broken a leg. He spent the rest of the week in bed and never got to use any of his expensive equipment. It **turned out** that it was only the second time he'd ever been skiing.

Did anything else funny happen to you?

Another time I was on the ski lift with a friend. We'd been out till late the night before and we were both feeling a bit **queasy**. He told me he was feeling a bit sick but I just ignored him. But all of a sudden he **threw up** over the side. There were people skiing down below and they had to **dodge out of the way**. I tried to hide my face so no one would recognise me.

Did anything frightening ever happen while you were there?

As you know, Americans are really strict about under-aged drinking and so we had to be very careful in the bar. Once I asked to see this guy's **I.D.** and he got really aggressive. Fortunately, **it didn't come to anything**.

Another time, I was standing with a friend half-way down a **black run**, waiting for another friend to join us. All of a sudden we saw this **black and red blur** come racing down the mountain. As the blur passed us, we realised it was Frank, the guy we were waiting for. He went **shooting down** on his back and didn't stop till he got to the bottom of the run, about 400 metres down. Apparently, he had fallen over and started sliding down. He had this cheap plastic jacket on and it made him **glide** over the snow. Later he told us how scared he'd been and how he thought he was going to die. Luckily the slope **levelled off** and he managed to slow down by using his feet.

And finally, would you recommend Aspen as a place to go skiing? Aspen is a bit expensive but I think it's a great resort, especially if you're an intermediate to advanced skier. It's also got a great nightlife with lots of trendy bars and clubs. ★



GLOSSARY

up-market *adj*
expensive and of top quality

a slump *n*
when the market suddenly goes very badly

to go for it *exp*
to suddenly do something that you want to do

trendy *adj*
fashionable

a ski run *n*
an area where you can ski down the side of a mountain

a ski lift *n*
a machine that takes you up a mountain so you can ski down

stuff *n*
things

stuffed *adj*
a dead animal that is filled with a substance so it can be preserved

a bear *n*
a large black or brown animal that lives in forests

mulled wine *n*
hot red wine

a slope *n*
an area where you can ski down the side of a mountain

to get all your gear on *n*
to put all your clothes on. "Gear" is clothes used for an activity

to head out *phr vb*
to go to

to go for a night out
on the town *exp*

to go out at night in order to have a good time

to melt *vb*
when a solid turns to a liquid

crowded *adj*
full of people

that didn't bother me *exp* that didn't worry me

a ski pass *n*

a pass that permits you to ski in an area

a GPS compass *n*
GPS is an abbreviation of "Global Positioning System", and it is connected by satellites and it can tell you exactly where you are in the world. A "compass" is an instruments that tells you which way north, south, east and west is

to slide down *phr vb*
to go over a surface by moving over it smoothly

to pick up *phr vb*
to collect

to turn out *phr vb*
if something "turns out" a particular way, it happens in that way

queasy *adj*
a sensation that you are about to vomit

to throw up *phr vb*
to vomit

to dodge out of the way *exp*
to move suddenly to one side so that something doesn't hit you

I.D. *abbr*
an identity card

it didn't come to anything *exp*
nothing happened in the end

a black run *n*
a ski area that is the most difficult to ski down. The order of difficulty is green, blue, red, black

a black and red blur *n*
a mixture of the colours black and red

to shoot down *phr vb*
to go down very quickly

to glide *vb*

to move over an area very smoothly

to level off *phr vb*

to become flat



AUDIO

Objective To improve your listening skills.**Think about it** Have you ever sent a message then regretted it? What was it? Who were you writing to? Where did you send the message from? Do you think it's right that people can get convicted for what they write on Twitter or other social media sites? Why? Why not?**Exams** This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as PET and TOEFL.

Answers on page 65

1 Pre-reading

The following people wrote twitter messages and got into trouble. What do you think they wrote? Make notes:
a driver, movie fans, someone who was about to travel to the United States, someone who was monitoring the riots in Pittsburgh

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

- How much did Emma Way have to pay in total?
- What injuries did Toby Hockley suffer?
- What part of Julia Roberts' body did one Tweeter insult?
- What did Leigh mean when he said he was going to "destroy America"?
- How long was he held for at Los Angeles International Airport?
- Who was Elliot trying to help with his Twitter messages?

Dangerous Twitter messages!

With over a billion registered users and over 300 million active users, Twitter is one of the world's most popular social networks. It's fast and easy to use, with a limit of just 140 characters per message. But you have to be careful what you write, or you could end up in trouble.

The cyclist

Emma Way was driving along a road when she turned a corner and knocked a cyclist off his bike. However, instead of stopping to help, she **drove off**. And once home, she **tweeted** this message:



"definitely knocked a cyclist off his bike earlier. I have **right of way** - he doesn't even pay **road tax**!"

Thanks to the **tweet**, Ms Way was located and **taken to court**. She was eventually fined £300, had to pay £337 in costs and had 7 **points** added to her licence. Asked by **defence counsel** to rate the stupidity of her tweet on a scale of 1-10, Miss Way replied, "I'd score it at 11". She added that her tweet was "the biggest **regret**" of her life. The cyclist, Toby Hockley, suffered **bruising** and minor damage to his bike.

The celebrities

Talk show host Jimmy Kimmel asked guests on his show to read out some of the **mean** things people tweet about them. The idea was to get the authors of the messages to **reflect** on their actions. Some of the messages included:



@kemothrapy7
There are people who think Julia Roberts is hot!? Her gigantic

mouth looks like it will devour an elephant in one bite.



@julianaxelrod
Ethan Hawke seems like a guy who wasn't supposed to be a movie star but he **slipped through** the tracks and everyone was just like "Ok".

The party guy

Before leaving the UK for the trip of a lifetime in the USA, Leigh Van Bryan tweeted this message to his friends:



"Free this week, for quick gossip/ prep before I go and destroy America?"

Unfortunately for him, the message was **picked up** by America's **Homeland Security**, and Van Bryan and his travelling companion, Emily Bunting, were detained after landing at Los Angeles International Airport. **Handcuffed**, Van Bryan, 26, was kept under armed guard in a **cell** with drug dealers for 12 hours. They tried to explain that "to destroy" means "to party hard" and not "to bomb". However, officials weren't impressed and put the pair on a plane back to Paris the next morning.

The rioter

During a summit in Pittsburgh in September 2009 of the 20 richest nations, there were several anti-capitalist protests. During the **rioting**, Elliot Madison, a 41-year-old New Yorker, sent Twitter updates of the police force locations and movements to help protesters avoid arrest. Madison was arrested and charged with using a social networking site to help

demonstrators **evade** the police. 🌟

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a news report about the woman who knocked over the cyclist. Search YouTube for "Girl Brags About Knocking Cyclist Off Bike on Twitter".

GLOSSARY

- a character** *n*
a letter or punctuation mark: *, ?, r, 6...
- in trouble** *exp*
if you're "in trouble", you have done something bad and you're going to have problems
- to drive off** *phr vb*
if you "drive off", you leave a place in your car
- to tweet** *vb*
to send a message via the social network Twitter
- right of way** *n*
if you have "right of way" on a road, you can drive on that road
- road tax** *n*
"road tax" was once a tax for using the road, but it was abolished in 1937. It's been replaced with Vehicle Excise Duty, which is a tax on your car. Many people are confused by this and think that motorists pay "road tax"
- a tweet** *n*
a message via the social network Twitter
- take to court** *exp*
if someone is "taken to court", legal action is taken against them
- to fine** *vb*
if someone is "fined", they must pay money because they've broken a law
- points** *n*
you get "points" every time you do something illegal on the road. Once you have 12 points (in the UK), you can lose your driving licence
- a defence counsel** *n*
the person or people who defend you in court
- a regret** *n*
if you have a "regret" about something, you feel sad or bad about something you did in the past
- bruising** *n*
if you suffer from "bruising" after an accident, you have purple marks on your body, even though the skin isn't broken and you aren't bleeding
- mean** *adj*
not nice, horrible, nasty
- to reflect** *vb*
if you "reflect" on your actions, you think about them
- to slip through** *phr vb*
if someone "slips through", they enter a place secretly and without others noticing
- gossip** *n*
informal conversation, often about other people's private lives
- prep** *n informal abbr*
preparation
- to pick up** *phr vb*
if a message is "picked up", it's received, detected or noticed
- Homeland Security** *n*
an organisation in the US that protects the country from terrorism, etc.
- to handcuff** *vb*
to put "handcuffs" (metal objects) around someone's wrists (the joint between their hands and their arms)
- a cell** *n*
a small room in which a prisoner is locked
- rioting** *n*
when there's "rioting", people are in the streets acting in a violent manner
- to evade** *vb*
if you "evade" someone, you hide in an area so they can't see or find you



Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What do you do when you're stressed? What makes you stressed? Have you been at all stressed lately? Why? Do you know anyone who is really stressed? Why are they so stressed?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as FCE, IELTS and TOEFL.



IS THAT THE TIME?



HOW TO DEAL WITH STRESS!

When was the last time you felt stressed? What did you do about it? Here are a few ways of dealing with stress.

Stress is the feeling you get when you're under pressure. All sorts of situations can cause stress: moving home, financial difficulties, **work overload**, driving in heavy traffic, noisy neighbours, pollution, uncertainty...

So, what can we do about stress? Here are some possible solutions.

Smile: incredibly, your mind will often follow the lead of your body. So, if you smile, you'll be telling your brain that everything's all right, and your **mood** will improve. Next time you're feeling stressed, try smiling for 10 minutes.

Take action: deal with problems as soon as they **pop up**. For example, if you're angry with someone, talk about it and let them know how you feel rather than **bottling it up**.

Get organised: before leaving work at night, tidy up your desk and make a list of the things you're going to do the following day. When you get in early in the morning, check over the list and make sure that you can get it all done.

Prioritise: if you're feeling **overwhelmed** by all the things you've got to do,

make a list and divide the tasks into "essential" and "non-essential" items. Put the non-essential ones to one side, then deal with the essential ones one by one until you can cross them off the list.

Exercise: doing exercise is a great way of getting your mind off things and reducing stress. Go for a run, have a swim, spend some time in the gym, go for a walk...

Relax: find some time to really **switch off**: have a bath, meditate, get a massage, sweat it out in a sauna, do some yoga...

Make positive choices: read books that make you feel good and spend time with people you enjoy being with. Avoid spending too much time on social networks or watching TV, and stay away from negative people.

Get some perspective: learn how to **take things with a pinch of salt**. Is the situation really as bad as you're making it out to be? Is the work really as urgent as they say it is? Is it a question of life and death? Stop taking life so seriously!

Share it: don't keep your problems to yourself, talk about them. Chat with friends and try to laugh about the things that have been stressing you.

Focus: put 100% of your energy into the things you can change, and do your

best to ignore the things you can't. What's the point of getting angry about the weather, the traffic or the government?

Get a pet: studies have shown that interacting with animals is a great way of relieving stress and tension.

Eat well: make sure you have a healthy and balanced diet with lots of fruit and vegetables. And avoid too much alcohol and any stimulants such as coffee.

Take up a hobby: find some time to do something you enjoy doing: restoring old cars, building models, gardening, salsa dancing... anything. Doing something that lets you feel in control will help reduce the stress.

Feeling better? ☺

VIDEO

You Tube

Watch this video on dealing with stress. Search YouTube for "How to Deal With Stress".

GLOSSARY

work overload *n*
if you're suffering from "work overload", you've got too much work to do and not enough time to do it

a mood *n*
if you're in a good "mood", you're happy and you feel good

to pop up *phr vb*
if something "pops up", it appears or happens suddenly

to bottle up *phr vb*
if you "bottle up" feelings, you keep them inside you and you don't express them or talk about them

overwhelmed *adj*
if you're "overwhelmed" by a feeling, it affects you very strongly, and you don't know what to do about it

to switch off *phr vb*
if you "switch off", you stop thinking about work (for example) and start to relax

to take things with a pinch of salt *exp*
if you "take something with a pinch of salt", you don't believe it completely

Answers on page 65

1 Pre-reading

Think of four ideas for dealing with stress.

2 Reading I

Read or listen to the article once. Which ideas do you like the best? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions. According to the writer, what should you do...

1. ...to improve your mood?
2. ...if a problem pops up?
3. ...before leaving work at night?
4. ...with the things on your non-essential items list?
5. ...to get your mind off things?
6. ...to switch off?
7. ...to help you feel like you're in control again?

FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

HEALTH & SICKNESS

Expression	Meaning
I'm ill / sick	I feel very bad
I'm not very well	I feel very bad
I'm unwell	I feel very bad
I'm not very well	I feel very bad
I feel really rough	I feel very bad
I feel under the weather	I feel very bad
He's off colour	He is a bit sick
She's as white as a sheet	She is very pale
He's in a bad way	He is very sick
She looks like death warmed up	She looks very, very sick
I'm not feeling 100%	I feel bad
I feel a bit ropery	I feel bad
I'm very well	I feel very good
She's as right as rain	She feels very good
He's in good shape	He's physically well
She's as fit as a fiddle	She's physically strong
He's up and about again	He's well after an illness
She's got a clean bill of health	She's well - according to a doctor



DANGEROUSLY SICK

Felix Burnton was the owner of a **drugstore** in downtown Chicago. Every day he got to work early, worked until 1pm, went to lunch for an hour then continued until 7 at night. One day, he got back after lunch and noticed a man **leaning against the wall** outside the drugstore. Felix went inside and asked his new clerk, Jeff:

"Hey, Jeff, **what's up with** that guy outside? **He looks really rough** and he's as **white as a sheet**."

The clerk looked up and answered:

"Oh him. He told me he was **feeling a bit under the weather** and that he wanted something for his **cough**. I couldn't find the right medicine so I gave him a **laxative**. Well, actually I gave him this bottle of industrial strength laxatives for **constipated** horses."

"You what? You idiot, these are the most powerful laxatives on the market. And I can assure you they won't cure a cough," the owner shouted angrily.

"Sure they will," the clerk said, pointing at the man leaning on the wall. "Look at the poor guy - now he's too afraid to **cough**."

GLOSSARY

to reckon *vb*

to think

a drugstore *n US*

a shop where you can buy medicine. A "chemist's" or pharmacy in British English

to lean against a wall *exp*

to rest your body against a wall

a clerk *n US*

a person who works as an assistant in a shop

What's up with X? *exp*

What problem does X have?

to look really rough *exp*

to look very bad and sick

to be as white as a sheet *exp*

to be very pale

to feel under the weather *exp*

to feel very bad and sick

a cough *n*

an irritating feeling in your throat (the tube that goes from your mouth to your stomach and lungs)

a laxative *n*

medicine to help you go to the toilet

constipated *adj*

not able to go to the toilet - your

system is blocked

to cough *vb*

to suddenly force air out of your mouth because you are sick

GLOSSARY FOR CARTOON

under the weather *exp*

ill, sick, not well

off colour *exp*

ill, sick, not well

as right as rain *exp*

good, healthy, strong

hiccups *n*

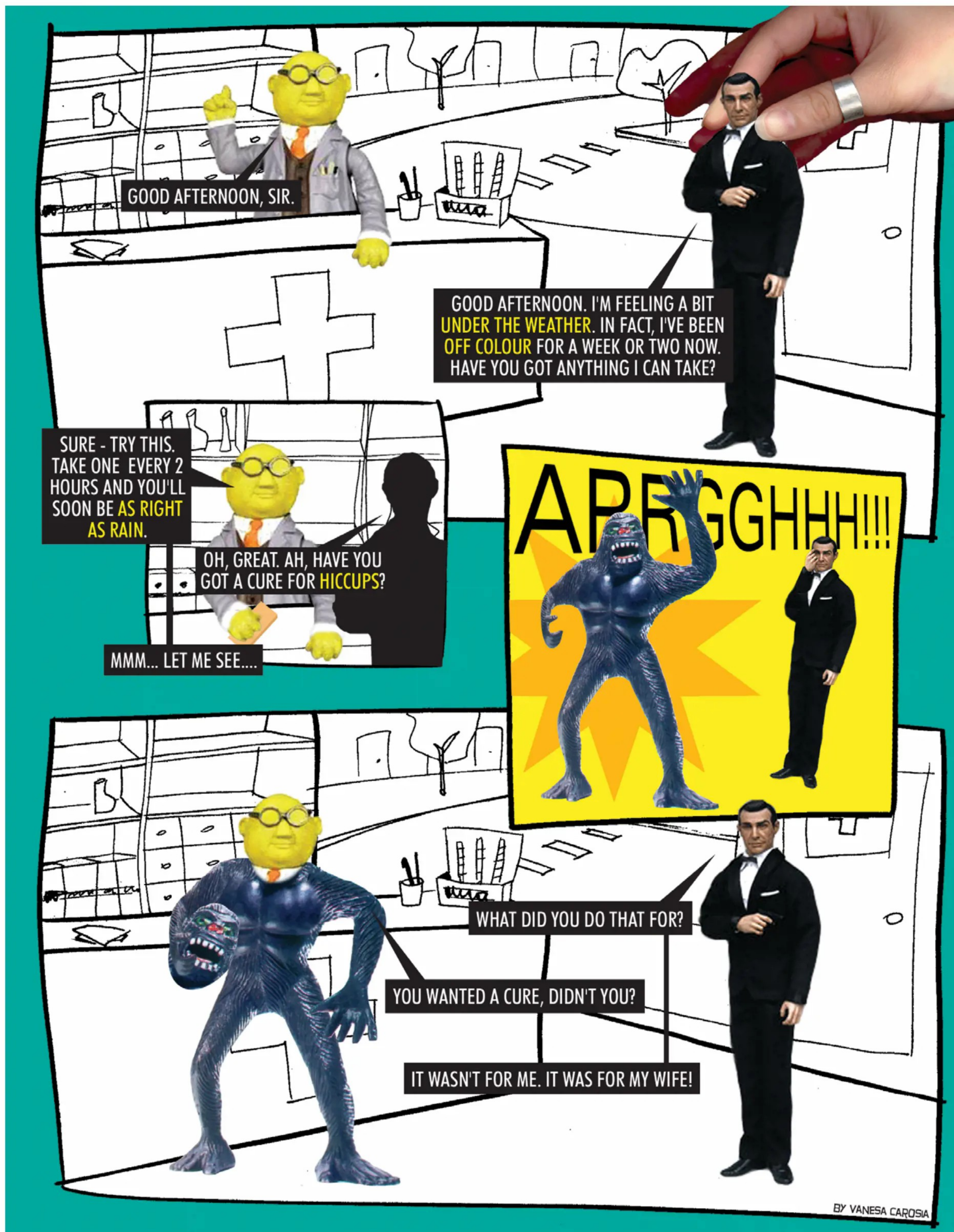
if you have "hiccups" you make repeated sounds in your mouth - the best cure is a glass of water or a sudden fright

FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE IN ACTION

AT THE PHARMACY

We've shown you some language to talk about health and sickness. Now you can see this language in action. In this scene, James is in a pharmacy looking for some medicine.

FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE IN ACTION





Story Time

Jokes anecdotes and stories as told by native English speakers.

The idiot and the chainsaw

An idiot walks into a **hardware store**. He sees an ad for a **chainsaw** that can cut 6 trees in one hour. The idiot is **suitably impressed**, and buys it. However, the next day, the idiot brings it back and says, "This chainsaw is **defective**. It would only cut down one tree and it took me all day!" Confused, the salesman takes the chain saw and **starts it up** to see what's wrong. At which point, the idiot asks, "Hey, what's that noise?"

Funeral comments

Three friends die in a car accident and go to heaven. Once there, an angel asks them, "When you are in your **coffin** and friends and family are **mourning** you, what would you like to hear them say about you?" The first guy says, "I'd like to hear them say that I was a great doctor, and a great family man." The second guy says, "I'd like to hear that I was a wonderful husband, and that I made a huge difference to society." And the last guy replies, "I'd

like to hear them say, 'Look! He's moving!'"

The jigsaw puzzle

Two idiots walk into a bar. One of them tells the **bartender** to line up six glasses of whisky. The idiots lift their glasses and **drink a toast**, "Here's to 51 days!" and they proceed to **down their drinks**. Once again, they tell the bartender to line the drinks up; and once again they drink a toast to the 51 days and down their drinks. The bartender is curious and says, "**I don't get**

it. Why are you drinking a toast to 51 days?" And one of the idiots replies, "Well, we just finished a jigsaw puzzle. On the box, it had '2-4 years', but we finished it in 51 days. Aren't we clever?" 🌟



GLOSSARY

a hardware store *n* *US*
a shop that sells tools or equipment for repairing things. An "ironmonger's" in British English
a chainsaw *n*
an electrical device for cutting trees
suitably impressed *exp*
convinced about something
defective *adj*
if a product is "defective", it doesn't work properly
to start something up *phr vb*
to start an engine/motor
a coffin *n*
a box in which dead bodies are placed
to mourn *vb*
if someone is "(in) mourning", they are sad because someone has died
a bartender *n*
a person who works in a bar serving drinks, etc
to drink a toast *exp*
to celebrate something by saying a few words and touching glasses before drinking
to down your drink *exp*
to drink the contents of a glass
I don't get it *exp*
I don't understand it

BIRTHSTONES





Many people believe that certain stones can influence your **mood** and general feeling. Each stone has a different meaning and wearing the stone can affect the **biorhythms** of your body. Each stone is associated with a particular emotion; and if you wear that stone you will become more like the emotion. For example, if you

wear a garnet (the stone for the month of January), you will become more **courageous**. Unfortunately, there is no stone to help you become rich. Also, wearing the stone that corresponds to the month when you were born will bring you good health and good luck.

GLOSSARY

a mood *n*
the way you feel
a biorhythm *n*
the harmony of your body with nature
courageous *adj*
not afraid of danger
constancy *n*
maintaining your ideas and actions

courage *n*
not being afraid of danger
success *n*
getting everything you want in terms of money and fame
longevity *n*
living for a long time
contentment *n*
happiness

MONTH	STONE	COLOUR	MEANING
January	Garnet 	Red	Constancy
February	Amethyst 	Purple	Sincerity
March	Bloodstone or Aquamarine 	Green/Red or Blue	Courage
April	Diamond 	White/Clear	Innocence
May	Emerald 	Green	Love and success
June	Pearl, Moonstone or Alexandrite 	Cream	Health and longevity
July	Ruby 	Red	Contentment
August	Sardonyx or Peridot 	Light Green	Marital happiness
September	Sapphire 	Blue	Clear thinking
October	Opal or Tourmaline 	Many colours	Hope
November	Topaz 	Orange/Brown	Fidelity
December	Turquoise or Lapis lazuli 	Blue	Prosperity



Those Damn Yanks



OPRAH WINFREY - THE QUEEN OF TALK

by Laura Warrell

Above All Things, God Wants You To Prosper

Perhaps one of the most popular and most highly respected talk show **hosts** in America, and possibly even the world, is Oprah Winfrey. She has been called the "Queen of Talk" and is one of America's most famous personalities. She has a multi-million dollar media empire and a personal fortune worth about \$675 million, which puts her alongside Star Wars director George Lucas and Disney director, Michael Eisner. Why is she so successful?

Goddess

Oprah Winfrey Show viewers are mostly bored, **neglected** housewives. They see Oprah as some kind of goddess and they accept her advice as if it were something out of the Bible:

"Buy this book," Oprah says, and unknown novels become bestsellers.

"See another **corny** Julia Roberts film," she says and bad movies become **blockbusters**.

Everything Oprah touches turns to gold: books, movies, social causes. She raised over a million dollars when she created the "world's largest **piggy bank**" sending poor kids to college. Once she announced that mad-cow disease had "stopped me from eating another hamburger". This was quite an achievement for a woman who once admitted to being a compulsive eater. As a result, the beef industry **sued**. They lost.

Oprah Starts

At its start in 1986, the Oprah Winfrey Show was just like the others, with racists, **cheating partners**, nymphomaniacs and **negligent parents** who couldn't understand why their kids were idiots. Back then, Oprah cried a lot, either over her own **suffering** - she admitted to being abused, **raped** and **teased** for being fat - or her guests'.

Oprah was also known for constantly discussing her weight, which fluctuated between 250 and 9,000 **pounds**. Oprah, also known then as Orca, the whale who jumps through hoops at water parks across the US, brought respect to fat American people. Every week, she shared the problems fat people face and the psychological reasons for their obesity. Americans loved Oprah's **cheerful** personality and **willingness** to share her life. "She's one of us," said one viewer. By 1988, Oprah was successful enough to gain complete control of her show.

Oprah Is Different

Eventually, Oprah changed her style. She started to do shows about **raising families**, maintaining loving relationships and improving one's life and the lives of others. She debated important social issues, like race and

crime. Oprah offered viewers a feel-good spirituality based on **forgiveness**, generosity and charity. Harpo Productions, her film company, made **movies that mattered**, including *Beloved*, a story about slavery. Her book club was **praised** for getting Americans to read good books again.

Oprah's Empire

And all the time Oprah became more and more famous as her media empire expanded. This included the talk show Oprah, a cable television station, a website called Oxygen, and O magazine, which usually includes a photo of Oprah's happy, smiling face on the front cover.

Oprah also became a respected public figure. She has hosted some of the world's greatest personalities, including Tom Cruise and Nelson Mandela. Even Al Gore and George Bush agreed to some Oprah fun during the 2000 presidential campaign: Bush scored points for kissing her on the **cheek**, a gesture which some say may have won him the election. In fact, some political experts say she'd win if she **ran for president**. If so, we can all look forward to a warm, happy world where problems are solved with hand holding and **praying**... and of course the food will be great! 🌟

GLOSSARY**a host** *n*

a presenter of a talk show

neglected *adj*

someone who receives no attention, help or consideration

corny *adj*

too sentimental and not original

a blockbuster *n*

a very successful film

a piggy bank *n*

a large pot where you put money. Children have one shaped like a little pig

to sue *vb*

to start a legal process against someone

a cheating partner *n*

a person who has a relationship with someone who is not their partner/wife/husband

a negligent parent *n*

a parent who doesn't look after his/her children

suffering *n*

emotional or physical pain

to rape *vb*

to sexually attack someone

to tease *vb*

to laugh at someone in a bad way and to make fun of them

a pound (lb) *adj*

unit of weight. 1 kilo=2.2 lb

cheerful *adj*

happy

willingness *n*

a strong desire to do something

to raise a family *exp*

to educate and feed your children and help them become adults

forgiveness *n*

not being angry with someone who has done something bad

movies that mattered *n*

movies about subjects that affect people's lives such as drug abuse or crime

to praise *vb*

to say very nice things about someone or something

a cheek *n*

the side of your face that goes red when you are embarrassed or cold

to run for president *exp*

to offer yourself as a candidate for an election

to pray *vb*

to talk to God and ask for things



Welcome To Britain - it's expensive, it's wet and the breakfasts will kill you

A new guidebook claims to tell the truth about Britain as a tourist destination. The book warns visitors to expect drunken **brawls** between **lager louts**, cold wet weather and astronomical restaurant and hotel prices.

The town of York is described as being “**overrun** with people who have been told to buy something silly and be back on the bus in 15 minutes”; and the Cavern Club in Liverpool, where the Beatles used to play in the early 1960s, is described as a “**hell hole** with visitors who can hardly move because of all the people trying to sell Beatles souvenirs”.

London comes in for some of the worst criticism. The book says that people who turn up to see the **changing of the guard** at Buckingham Palace “**may wonder what all the fuss was about**”.

On the positive side, the book claims that the towns of Skegness, Manchester, Leeds and Dundee are some of the best cities in Britain, adding that Leeds has the best beer and fish and chips; and Dundee has “the friendliest, most welcoming and entertaining people you’ll ever meet”. Hooray for the Scots! ☺



Football & Death

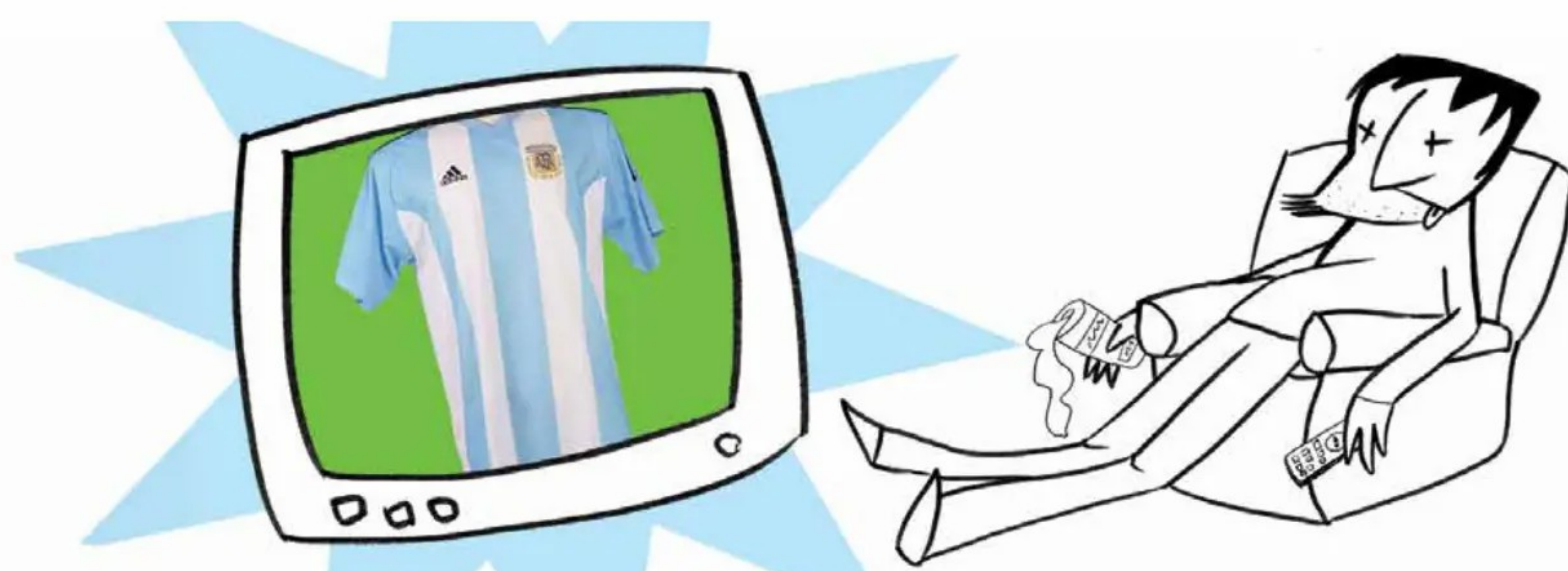
British scientists have found medical evidence of something every football fan already knows - penalty shoot-outs are **life-threatening**.

Researchers studied England’s 1998 World Cup soccer matches and found that heart attacks increased by 25 percent when England lost to Argentina after a **penalty shoot-out**.

“These findings support the view that heart attacks can be **triggered** by **emotional upset**, such as watching your football team lose an important match - particularly those in which there is a penalty shoot-out,” the report said.

For an English fan the risk is even higher. “English football fans are some of the most optimistic in the world. There is a very high level of expectation, euphoria and optimism every time England manages to get into an international event.

However, the results are almost always **disappointing** and this leads to a sense of frustration in the fans that can cause violence. This sense of anger and frustration becomes even worse during penalty shoot-outs.”. ☺



GLOSSARY

- a brawl** *n*
a fight
- a lager lout** *n*
a young Englishman who drinks too much lager (cold beer with bubbles) and fights
- overrun** *adj*
with many, many people
- a hell hole** *n*
a terrible place that is full of people
- the changing of the guard** *n*
when new guards arrive outside Buckingham Palace and the other ones leave
- may wonder what all the fuss is about** *exp*
may ask themselves why people get so excited about it
- life-threatening** *adj*
that can kill you
- a penalty shoot-out** *n*
when two football teams decide who is the winner by taking penalties
- to trigger** *vb*
to cause
- emotional upset** *n*
emotional trauma
- disappointing** *adj*
bad



AUDIO

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.**Think about it** How polluted is the city where you live? What's the most polluted place you've ever been to? What's the least polluted place you know of? What are the pros and cons of living in a city? Where would you rather live? Which cities or places are the most or least polluted in your country?**Exams** This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as CAE, IELTS and TOEFL.

How air pollution is killing us!

According to the World Health Organization, air pollution kills 7 million people every year. In the UK, experts believe that pollution is responsible for an estimated 29,000 deaths annually, more than obesity and alcohol combined, and 10 times more than those killed on the roads. So, what can be done about it?

Air pollution comes from a number of sources, including power plants and industry. However, cars are the biggest **culprits**, contributing about half the **nitrogen dioxide** and 80% of the **particulates** in London's air, for example. Diesel vehicles are especially bad. In the past, the government encouraged their use because they emit slightly less **carbon dioxide** than petrol-driven cars. However, a report by the **Policy Exchange** has said that diesel engines



emit about 91% of the particulates and 95% of the nitrogen dioxide that comes from **exhausts**.

So, which cities are the most polluted? A global survey by the World Health Organization (WHO) found that the southwestern Iranian city of Ahvaz has the highest level of **PM10s**, with an annual average of 372 **micrograms per cubic metre** (ug/m³). Heavy industry and low-quality vehicle fuel are the main causes of air pollution in this desert city of 1.3 million.

At the other end of the list are cities in Canada and the United States. They benefit from lower population density, favorable climates and stricter air pollution regulation. In the survey, Washington, D.C. had an annual average of 18 micrograms of PM10s per cubic metre, Tokyo measured 23 micrograms, and Paris had 38. The WHO recommends an upper limit of 20 micrograms for PM10s.

One of the worst-polluted cities in Europe is London. The UK legal limit for annual nitrogen dioxide levels is 40 micrograms per cubic metre (ug/m³). However, annual mean levels of the pollutant in 2013 far **exceeded** this at 62 monitoring stations all over the capital. Occasionally, a build-up of

pollution can lead to **smog** – a **fog** or **haze** caused by pollution. This tends to happen when traffic is heavy and the winds are calm. The Great Smog of 1952 killed more than 4,000 people in London over a single weekend. One of the most recent episodes took place in April 2014, when there was an added component: dust blown in from the Sahara Desert. This led to a haze that covered many parts of England and Wales. In some places, the pollution left a layer of orange dust on cars. **Scores** of flights had to be cancelled too.

So, what can be done to improve air quality? Major cities in India such as New Delhi and Mumbai have banned the construction of new power plants within the city limits, and existing ones are being shut down or **relocated**. And places such as Copenhagen (Denmark) and Bogotá (Colombia) have improved air quality by promoting walking, cycling and public transport. Other measures include ensuring that houses are energy efficient, street design is appealing and safe for pedestrians and cyclists, and waste is well managed. "We cannot buy clean air in a bottle, but cities can adopt measures that will clean the air and save the lives of their people," said Dr Carlos Dora

of the WHO.

So, what's your city doing about air pollution? ☆

AIR QUALITY

Air quality is represented by the annual mean concentration of fine particulate matter. This is usually represented by PM10s (particles smaller than 10 microns) and PM2.5s (particles smaller than 2.5 microns). The average PM10 levels by region range from 26 to 208 micrograms per cubic metre (ug/m³), with a world average of 71. The WHO recommends an upper limit of 20 micrograms for PM10s.

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a news report on pollution in London. Search YouTube for "BBC News Air pollution How polluted is central London".

GLOSSARY

a culprit *n*

a person who has committed a crime or done something wrong

nitrogen dioxide *n*

a reddish-brown poisonous gas formed when many metals dissolve in nitric acid

a particulate *n* very small pieces of a substance, especially those that are produced when fuel is burned**to emit** *vb*

if a car (for example) "emits" a gas, the gas comes out of it

carbon dioxide *n*

a gas produced by animals and people breathing out, and by chemical reactions

the Policy Exchange *n*

a British conservative think tank (a group of experts who try to find solutions to problems)

an exhaust (pipe) *n*

a pipe which carries the gas out of the engine of a vehicle

PM10s *n*

airborne particles smaller than 10 micrometers, which can cause serious respiratory problems in humans

a microgram *n*

one millionth of a gram.

a cubic metre *n*

the volume of a cube with edges of one metre in length. It's represented as "m³"

to exceed *vb*

if something exceeds a particular amount, it's greater than that amount

smog *n*

a mixture of fog and smoke

fog *n*

when there's "fog", there are tiny drops of water in the air which form a thick cloud and make it difficult to see things

a haze *n*

a light mist caused by particles of water or dust in the air that often forms in hot weather. It's hard to see when there's a "haze"

scores of *exp*

lots of. Literally, a "score" is 20

to relocate *vb*

if you "relocate" a factory, for example, you move it to another area

Answers on page 65

1 Reading I

What causes air pollution? What can we do about it? Make notes. Then read the article once to compare your ideas.

2 Reading I

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions without referring back to the article.

1. Why were diesel cars initially encouraged by the government?
2. What's causing the pollution in the city of Ahvaz?
3. Why do cities in the US or Canada less polluted in general?
4. What was the added component to the smog of April 2014?
5. What negative effects did it have?
6. What are cities such as Bogotá doing to improve air quality?



Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What big lobbying groups are there in your country? How do people lobby in your country? What do you think of lobbying? Should lobbying be considered a form of corruption? Why? Why not? If you had the opportunity to do a bit of lobbying, what would you lobby about?

Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as CAE, IELTS and TOEFL.

THE RIGHTS AND WRONGS OF LOBBYING!

When was the last time you did a bit of **lobbying**? We all lobby at some point in our lives: persuading a work subordinate to do something, convincing a friend to go along with an idea of yours, talking a partner into buying something... Lobbying is all about trying to get people to do the things that you want them to do through the careful construction of logical arguments. But when lobbying involves big business it's seen as **controversial**.

Lobbyists are people who try to **influence** the government. They're often employed by large corporations to push through **legislation** that will benefit those businesses. For example, in the UK, the Campaign for High Speed Rail is a lobbying group that's trying to convince the government to build a new high-speed train line (known as HS2) from London to Manchester. And The Heathrow Hub wants to convince the government to build another runway at Heathrow airport.

One of the most effective lobbying groups in the US is the **NRA** – the National Rifle Association. After several gun attacks in schools, many people were keen to reform the gun laws. In particular, they wanted to introduce **universal background checks** for firearm sales. But clever lobbying by groups such as the NRA made the case that new limits on firearms weren't the proper response to school shootings, and they managed to defeat the proposal.

So, how does lobbying work? Lobbyists have several tricks up their sleeves. Here are three of them:

Wining and dining:

lobbyists spend a lot of their time **wining and dining** elected officials or members of government. However, there are other ways to get government ministers to listen to proposals, such as offering them free tickets to concerts, inviting them to sports events, or giving them freebies such as food, clothing, bottles of wine or holidays. Sometimes, lobbyists make donations to political parties so they can get invited to dinners, lunches and **receptions**, where they can chat with **decision makers**. Does that sound like corruption? Some say it is!

Spinning: lobbyists will try hard to push the conversation onto their own topics of interest. For example, lobbyists for the high-speed train line in the UK have come up against environmentalists who are against the proposal. So, they've reframed the debate to make it about jobs and economic growth. And Heathrow Hub argues that Heathrow Airport expansion is essential for the UK's future prosperity.

Backing: corporations are one of the least credible sources of information for the public. So, lobbyists will always try to get some "independent" backing for their proposals. For example, British American Tobacco is fighting against **plain packaging** on cigarette packets. They currently fund the Common Sense Alliance, which is fronted by two ex-policemen. And Heathrow Hub is led by a retired economist and an ex-pilot.

Of course, not all lobbying is "bad". Former President John F. Kennedy described

lobbyists as "expert technicians, capable of examining complex and difficult subjects in a clear, understandable fashion." However, many see lobbying as an example of the way that powerful organisations can influence government for their own benefit. "**Special interest groups** often wield an influence that is greatly out of proportion to their representation in the general population," said the late US Senator Robert C Byrd of West Virginia.

How active are the lobbyists in your country? ★

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch a video on the origins of the word "lobbying". Search YouTube for "**Lobbying 101: 1 of 8 • What is lobbying? Where did the term originate? • Ellen Arnold Explains**".

GLOSSARY

lobbying *n*

the act of trying to persuade a member of government to change or introduce a law

controversial *n*

something that's "controversial" causes people to have very strong opinions about it: some agree, others don't

to influence *vb*

if you "influence" someone, you use your power to make them agree with you

legislation *n*

a law or laws passed by a government

the NRA *abbr*

the National Rifle Association – an organization that promotes the sport of shooting rifles and pistols in the United States

universal background checks *n*

checks for everyone who wants to buy a gun (not just people who buy from a shop) to find out whether they're a criminal, whether they have a history of mental illness, etc.

wining and dining *exp*

taking an important person to a restaurant, etc. often with the aim of talking to them about changing a law, etc.

a reception *n*

a formal party

a decision-maker *n*

someone in an important position who can make decisions: a government official, etc.

plain packaging *n*

"plain packaging" for cigarette packets means having just a white box for the cigarettes with no colour, no words or images, etc.

a special interest group *exp*

a group of people who lobby the government to change or introduce a law

to wield *vb*

someone who "wields" power or influence, has a lot of power or influence

Answers on page 65

1 Reading I

What is lobbying and how does it work? Make notes. Then, read or listen to the article once to compare your ideas.

2 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions without referring back to the article.

1. What's the Campaign for High Speed Rail lobbying for?
2. What's the Heathrow Hub lobbying for?
3. What did the NRA recently lobby against successfully?
4. What other ways, apart from taking them to restaurants, are there for lobbyists to make government officials want to listen?
5. How did Heathrow Hub reframe the argument in favour of airport expansion?
6. Who's behind the funding for the Common Sense Alliance. What are they fighting against?

THE WORLD'S
GREATEST
ADVENTURE

SHACKLETON & THE ANTARCTIC

In 1914, the Anglo-Irish explorer Ernest Shackleton went on an expedition to the Antarctic. His ship, the *Endurance*, became trapped in the ice and Shackleton and his **crew** had to spend more than 9 months there, with no hope of anyone coming to rescue them. Amazingly, he returned to England with everyone alive. This is his story.

Trapped

Shackleton's plan was to cross the Antarctic continent from sea to sea, via the South Pole. It was a distance of more than 2,500 kilometres. Preparation for the journey started in the middle of 1913 when Shackleton placed a small **ad** in a national newspaper looking for people to join him on his expedition. More than 5,000 applications arrived. Only 56 men were picked.

Shackleton's ship was called the *Endurance* and it sailed from London on Friday 1st August 1914.

However, a few days later Shackleton read in the newspaper that World War One had started. He immediately sent a telegram offering the ship, **stores** and crew. Within an hour, Shackleton received another telegram from Winston Churchill thanking him for his offer, but telling him to **proceed**.

Into The Ice

In December the *Endurance* passed the island of South Georgia in the South Atlantic. It was round about here that they first saw icebergs. Shortly afterwards they ran into **pack ice**; and on the night of December 6th they found themselves in a small pool of water which was gradually turning to ice all around them. By the 19th January, the *Endurance* had **frozen** and couldn't move. Shackleton tried to force the ship through the ice with engines at **full-speed ahead** and **all sails set**, but it was no good. They were trapped.

The Ritz

Temperatures fell to minus 30° centigrade and Shackleton realised they would be stuck there all winter. All they could do was sit and wait and see where the currents would pull the ship. The *Endurance* had become their home.

The men named the ship the "Ritz" and **settled down** to life on

the ice. Shackleton's main objective was to keep the men busy. Shackleton organised football games, musical evenings, hockey games and dog races and the men bet chocolate and cigarettes on the races. Most of the men joined in but some wanted to find a way home.

During one of the dog races a man fell through the ice and had to be pulled out. And during another race, a killer whale broke through the ice and **snatched** one of the dogs. After that, the men were a bit more reluctant to play on the ice.

No Food

The ship eventually **sank** in November 1915, pulled down by the ice. Shackleton wrote:

"The **task** now is to reach land with all the members of the Expedition. It is hard to write what I feel."

The ship had **drifted** for at least 1186 miles and had been locked in the ice for 281 days. They left the ice and got onto a snow covered island called Elephant Island.

Shackleton knew they had to get out soon or they would all die.

Food was very low and there were no **seals** or penguins in the area because it was too cold even for them. Shackleton decided to **head for** the island of South Georgia, 1,200 kilometres away. They would have to go in one of the small boats that they had rescued from the *Endurance*.

The main problem would be the weather. The South Atlantic in the middle of May is known to be the most dangerous area of water in the world... and all they had was a small boat called the *James Caird*. Shackleton and five other men climbed into the boat and **set off** with a very few **supplies**, leaving the other men behind on Elephant Island. The plan was to return to them as soon as they could.

A Small Boat

Conditions in the small boat were terrible. There was no room to move, it was cold, wet and there was hardly any food. They sailed through **storms**, freezing temperatures and they were constantly **bailing out water**. All their clothes turned to ice and **frostbite** became a serious problem. 5 days into the journey, they were **overwhelmed** by a gigantic **wave**, but fortunately, they managed **to stay afloat**. They finally reached South Georgia fourteen days later - two weeks of absolute hell.

But that wasn't the end of the **nightmare**. Shackleton thought they had landed next to the **whaling station** on South Georgia. But as light appeared, they saw they were on the wrong side of the island. It was too dangerous to leave the bay because of the currents and rocks. They would have to climb over the mountains and glaciers in the centre of South Georgia - something that had never been done before.

Over The Mountain

Shackleton knew they had to set off immediately. He let his men lie down for a couple of minutes, then woke them up, telling them they had been asleep for two hours. Most of them were so cold that for the first 200 metres they couldn't even **bend** their legs. They climbed up the rock and then looked down. There was a sheet of blue ice and they had to go down the rock-hard ice very carefully.

Finally, they **made it** to the whaling station. As they approached, they saw two small boys. Shackleton asked them where the manager's house was but the boys didn't answer - instead they turned and ran as fast as they could, frightened by the appearance of the six men with their long beards, **matted hair** and dirty clothes. Eventually a man came out and asked Shackleton what he wanted:

"We have lost our ship and come over the island. We want to see the manager," Shackleton replied.

The man disappeared into the manager's house then came out seconds later with the manager.

"Well?" said the manager "Don't you know me?" Shackleton said. "I know your voice," the manager replied doubtfully.

"My name is Shackleton," he said.

Immediately the manager **put out his hand** and said, "Come in. Come in".

Rescue

Shackleton and his men washed, shaved, had coffee and cakes and rested for the night. But Shackleton didn't want to waste any more time and the next morning they all left to find the rest of his men on Elephant Island. A week or so later, they arrived. As they

approached the island, Shackleton shouted:

"Are you all well?"

To which one of the men replied:

"All safe, all well!"

"Thank God!" said Shackleton.

Within an hour they were heading back to England. When they arrived, Shackleton spent the next few months giving talks about his expedition. He died of heart disease in 1922 and was buried in South Georgia. 🌟



GLOSSARY

crew *n*

the people who work on a ship

an ad *n*

an advertisement - a small piece of writing in a newspaper where you ask for or offer something

stores *n*

food and goods that you take with you on a journey

to proceed *vb*

to go

pack ice *n*

large areas of ice in the sea

to freeze *vb*

to become ice

full-speed ahead *n*

at maximum power going forwards

all sails set *exp*

a "sail" is a large piece of cloth that ships have to make them move. If "all sails are set", they are all being used and are filled with wind

to settle down *phr vb*

to start to live somewhere permanently

to snatch *vb*

to suddenly take

to sink *vb*

to disappear under water

a task *n*

a job

to drift *vb*

to be pulled by the currents in water

a seal *n*

a mammal that lives on land and in the sea. You can often find them in zoos doing tricks in the water. They like to eat fish

to head for *phr vb*

to go to

to set off *phr vb*

to start a journey

supplies *n*

food and goods

a storm *n*

violent weather

to bail out *phr vb*

to put water in a container and throw it out of a ship

frostbite *n*

when a part of your body becomes ice

to overwhelm *vb*

to come over

a wave *n*

a large mass of water that is higher than the level of the sea

to stay afloat *exp*

to stay floating on the water

a nightmare *n*

a terrible experience

a whaling station *n*

a base for people who catch whales (large mammals that live in the sea)

to bend *vb*

to change the position of your leg so that it isn't straight

to make it *exp*

to arrive

matted hair *n*

hair that is very dirty and all joined together in a disordered way

to put out your hand *exp*

to offer your hand so someone can hold it as a way of greeting someone

GLOSSARY FOR CARTOON

sanity *n*

mental health

stuff *n*

things - notice how it is singular even though it refers to things in general

a wimp *n* *offens*

a word that some men use to refer to men who they think are weak or «effeminate»

bloody *n* *offens*

an adjective used to show you are angry

Yippee! *exp*

an expression of excitement or enthusiasm

a wuss *n* *offens*

a word that some men use to refer to men who they think are weak or «effeminate»

I'm sick of this *exp*

I hate this situation - it is too much for me

to sing up *phr vb*

to sing more loudly

bleeding *adj*

an adjective used to show you are angry

a lad *n*

a man

damn *excl* *offens*

an exclamation of shock, anger or surprise

Weird World Cartoon



WARNING
This article contains topics, themes and language that some people may find offensive. Please feel free to ignore it if you're easily offended! :)



Illustration by Jorge Tarruella





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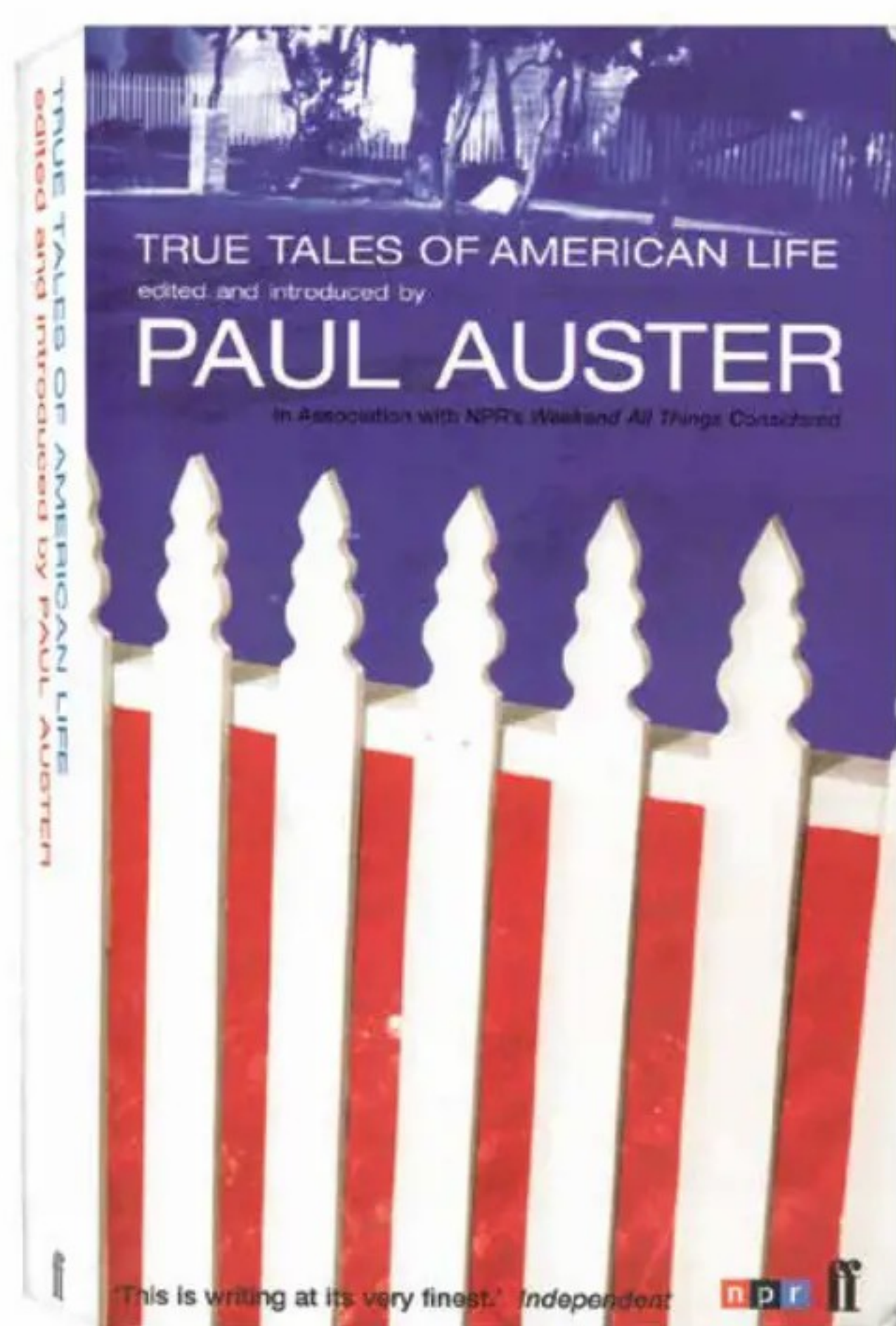
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Have You Read?...



“TRUE TALES OF AMERICAN LIFE”

edited by Paul Auster

The one sentence review

Stories about America by ordinary Americans.

In 1999 a radio station in America asked listeners to write in with true stories about themselves. The stories were read over the radio as part of the National Story Project. The response was

overwhelming and it seemed that everyone had a story to tell. This book is a collection of 180 of these stories and it's a fantastic insight into the lives of ordinary Americans. Let's look at a couple of them.

The Chicken

This is one of the shortest stories in the book and we love it. Here it is:

As I was walking down Stanton Street early one Sunday morning, I saw a chicken a few yards ahead of me. I was walking faster than the chicken, so I gradually **caught up**. By the time we approached Eighteenth Avenue, I was close behind. The chicken turned south on Eighteenth. At the fourth house along, it turned in at the **walk**, **hopped up** the front steps, and **rapped sharply** on the door with its **beak**. After a moment, the door opened and the chicken went in. By Linda Elegant, Portland, Oregon.

Rascal

This is another short story from the book and it's all about the **Ku Klux Klan** in the 1920s. Here are some extracts from the story, which was written by Yale Huffman of Denver, Colorado:

The story takes place in the small town of Broken Bow, in Nebraska. There's only one Afro-American family and one Jewish family in the town so the Ku Klux Klan **targets** the Catholics. As part of their campaign, they spread rumours that the Pope is preparing to **take over** America, that there are **arsenals** in the **basements** of the churches and that Catholic priests and **nuns** have **orgies** after Mass. Every month the Klan hold a parade in the town centre:

They always chose a summer Saturday when the town was crowded with ranchers and farmers. **Clad in** white robes and **conical caps** and **masks** with eyeholes, they **strode forth** to remind everyone of their dignity and their power, led by the powerful but anonymous figure of the **Grand Kleagle**.

But one day, a small white dog with black spots decides to have some fun:

The spotted dog ran joyously up to the Grand Kleagle and jumped up on him, **clamoring** for a **pat** on the head from that beloved hand. "Rascal," the word started around. "That's Doc Jensen's dog, Rascal." Meanwhile, the majestic Grand Kleagle was **thrashing** his long legs through the robe trying to kick away what was obviously his own dog. "Home, Rascal, home!"

Within a short time everyone in the parade have discovered the identity of the Grand Kleagle. Soon the whole town is in **fits of laughter** as the Grand Kleagle tries to resume his walk around the town-square.

Star & Chain

And here's one final story, which is all about a lost object. It's another very short one so we'll reproduce it for you entirely:

In 1961, during a visit to Provincetown, Massachusetts, I bought a **hand-crafted Star of David** on a **chain**. I wore it all the time. In 1981 the chain broke while I was swimming in the ocean off Atlantic City, and I lost it in the surf. In 1991, during Christmas vacation, my fifteen-year-old son and I were **poking around** in an antique shop in Lake Placid, New York, when a piece of jewelery **caught his eye**. He called me over to **take a look**. It was the Star of David that had been **swallowed up** by the ocean ten years before. Steve Lacheen, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Our Opinion

This is a great book for anyone learning English. It is easy to understand and each story can be read independently from the rest of the book. The average length of each story is about two pages so you can't get lost; and if you don't like the one you're reading, just turn over and read the next one.

Highly recommended. ☆

GLOSSARY

overwhelming *adj*
incredible, unbelievable

an insight *n*
an understanding

to catch up *phr vb*
to arrive to the place where someone else is

a walk *n US*
the short road that goes to the front door of a house

to hop up *phr vb*
to "hop" is to jump. To "hop up" is to go up to another level by jumping

to rap *n*
to hit an object with something

sharply *adv*
hard

a beak *n*
a bird's mouth

the Ku Klux Klan *n*
a secret racist organisation in the US that commits acts of violence against minorities

to target *vb*
to decide to attack

to take over *phr vb*
to control

an arsenal *n*
an area with many guns, bombs and other weapons

a basement *n*
the room under a building

a nun *n*
a woman who dedicates her life to religion

an orgy *n*
many people having sex at the same time in the same place

clad in *adj*
dressed in

a conical cap *n*
a large, pointed hat

a mask *n*
something you put over your face to hide it

to stride forth *exp*
to walk forward confidently

a Grand Kleagle *n*
the leader of a Ku Klux Klan group. His identity is supposed to be secret

to clamor *n*
to demand something

a pat *n*
an affectionate touch on the head

to thrash *vb*
to move about violently

in fits of laughter *exp*
laughing a lot

hand-crafted *adj*
made by a person not a machine in a factory

a Star of David *n*
a star with six points

surf *n*
the shallow sea near the beach

a chain *n*
an piece of jewellery that you wear around your neck

to poke around *phr vb*
to look for something by moving objects around in a casual way

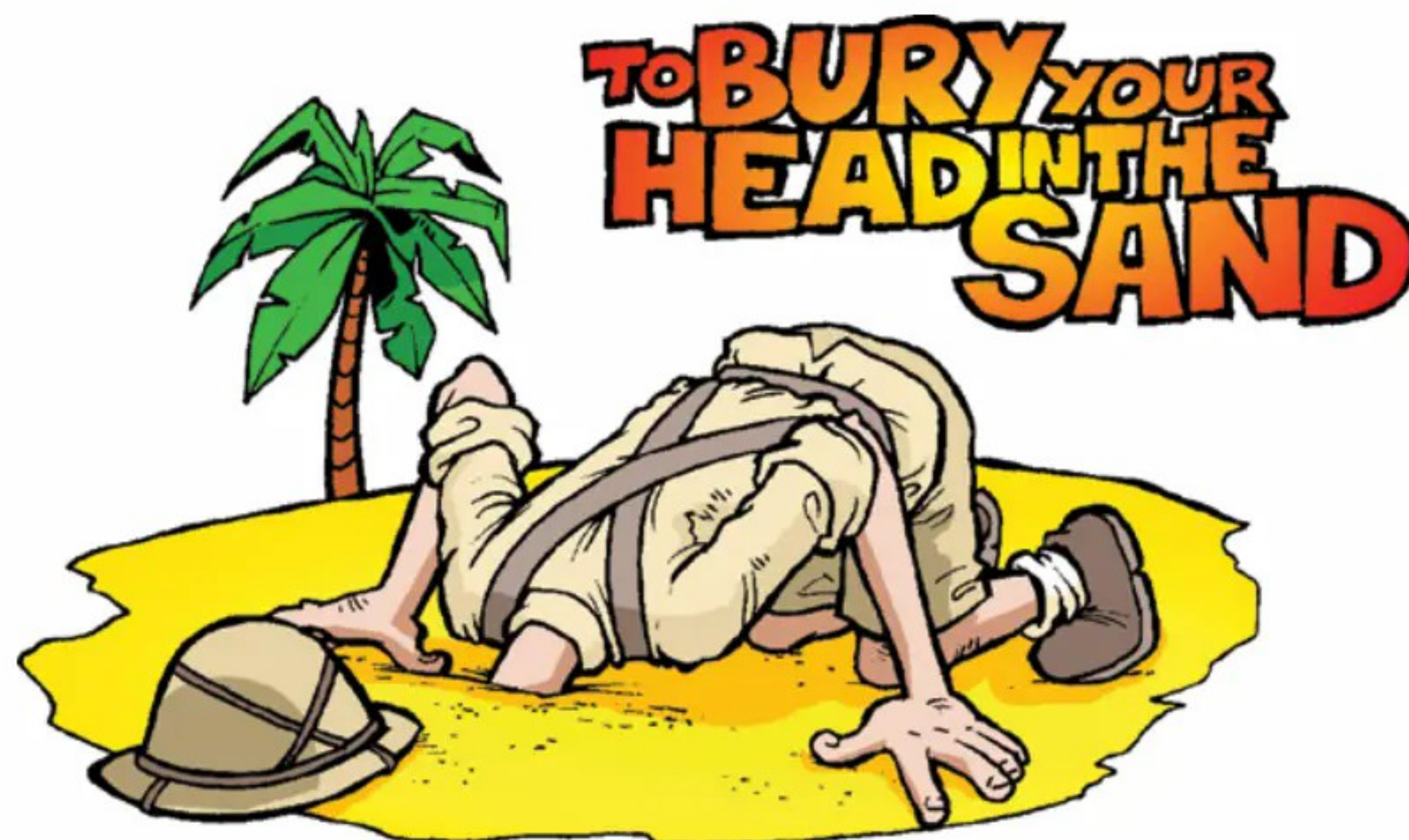
to catch your eye *exp*
to attract you

to take a look *exp*
to look

to swallow up *phr vb*
to disappear into something such as the sea

BODY IDIOMS

Over the next few months, we will be continuing to look at some idioms related to parts of the body. Notice how the literal meaning of the idiom is often different from the actual meaning. Illustrations by Jorge Tarruella



TO BURY YOUR HEAD IN THE SAND

To bury your head in the sand

To ignore an important problem and hope that it will disappear:
"We told them that the building was dangerous, but they just ignored us and buried their heads in the sand."

TO WIPE A SMILE OFF SOMEONE'S FACE



To wipe a smile off someone's face

To say or do something that stops someone from being happy:
"He was really happy about winning the money on the lottery. Then I told him that he had to pay 40% tax and that really wiped the smile off his face."



TO PULL A FACE

To pull a face

To show that you don't like something by making an expression on your face:
"When I asked him if he wanted to eat an insect omelette he just pulled a face."

To split hairs

To argue about things and details that are not important:

A: "We woke up at 6 in the morning."

B: "Actually it was 6:02."

A: "Oh stop splitting hairs!"



TO SPLIT HAIRS

To let your hair down

To relax and enjoy yourself:
"She's been working really hard recently. But last night she went out, had a few drinks and a dance and really let her hair down."

TO LET YOUR HAIR DOWN



To have eyes that are bigger than your stomach

To imagine that you can eat a lot of food:

"She always makes too much food and then doesn't finish it – her eyes are bigger than her stomach!"



TO HAVE EYES BIGGER THAN YOUR STOMACH

GLOSSARY

to bury vb
to put something in a hole in the ground
to wipe vb to clean with a cloth
to split vb
to divide

A look at how taboo words have been used in famous films

Films



WARNING

This article contains topics, themes and language that some people may find offensive. Please feel free to ignore it if you're easily offended! :)

THELMA & LOUISE

Illustration by Edgardo Carosia



Louise Sawyer (Susan Sarandon) is **fed up** of her boyfriend and decides to **hit the road**. She asks her friend Thelma (Geena Davis) to come along too. Thelma is a naïve housewife who lives with a sexist husband, Darryl (Christopher McDonald), who's never at home. She agrees to go:

Thelma: I've never had the chance to go out of town without Darryl.

Louise: How come he let you go?

Thelma: 'Cause I didn't ask him.

Louise: Aw, shit, Thelma, he's gonna kill you.

Thelma: Well, he has never let me go. He never lets me do one goddamn thing that's any fun. All he wants me to do is hang around the house the whole time while he's out doing God only knows what.

That afternoon they leave town and head out in Louise's car. Thelma's excited by the idea of escaping as it's the first time she's been away from the controlling influence of her husband:

Thelma: You said you and me was **gonna** get **outta** town and, for once, just really **let our hair down**. Well, darling, look out 'cause my hair is comin' down!

One of their first stops is a bar where Thelma and Louise relax, dance and flirt with some of the locals. Thelma gets drunk and walks out into the parking lot for some air. One of the guys from the bar, Harlan (Timothy Carhart), follows her. At first it seems perfectly innocent and he tries to help her walk, but then it **turns ugly** as Harlan starts trying to kiss her:

Thelma: Don't. I'm married. I don't feel good. I've been sick.

Harlan: It's okay. I'm married, too.

Thelma gets nervous and when Harlan tries to touch her, she hits him. Then he gets violent and attacks her. Just then Louise comes out, sees what's happening and pulls out a gun; and after a brief discussion, Louise shoots the man. Both Thelma and Louise are convinced that the police will never believe their version of the story, so they decide to run off. Now they are fugitives from the law, and a police officer (played by Harvey Keitel) is **hot on their trail**.

Our Opinion This is one of the first female **road movies** ever made and was one of the best films of the 1990s. This is one of Ridley Scott's best works, along with *Blade Runner* and *Alien*. There are wonderful performances from the two lead actresses.



Film scene

In this scene Thelma and Louise are deciding what to do after having shot the man in the parking lot:

Louise: (serious) Thelma, I'm going to Mexico. I think **I can make it** in two and a half days, but I'm going to have to **haul ass**. **Are you up to this?** I mean, I have to know. This isn't a game. **I'm in deep shit**. **I gotta know** what you're gonna do.

Thelma: (confused) I... I don't know. I don't know what you're asking me.

Louise: (serious) Don't you **fall apart** on me. **Goddammit**, Thelma. Every time we get in trouble, you go blank or **plead insanity** or **some such shit**, and this time... Not this time. Everything's changed now... Now you can do whatever you want, but I'm going to Mexico. I'm going. Are you coming with me?
(Thelma is staring down the road. She does not answer) ★



FILM FACTS.....

Country: United States

Director: Ridley Scott

Released: in 1991

Starring: Susan Sarandon, Geena Davis, Brad Pitt and Harvey Keitel

GLOSSARY

fed up of *exp*

tired of

to hit the road *exp*

to get in your car and go on a journey by car

how come *exp*

why

'cause *abbr*

because

shit! *exp*

an exclamation of anger or surprise

gonna *abbr*

going to

goddamn *exp* *offens*

an exclamation of anger or surprise

to hang around *phr* *vb*

to stay in one place for a period of time - usually doing nothing

gonna *abbr*

going to

outta *abbr*

out of

to let your hair down *exp* to have a good time

to turn ugly *exp*

to become dangerous

hot on your trail *exp*

if someone is "hot on your

trail", they are looking for you and trying to catch you

a road movie *n*

a film that is about a journey on the road

I can make it in two

and a half days *exp*

I can do the journey in two and a half days

to haul ass *exp* *US* *offens*

to move quickly and get organised

are you up to this? *exp*

can you do this?

I'm in deep shit *exp* *offens*

I'm in a lot of trouble

I gotta know *exp*

I have got to know

to fall apart *phr* *vb*

to lose control emotionally

goddammit *exp* *offens*

an exclamation of anger or surprise

to plead insanity *exp*

to act as if you are mad

some such shit *exp* *offens* something like that



AUDIO

The Whitechapel Trouser Snatcher

A radio play by Mark Pierro and Ian Coutts.

Disastrous

Grotesque

Pathetic

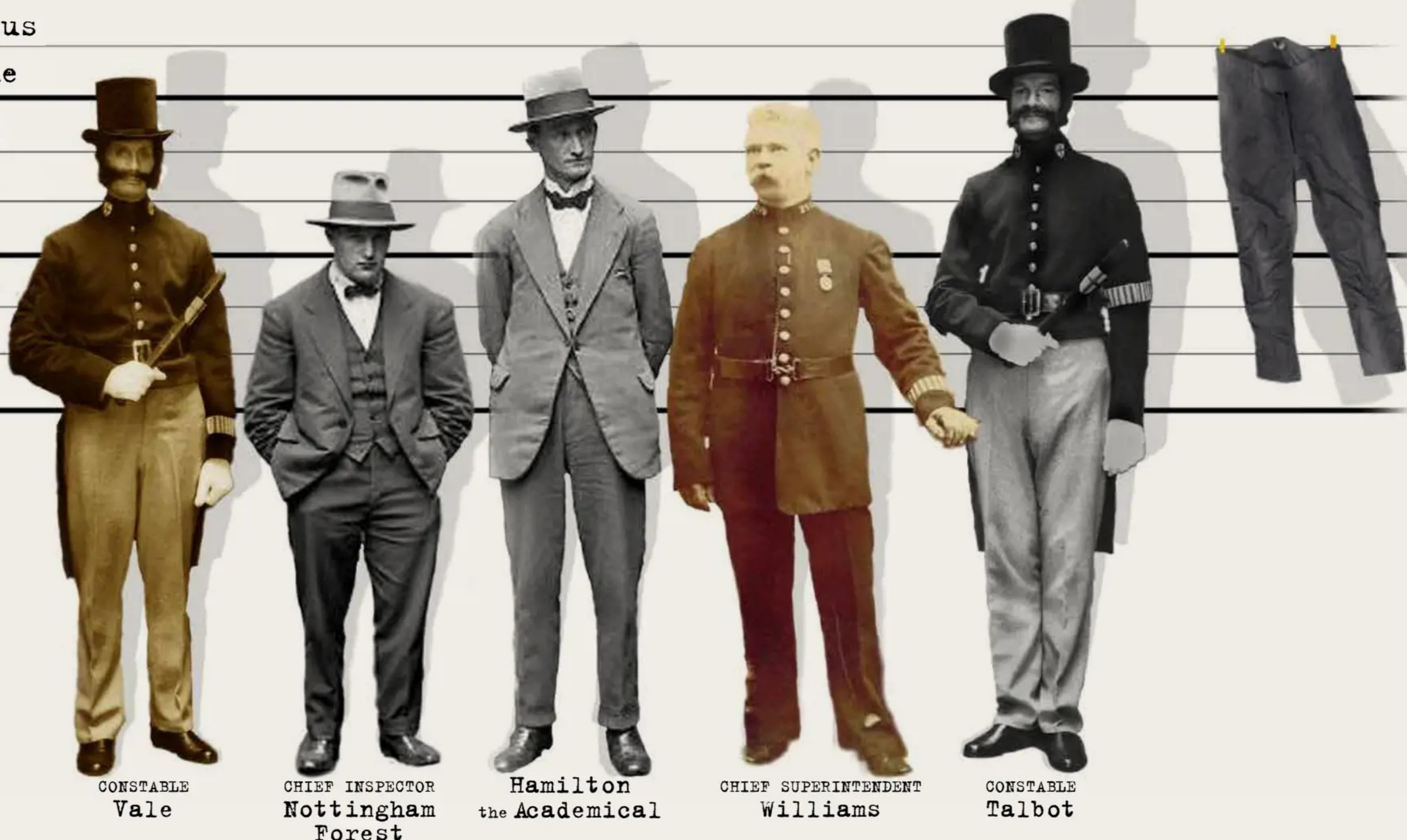
Dreadful

Rubbish

Cheap

Awful

Pap



CONSTABLE
Vale

CHIEF INSPECTOR
Nottingham
Forest

Hamilton
the Academical

CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT
Williams

CONSTABLE
Talbot

Someone is murdering Victorian gentlemen by tearing off their trousers in public places. Can the police catch this villain before he strikes next? And who will the next victim be?

Answers on page 65

First listening

Listen once. What is the general topic of the conversation between Inspector Nottingham Forest and Chief Superintendent Williams?

- a) a possible prison sentence for the villain
- b) what name to give the villain
- c) who to call in for questioning

Second listening

Listen again. Then, answer these questions.

1. What adverb does Forest use to describe how his enquiries are coming along?
2. Where does Williams look up the meaning of the word?
3. What name does Forest first suggest for the villain?
4. What is Williams' motto?
5. What name does Williams suggest for the villain?
6. Why does he suggest this name?
7. According to "the book", how many linked misdemeanours (crimes) must a villain commit before they can be allocated a name?
8. What does Williams want by the time he next sees Forest?



TRANSCRIPT

Scene 3 - Chief Superintendent Williams' office in Scotland Yard

W = Williams

F = Forest

N = Narrator

W: Come in. Ah, Forest.

F: You wanted to see me Windb... Chief?

W: That case you're working on, the one with the gentleman who had his **breeches** torn off in public... solved it now, have we?

F: My **enquiries** are progressing **satisfactorily** thank you for asking.

W: I'm interested in your use of the word "satisfactorily". In fact, I'm fascinated by your use of the word "satisfactorily". Do you not think that that is a fascinating word?

F: Erm, in English or in Welsh?

W: Seeing as you want to be a comedian, I'll **look it up** in my fascinating Welsh-English dictionary, shall I?

W: Here we are now... "satisfactorily"... meet expectations, be accepted by as adequate, to **fulfil** or to comply with, convince or put an end to... I do not see any of these as having **relevance** to any description whatsoever to our investigations.

F: I am pleased to say that the team of Nottingham Forest have been making some fascinating enquiries and we expect shortly to have a satisfactory conclusion to this most fascinating of cases.

W: Well, I'm pleased to hear it because a less **astute** man than myself could easily be led to believe that this **villain** was going to **get off scot-free**, whilst the war-hero inspector has **got nowhere**. What have you come up with, **Boyo**?

F: We've got a **witness** to...

W: (interrupting) No, no, not a witness.

F: Well, we've got a **suspect** that we're going to inter....

W: (interrupting) No, no, no, not that useless **pack of liars**... I mean the name man, you know for the villain. What have you come up with?

F: Well, er, the name, erm, well we thought perhaps erm... How about "Jack the Rip-your-breeches-off"?

W: **Poppycock**! Call that a name?

F: My mother **came up with** it.

W: Well, it's not good enough. I've had the press **on my back** and they want to reassure the **God-fearing** public with something to **scare the wind out of them**.

F: It would have to be pretty scary to get the wind out of you.

W: This Jack the-rip-your-breeches-off **bloke** wouldn't scare my mother, and she has a

beard.

F: We based it on your Grandmother.

W: I've got a name.

F: (muttering) Windbag.

W: You get a good name, you get a **conviction**, that's my **motto**. What do you think of "The Whitechapel Trousers Snatcher"? The victim was found in Whitechapel you see.

F: But this villain has only committed one crime, he may never **strike** again. In any case the book says under paragraph 2 subsection A that no name to scare the living daylights out of the God-fearing public is to be allocated until the said **perpetrator** has committed two proven **linked misdemeanours** against the Crown.

W: I don't care what that useless piece of toilet paper of a book has to say. This has **come down from on top**. It's official.

F: From the top, by whom?

W: Never you mind about all that. Just find a name before the **culprit** strikes again. We'd look foolish if we had dozens of dead bodies on the streets without a name for the culprit. Now get on with it before he does it again. And the next time I see you, you'd better have a name.

N: Who is the Trousers Snatcher? Can Inspector Forest catch this villain? Can Hamilton the Academical beat a false confession out of an innocent poor person to a professional standard? Tune in to next month's edition of Hot English magazine, for the answer to these questions and much more. ☆

Come back next month for
the next part of The
Trousers Snatcher!"



GLOSSARY

breeches *n* Old

trousers

enquiries *n*

police "enquiries" refers to their investigation of a crime

satisfactorily *adv*

if something is done "satisfactorily", it is done to an acceptable standard

to look up *phr vb*

to find the meaning of a word

to fulfil *vb*

if you "fulfil" a task or job, you do it properly and completely

relevance *n*

something's "relevance" is its importance, significance or meaning

astute *adj*

clever, intelligent

a villain *n*

a bad person who has committed a crime

to get off scot-free *exp*

if a criminal "gets off scot-free", he/she escapes without going to prison, etc.

to get nowhere *exp*

if an investigation is "getting nowhere", it isn't progressing

Boyo *exp*

a term of address for a boy or man

a witness *n*

someone who saw a crime

a suspect *n*

someone who the police think committed a crime

a pack of liars *exp*

a group of dishonest people who don't tell the truth

poppycock *exp* Old

an expression used to say that you think something is stupid, silly, not true, etc.

to come up with *phr vb*

to think of

on my back *exp*

if someone is "on your back", they're annoying you and keep asking you questions, etc.

God-fearing *adj*

"God-fearing" people are very religious

to scare the wind out of

someone *exp*

to frighten someone a lot

a bloke *n*

a man

a conviction *n*

if someone has a "conviction", they've been formally accused of a crime in a court of law.

a motto *n*

a short sentence or phrase that is like a rule for behaviour or actions

to strike *vb*

to attack or kill

a perpetrator *n*

someone who has committed a violent crime

linked *adj*

connected

a misdemeanour *n*

a crime, but not a very serious one to come from on top *exp* if an order "comes from on top", it comes from the people in authority: the managers, the president, etc.

the culprit *n*

the person who committed a crime

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AUDIO





Dictionary of slang



WARNING

This article contains topics, themes and language that some people may find offensive. Please feel free to ignore it if you're easily offended! :)

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

 Situation	 Formal	 Relaxed	 Informal
You won a game of tennis very easily:	I was the undisputed winner	I beat him hands down	I thrashed him; I kicked his ass (US)
Someone has taken a lot of drugs:	She has been smoking illegal substances	She's as high as a kite	She's out of it; she's totally stoned; she's shit-faced
Someone is taking a long time to say something:	Could you please tell me where this is going?	Come on, get to the point!	Cut the crap!; tell it to me straight!; stop beating around the bush!; cut to the chase! (US)
You want to say that you are very serious about something:	I am treating this with the utmost importance	This is no laughing matter	I mean business; I am dead serious, buddy (US)
You want to tell someone to stop talking:	Please refrain from talking	Shut up, would you!	Shut the fuck up!; shut your trap!; put a sock in it!; shut your pie hole! (US)
You want someone to phone you:	Please telephone me at your earliest possible convenience	Give me a call; phone me	Give me a buzz; give me a bell
You want to tell someone to try very hard at something:	Please make every effort	Do your best!	Go for it!; give it your best shot!



GLOSSARY

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

I beat him hands down; I thrashed him; I kicked his ass *exp*

I won very easily

She's as high as a kite; she's out of it; she's totally stoned; she's shit-faced *exp*

She feels "drunk" because she has been smoking drugs. A "kite" is an object that you fly in the sky on windy days

Get to the point; cut the crap; tell it to me straight; stop beating about the bush; cut to the chase *exp*

tell me what you want to tell me and stop being so indirect

the utmost importance *n*

the most importance

this is no laughing matter; I mean business; I am dead serious *exp*

we are very serious

a buddy *n US*

friend

the fuck *exp offens*

this expression is used to show that you are angry

shut your trap; put a sock in it; shut your pie hole *exp*

be quiet! A "trap" and "pie hole" is an informal word for your mouth. A "sock" is clothing that you wear on your feet, under your shoes

at your earliest possible convenience *exp*

as soon as you can

give me a buzz; give me a bell *exp*

telephone me

do your best, go for it; give it your best shot *exp*

make a big effort to do it well



Answers

TRAVEL ENGLISH

1. appointment; 2. card; 3. waiting room;
4. toothache; 5. gums; 6. X-ray; 7. teeth; 8. bed

QUIZ ANALYSIS

Mostly "a" = You like to keep a low profile in the office.

Mostly "b" = What are you doing in an office?
You should be on television!

DR FINGERS' PRONUNCIATION

1 Exercise

1. S 2. S 3. S 4. S 5. S 6. S 7. X . S 9. X 10. X 11. X
12. S 13. X 14. X 15. X

2 Exercise

1. Where's your daughter?
2. Have you got any sugar?
3. She's another one of those sisters.
4. There isn't any of it left.
5. She's the only person I've told.
6. What's the time?
7. We did it together.
8. She tickled me with a feather.

CHECKING UP ON THINGS

3 Listening II

1. An order for 600 pots of paint which hasn't arrived.
2. The end of last week.
3. On 7th March.
4. Because it hadn't been confirmed by the client.
5. The end of tomorrow.
6. X856 CR306.
7. PTY4698.
8. They're still waiting for some replacement parts from their factory in the Far East.
9. A replacement boiler but she'll have to pay for the installation and leave a £300 deposit.
10. To install it for free without the deposit.

4 Listening III

1. about an order
2. the end of last week
3. specify the delivery date
4. when I made the order
5. as soon as possible
6. getting our boiler fixed
7. on the back of the guarantee certificate
8. incident report on screen
9. it's causing delays
10. pay for the installation
11. I'll expect you on Friday

BEAR GRYLLS - SURVIVAL

3 Reading II

1. water; 2. fire; 3. blizzard; 4. water; 6. water; 6. food;
7. sandstorm; 8. fire

BRAND NAMES

1. Rolla Harger; 2. 1979; 3. 1948; 4. a dog; 5. 1924;
6. Walter Morrison

PRACTICAL ENGLISH

1. rubbish; 2. teacup; 3. kitchen; 4. night; 5. shoes;
6. cereal; 7. shop; 8. bathroom; 9. teeth

PHRASAL VERB MATCHING

1D, 2C, 3A, 4B

CHOOSING

1. Cut
2. Settle
3. Die
4. Knock

WORD GAME

- 8 letters (1) - alphabet
7 letters (1) - phablet
6 letters (1) - palate
5 letters (7) - plate, pleat, petal, leapt, bleat, table, alpha
4 letters (24) - able, abet, bale, bath, bate, beta, belt, heap, heat, hate, hale, help, lath, leap, pale, peal, peat, pate, path, plat, plea, pelt, tale, tape

ANAGRAM

TALK SHOW

JOKES

1B, 2D, 3E, 4A, 5C

GRAMMAR

"So" & "Such"

1. So
2. Such
3. So
4. Such
5. Such
6. So

GRAMMAR

"Prefer" & "Would Rather"

1. Prefer
2. Would rather
3. Prefer
4. Prefer
5. Would rather
6. Would rather

WORDSEARCH

T	M	E	D	D	B	R	E	S
H	U	I	R	E	A	O	S	N
R	M	O	N	F	B	U	T	A
E	M	S	M	O	G	T	R	C
A	S	O	O	N	D	R	A	K
T	E	I	G	H	E	A	D	C
E	L	I	F	T	D	G	E	N
N	F	D	T	E	W	E	I	A
R	I	U	L	D	O	O	M	B
U	S	E	E	I	R	U	E	V
F	H	R	M	K	C	S	L	P
O	E	G	A	G	T	R	O	M
H	T	O	F	A	K	E	U	I
C	L	B	A	U	R	P	I	P

MATCHING

A5 B11 C13 D4 E12 F1 G6 H8 I14 J2 K9 L3 M10 N7

MAKE & DO!

1. made; 2. do; 3. made; 4. do; 5. doing; 6. do;
7. made; 8. made; 9. do; 10. made; 11. makes;
12. make; 13. made; 14. do; 15. do; 16. made; 17. doing;
18. do; 19. do; 20. made; 21. done; 22. do; 23. made
24. do

TWITTER

1. £637; 2. bruising; 3. her mouth; 4. he meant that he was going to have a good time and party hard;
5. 12 hours; 6. some rioters

STRESS

3 Reading II

1. smile; 2. deal with it immediately; 3. tidy up and make a list of the things you're going to do the following day; 4. put them to one side; 5. do some exercise; 6. have a bath, meditate...; 7. take up a hobby

AIR POLLUTION

3 Listening II

1. because they emit slightly less CO₂ than petrol cars; 2. heavy industry and low-quality vehicle fuel; 3. because there's lower population density, the climate is better and there are stricter air pollution regulations; 4. dust blown in from the Sahara Desert; 5. it left a layer of orange dust on cars and flights had to be cancelled; 6. promoting walking, cycling and public transport

LOBBYISTS

1. a high-speed rail link from London to Manchester; 2. another runway at Heathrow Airport; 3. universal background checks; 4. offering them free tickets, giving them food, clothing, etc., making donations...; 5. they said that it's essential for the UK's future prosperity; 6. British American Tobacco; plain packaging on cigarette packets

THE WHITECHAPEL TROUSER SNATCHER

1 Listening

- a. Life imprisonment
b. What name to give the villain.
c. A suspect

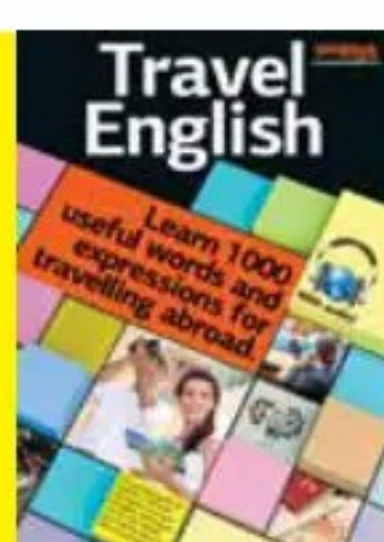
2 Listening

1. Satisfactorily
2. Welsh-English dictionary
3. Jack the Rip-your-breeches-off
4. "You get a good name, you get a conviction."
5. The Whitechapel Trousers Snatcher
6. Victim was found in Whitechapel; needs to scare public
7. Two
8. A name for the culprit



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