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hot

No. 122

english magazine



CAUGHT ON CAMERA
Funny moments on CCTV cameras.

VIRAL VIDEOS
YouTube fun for all the family!



FILM SCRIPTS:
THE PRINCESS BRIDE
Learn English with the stars.



THE APPRENTICE
Have you got what it takes to be the "Apprentice!"?



USEFUL VOCABULARY
Crime & Punishment.



HEROES
Read about three types of modern-day heroes.



ACCENT ALERT
The Puerto Rican English accent.



PHRASAL VERB THEMES
Learn some useful phrasal verbs to talk about politics!



ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
Are computers taking over?



MARTHA STEWART
How to become rich and successful... against all the odds!



FAMOUS ARRESTS
Well-known people with a criminal record.



MARK WAHLBERG

THE STAR KEEPS ON FIGHTING!



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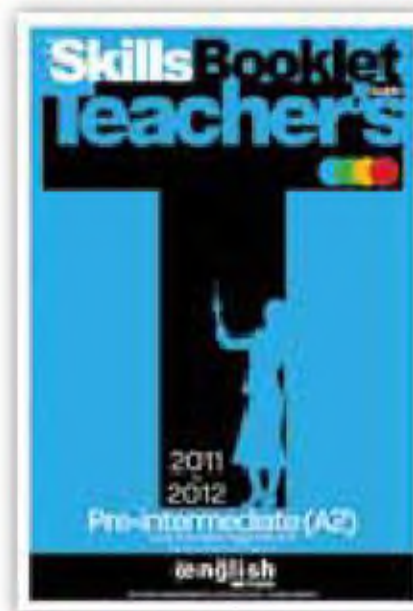
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Y TODO ESTO A PRECIOS REALMENTE COMPETITIVOS

LAS ENSEÑANZAS IMPARTIDAS POR ESTE CENTRO NO CONDUCEN A LA OBTENCIÓN DE UN TÍTULO OFICIAL.

Editor's intro

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



Our main focus this month is on crime, and **smuggling** in particular. In the past, there was a romantic side to smuggling as adventurous smugglers tried to **outwit** the authorities, importing **tax**-free gin, tobacco and tea. They were often seen as **champions of the people** because of the high taxes that the government imposed on these goods.

Nowadays, smuggling has a more **sinister** side to it, and often involves drugs, but it makes for exciting television or film... which is what the producers of Mark Wahlberg's latest film (*Contraband*) must have thought. Read about the film and the actor, and find out what smuggling was really like in the 18th century.

Still on the topic of crime, we're also looking at some crime words and expressions in our Useful Language section and Dr Fingers' Vocabulary Clinic. In other language-related sections, we're looking at phrasal verbs to do with politics (very useful with the US elections coming up), sports equipment, how to give and respond to compliments, and some more baseball idioms.

But of course, that's not all. We're also taking a look at the popular TV series *The Apprentice*, the Puerto Rican English accent, famous arrests, artificial intelligence, funny CCTV moments, some of the top viral videos of 2011, some real-life heroes, unusual jobs, and the latest on the Loch Ness Monster.

Don't forget to enter our "Hot English Opinions" competition. You can win a FREE subscription to the Web School - our online learning system. Simply write in for the opinion form, fill it out and send it back. Please see page 19 for more details.

Anyway, have a great month, happy learning and see you all again soon.

Yours,

Andy



GLOSSARY

smuggling *n*
bringing goods into a country illegally

to outwit *vb*
if A "outwits" B, A uses his/her intelligence to beat B or gain an advantage over B

tax *n*
money paid to the government to pay for schools, hospitals, the army, etc.

a champion of the people *exp*
someone who many people support because they're doing something good

sinister *adj*
evil, very bad, harmful to others

Online Learning!

Hot English is proud to announce the launch of the online, interactive learning system: the Web School. Find out about it on our website: www.hotenglishmagazine.com

All Hot English Club members get an automatic discount on the regular prices. See page 25 for more details.

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Mark Wahlberg
The star with a past

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MP3



In The News

In The News N°7

The voice of the people

London 2012

Technology



Smart TVs

Tired of losing the **remote control** when you're watching TV? Your problems could be over. Samsung recently **unveiled** a "smart TV" that responds to voice commands and **gestures**. How does it work? Well, first, you turn the TV on by saying, "Hi TV". Then, to change the channel or volume you say, "Channel up!" or "Volume down!" You can even control the TV with hand movements. Plus, the TV has **face recognition** – in other words, it recognises you when you sit in front of it and automatically **adjusts** to your favourite **settings**. The vice president of Samsung USA said it was "a **giant leap forward** for the TV industry". Of course, there still won't be anything good to watch! ☺



Fast fact

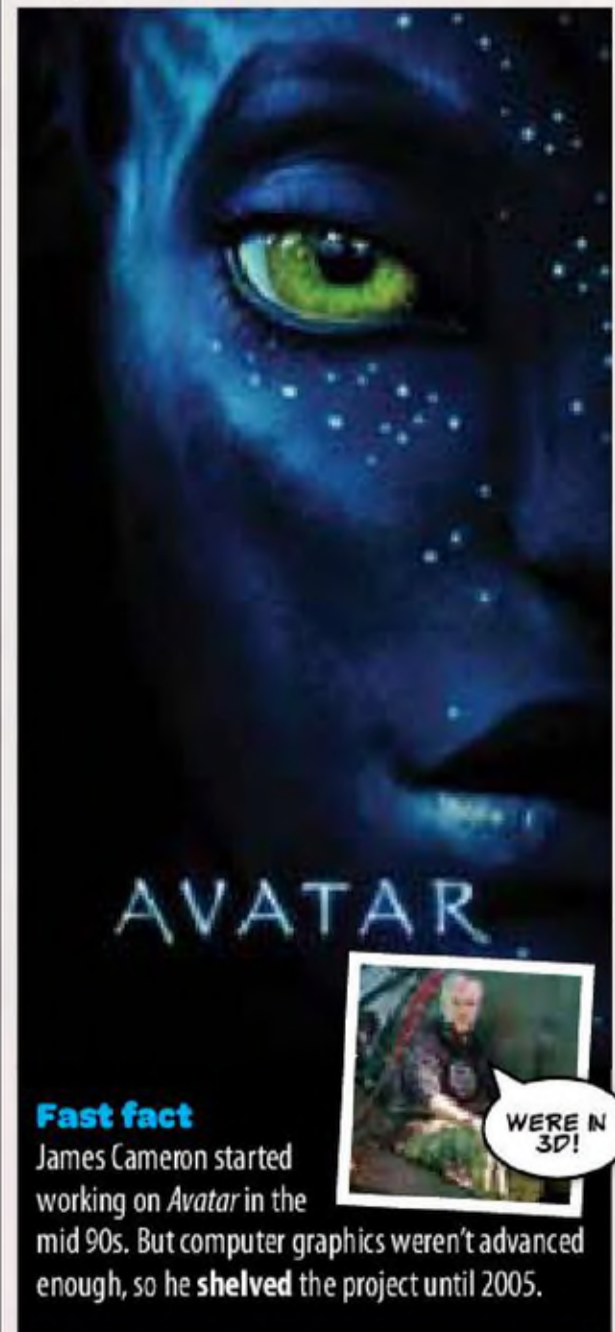
The first mass-produced television was called the Televisor. It went on the market in the UK in 1930 and sold 1,000 units.



Film

Avatar 2

Avatar was the **highest-grossing** film ever. So, it's no surprise that director James Cameron is planning a **sequel**. He recently said he's writing *Avatar 2* and that it will be bigger and better than the original. But fans are going to have to wait – the film won't be out until at least 2016. Cameron said he will shoot much of *Avatar 2* underwater, and the locations will be "rich and diverse and crazy and imaginative". ☺



Fast fact

James Cameron started working on *Avatar* in the mid 90s. But computer graphics weren't advanced enough, so he **shelved** the project until 2005.

Science

Chicken, But Not As We Know It

Five years ago, animal welfare group PETA set scientists a challenge. The group said it would give US\$1 million to anyone who could grow synthetic chicken meat in a lab. Why? The UN has predicted worldwide meat consumption will double between 2000 and 2050. And the planet simply can't keep up with demand. So, one solution is to grow synthetic meat (i.e. meat that doesn't come from an actual



animal). The deadline for PETA's challenge is 30th June 2012. To win the prize, the "chicken meat" must have the same taste and texture as the real thing. And it must be capable of being sold commercially at a reasonable price. The head of PETA said, "There is a real chance someone will claim the reward." *

Fast fact

The first mention of "synthetic meat" was in the 1897 German science-fiction novel, *Two Planets*, by Kurd Lasswitz



GLOSSARY

- a remote control** *n*
a device for changing the channels on a TV
- to unveil** *vb*
if an idea or product is "unveiled", it is shown to the public
- face recognition** *n*
the ability of a computer to scan and recognise human faces
- to adjust** *vb*
if something is "adjusted", it is changed a bit
- a setting** *n*
one of the positions on the controls of a machine/device
- a giant leap forward** *n*
a big advance
- highest-grossing** *exp*
the "highest-grossing" film is the film that makes the most money
- a sequel** *n*
a film that continues the story of another film
- to shelve** *vb*
if an idea is "shelved", people decide not to continue with it
- animal welfare** *n*
the health, comfort and safety of animals
- PETA** *abbr*
an abbreviation of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals – an animal rights organisation
- to set someone a challenge** *exp*
to invite someone to take part in a contest or competition
- synthetic** *adj*
not real; not genuine
- a lab** *n*
a scientific laboratory
- to keep up with demand** *exp*
to produce enough of something for everyone who wants it
- a deadline** *n*
a time when you must finish/complete something
- taste** *n*
the "taste" of something is the quality it has when you put it in your mouth
- texture** *n*
the feel of something when you touch it
- a real chance** *exp*
if there's a "real chance" of something happening, it will probably happen
- a reward** *n*
money or a prize for winning a competition
- the polls** *n*
an election in which you vote for someone or a political party
- to take out** *phr vb*
if someone "takes out" an ad in a paper, they pay to have an ad in that paper
- to run** *vb*
if you "run" for president, you try to be elected as president
- a media frenzy** *n*
when there's a "media frenzy", there's a story that all the papers want to report on
- to reveal** *vb*
to show
- a publicity stunt** *n*
an action designed to attract attention
- to raise awareness** *exp*
if you "raise awareness" of something, you tell/teach people about that thing
- homelessness** *n*
the state of not having a home
- a petition** *n*
a document that people sign. It often asks the government to do something specific
- a signature** *n*
if you put your "signature" on something, you put your name to it as a sign that you agree with it
- high-profile** *adj*
a "high-profile" person is famous and well-known

Sport

Eric for President?

France goes to the polls in May to elect its next president. Apart from the usual candidates, voters were surprised when football legend Eric Cantona took out a full-page newspaper ad suggesting he might run. The news caused a media frenzy... but only for two days. It was quickly revealed that it was a publicity stunt to raise awareness of the issue of homelessness in France. After the announcement, visitors to Eric's website were redirected to an online petition calling for better housing for France's poor. And the stunt worked. The petition quickly obtained 100,000 signatures. The charity's spokesperson said, "We needed a high-profile figure like Eric Cantona to bring attention to our campaign." *



Fast fact

Cantona made headlines in 1995 when he "kung-fu" kicked a spectator after being sent off during a football game.

Language focus Comparatives

Look at this extract from an article in this section, "...that it will be bigger and better than the original". The writer has used two comparatives (*bigger / better*). We form most comparatives from one-syllable adjectives by adding *-er*. For example: *big-bigger; tall-taller; small-smaller; fat-fatter; long-longer*. However, there are a few irregular forms, too: *good-better; bad-worse*. We use comparatives to compare things. Note the use of *than*. For example:
a) This one is **bigger than** the other one.
b) That one is **better than** this one.

Discussion

1. What do you like/dislike about your television set?
2. What did you think of the film *Avatar*?
3. What type of meat do you like?
4. Which famous people from your country would make good presidents?



READING

Unusual Jobs

Jobs with a difference. By Lauren Katz

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Look at the article and read the names of the jobs. What do you think the jobs involve? Discuss with a partner.

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a job next to each statement.

1. They talk to pet owners about their animals.
2. They capture people.
3. They write books.
4. They spend a lot of time underwater.
5. They create sound effects.
6. They spend their time testing furniture.
7. They're in danger of putting on weight.

4 Discussion

1. What type of jobs have you had in the past?
2. What job would you like to do?
3. What other unusual jobs do you know about? What do they consist of?

YouTube

Check out this video explanation of Foley artists:
<http://youtu.be/UNvKhe2npMM>



Tired of working in an office all day? Why not try one of these jobs?

Ice Cream Flavour Expert

Ice cream flavour experts work to create new types of ice cream. They **blend**, taste and mix the flavours until they find a magical combination. The main **perk** is that you get to eat a lot of ice cream. The downside is you'll probably **put on weight**.



Ghostwriter

Ghostwriters write books, articles or stories that are published **under someone else's name**. Many famous people use ghostwriters to produce their autobiographies because they don't have the time to do it themselves... or their writing skills **aren't up to scratch**.

Furniture Tester

Furniture testers basically spend their time... testing furniture. They check to see whether the furniture is safe, comfortable and strong. Some furniture manufacturers use machines to test the quality of their product. But others think that people are more **suited to** the task – after all, the furniture is made for humans.



Animal Behaviourist

Animal behaviourists are like **pet psychologists**. They help solve cases of **aggression**, **disobedience** and **depression** in animals. As part of the **treatment**, animal behaviourists often work with the pet **owners** to try to find a solution to the problems.



Foley Artist

Foley artists mostly work for the film industry. They spend their time creating sound effects that are used in movies. There are two main **tasks** for this job: creating the sound, and recording and mixing the final audio file.



Bounty Hunter

Bounty hunters capture **fugitives** – people who have **violated their parole**. Once the bounty hunter gets the fugitive back into **police custody**, they receive a bounty (a **monetary reward**). The job involves long hours and a bit of danger, but also a lot of excitement.



Golf Ball Diver

Golf ball divers **search for** balls in **water hazards** on golf courses. As part of their job, they have to **dive** under the water to **retrieve** the balls. However, the job isn't without its **risks** as some pools may have crocodiles or alligators in them!

So, the next time you find yourself kicking the photocopying machine, you know what to do. ☺

GLOSSARY

- to blend** *vb*
to mix substances until they become one
- a perk** *n*
a benefit in a job
- to put on weight** *exp*
to become fatter
- under someone else's name** *exp*
using a different person's name
- not be up to scratch** *exp*
not to be good enough
- to suit to** *exp*
if A is "suited to" B, A is perfect for B
- a pet** *n*
an animal you keep at home
- a psychologist** *n*
someone who studies the human mind and tries to explain human behaviour
- aggression** *n*
the act of being aggressive (violent and determined)
- disobedience** *n*
the act of not doing what someone tells you to do
- depression** *n*
the state of feeling sad and not motivated
- treatment** *n*
a cure for an illness or problem
- an owner** *n*
the person who owns (possesses) something
- a task** *n*
an activity or piece of work that you have to do, often as part of a larger project/job
- a fugitive** *n*
someone who is running away or hiding from the police
- to violate parole** *exp*
if someone is "on parole", they can stay out of prison if they behave well. However, if they "violate their parole" (i.e. they do something bad/illegal/prohibited), they will go to prison
- police custody** *n*
if someone is in "police custody", they are in prison or a police station
- a monetary reward** *n*
if someone receives a "monetary reward", they get money because they have completed something or done something well
- to search for** *exp*
to look for
- a water hazard** *n*
an area of water on a golf course. Golfers mustn't get the ball in it
- to dive** *vb*
to go underwater – often with oxygen tanks
- to retrieve** *vb*
to find again
- a risk** *n*
a danger

READING II

Viral Videos

APPROX. 45 MIN

1 Pre-reading

You're going to read an article about some extremely popular video clips that can be found on the internet. Look at the list of objects/people that appear in the videos. What do you think the videos could be about? Discuss with a partner.

- a bear a car a dog
- scenes from nature
- an angry man some deer
- cars on icy roads

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a video as the answer to each question. Which video...

1. ...features a topless saxophonist?
2. ...shows a dog chasing some deer?
3. ...has an animal doing something cute?
4. ...shows cars sliding on ice?
5. ...features a driver parking a car?

4 Language focus

Whatever, whoever, wherever...

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...Whatever the reason..." The writer has used the term "whatever". Complete the sentences with *whatever, whoever, wherever*.

1. _____ you employ, make sure they know how to use this program.
2. _____ you go, make sure you take this map with you.
3. _____ you do, make sure you tell us where you're going.

5 Discussion

1. What video clips have you seen recently?
2. What do you watch online?
3. Have you filmed anything with a video camera recently? What? Why?

The best of 2011

Saxophone players. Bad parking. Naughty dogs. **Viral videos** can be about almost anything.

Viral videos are short clips that have become extremely popular. They are usually **hosted** on websites such as YouTube. The videos are often **shared** by friends, which is how they become so well-known. Here are a few of our favourites.



I'M GOING VIRAL!



Waving Bear

People love it when animals do **cute** things. And it doesn't get much cuter than a **waving** grizzly bear. <http://youtu.be/O6Xo21L0ybE>



Parallel Parking

Parallel parking is always difficult. But it's especially hard when your car doesn't actually **fit** in the parking space. Watch the video, then ask yourself whether this is the best or worst example of parallel parking. <http://youtu.be/bsK5C8m44JY>



What a Wonderful World

This video shows beautiful images from nature. It's accompanied by British **naturalist** David Attenborough **reciting** the Louis Armstrong **classic** *What a Wonderful World*. <http://youtu.be/B8WHKRzkCOY>



Saxophone Superstar

This video features saxophonist Sergio Flores. Nobody quite knows why he likes to play **topless** and in public. Whatever the reason, it's funny. By the way, the song is *Careless Whisper* by George Michael. <http://youtu.be/GaolU6zKaws>



Don't Slip!

This video is a **montage** of scenes showing cars, buses and people **slipping** and **sliding** on icy roads. Actually, it's also an example of **viral marketing** as the video is a **commercial** for TomTom, a **GPS** navigation company. The idea was to remind people to take care when driving during the winter. <http://youtu.be/9AfR43uBspo>



Man Chases Dog (while dog chases deer)

The man in this video sounds like he's **used to** being **obeyed**. But Fenton the dog just won't listen – he wants to chase the **deer**. This viral video has also become a **meme**, with people adding the audio of the shouting man to other videos. <http://youtu.be/Dsb5HH8m24Y>



GLOSSARY

- a viral video** *n* a video that becomes popular through the process of internet sharing
- to host** *vb* if a video is "hosted" on a site, it is on that website
- to share** *vb* if you "share" something, you let other people use/see it
- cute** *adj* nice and attractive
- to wave** *vb* to move your hand from side to side as a way of saying hello
- to fit** *vb* if something "fits" in a space, it can go in that space
- a naturalist** *n* someone who studies plants, animals, insects, nature, etc.
- to recite** *vb* if someone "recites" a poem, etc., they say it aloud
- classic** *adj* a famous piece of music / film, etc. that is of a high standard
- topless** *adj* with no shirt/T-shirt, etc. on
- a montage** *n* a film or picture that consists of lots of different things that are combined
- to slip** *vb* if someone "slips", they fall, often because it is wet or icy
- to slide** *vb* if a car "slides", it moves over a surface in a smooth continuous movement
- viral marketing** *n* creating a message / funny video, etc. that people will send to their friends. The message or funny video is often used to advertise a product
- a commercial** *n* a piece of publicity on TV / the radio, etc. that is designed to sell a product
- GPS** *abbr* Global Positioning System, is a radio navigation system that allows land, sea, and airborne users to determine their exact location
- used to** *exp* if you are "used to" something, it is natural/normal for you
- to obey** *vb* if someone "obeys" you, they do what you tell them to do
- deer** *n* the type of animal that Bambi was
- a meme** *n* a popular video clip that people adapt, putting on different music, different voices, etc.

THE NAME GAME

FAMOUS NAMES WITH MEANING.

STORY TIME

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

Letter

A: I say, I say, I say. What starts with an "e", ends with an "e" and only has one letter?

B: I don't know. What does start with an "e", end with an "e" and only has one letter?

A: An envelope!



Clever student

Teacher: Rodney, please point to America on the map.

Rodney: Here it is.

Teacher: Well done, Rodney. Now class, who discovered America?

Class: Rodney did!



Clever Martian

A Martian walks into a bar and orders a bottle of whisky, a bottle of vodka, 12 martinis, 16 pints of Guinness and a gin and tonic. He **downs** them all in one then asks for the same again. He **carries on** drinking all night. Then, as he's **about** to leave, the barman says, "That's amazing, but do you know your **bill** is more than €2,000?" And the Martian says, "That's OK, but have you got change for a zonk?"



Lazy students

Two students are **chatting away** when the conversation **drifts from** politics to cooking. "I got a cookbook once," says one, "but I could never do anything with it." "Why's that?" asks the other student.

"Too much work. Every one of the recipes began the same way: take a clean **dish**..."



GLOSSARY

- an envelope** *n*
a rectangular paper cover that you put a letter in
- to down** *vb*
to drink
- to carry on** *phrvb*
to continue
- about** *exp*
if you are "about" to do something, you are going to do it very soon
- a bill** *n*
a piece of paper that tells you how much you must pay in a restaurant, etc.
- to chat away** *exp*
to talk continuously with someone
- to drift from** *exp*
if the conversation "drifts from" one topic to another, it moves to that new topic
- a dish** *n*
a plate - the ceramic object you put food on so you can eat it



Christian Bale (English actor)
A "BALE" OF HAY (DRIED GRASS) IS A QUANTITY OF IT THAT IS TIED TOGETHER. "The barn was filled with bales of hay."



Goodyear (American tyre and rubber company)
"GOOD" IS THE OPPOSITE OF BAD. / MOST "YEARS" HAVE 365 DAYS.
"I've been really good this year."



PricewaterhouseCoopers (PwC - British accountancy firm)
THE "PRICE" OF SOMETHING IS HOW MUCH IT COSTS. / "WATER" IS A LIQUID THAT WE DRINK. / A "HOUSE" IS A PLACE WHERE YOU LIVE.
"I asked about the price. / I had a glass of water. / We live in a nice house."



Danny Glover (American actor)
"GLOVES" ARE ITEMS OF CLOTHING YOU WEAR TO KEEP YOUR HANDS WARM.
"It's cold - I'm going to put my gloves on."



Larry Page (co-founder of Google)
BOOKS HAVE LOTS OF "PAGES".
"What page are you on?"



Margaret Thatcher (former British prime minister)
A "THATCHER" IS SOMEONE WHO MAKES THATCHED ROOFS (ROOFS MADE FROM STRAW - DRIED GRASS).
"He's been a thatcher all his life."

LET'S TALK ABOUT: Sports equipment

LEARN SOME USEFUL WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS TO TALK ABOUT SPORTS EQUIPMENT!



GLOSSARY
a graze is a small cut

Dialogue

FOR THEIR FIRST DATE, JERRY AND ALEXIS ARE GOING ROLLER-SKATING IN THE PARK.



Jerry: Hey, Alexis. Great to see you. Ready for a bit of skating?
Alexis: Yeah! I haven't been roller-skating for ages.
Jerry: Me neither. But I'm a natural when it comes to sports. So, what's in your backpack?
Alexis: A few things: a helmet, some knee pads, elbow pads, gloves, a waterproof jacket... the usual skating safety gear.
Jerry: We're only going around the park!
Alexis: Well, you never know...
Jerry: I don't bother with helmets and knee pads or that sort of stuff. I find it gets in the way. I can't maximise my performance.
Alexis: Don't you worry about getting hurt?
Jerry: No! I love danger. Just the other day, I went climbing on this climbing wall and I didn't even use a safety harness. And I never wear shin pads when I play football. If I get hurt, I just ignore the pain.

Alexis: Well, I'm not that brave.
Jerry: Hey, come on, let's get going!
Alexis: Wait a sec. I need to get my gear on. [Alexis puts on her helmet, knee pads and gloves. Then they start skating through the park.]
Jerry: Come on, slow coach! Oh, this is amazing! It's so much better without a helmet! I can feel the wind in my hair! You should take yours off and... [Suddenly, he crashes into another skater.]
Alexis: Oh no! Are you OK?
Jerry: Ow! It really hurts. I think I've cut my knee.
Alexis: Oh, come on! It's just a little graze.
Jerry: [crying] Ow, ow! It really hurts. I think you should call an ambulance?
Alexis: [smiles] Come on! You'll be all right... Just try and ignore the pain.
Jerry: [crying] Ow! ☹

RENOIR PLAZA DE ESPAÑA
Martín de los Heros, 12 28508 MADRID

PRINCESA
Princesa, 3-5 28508 MADRID

RENOIR MAJADAHONDA
Avda. de España, 51 (zoco de Majadahonda) MAJADAHONDA, MADRID

RENOIR FLORIDA BLANCA
C/Florida Blanca, 135

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Princesa, 3-5 Pasaje Martín de los Heros 28508 MADRID

RENOIR LES CORTS
Eugení D'Ors, 12 08028 BARCELONA

RENOIR PALMA
C/Emperatriz Eugenia, 6 07010 PALMA DE MALLORCA

RENOIR

RENOIR CUATRO CAMINOS
Belmonte s/n, Villaverde, 10 28021 Madrid

RENOIR RETIRO
C/Manac, 42 28009 MADRID

RENOIR AUDIORAMA
Calle Bernabé s/n 50009 ZARAGOZA

USEFUL LANGUAGE

Crime & punishment

REVISED PAGE 45

LEARN SOME USEFUL WORDS AND EXPRESSIONS.

1 Match the words

Match the words (1 to 14) to the pictures (a-n).

1. Police radio
2. CCTV (closed circuit television)
3. Police car
4. Police officer
5. Handcuffs
6. Prisoner
7. Prison / jail
8. Cell / prison cell / jail cell
9. Sniffer dog
10. Burglar alarm
11. Swag bag
12. Crowbar
13. Sawn-off shotgun
14. Knife



* YOU'RE NICKED! (INFORMAL) = YOU'RE ARRESTED!

Now turn to Dr Fingers' Vocabulary Clinic for some more "crime" words.



USEFUL LANGUAGE

Crimes & criminals

● **Drunk driving / drink driving / driving under the influence (DUI)** – The act of driving a motor vehicle under the effects of alcohol.



"She was stopped by the police for drunk driving."

● **Assault** (person "assailant"; verb "to assault") A physical attack on another person.



"She was charged with assault after hitting the man."

● **Hijacking** (person "hijacker"; verb "to hijack") To take control of a plane or ship with violence.



"They hijacked the plane and forced the pilot to land it in another city."

● **Robbery** (person "robber"; verb "to rob") To steal from a building or person (the object of the verb is a person or place).



"They robbed a bank. / They robbed a man in the street."

● **Theft** (person "thief"; verb "to steal") The crime of taking something (the object of the verb is the thing that is taken away).



"They stole some money from the bank. / They stole a briefcase from a man in the street."

● **Blackmail** (person "blackmailer"; verb "to blackmail") If person A "blackmails" person B, person A demands money in return for not revealing a secret.



"The photos of the man were used to blackmail him."

● **Mugging** (person "mugger"; verb "to mug") If someone is "mugged", they are attacked and robbed in the street.



"The brave old woman fought off the muggers, who ran away with nothing."

● **Kidnapping** (person "kidnapper"; verb "to kidnap") If someone is "kidnapped", they are taken and held illegally. The kidnappers often demand money for the

safe return of the victims.



"Police discovered a plot to kidnap the couple."

● **Burglary** (person "burglar"; verb "to burgle") If a house is "burgled", a robber enters the house through a window, etc. and steals things.



"The burglar got in through a window on the ground floor."

● **Murder** (person "murderer"; verb "to murder") If someone is "murdered", they are killed.



"The murderer was sentenced to life in prison."

● **Smuggling** (person "smuggler"; verb "to smuggle") "Smuggling" is the crime of taking goods illegally from one country to another.



"They smuggled the counterfeit money in by hiding it in a briefcase."

● **Fraud** (person "fraudster"; verb "to commit fraud") "Fraud" is the crime of

gaining money by tricking people.



"Whilst working as an accountant, he committed a number of acts of fraud."

● **Drug trafficking** (person "drug trafficker"; verb "to traffic in drugs") "Drug trafficking" is the crime of buying and selling illegal drugs.



"They were accused of drug trafficking and taken into custody."

● **Arson** (person "arsonist"; verb "to commit arson") "Arson" involves the deliberate destruction of property by fire.



"They carried out a number of arson attacks throughout the city."

● **Shoplifting** (person "shoplifter"; verb "to shoplift") "Shoplifting" is the crime of stealing things from shops.



"She was arrested for shoplifting after stealing clothes in a department store." ❄

FIVE OF THE BEST

5

READY-TO-GO ENGLISH EXPRESSIONS TO LEARN AND USE. THIS MONTH: THE PHONE.



Answering the phone

- Eddie's Electric Store. How can I help you? [formal]
- Marble Publishing. How may I help you? [formal]
- Sam Walters speaking. How may I help you? [formal]
- Hello? Who's calling? [formal]
- 6259 307 [Some people in the UK answer their home phone by saying the number.]



Introducing yourself – the caller

- Hi, this is Bernadette from Cable Construction. [formal]
- Hello, this is Sally Fields. [formal]
- Good afternoon. I'm Morgan Ryan, and I'm calling from Haystone Limited. [formal]
- Good morning. This is Frank Smith and I'm calling about the advert in the paper. [formal]
- Hi. This is Joanne. [informal] [Note the use of "This is..." to introduce the speaker.]



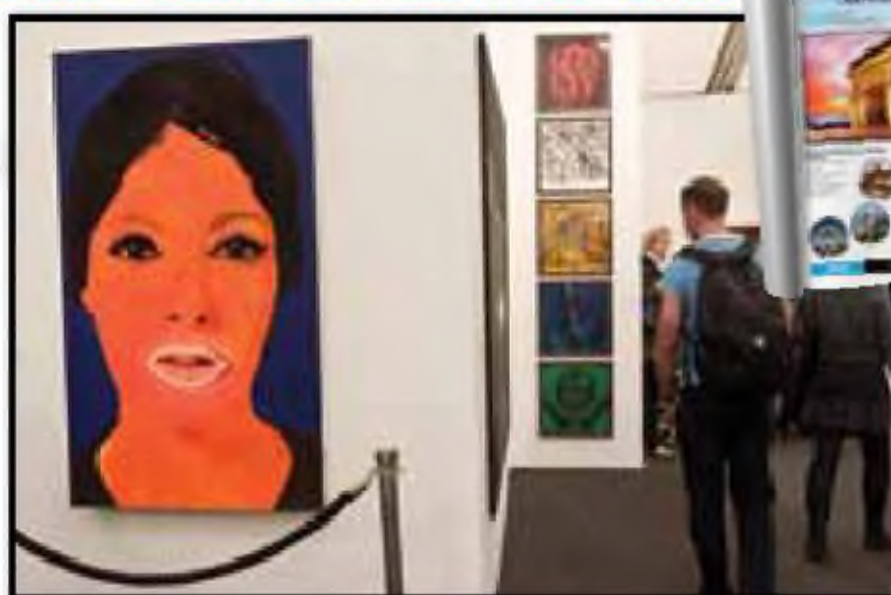
New Zealand man



Skills BOOKLET

Refer to unit 11 (page 59) of the Pre-Intermediate Skills Booklet for more exercises.

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



Art Attack

A presentation for an up-coming art exhibition.



1 Pre-listening

Match the types of art (1 to 6) to the works of art (a-f).

1. Oil painting
2. Landscape
3. Abstract art
4. Installation art
5. Performance art
6. Water colour



2 Listening I

You're going to listen to someone who is giving a talk about the upcoming opening of an art exhibition. Listen once. How many works of art are mentioned?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions with the words from below.

six days Friday 28th February one thousand
Thursday 27th at 6pm in the main foyer

1. When is the exhibition open to the public?
2. When is the opening night party?
3. How long is Jacques La Croix going to stand on his head?
4. Where are they going to hang Maria Jones' painting?
5. How many photos of his feet has Bill Smith taken?

4 Language focus

The future with be + going to

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Art Attack: "...It's going to be a wonderful evening..." The speaker has used the future with be + going to. Read through the transcript (page 44) and find as many examples of this structure as you can.

5 Discussion

1. When was the last time you went to an art exhibition? What did you see?
2. What type of art do you like? Why?
3. Are you creative in any way? Give examples of things you've "created/made".

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FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE

Compliments

In this month's Functional Language, we'll be looking at giving and responding to compliments (nice comments that people say about you or your things).

Giving a compliment

Here are some useful ways to give a compliment.

- Your hair looks fantastic!
- I really like your dress.
- That's a really nice picture.
- Your new car is great.
- I think your new hairstyle really suits you.
- That new shirt looks great on you!
- That's a great looking car.
- You have such beautiful hair.
- What a lovely baby!
- Isn't your ring beautiful?
- You did a really good job!
- You handled that situation really well!
- This food is delicious!
- Nice house!
- I'd just like to compliment you on your recent achievement.
- That report you wrote was fantastic.
- That's a nice T-shirt you're wearing.

Responding to a compliment

And here are some useful ways to respond to a compliment. In each mini-dialogue, person A is giving a compliment, and person B is responding.

Thanking someone

- A:** That's a really nice sweater.
B: Thanks. / That's nice of you to say so.

Giving details

- A:** Nice rug.
B: Thanks. I got it in a street market in Morocco.

Downgrading the compliment

- A:** That painting is really nice.
B: Oh, it's nothing. It was really cheap actually. I got it in a sale.

Agreeing

- A:** I love that sofa you bought.
B: Yes, me too.

Disagreeing

- A:** You dealt with that very well.
B: Oh, I don't think so.

Responding with a question

- A:** You did an excellent job yesterday.
B: Do you really think so?

Shifting the credit

- A:** That clock looks great in your living room!
B: Thanks, but it was Keira who chose it.

Returning the compliment

- A:** You look great.
B: And so do you.

Sharing the credit

- A:** You did a fantastic job.
B: Thanks, but I couldn't have done it without the others.

Being modest

- A:** That's a beautiful painting you've done.
B: Oh, it's nothing. I knocked it up in a couple of seconds.

Building up the achievement

- A:** That was amazing. Well done!
B: It's actually a lot harder than it looks.

Complimenting the complimenter

- A:** Thanks. I'm glad you enjoyed it.
B: Thank you. It's really nice to hear that from someone with your experience.

Ironic humour

- A:** Well done for stopping that robber.
B: I was actually trying to run away. I had no intention of trying to stop him.

Suspicion

- A:** That suit looks so good on you.
B: What are you after? ☹

Dialogue

Old friends Dina and Maria are having lunch. It's the first time they've seen each other in ten years.

- Dina:** Maria! It's great to see you again. You look fantastic!
Maria: Thanks! You look great, too. I love your hair.
Dina: You're joking! I haven't been to the hairdresser for ages.
Maria: I hear that you've been very busy lately. You were nominated for a Businessperson of the Year award, weren't you? You must be so proud.
Dina: Well, you know, I've got a great team behind me, so I really have them to thank. Hey, I read your latest novel. It's really funny!
Maria: Do you think so? The reviews haven't been that great.
Dina: Well, I loved it!
Maria: That's very kind of you. It was a lot of hard work. By the way, I saw your wedding photos on Facebook. What a beautiful dress!
Dina: Oh that old thing. It's been in the family for generations.
Maria: And your husband looks like a real catch.
Dina: Yeah, John is a great guy.
Maria: He's so handsome...
Dina: [laughing nervously] Yeah, he is. Oh, I've been meaning to ask, what's all this about a bank robbery? You helped catch one of the robbers, didn't you?
Maria: Oh, it was nothing. I was just in the right place at the right time. I was actually trying to run away. But I must have tripped and knocked the gun out of the robber's hands.
Dina: Incredible... Anyway, I must be going. We have to do this again soon!
Maria: Definitely! And bring John next time. I can't wait to meet him. He's so handsome.
Dina: Erm, yes, great.





Travel Time

Go east this Easter: three great places to visit.



1 Pre-reading

How many countries or cities can you name in Eastern Europe in just two minutes? Have a competition with a partner or the class.

2 Reading I

Think of three questions each to ask about the cities of Budapest, Bucharest and Sofia. Then, read the article to see if you can find any answers to these questions.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a city next to each of the following statements.

1. It's the capital of Romania.
2. It's famous for its cafés.
3. Parts of the city walls date back to the 7th century BC.
4. It's about 300 kilometres from Bucharest.
5. They've got some amazing Turkish baths.
6. There's a lot of Communist-era architecture in the city.

4 Language focus Modal verbs

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...but you should also find time for the Boyana Church..." The writer has used a modal verb ("should"). Read through the article again and find as many examples of modal verbs as you can. What function are they performing?

5 Discussion

1. What's your favourite city in your country? Why?
2. What are some of the best cities you've ever visited?
3. Which city would you like to visit? Why?

It'll be Easter soon, and time to think of how to spend a few days' holiday. It's probably too cold for the beach and too warm to ski, so what about a city break? And what about a city break in Eastern Europe? There are plenty of exciting destinations with low prices. Let's look at three of the best.



Budapest

Budapest is the capital of Hungary. It's actually made up of the twin cities of Buda and Pest, which are separated by the mighty River Danube. The city is famous for its cafés. There are several good ones to choose from, but you must try either Gerbeaud, or the famous New York Café (on the ground floor of the Boscolo Budapest Hotel). Order a "somlói galuska", a very rich chocolate dessert. Finally, you can't leave the city without visiting one of its amazing Turkish baths. Some of them date back to the 16th century when the city was ruled by the Turks. The Gellert Hotel has a wonderful complex open to non-residents, and the Széchenyi Baths are the largest in Europe. The baths in the Városliget (the City Park), which you can enter from Hősök Tere (Heroes Square), are a UNESCO World Heritage site and another place you absolutely must see.



Bucharest

A fourteen hour train ride east will take you

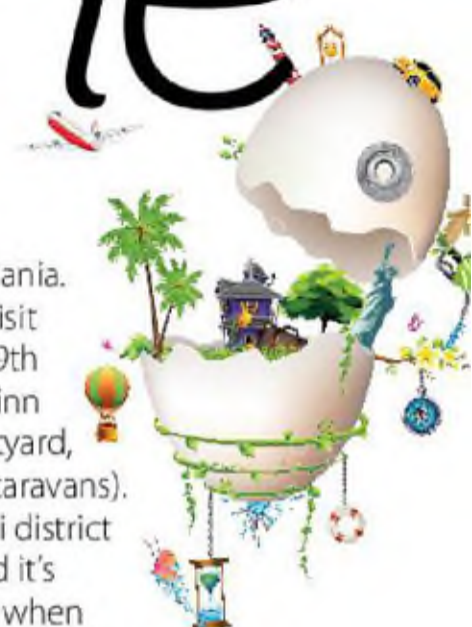
through Transylvania to Bucharest, capital of Romania. Once there, you should visit Manuc's Inn, which is a 19th century caravanserai (an inn built around a large courtyard, which is big enough for caravans). It's located in the Lipscani district (the heart of the city), and it's a journey back in time to when Bucharest was an important trading centre. It's also a great place to have lunch and a drink. Communist-era architecture is everywhere, of course, and the Casa Presai Libere (The House of the Free Press) is a good example of this. The city also has many fine restaurants serving local cuisine, which is an interesting mix of traditional European and Middle Eastern food. Before leaving, try a glass of "țuică", the local plum brandy. But only have one – it's strong stuff!



Sofia

From Bucharest it's only 300 kilometres to Sofia, the Bulgarian capital. The city sits below the massive Vitosha Mountain. Sofia is an ancient place, and parts of the city walls date back to the 7th century BC and can still be seen. It's also a holy city, and two of its major tourist attractions are churches. The Alexander Nevsky Cathedral is well worth a visit, but you should also find time for the Boyana Church, a small medieval Bulgarian Orthodox chapel. It is a UNESCO World Heritage site and has incredible wall paintings dating back to 1259. You should also take a trip out of the city to explore the Vitosha National Park, a wonderful place for hiking or skiing in winter.

So, we hope we've given you a few ideas of places to spend your Easter. Wherever you go, have fun and send us a postcard! 📧





Negotiation Fun

The British Airways dispute.

AVOIDED ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Match the words / expressions (1 to 5) to the definitions (a-e).

1. To strike
2. To fire someone
3. A pay freeze
4. Cabin staff / cabin crew
5. A union

- a. People who work on an aeroplane, serving passengers food, etc.
- b. If workers do this, they stop working.
- c. A workers' organisation that protects workers' jobs / salaries / rights, etc.
- d. A situation in which wages do not rise with inflation – they stay the same.
- e. To tell someone that they must leave their job.

2 Reading I

The words from the Pre-reading task (1 to 5) appear in the main text. What do you think the article is about? Discuss your ideas with a partner. Then, read the article once to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write a number/date, etc. next to each statement.

1. The duration of the dispute.
2. When the dispute started.
3. The starting date for the two-year pay freeze.
4. The proportion of the full fare BA staff pay for a ticket.
5. The increase in pay that BA agreed to.
6. The percentage of staff who turned up to vote on the new deal.
7. The amount BA will invest over the next five years.

4 Language focus Reported Speech

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "... McCluskey said that both parties could now move forward..." The writer has used Reported Speech. Transform the following sentences into Reported Speech.

1. "It's going to be difficult." = They said that it...
2. "We'll talk about it." = She said that they...
3. "We need to rebuild confidence." = He said that they...

5 Discussion

1. What problems have airlines in your country had recently?
2. Have there been any famous disputes in your country? What were they about?
3. Have you had to accept any changes at work recently? What were they?

It lasted two years, cost over £150m and involved more than 20 days of strikes. The British Airways (BA) dispute was one of the bitterest in British history.

It all started in November 2009. At the time, BA said that it needed to reduce the number of cabin crew from 15 to 14 on some flights. It also said that it was going to introduce a two-year pay freeze from 2010.

Almost immediately, cabin staff decided to take action. They announced a series of strikes in protest, which took place over the spring and summer of 2010. As a result, hundreds of thousands of BA passengers had their travel plans disrupted.



In response, BA fired some cabin staff, and removed travel concessions from others. As part of these concessions, BA staff (as well as their family and friends) can buy tickets for 10% of the full fare price. One of the conditions is that they have to travel standby, so they can only fly if there are empty seats. However, the longer they've worked for the airline, the higher up on the standby list they get.

For a while, the situation remained tense. But then things improved towards the end of 2010. There was a change of leadership at Unite (the union representing cabin staff), with Len McCluskey replacing Tony Woodley and Derek Simpson; and Keith Williams replaced BA's chief executive Willie Walsh. This seemed to help matters and in 2011 the dispute was resolved.

As part of the deal, staff travel concessions were reinstated. BA also agreed to a two-year pay rise worth up to 7.5%. However, the cabin crew cuts remained. More than 6,500 crew backed the deal, representing a 92% majority on a 72% turnout. McCluskey said that both parties could now move forward. He also praised the skills and professionalism of British Airways cabin crew, which, he said, were second to none.

British Airways admitted that the long-running dispute had damaged its image. They said they needed to rebuild the brand image, which had suffered. In order to help with this, they announced a multibillion-pound investment programme that includes the purchase of 12 Airbus A380 superjumbos. "We have made permanent structural savings to our business, which is now ready to invest £5.5bn over the next five years for the benefit of our customers," they added.

Let's hope the future is brighter for the company and its staff! 🌟



READING I

The Apprentice



The job interview from hell!

1 Pre-reading

Imagine you had to create a new magazine, or invent a new type of biscuit. What would they be like? Who would they be aimed at? Discuss any ideas with a partner.

2 Reading I

Read the article once and compare your ideas from the Pre-reading task. Whose ideas were better?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write "V" (for Team Venture) or "L" (for Team Logic) next to each statement.

1. They managed to spot a gap in the market with their product.
2. They failed to identify their target market.
3. The title of their magazine was *Covered*.
4. The tagline for their biscuit was "Snap 'n Share".
5. The name of the magazine wasn't popular with the media buying agencies.
6. The title of their magazine was *Hip Replacement*.
7. The tagline for their biscuit was "Anytime is treat time."

4 Discussion

1. What ideas for products or businesses have you had? What did you do about them?
2. Which reality shows do you watch or like? Why?
3. Who are some of the most famous entrepreneurs from your country?

Have you got what it takes to create a magazine, set up a **catering business**, or design and sell a piece of exercise equipment? These are just some of the **tasks** for contestants of the TV show *The Apprentice*.



The Apprentice first appeared on American TV screens in 2004. It was an instant **hit**, and has since been franchised around the world, with versions in the UK, China and Africa.

The format is fairly simple. Sixteen people compete to win a top job with a successful entrepreneur (Donald Trump in the US, and Lord Sugar in the UK). At the beginning of each episode, contestants are divided into two teams and given a task. The team that wins gets a **treat** (a dinner at a top restaurant, a private concert with an opera singer, a helicopter ride over the city, etc.); while one of the contestants from the losing team will have to hear the show's **catchphrase**, "You're fired!" And so it continues until there are only a couple of contestants left. For the last show of the season, one of these contestants is told, "You're hired!"



Here are examples of two tasks from *The Apprentice* (UK) for Team Venture and Team Logic. What would you have done?

Task 1: create a magazine and sell advertising space for the first issue.

Team Venture **came up with** the idea of a magazine for the **elderly**, which they called *Hip Replacement*. Team Logic created a **lads' mag** called *Covered*. Both teams designed the **layout** for their magazines and thought of ideas for articles. They printed **sample copies** and took them to three **media buying agencies** to try and sell **ad space**. The media buyers agreed that Team Venture had **spotted a gap in the over-sixties market** with *Hip Replacement*. But they didn't like the name. Eventually, Team Logic won with *Covered*.



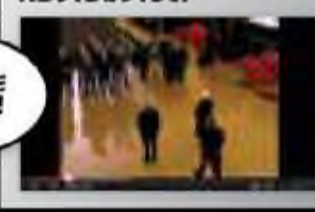
Task 2: create a new brand of biscuit and sell it to supermarket buyers.

Team Logic created a biscuit called Bix Mix: a **digestive** that's half plain, half chocolate-coated. The team's idea was that customers would break the biscuit in half and **share** it with family or friends. The box included the **tagline**, "Snap 'n Share". Team Venture made a biscuit for children called Special Stars. It was a plain biscuit, with a chocolate star on top. Their **packaging** carried the tagline, "Anytime is treat time." The supermarket buyers liked Team Logic's idea of a biscuit you could share. But they criticised the team for failing to identify the product's **target market**. Team Venture, on the other hand, was very aware of its market (children), but the supermarkets didn't like the tagline, "Anytime is treat time." They said that treats should be for special occasions, not any occasion. Eventually, Team Venture won with their Special Stars.



YouTube

Watch a short dip from the UK version of *The Apprentice*: <http://youtu.be/NB9fBb9vScI>



GLOSSARY

- a catering business** *n* a company that provides food and drink at events/parties, etc.
- a task** *n* an activity or piece of work that you have to do. It is often part of a bigger project/job
- a screen** *n* the part of the television that you look at while you're watching it
- a hit** *n* a big success; something very popular
- a treat** *n* something nice that you receive – often after you've done a good job
- a catchphrase** *n* a phrase or sentence that is popular because it's used many times by a famous person
- to fire** *vb* to tell someone to leave their job
- to hire** *vb* to give someone a job
- to come up with** *exp* to think of
- the elderly** *n* old people (often over the age of 65)
- a lads' mag** *exp* a magazine aimed at young men in the 18-34 age range. It often focuses on fashion, gadgets and women with few clothes on
- layout** *n* the way a page is designed with the text and photos
- a sample copy** *n* an example of the magazine and what it could look like
- a media buying agency** *n* a company that works with other companies, helping them choose the best places to advertise (among many other things)
- ad space** *n* pages (or spaces) in a magazine where advertisements are placed
- to spot a gap in the market** *exp* to see an opportunity to create a new product for a particular sector of the market
- a digestive** *n* a round semisweet biscuit made from wholemeal flour
- to share** *vb* if you "share" something, you give some of it to others
- a tagline** *n* a short slogan or group of words that is used to help sell a product
- to snap** *vb* to break suddenly
- packaging** *n* the paper/plastic around a product
- a target market** *n* a group of people that you are selling a product to

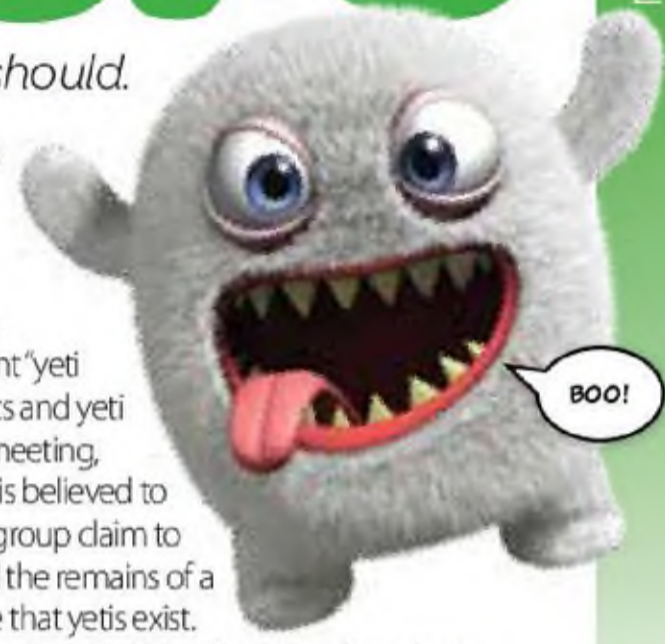
Do you think you've got what it takes to be an "Apprentice"? 🌟

READING II

Monsters

ANSWERS
P. 45

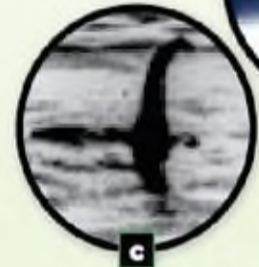
Do you believe in monsters? Perhaps you should.



1 Pre-reading

Match the "monster" names (1 to 6) to the pictures (a-f). Which ones are real?

1. Yeti / Abominable Snowman
2. Loch Ness Monster
3. Vampire
4. Werewolf
5. Witch
6. Ghost



2 Reading I

The article is about the possible discovery of a yeti, and some recent sightings of the Loch Ness Monster. What do you think happened? Discuss with a partner. Then, read the article once to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. In which mountain range have there been reports of yetis?
2. What did the scientists find in the cave in Siberia?
3. When did modern interest in Nessie really start?
4. When was the last large-scale search of the loch?
5. How much are William Hill offering for the winner of the photo competition?
6. When was the last time someone won the prize money?

4 Discussion

1. What myths or monsters are there in your country?
2. What unusual stories have there been in the papers recently?
3. What's the most unusual thing you've ever seen or experienced?

Recent events suggest that two world-famous monsters may actually exist.

For years, there have been reports of **yetis** in the Himalayas. But now a group of scientists think they've found one in Siberia. The **claim** was made after a recent "yeti conference" in the Siberian town of Tashtagol. Scientists and yeti enthusiasts from all over the world **gathered** for the meeting, which included a two-day **trek** to a cave where a yeti is believed to have lived. Inside the cave, the group claim to have found **fur**, **footprints** and the remains of a bed. And they're now 95% sure that yetis exist.



Of course, not everyone's so optimistic. Brian Regal, an American science professor, wrote, "Vague bits of hair and odd footprints found in a cave... do not **constitute evidence**."

Meanwhile, the **search for** Nessie (the Loch Ness Monster) continues. **Sightings** of the monster go back to the sixth century when **locals** reported a "water beast" attacking swimmers in the **loch**. But modern interest started in 1933. That year, an Englishman driving near the loch reported seeing a "dragon" cross the road in front of his car. Since then there have been many sightings. Some people have taken photos or filmed what they say is Nessie. But quite often, the "monster" in the pictures turns out to be a **log**, a bird or simply an optical illusion. Other photos have been exposed as **hoaxes**.



Over the years, several large-scale searches have been mounted. The most recent was in 2003. The team searched the entire Loch using sonar and **satellite tracking**. One of the scientists said, "We went from **shoreline** to shoreline, top to bottom... and we saw no signs of any large living animal in the loch." So, either Nessie doesn't exist... or she's got a really good hiding place.

Of course, many are convinced that she exists. Each year, the **bookmaker** William Hill offer £1,000 to the winner of the "Best Nessie Sighting of the Year" competition. No one has won the prize since 2002, but in 2011 there were three good sightings. Those nominated for the prize include William and Joan Jobes. They were walking along a **footpath** when they **spotted** what appeared to be a head bobbing above the water about 200 metres from the shore. Mr Jobes took a single picture before the "head" disappeared beneath the surface. The following month, Jan and Simon Hargreaves noticed a creature in the loch while **taking a break** from the shop they **run** in the village of Foyers, by Loch Ness. The couple said they saw something black with a long neck disappear underwater and then **surface** again. And in September, fish farm worker Jon Rowe captured a large, dark shape in the water while photographing a rainbow.

Was it Nessie? The search goes on. 🍀

GLOSSARY

- a yeti** *n*
a type of monster that is half-man, half-animal
- a claim** *n*
if someone makes a "claim", they say that something is true, but they cannot prove it
- to gather** *vb*
if a group of people "gather" somewhere, they meet there
- a trek** *n*
a journey on foot
- fur** *n*
the hair on an animal
- a footprint** *n*
a mark left in the ground by someone's foot
- to constitute** *vb*
to mean; to signify; to be
- evidence** *n*
things you can see/touch, etc. that prove the existence of something
- a search for something** *exp*
if there is a "search for" something, people look for that thing
- a sighting** *n*
if there is a "sighting" of something, people see that thing
- a local** *n*
someone from the area/town/city, etc. you are referring to
- a loch** *n* *Scottish*
a lake - an area of water surrounded by land
- a log** *n*
a piece of a tree that has been cut and that can be used as fuel (for burning)
- a hoax** *n*
a trick - someone says that something is true, but it isn't really
- satellite tracking** *n*
using satellites to locate/find things and follow them
- a shoreline** *n*
the part of the land next to a lake / the sea, etc.
- a bookmaker** *n*
a company that accepts bets (money used to predict the results of games, etc.) and pays out money to winners
- a footpath** *n*
a type of road in the country / the mountains, etc. for walking along
- to spot** *vb*
to see; to notice
- to take a break** *exp*
if you "take a break", you stop working in order to relax
- to run** *vb*
to manage
- to surface** *vb*
if a sea creature "surfaces", it comes out of the water in order to breathe/see, etc.

MARTHA STEWART

Martha Stewart is America's most famous female entrepreneur. She runs a merchandising and media empire worth billions of dollars. But she's also been in prison.



MARTHA STEWART QUOTES

On being open-minded . . .
"Without an open-minded mind, you can never be a great success."

On good products . . .
"I think it's very important that whatever you're trying to make, sell or teach has to be basically good. A bad product and you know what? You won't be here in ten years."

On decision-making . . .
"Never make a big decision without **sleeping on it**."

MARTHA STEWART DISCUSSION

Have any famous people from your country been to prison? Who? Why? Have you heard any other stories of famous comebacks? What were they?

GLOSSARY

- an entrepreneur** *n*
a business person who organises, manages and assumes the risks of a business
- to run** *vb*
if you "run" a business, you manage it
- merchandising** *n*
the practice by which the brand or image of one product is used to sell T-shirts, books, cups, etc.
- a media empire** *n*
if someone has a "media empire", they have books, television shows, magazines, etc.
- into** *exp*
the things you are "into" are the things you like doing
- a seamstress** *n*
a person whose job is to make or repair clothes
- keen** *adj*
if you're "keen" on something, you really like doing that thing
- a do** *n*
a party
- to go places** *exp*
if someone is "going places", they're going to be famous one day
- the turning point** *exp*
the moment when things suddenly changed
- a catering business** *n*
a company that provides food and drinks at an event/party
- homemaking** *n*
looking after the home: cooking, cleaning, etc.
- a lifestyle guru** *n*
a person who is considered an expert on how to live, work, relax, etc.
- a tip-off** *n*
information that you receive secretly
- to drop** *vb*
to decrease; to go down
- insider trading** *n*
the crime of buying or selling shares based on secret information that the public don't know about
- immaculate** *adj*
very clean and tidy
- against all the odds** *exp*
if you do something "against all the odds", you do it even though it seemed impossible at the time
- open-minded** *n*
if someone is "open-minded", they listen to other people's opinions and ideas
- to sleep on it** *exp*
if you "sleep on something", you wait before making a decision about it, often by waiting until the next day

Growing up, Martha Stewart was **into** everything. Her mother was a great cook and **seamstress**, and her father a **keen** gardener. And young Martha watched and learned from both parents. She wrote for the school newspaper, and in her teens modelled and appeared in TV commercials. Plus she showed an early talent for throwing parties – organising birthday **dos** for the children of family friends. Then, in her twenties, she began working as a stockbroker on Wall Street. With so many skills and interests and so much energy, it was clear Martha was **going places**.



I CANNOT BE DESTROYED!



But then it all went wrong. In late 2001, Martha sold some shares she owned in a pharmaceutical company. The problem was, she sold the shares after receiving a **tip-off** that their value was about to **drop**. In 2003, she was arrested for **insider trading** and, after a five-week trial, she was found guilty. She was sentenced to five months in prison. Martha's perfect life had collapsed and

many thought it would be the end of her and her business empire.

She began her sentence in late 2004, at a minimum-security women's prison in West Virginia. But even in jail, Martha Stewart was... well, Martha Stewart. She kept her cell **immaculate**, taught yoga classes, worked as a cleaner, and even did some cooking for the other inmates. Halfway through her sentence, she said, "I've had time to think, time to write, time to exercise, time to not eat the bad food, and time to walk and contemplate the future."

Martha got out in March 2005, and immediately began a well-publicised comeback. Once again she took charge of her company and within six months she'd launched a new book as well as a TV show – *The Martha Stewart Show*. **Against all the odds**, she was back on top. And even today, at seventy, Martha continues to expand her empire. You can now drink Martha Stewart wine, get married at a Martha Stewart-branded wedding, and even live in a Martha Stewart-designed home.



The **turning point** in Martha's life was in 1972. Martha and her husband decided to leave New York and move to the country. So, they bought and renovated a 19th century farmhouse in Connecticut. To make money, Martha began a **catering business**. And one day, while catering for a party, she met the head of a publishing company. He was impressed with her food, and asked if she'd like to write a cookbook. Martha said "absolutely" – it was the opportunity she'd been waiting for. In 1982, her first recipe book (*Entertaining*) was released.

Entertaining was the best-selling cookbook in twenty years. Martha was motivated by its success and she wrote more books, as well as articles about **homemaking**. Soon, she began releasing her own cooking and decorating products and also started appearing on talk shows. Then, in 1990, she launched her own magazine – *Martha Stewart Living*.

Martha's name had become a powerful brand. And Martha became known as America's **lifestyle guru**. In 1995, *New York Magazine* called her, "the definitive American woman of our time."

MARTHA STEWART BIOGRAPHY

Born on 3rd August 1941, in New Jersey, USA. Martha Stewart is an entrepreneur, publisher, author and TV star. She's currently worth US\$638 million.



So, did Martha learn anything from her time in jail? She certainly did. Martha told an interviewer, "I learned that I really cannot be destroyed." ☺

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Refer to unit 11 (page 59) of the Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



Social Splash

Meeting for the first time after an online relationship.

1 Pre-listening

Imagine you've just met someone and you're chatting to them in a bar. Think of six questions to ask them that will help keep the conversation going.

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to two people who've just met for the first time. Listen once. What questions do they ask one another? Compare these questions to the ones you thought of for the Pre-listening activity.

3 Listening II

Complete the sentences with the words from below. Then, listen again to check your answers.

meat 30s cat weekend 27 film
work months conference

- You aren't really _____, are you?
- You certainly aren't in your early _____
- I gave up alcohol a few _____ ago.
- So, have you got any plans for the _____?
- Yeah, I'm going to see the match with a few mates from _____
- I'm going to a _____ on vegetarianism.
- I work in the marketing department of a large _____ supplier.
- You can't release a domesticated _____ into the wild.
- We're going to see the latest Vin Diesel _____



4 Language focus Question tags

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Social Splash: "... you've got blonde hair in the picture you sent me, haven't you?" The speaker has used a question tag ("haven't you?"). Complete the statements with the correct question tags.

- You're from Birmingham, _____?
- You went out last night, _____?
- You're coming to the party, _____?
- You've got a dog, _____?

5 Discussion

- When was the last time you had a conversation with someone you just met? What did you talk about?
- What are your top tips for making conversation?
- What do you think of dating agencies / dating websites?



English Smugglers

England has a long tradition of smuggling dating back to the 11th century. But one period in English history is especially famous for smugglers and their illegal cargo.

The golden age of English smuggling began around 1700, and lasted for 150 years. During that time, England was fighting many expensive wars in Europe. To raise money for these wars, the government put high duties on imported goods. This made products such as wine, gin, silk, tea and tobacco too expensive for most people. So, smugglers brought these things into the country illegally. It was a win-win situation: the smugglers made a profit, and the people could buy the things they wanted.

relatively easy way to make money. So, they organised smuggling gangs and began bringing massive amounts of contraband into the country. At one point there was so much illegal gin in England that people were using it to clean their windows.

But it didn't take long for the government to respond. They were losing

a lot of money to smuggling. So, in 1746, it became a capital offence to smuggle. However, the threat of execution just made the smugglers more dangerous. They armed themselves and their boats. And they'd do anything to protect their precious cargo, including killing those who tried to stop them.



But who were the smugglers? At first, they were poor fisherman and sailors who needed to earn

a bit of extra cash. They purchased small amounts of contraband in foreign ports, and then sold it for a profit back in England. But very soon, other people found out about this



GIN, TEA OR TOBACCO, ANYONE?

Interestingly, although the smugglers were ruthless, the public supported them. Why?

Because people believed the high taxes were unfair. On top of that, the smuggling industry created many jobs in southern England. As a result, smugglers were seen as brave and cunning heroes. And that romantic reputation continues to this day.



THE COAST IS CLEAR!

A Smuggling Run

Here's our guide on how to be an 18th century English smuggler.

First, you need to load your ship with contraband at an overseas port. Popular ports in the 18th century were Calais and Le Havre (in France), or Vlissingen (in the Netherlands). Smuggling was big business and merchants in these towns **made a living** selling goods to smugglers.



into an English **customs ship**. If you do, you'll either have to fight them or **outrun** them. Good luck!

Eventually, you arrive at the coast in the middle of the night. Other members of your gang are waiting on the shore. It's their job to

make sure no customs officers are patrolling the beach. If the **coast is clear**, your accomplices will shine a light or make a fire. That's the **sign** to bring the cargo onto the beach.

Men with horses are waiting on the shore. They carry the goods inland. Some contraband goes to small villages. The rest is taken to **market towns** near London. There, **merchants** from the capital buy the tea, gin or tobacco to sell in their London shops. 🍵

Before you set sail for England, make sure your illegal cargo is well hidden. In those days, tobacco was often **woven** into rope, and **barrels** of gin were stored in secret compartments on the ship.

Now, you're ready to set sail! But, beware! While crossing the English Channel, you might **run**

GLOSSARY

- smuggling** *n*
taking goods from one country to another illegally
- a smuggler** *n*
a person who takes goods from one country to another illegally
- the golden age of** *exp*
the period of time when something was happening a lot
- to raise** *vb*
to increase
- a duty** *n*
a tax on goods that you buy
- imported goods** *n*
things (food, wine, etc.) that are brought into a country
- gin** *n*
a type of alcoholic drink made from grain and juniper berries
- silk** *n*
a type of smooth cloth made from silkworms (types of insect)
- a win-win situation** *n*
a situation that is good for both people/parties
- cash** *n*
money in the form of notes (paper money) and coins (metal money)
- to purchase** *vb*
to buy
- contraband** *n*
goods that have been imported illegally
- a capital offence** *n*
a crime that will result in death for the person who commits it
- the threat of** *exp*
if there is a "threat of" something, there is a danger of that thing
- execution** *n*
if there's an "execution", a prisoner is killed officially
- to arm yourself** *exp*
if you "arm yourself" with a weapon (a gun, knife, etc.), you take that weapon in order to defend yourself
- ruthless** *adj*
cruel and not kind
- cunning** *adj*
someone who is "cunning" can do things in a clever way, often by tricking people
- to make a living** *exp*
the things you do to "make a living" are the things you do to earn money
- to weave** *vb* (*wave; woven*)
if you "weave" cloth, you make it by crossing threads (thin pieces of material)
- a barrel** *n*
a wooden container for wine/beer, etc.
- to run into** *phr vb*
if you "run into" someone, you meet them unexpectedly
- a customs ship** *n*
a ship used by the authorities to control trade and check for contraband or illegal goods
- to outrun** *vb*
if ship A "outruns" ship B, ship A goes faster than ship B
- the coast is clear** *exp*
there is no danger
- a sign** *n*
something that is designed to communicate a message; a movement of the hands, a light going on and off, etc.
- a market town** *n*
a small town with a market in it where people buy and sell things
- a merchant** *n*
a businessperson who buys and sells things
- a den** *n*
a place where criminals can hide
- a moor** *n*
an open area of land without many trees
- the decor** *n*
the decoration/furniture, etc.
- a portal** *n formal*
a large door at the entrance to an important building
- a wrecker** *n*
someone who destroys things
- a villain** *n*
a bad person who does bad things
- t'was** *exp old-fashioned*
it was
- notorious** *adj*
famous for negative reasons
- fearless** *adj*
without any fear; not afraid
- to risk** *vb*
if someone "risks" getting beaten (for example), they do something and there is a danger that they will be beaten

Illegal Tea

The English will do anything for a cup of tea! In the 17th century, the East India Company started importing tea from China. But the company's monopoly and the high import duties made it too expensive for most people. So, by the 18th century, tea was one of the most commonly smuggled goods into Britain. In fact, it's estimated that in the 1780s, 80% of tea drunk in England was illegal.



The Jamaica Inn

The Jamaica Inn is a pub in Cornwall (in the southwest of England) that was once a smuggler's **den**. Built in 1750, it's in the middle of an isolated **moor**. Smugglers used the area to transport contraband, and many would stop off at the inn, or use it to hide their cargo. These days it's a pub and hotel, but it's kept much of the original **decor**. And a sign above the door says, "Through these **portals** passed smugglers, **wreckers**, **villains** and murderers, but rest easy... **t'was** many years ago."

The Hawkhurst Gang

The Hawkhurst Gang was England's most **notorious** band of smugglers. They operated in Kent (in south east England) from about 1735 until 1749. And they were **fearless**. The gang once brought three shiploads of contraband into England in one night. It was so much tea, brandy and gin that they needed 500 horses to transport the goods to London. They often demanded help from local villagers. If you said yes, you'd get a barrel of gin. But if you opposed them, you **risked** being beaten... or worse.



Modern day smuggling

Drug smuggling (also called "drug trafficking") is a big problem in the United States. And it's extremely difficult to control. According to the US Customs Service, approximately 370 million people enter the country by land, 60 million people enter by air, and six million enter by sea each year. And more than 90,000 passenger and merchant ships dock at US ports, carrying 400 million tons of cargo in more than 9 million shipping containers. Drug smuggling operations are concealed within this trade, as drugs are brought into and out of the United States by way of land, air, sea, and mail.

Discussion

- What goods are commonly smuggled into your country?
- Are there any neighbouring countries with cheaper goods than those in your country? What are they?
- Have you ever been on a shopping trip to another country? What did you buy? Why?

Well-known people with a criminal record.

FAMOUS ARRESTS

PARIS HILTON, LINDSAY LOHAN, ROBERT DOWNEY JR. CELEBRITIES ARE OFTEN IN TROUBLE WITH THE LAW. SOME MANAGE TO KEEP THEIR "MISTAKES" A SECRET. BUT OTHERS END UP WITH THEIR STORIES ALL OVER THE **TABLOIDS**. HERE ARE THE DETAILS OF THREE FAMOUS ARRESTS. A COUPLE OF THEM MIGHT SURPRISE YOU.

FAMOUS ARRESTS



Winona Ryder was once one of Hollywood's biggest stars. During the 1990s, she **received critical acclaim** and **box office success**. And in 2000, she was **awarded** a star on the Hollywood **Walk of Fame**. But then it all went wrong. In December 2001, she was arrested for **shoplifting**. She was caught on CCTV leaving a Beverly Hills department store carrying thousands of dollars worth of clothes. Winona claimed she was **rehearsing** for a part as a shoplifter.



But the **jury** didn't believe her. She was convicted of shoplifting

and **grand theft**. Her sentence? 480 hours of community service at a Los Angeles hospital. Afterwards, Winona **quit** acting for a few years. And she moved from Los Angeles to San Francisco, to get **out of the spotlight**. But now she's on a **comeback**. She recently appeared in the award-winning *Black Swan*. Winona's not only talented, but she's also a nice person. The police who arrested her said she was "very friendly, polite and cooperative."

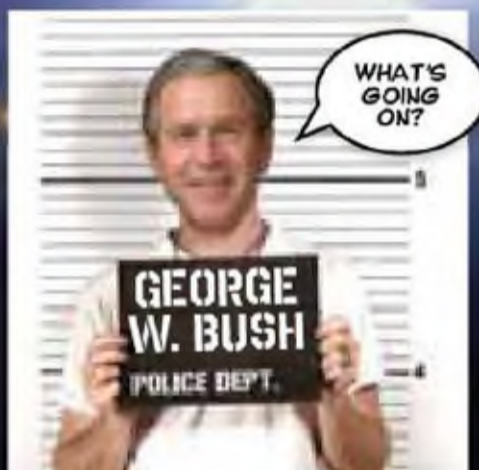


Bill Gates doesn't seem like a bad boy. But on 29th April 1975 (just two weeks after founding Microsoft) he was arrested in Albuquerque, New Mexico. What for? **Speeding** and driving without a driver's licence. But Bill's **rap sheet** doesn't end there. In 1977 he was arrested again. This time for speeding, driving his Porsche through a **stop sign** and, once again, driving



without a licence. The police records for

the arrest have disappeared. But you can still find Bill's **mug shot** on the internet. And finally, in 1989, Bill was **booked** for **drunk driving**. But the charge was reduced to a lesser offence. Bill has never commented on his **wild past**. But a Microsoft spokesperson said, "It's well known that when Bill was young, he didn't have a very good driving record."



Can someone with a criminal record become president of the United States? They certainly can. And George W. Bush did. In 1976, the 30-year old Bush was drinking in a bar near his parents' house. A few hours later, he decided to drive home. But on the way, a police officer **pulled him over**. Bush had been driving suspiciously slowly. The future president was arrested for drunk driving. Bush kept his arrest secret for 24 years. But it **leaked to the press** just before the 2000 presidential election (which he won). Bush admitted it was true. He said, "I'm not **proud** of that. I made some mistakes. I occasionally drank too much, and I did that night. I've learned my lesson." 🍷



GLOSSARY

- the tabloids** *n*
newspapers that often have stories about the private lives of famous people
- to receive critical acclaim** *exp*
to receive positive reviews
- box office success** *exp*
if a film has "box office success", it makes a lot of money from cinema ticket sales
- to award** *vb*
if someone is "awarded" a prize/money, etc., they are given that prize/money, etc.
- the Walk of Fame** *n*
a road in Hollywood with metal stars on the pavement (the part of the road that you walk on) with actors' names
- shoplifting** *n*
stealing things from a shop
- to rehearse** *vb*
if actors "rehearse", they practise for a film/play, etc.
- the jury** *n*
the 12 people in a court case who decide if someone is guilty or innocent
- grand theft** *n*
stealing things which have a great value
- to quit** *vb*
to stop doing something
- out of the spotlight** *exp*
if a famous person is "out of the spotlight", they stop receiving attention from the newspapers, etc.
- a comeback** *n*
if a star makes a "comeback", they become popular again after a period of not being popular
- speeding** *n*
driving faster than the permitted speed limit
- a rap sheet** *n*
a criminal record – an official document stating the crimes someone has committed
- a stop sign** *n*
a sign in the road that says you must stop your car to let traffic pass
- a mug shot** *n*
a photo police take of someone when they are arrested
- to book** *vb*
when a police officer "books" someone, they write down their name and address and the details of the crime
- drunk driving** *n*
driving a vehicle whilst drunk (having had too much alcohol)
- a wild past** *n*
if someone has a "wild past", they did many crazy things in the past
- to pull over** *phr vb*
if the police "pull over" a driver, they tell the driver to stop the car at the side of the road
- to leak to the press** *exp*
if information is "leaked to the press", someone tells the press about it
- proud** *adj*
if someone is "proud" of something, they are pleased about that thing

An action-packed film about smuggling.

CONTRABAND

CONTRABAND FOCUSES ON THE WORLD OF **SMUGGLING**. MARK WAHLBERG PLAYS AN **EX-SMUGGLER** WHO HAS TO DO "ONE LAST JOB". AND *CONTRABAND* SHOWS JUST WHAT IT'S LIKE IN THIS DANGEROUS WORLD OF CRIME.



Contraband is a 2012 American action-thriller, directed by Baltasar Kormákur (who's from Iceland). The film stars Mark Wahlberg and Kate Beckinsale. Mark plays Chris, a former smuggler living in New Orleans. Chris has given up his old life of crime and is now a family man. He has a wife (Kate, played by Beckinsale) and two kids. But when Kate's younger brother gets involved in a drug deal that **goes wrong**, Chris must do one last smuggling job. Why? So he can pay off his brother-in-law's **debt**... and **save his life**. Of course, things don't go according to plan.



IT'S EXPLOSIVE!

was smuggled on a container ship. Baltasar said a lot of international smuggling happens this way. For example, drugs are often hidden in **shipping containers**, or inside the walls of the **cargo ships**. Secondly, the film had to be set in New Orleans. The Port of New Orleans is one of America's biggest ports for smuggling, and illegal goods are regularly brought in here from South America. And thirdly, the filmmakers worked with the United States Department of **Homeland Security** to make sure they got the **law-enforcement** details right.



Contraband is actually a **remake**. It's based on a 2008 Icelandic film called *Reykjavik-Rotterdam*. Baltasar Kormákur produced and starred in the original film. So, many people have asked him why he wanted to tell the same story again. His response?

While he loves the original, he thinks setting the story in America works even better than Iceland because America has a much bigger **criminal underworld**.

So, what do the two versions have in common, and how are they different? The basic story and the characters are the same. And in both films the **contraband** is smuggled aboard a **container ship**. The main differences are the **setting** and the actual contraband being smuggled. In *Reykjavik-Rotterdam*, the characters are **running** alcohol from Holland to Iceland. But in *Contraband*, Chris

smuggles **counterfeit** US dollars from Panama to the United States.

Finally, Baltasar said that casting Mark Wahlberg added a **touch of authenticity**. Mark (just like Chris in the film) has a dark past (see our article on Mark Wahlberg to find out more about his criminal record). And Baltasar said this background helped the actor understand the character. Mark agrees. He told an interviewer, "I always want to play roles I can **connect with** on a personal level. My real-life experience is far more valuable than any kind of **trickery** you could learn."

So, if you like explosive Hollywood blockbusters, you'll love *Contraband*. And who knows, you might also learn a thing or two about smuggling. ☺



You Tube

Check out the *Contraband* trailer: <http://youtu.be/dFOBpZJh1M>



DISCUSSION

What goods are smuggled into your country?
 What goods are smuggled out of your country?
 Is smuggling a problem in your country? Give examples.

GLOSSARY

- smuggling** *n*
the crime of taking goods illegally from one country to another
- a smuggler** *n*
a person who takes goods illegally from one country to another
- to go wrong** *exp*
if things "go wrong", they don't go well
- a debt** *n*
money you must pay to someone
- to save a life** *exp*
if you "save someone's life", you stop them from dying
- a remake** *n*
another version of a film
- the criminal underworld** *n*
the "criminal underworld" in a city is the organised crime there and the people who are involved in it
- contraband** *n*
goods that are taken illegally from one country to another
- a container ship** *n*
a large ship for transporting goods. It has many containers (large boxes) on it
- a setting** *n*
the "setting" of a film is the place where the story happens
- to run** *vb*
if someone "runs" goods from one country to another, they take them from that country to another
- counterfeit** *adj*
not real; not genuine
- a shipping container** *n*
a large box on a ship for carrying goods
- a cargo ship** *n*
a large ship for transporting goods
- United States Department of Homeland Security** *n*
an organisation in the USA that tries to stop terrorist attacks
- law-enforcement** *adj*
"law-enforcement" officials include the police / the FBI, etc.
- a touch of authenticity** *n*
a bit of reality
- to connect with** *exp*
if you "connect with" something, you understand it
- trickery** *n*
using dishonest methods to achieve something



Baltasar wanted to show the real world of smuggling. So, how did he achieve that? First, he said it was important that the money

The star with a past.

MARK WAHLBERG

MARK WAHLBERG IS A HOLLYWOOD SUPERSTAR WITH A **GLAMOROUS** LIFE. BUT IT HASN'T ALWAYS BEEN EASY FOR HIM.

Mark was born into a big family, being the youngest of nine **siblings**. And he had a **tough upbringing** in a poor Massachusetts suburb. Three of his brothers and his sister spent time in jail. And soon Mark was getting into trouble too. He said, "I was climbing out the window and staying out all night when I was 12 or 13, and by the time I was 13 or 14, I stopped going to school."

Then in 1988 (when he was 16), his life changed. One night, Mark and some friends robbed a pharmacy and a liquor store. And they attacked a man in the street. Mark was arrested and sent to prison for two years. In the end, he only served 45 days. But going to jail was a **wake-up call**. He decided to turn his back on crime. When he got out of prison, he left his gang and became a **devout** Catholic.



Having decided to **go straight**, Mark **turned to** music. His brother Donnie was

the lead singer in the popular boy band New Kids on the Block. With Donnie's help,



Mark formed the hip-hop group Marky Mark and the Funky Bunch. They released two top-ten

singles and their first album **went platinum**. Mark (or, Marky Mark as he was known) became famous for his muscular physique, which he would show off in the group's videos. But the band's second album wasn't successful. And in 1993 the group **split up**.

By then, Mark was no longer interested in music. Instead, he wanted to act. But the change wasn't easy. Everyone knew him as Marky Mark the hip-hop star and he wasn't taken seriously as an actor. However, in 1993, he had his TV **debut**.



And within a year he had appeared on the **big screen**, followed by his **breakthrough role** in 1997 in the film *Boogie Nights*.



Since then, Mark has been in many successful films. And his career has gone **from strength to strength**. In 2006, he was nominated for an Academy Award for his role in *The Departed*. And he was recently praised for his portrayal of an Irish-American boxer in *The Fighter* (2010). Mark has definitely proved his critics wrong.



So, how does he feel about his past now? He told an interviewer, "I did a lot of things that I **regretted**, and I certainly paid for my mistakes." And does he **feel guilty** about his past?

"I don't have a problem going to sleep at night. I feel good when I wake up in the morning." ☺



I FEEL GOOD WHEN I WAKE UP IN THE MORNING!

BIOGRAPHY

Mark Wahlberg is an American actor and producer. He was born on 5th June 1971 in Dorchester, Massachusetts. He is married and has four children. His most successful films include *Boogie Nights* (1997), *Three Kings* (1999), *Planet of the Apes* (2001), *The Departed* (2006) and *The Fighter* (2010).



TRIVIA

- Mark Wahlberg is good friends with actor Leonardo DiCaprio.
- He was once an underwear model for Calvin Klein.
- He was originally in his brother's group New Kids on the Block. But he **quit** before the band became successful.
- He decided to become a rapper because he can't actually sing.
- He recently opened a hamburger joint with two of his brothers. It's called Wahlburgers.
- He has four tattoos, including a crucifix over his heart. But he is currently getting them removed by laser treatment.
- He runs the Mark Wahlberg Youth Foundation. The organisation helps poor and underprivileged children.
- He once released a **workout** video, called *Form... Focus... Fitness, the Marky Mark Workout*.
- His parents got divorced when he was 11.
- His wife's name is Rhea Durham. For their first date, they went to church.



You Tube

Mark as Marky Mark:
http://youtu.be/oJ_SNIWrY54



DISCUSSION

Which Mark Wahlberg films have you seen? What did you think of them? Which of his quotes do you agree with? Why? Have there been any big changes in your life? Give details.

GLOSSARY

- glamorous** *adj*
attractive, exciting and interesting
- a sibling** *n*
a brother or sister
- tough** *adj*
difficult / hard / not easy
- an upbringing** *n*
your "upbringing" is the way you were treated and educated as a child
- a wake-up call** *n*
something that makes you stop and think
- devout** *adj*
serious and committed
- to go straight** *exp*
to stop doing illegal things
- to turn to** *exp*
if you "turn to" an activity, you start doing it
- to go platinum** *exp*
to sell more than a million singles or albums
- to split up** *phr vb*
to separate
- a debut** *n*
the first time you do something
- the big screen** *n*
if you appear on the "big screen", you appear in a film
- a breakthrough role** *n*
a part in a film that makes someone famous
- (to go) from strength to strength** *exp*
to become better and better
- to regret** *vb*
to feel bad about something you did in the past
- to feel guilty** *exp*
to feel bad about something you did in the past
- to quit** *vb*
to stop doing something
- a workout** *n*
a series of exercise movements
- better off** *exp*
if you're "better off" doing something, it is better for you to do that thing
- to grow up** *phr vb*
the time when you "grow up" is the time when you go from being a child to being an adult
- to survive** *vb*
if you "survive" a situation, you don't die in that situation
- to root for** *exp*
to support
- a nightmare** *n*
a terrible situation; a bad dream
- a nickname** *n*
an informal name
- forgiveness** *n*
the act of not being angry with someone who has done something bad to you
- to forgive** *vb*
to stop being angry with someone who has done something bad to you

QUOTES

ON HIS SIZE (HE'S 1.77 METERS TALL)...

"Being the youngest and the smallest... I was always trying to impress the older guys."

ON GROWING UP...

"I think I was **better off growing up** in the world I did. If people are able to **survive** that, then they can survive anything."

ON RELIGION AND SPORT...

"I love golf and I love church. I do both every day."

ON VILLAINS...

"I always **root for** the bad guys."

ON HONESTY...

"I never lie. I believe everything I say, so it's not a lie."

ON MONEY...

"I have more money now than I know what to do with."

ON DREAMS...

"I still have **nightmares** about going to prison."

ON LIFE EXPERIENCE...

"I have a lot of real life experience with... doing stupid stuff."

ON HIS FORMER NICKNAME

MARKY MARK...

INTERVIEWER: "What is your least favourite word?"

MARK: "Is Marky Mark one word?"

ON BEDTIME...

"I've got kids - I'm in bed by nine o'clock."

ON BEING A DAD...

"Fatherhood is amazing! It's the best thing that ever happened to me."

ON FORGIVENESS...

"Everyone can be **forgiven**. It's just a matter of going out and working for it."

ON LUCK...

"I'm very lucky to be alive."



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This month, we're looking at some reporting verbs.

GRAMMAR FUN

(part 1)

Reporting verbs

In this month's grammar focus we're looking at some more reporting verbs.

We use reporting verbs with Reported Speech. Reported Speech is a version of what someone has said. We often use this structure with the verbs *say* or *tell*. For example:

Direct speech: "I won't be there on time."

Indirect speech: She **said** that she wouldn't be there on time.

Instead of *say* or *tell*, we can use other verbs too. These are known as reporting verbs. For example: "She **informed** us that she wouldn't be there on time."

Here are some more reporting verbs.

Reporting verb + that + a clause

Some reporting verbs are followed by *that* and a clause (with a subject + verb, etc.). These include: *admit, agree, decide, deny, insist, promise, claim, announce, confirm, recommend, suggest, demand*. The use of *that* isn't obligatory. For example:

- She **admitted** that she'd taken the money.
- They **agreed** that it wasn't a good idea.
- They **decided** that they'd take the green one.
- She **denied** that she knew anything about it.
- They **insisted** that it was theirs.
- They **promised** that they'd do it the following day.
- She **confirmed** that she'd attend the party.
- They **claimed** that they were the winners.
- She **announced** that she'd be leaving next season.



Reporting verb + object + that + a clause



Some reporting verbs are followed by an object + *that* and a clause. These include the verb *assure*. For example:

- He **assured us** that it would be all right.
- She **assured them** that she'd put it back.



Exercise

Add letters to the verbs to complete the sentences. They're all in the past tense.

- They (**NEDDIE**) _____ that they'd ever spoken to the suspect.
- He (**RIFNODMEC**) _____ that it would go ahead as planned.
- He (**CEDEDEI**) _____ that he wouldn't participate in the competition.
- We (**DEIMDATT**) _____ that we'd already seen it.
- She (**SIEDSNIT**) _____ that she knew nothing about it.
- He (**DEMIALC**) _____ that he was the one who'd left it there.
- She (**SIMODREP**) _____ that she'd be there on time.
- We (**RADGEE**) _____ that it was probably the best course of action.
- He (**NUCODNAEN**) _____ that he'd be entering the competition.

GLOSSARY

- to admit** *vb*
if you "admit" that something is true, you accept that it is true
- to deny** *vb*
if you "deny" something, you say that it isn't true
- to insist** *vb*
if you "insist" that something is true, you say that you are absolutely sure that it is true
- to claim** *vb*
if someone "claims" that something is true, they say that it is true, although other people aren't so sure
- to announce** *vb*
if you "announce" something, you say it formally and in public
- to assure** *vb*
if you "assure" someone that something is true, you say that you are sure it is true

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PUERTO RICAN ENGLISH

BY MELISSA ARMSTRONG

Spanish is Puerto Rico's native tongue. Puerto Ricans acquire a varied amount of accents, depending on who (or what) is their main influence as they're learning English. English is taught at a very early age. This, combined with a huge exposure to American culture and media, has helped a large number of Puerto Ricans acquire an American accent, but always with a hint of the distinctive "sing-songy" native sound.

A Puerto Rican who's fluent in English will have a varied pitch, to show different emotions (such as surprise or sarcasm) similar to Americans. For example, when told something surprising, a Puerto Rican might use the expression "Really?" with emphasis, to let you know that they're either surprised or having a hard time believing what you just said.



Also, they'll incorporate common English words and idioms into their daily life. For instance, when picking up the phone, a Puerto Rican will most likely greet the caller with "hello" rather than "hola." A common practice among highly-trained professionals is to incorporate English while they're speaking Spanish, turning it into "Spanglish." A financial advisor, for example, can be found talking to his or her clients about "assets, liabilities" and "fund leverage," even within an otherwise Spanish context.

This is a direct result of having most of the education at their level conducted through the use of Anglo books and



resources. Lately though, an increased number of other Puerto Ricans are also altering their daily language to include American idioms.

"Whatever!" became quite the popular expression after the release of the movie *Clueless* in 1995. In most cases, this has been a positive practice, helping

improve their level of English and accent. In others, it has done the opposite. For example, a Puerto Rican will call an onion dip "dip de cebolla." When pronounced, "dip" will sound more like "deep."



Being a Caribbean island, Puerto Rico is influenced by a variety of sources and factors. In general, when talking about the Puerto Rican accent in English, the most important thing to say might be that there's no definitive accent at all. ☺

THE COQUI, A SYMBOL OF PUERTO RICO

The "coqui", or little frog, is the king of Puerto Rican fauna, thanks to its popular song. The "coqui" is a tree frog that can be heard all across the island during the night. Its name comes from its constant melody that goes "co-quí, co-quí, co-quí..." This tiny frog might be small in size, but its voice is strong and sound.



Most "coquis" are brown in colour, although there is a species that is green. They lose so much water through their skin, that they can only live in highly humid environments. As the legend goes, "coquis" can only sing in Puerto Rico and die of sadness anywhere else.

Proud Puerto Ricans will say, "Soy más puertorriqueño que el coqui (I am more Puerto Rican than the coqui)." Truly, this little friend is much more than an animal; it's a symbol of the whole island. ☺

FAMOUS PEOPLE

Ricky Martin (singer), Marc Anthony (actor and singer), Rosario Dawson (actress), Benicio del Toro (actor and film producer), Raúl Juliá (actor) and Jennifer Lopez (actress and singer).



STATE

The Commonwealth of Puerto Rico is an unincorporated American territory. This means that Puerto Rico is controlled by the government of the United States, but it isn't a state within the United States.

LOCATION

Puerto Rico is located in the Caribbean Sea, between the Dominican Republic, the US and the British Virgin Islands. Puerto Rico is the smallest of the Greater Antilles. It's made up of the main island (Puerto Rico) and a number of smaller islands, with Vieques, Culebra and Mona as the most important ones. **POPULATION** Approximately 4 million people.

LANGUAGE

The official languages are Spanish and English with Spanish being the main language. English is taught as a second language in public and private schools from elementary to university levels.

FAMOUS FOR...

- ... the only tropical rainforest in the USA (El Yunque).
- ... the world's largest telescope in the world, located in Arecibo.
- ... three of the most famous bioluminescent bays in the world (out of a total of 5 or 6), found in Vieques, Lajas and Fajardo.



READING I

Corruption

CORRUPTION



1 Pre-reading

In pairs, think of an example of corruption (invent if necessary)? Who does it involve? What has happened? Discuss with your partner.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which example of corruption is the worst? Why? Discuss with a partner.

3 Reading II

Write T (True) or F (False) next to each statement. Then, read the article again to check your answers.

- Rod Blagojevich wanted a high-paying job for his nephew.
- He was sentenced to four years in prison.
- Taito Phillip Field was a Member of Parliament.
- He was sentenced to five years in jail.
- The Metropolitan Police has never had to investigate any cases of corruption within the force.
- Transparency International is a leading surveillance company.

4 Language focus The Past Perfect

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...He had organised work permits for..." The writer has used the Past Perfect ("had organised"). Transform the following sentences into the Past Perfect.

- They went out last night.
- He didn't see the film.
- She left through the door.
- We spoke to her.

5 Discussion

- What stories of corruption have you read about in the news lately?
- Are there any ongoing stories of corruption in your country? What are they about?
- What do you think of corruption?

A global problem.

Corruption is a big problem. According to a recent report, it's costing the world US\$1 trillion a year. But what exactly does it involve?

Basically, corruption is when someone in a position of power abuses that power for private gain. The most common form of corruption is **bribery**. And the most commonly bribed people are police officers and politicians.

Perhaps a couple of examples might help illustrate the point. When Barack Obama was elected president, he had to give up his seat in the **Senate** (he was the Senator for Illinois). Rod Blagojevich, the Illinois governor, was supposed to



choose Obama's **replacement**. But Rod decided to try to "sell" the seat. The price? He wanted **cash**, a high-paying job for his wife, and an **overseas posting**. He was secretly recorded saying, "[A Senate seat is] a valuable thing... you don't just **give it away** for nothing." Rod was sentenced to 14 years in prison.

In New Zealand, supposedly the least corrupt country in the world, there was a famous case in 2009. Taito Phillip Field, a Member of Parliament, was found guilty of bribery. He had organised **work permits** for several Thai men. In exchange, they **renovated** his house. Taito was sentenced to six years in jail.



In the UK, things aren't much better. Since 1998, the **Metropolitan Police** have dealt with 51 officers for corruption-related offences. Investigations have shown that very often **corrupt** officers develop relationships with criminals outside work, and then pass on information that may be beneficial to them... in exchange for money, of course!

So, what causes corruption? Human nature apparently! Transparency International (the UK's leading anti-corruption organisation) says, "People are as corrupt as the system allows them to be." In other words, people will become corrupt if a country doesn't have good **checks and balances** to stop them. Countries that have recently been at war, that are politically unstable or that are very poor, usually don't have good anti-corruption systems.

So, what are the effects of corruption? Basically, corruption makes a country poorer. If a politician awards a contract to a friend so that they can build a school, then that contract is not necessarily the best deal available. Another company might have built the school for less. So, corruption wastes public money. And this means there may not be any funds for services such as health and education. On top of that, international companies avoid investing in corrupt countries.

Let's fight corruption! ◉



GLOSSARY

- bribery** *n* paying money to an official / police officer, etc. in return for a favour
- the Senate** *n* the upper house in the US Congress
- a replacement** *n* if A is a "replacement" for B, A takes B's place
- cash** *n* money in the form of notes (paper money) or coins (metal money)
- an overseas posting** *n* a job in another country
- to give away** *phr vb* to give for free (without demanding anything in return)
- a work permit** *n* a legal document that gives you permission to work in a foreign country
- to renovate** *vb* if a house is "renovated", builders paint it / fix it / repair it, etc.
- the Metropolitan Police** *n* the police force in London
- corrupt** *adj* if a police officer / official, etc. is corrupt, they aren't honest and do illegal things
- checks and balances** *n* laws and systems that stop bad/illegal things happening

Heroes



New Zealandman & Englishwoman
 track 14

PRE-READING ON PAGE 45

Have you got what it takes to be a hero?

1 Pre-reading

This article is about three types of heroism (see 1 to 3 below). Think of an example (invented if you want) for each type. Discuss your ideas with a partner.

1. Sacrificing your safety to help a stranger
2. Helping during an emergency
3. Taking a stand against an injustice

2 Reading I

Read the article once and compare your ideas from the Pre-reading task.

3 Reading II

Write "Autrey", "Zeitoun" or "Big Man" next to each statement. Then, read the article again to check your answers.

1. He looked after some abandoned dogs.
2. He threw someone off a train.
3. He intervened during a discussion.
4. He jumped onto the tracks to save a man.
5. He helped a 70-year-old woman.
6. A train passed over his head.

4 Discussion

1. When was the last time you helped someone? What did you do?
2. Have there been any stories of "heroes" in the news lately? Give details.
3. Have you ever done anything "heroic"? What was it?

How heroic are you? According to a recent study, some 20% of Americans claim they've done at least one heroic deed in their lives. The most common types of heroism mentioned were **1) sacrificing your safety for a stranger; 2) helping during an emergency; and 3) taking a stand against an injustice.** Here are some real-life examples of each type of heroism. What would you have done in each situation?



1. Sacrificing your safety to help a stranger

Wesley Autrey is a New York construction worker. One morning, he was in the **subway** waiting for the train when a student beside him had a **seizure**. Wesley **rushed** to help. But the student fell onto the **tracks** just as a train was entering the station. Immediately, Wesley jumped down to rescue the young man. But there wasn't time to get him to safety. So, Wesley lay down on top of the young man to protect him as the train passed over their heads. The carriage got so close to Wesley that it **smeared grease** on his cap. **Onlookers** were sure that both men were dead. But from under the train Wesley **yelled**, "We're OK down here!" Wesley later said, "I don't feel like I did something spectacular; I just saw someone who needed help. I did what I felt was right." He's since become known as the Subway Samaritan.



2. Helping during an emergency

As Hurricane Katrina approached New Orleans in 2005, many **fled** the city. But Abdulrahman Zeitoun stayed behind. He wanted to look after the family home, but he ended up taking care of so much more. After the storm, the city filled with water and the streets became like canals. For six days, Abdulrahman **paddled around** in a small canoe, helping people wherever he could. Some of those he saved included a 70-year-old woman who was **drowning**. "She was inside the house holding onto a bookshelf with water up to her shoulders," Abdulrahman said. In total, he rescued about ten of his neighbours. Some would surely have died without his help. He even looked after several abandoned dogs. But Abdulrahman is a **humble** man. He said afterwards, "I really don't feel I deserve all this attention. I only did what I had been **brought up** to do." His story is being made into a film.



3. Taking a stand against an injustice

A Scottish man recently became an internet sensation after he threw a **fare dodger** off a train. Here's what happened. An **elderly conductor** was checking the tickets on a train when he got into an argument with a young passenger who didn't have a ticket. The conductor repeatedly told the passenger to get off, but he **refused**. Finally, a large man stood up and said to the conductor, "Do you want me to get him off for you?" The conductor said yes. So, the big man **grabbed** the fare dodger, **lifted** him out of his seat and threw him onto the platform. The other passengers **cheered** as the man sat down again. He's since become known as "Big Man". And many have called him a hero for **standing up to** anti-social behaviour. However, others have criticised Big Man's use of violence.

What do you think? Is Big Man a hero? ◉

You Tube

Watch Big Man take charge [warning, explicit language]:

<http://youtu.be/NSJBUNOG8kw>

Wesley Autrey describes his train ordeal:

<http://youtu.be/STNcb1qFnK4>



GLOSSARY

- take a stand** *exp*
if you "take a stand" against something, you try to stop that thing
- the subway** *n*
the underground train system in New York City
- a seizure** *n*
if someone has a "seizure", they have a heart attack (or another such attack)
- to rush** *vb*
to go somewhere quickly
- the tracks** *n*
the long metal lines that trains travel on
- to smear** *vb*
if a liquid or substance is "smeared" on you, it goes on you and covers you
- grease** *n*
a thick, oily substance that is put on machines
- an onlooker** *n*
someone watching while something happens
- to yell** *vb*
to shout / to talk in a loud voice
- to flee** *vb* (past: **fled**)
to run away / to escape
- to paddle around** *phr vb*
to move a boat through the water by using a paddle (a short stick with a wide, flat part at one end)
- to drown** *vb*
to die in water
- humble** *adj*
a "humble" person is modest and not proud, and doesn't believe they are better than others
- to bring up** *phr vb*
to "bring up" children is to educate and look after them
- a fare dodger** *n*
someone who travels on a train, etc. without paying for a ticket
- elderly** *adj*
old; over 65 years old
- a conductor** *n*
a person whose job is to check tickets
- to refuse** *vb*
to say that you won't do something
- to grab** *vb*
to take suddenly and with force
- to lift** *vb*
if you "lift" something, you take it to a higher level
- to cheer** *vb*
when people "cheer", they shout and clap their hands to show their support for something or someone
- to stand up to** *exp*
if you "stand up to" something bad, you fight against it and try to stop it



DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC

Crime & Punishment

This month we're looking at some words you can use to talk about crime and punishment.

Suspect

SOMEONE WHO THE POLICE BELIEVE MAY HAVE COMMITTED A CRIME.
"He was the prime suspect in the murder inquiry."



Witness

SOMEONE WHO HAS SEEN A CRIME.
"Police are calling for witnesses to the bank robbery."



Trial

A FORMAL MEETING IN A COURT OF LAW. THE JUDGE AND JURY LISTEN TO EVIDENCE AND DECIDE WHETHER A PERSON IS INNOCENT OR GUILTY OF A CRIME.
"The trial lasted for sixteen days."



Court

A PLACE WHERE LEGAL MATTERS ARE DECIDED BY A JUDGE AND JURY.
"She was in court for armed robbery."



Guilty

IF SOMEONE IS "GUILTY" OF A CRIME, THEY HAVE COMMITTED THAT CRIME - THEY AREN'T INNOCENT.
"She was declared guilty and sentenced to six months in prison."



Judge

A PERSON WHOSE JOB IS TO DECIDE HOW THE LAW SHOULD BE APPLIED AND HOW THE CONVICTED PERSON SHOULD BE PUNISHED.
"The judge jailed the man for life."



Jury

THE 12 PEOPLE IN A COURT CASE WHO DECIDE WHETHER SOMEONE IS INNOCENT OR GUILTY.
"The jury returned a verdict of not-guilty."



Verdict

THE DECISION THAT IS GIVEN BY THE JUDGE OR JURY AT THE END OF A TRIAL.
"The jury returned a unanimous guilty verdict."



Appeal

A FORMAL REQUEST FOR A LEGAL DECISION TO BE CHANGED.
"Her appeal against the sentence was unsuccessful."



Contraband

GOODS THAT HAVE BEEN IMPORTED OR EXPORTED ILLEGALLY.
"The ship was found to be carrying contraband goods, mostly drugs."





1 Pre-reading

What's the most ridiculous work of art you've ever seen? Why was it so bad? Discuss with a partner.



2 Reading I

Read the article and the comments at the end of the article. Which comments do you agree with? What would you say? Discuss with a partner.

3 Reading II

Answer the questions (1 to 5), which are based on the comments at the end of the article. Then, read the article again to check your answers.

1. What *wouldn't* have happened if they'd labelled the work of art properly?
2. What would one person have done to the piece as well?
3. What does one person suggest giving the cleaner?
4. What would have added another million to the value?
5. What does one person consider trying to sell?



4 Language focus
The Third Conditional

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...If they'd labelled it properly, this would never have happened!" The writer has used the Third Conditional. Complete the following Third Conditional sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1. If you'd told me before, I _____ (not take) it.
2. If they'd left a bit earlier, they _____ (not miss) the flight.
3. If you'd asked me, I _____ (help) you.

5 Discussion

1. What's your opinion of modern art? Which pieces do you like/dislike?
2. What works of modern art are there from your country?
3. What type of art do you like?

History Hit

Commenting on the past.

Last updated at 3:38pm Comments (838) Tweet Recommend

Modern art destruction

Cleaner removes "stain" from acclaimed work of art.



A cleaner accidentally destroyed a piece of installation art valued at more than £600,000. Whilst working on the exhibition floor, the conscientious cleaner removed a stain from a plastic bowl. Unfortunately, the bowl was part of a work of art which was being exhibited at a museum in Dortmund (Germany). Entitled *When It Starts Dripping From The Ceilings*, the piece consisted of a tower of wooden slats with a plastic bowl at the

bottom. The bowl had been painted brown to give the impression of discolouration caused by the water. "It is now impossible to return it to its original state," a museum spokeswoman said.

The work of art was by the late artist Martin Kippenberger. He was regarded as one of the finest of his generation until his death in 1997 aged just 44. Earlier this year, one of his sculptures was sold at Christie's in London for more than one million pounds. The Dortmund incident isn't the first time a piece of art has fallen victim to a cleaner. In 2004, a cleaner at the Tate Modern binned part of a work by artist Gustav Metzger.



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COMMENTS Comments (838) View all

Here's what other readers have said. Why not add your thoughts?

- If they'd labelled it properly, this would never have happened! **northturton** 03:51pm
- I'm sure she was just expressing herself artistically. **elia1** 03:45pm
- If it had been any good, she would have noticed that it was a "work of art". **red_dragon** 03:30pm
- This is an example of the emotional impact that art can have on people! **The_Ranter** 02:55pm
- I would have set fire to it as well! **brookmeyer** 02:40pm
- Far from telling the cleaner off, I would have rewarded her. **lhnick** 02:02pm
- Destruction, after all, is another form of creation. **Squeak_E_Mouse** 01:49pm
- If she'd used a bit more colour, it might have added another million to the value. **trevincyprus** 01:39pm
- They'd pay £600,000 for this? I wonder what they would have given me for my old lawnmower? **protogodzilla** 01:35pm

QUIRKY NEWS

QUIRKY NEWS

Quirky News

Quirky News N° 122

The voice of the people

London 2012

Yoga... for dogs



What do you call yoga for dogs? "Doga", apparently. Suzette Ackermann, a South African woman, has recently begun offering doga classes at her yoga studio. "I already give yoga classes for adults and also for mothers and their children, so I thought, this can't be so different." She said it's perfect for dog lovers who want to **pamper** their pets.

So, how does it work? Simple! Dog owners do yoga positions while holding their pets. And the dogs are helped into various positions of their own. So, is it a **gimmick**? Not according to doga-enthusiast Harty Baleros. She goes with her Bichon Frise. "It's like you're **bonding with** the dog. Also, my dog listens to me more, and is better **behaved** when we do yoga together." ◉



Missing wedding ring

A Quirky News exclusive report



In 1995, Swedish woman Lena Paahlsson lost her diamond wedding **ring**. She'd taken it off to do some **baking**. But then she couldn't find it anywhere. Lena and her husband **searched** the entire kitchen. They even **took up the floorboards**. But the ring was **nowhere to be found**. It had simply **disappeared into thin air**.

Lena eventually gave up hope of ever seeing it again. But years later, something incredible happened. Lena was working in her

vegetable garden, pulling up the latest carrot **crop** when she suddenly found the ring. It was on one of her carrots. It appears that the ring had fallen into a container of **compost** on the kitchen table all those years ago. The compost was then thrown into the garden. And the carrot grew up through the middle of the ring. The ring no longer **fits**, but Lena is going to have it **enlarged**. She said, "I'd **given up hope**. But now that I've found the ring again... I want to be able to use it." ◉



GLOSSARY

- to pamper** *vb*
if you "pamper" someone, you do nice things to them to make them feel good
- a gimmick** *n*
an object designed to attract attention, but that doesn't really do anything useful
- to bond with** *exp*
if you "bond with" someone, you form a strong relationship with them
- to behave** *vb*
the way you "behave" is the way you act
- a ring** *n*
a metal piece of jewellery you wear on a finger
- to bake** *vb*
to cook in the oven (an appliance in the kitchen that you place food inside in order to cook it)
- to search** *vb*
to look for
- floorboards** *n*
rectangular pieces of wood used to make a floor in a house
- to take up** *phr vb*
if you "take up" the floorboards (for example), you take them off the floor
- nowhere to be found** *exp*
if something is "nowhere to be found", you can't find it / it has disappeared
- to disappear into thin air** *exp*
if something "disappears into thin air", you can't find it anywhere, and you don't know what has happened to it
- a crop** *n*
a type of vegetable or fruit that you grow in order to eat
- compost** *n*
a mixture of old bits of fruit (and other organic substances) that you put on earth in a garden to help plants grow
- to fit** *vb*
if something "fits" you, it is the right size for you
- to enlarge** *vb*
to make bigger
- to give up hope** *exp*
if you've "given up hope", you stop believing that something can/could/might happen

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RECIPE



Hot Omelette

OUR SPECIAL OMELETTE WITH BLUE CHEESE, TOMATO AND SPINACH.

Breakfast, lunch or dinner - you can eat an omelette at anytime of the day!

Ingredients

- Three eggs.
- Fifty grams of blue cheese.
- Half a tomato.
- A **handful of** spinach.
- A handful of parsley.
- A **knob of** butter.
- Olive oil.
- Salt and pepper.



Preparation

1. Break the eggs into a bowl. **Whisk** them with a fork for about a minute. Add a **pinch of** salt and some pepper.
2. Cut up the blue cheese into small **chunks**, and **chop** the tomato and spinach into medium-sized pieces. **Set** them **aside**.
3. Add a knob of butter and a dash of olive oil to a non-stick frying pan (a pan with a diameter of approximately 15cm is best). Heat the pan over a medium heat. As the butter **melts**, **tilt** the pan to **coat** the base with the butter and oil mixture.
4. When the butter is starting to **foam**, **pour** the eggs into the pan.
5. This next step takes a little bit of practice. Let the eggs cook for about twenty seconds. Then, working around the pan, **drag** the edges of the egg mixture gently towards the centre of the pan and tilt the pan so that uncooked egg runs into the **gaps** you have created. Do that for about 30 seconds.
6. Leave the omelette to cook for another minute or so, until it's almost completely solid (it should still be slightly liquidy)
7. **Sprinkle** the blue cheese, tomato and spinach onto one half of the omelette. Leave the omelette another thirty seconds, so the cheese melts a little.
8. Now **fold** the empty half of the omelette over the half with the ingredients. Take the pan to your plate, tilt the pan and gently **slide** the omelette onto your plate.
9. Sprinkle with **chopped** parsley, and serve!

Remember, anything can go in an omelette! So, if you don't like blue cheese, tomato or spinach, just swap them for any other ingredients. ☺

YouTube

Watch celebrity chef Jamie Oliver cook an omelette:
http://youtu.be/AgHgbn_sVUw

GLOSSARY

- a handful of** *exp*
a small amount of (that fits in your hand)
- a knob of** *exp*
a "knob of" butter is a small piece of it
- to whisk** *vb*
to mix food with an electric device (a blender/whisk, etc.) or a fork until it is smooth
- a pinch of** *exp*
a small amount of food that you can hold between two fingers
- a chunk** *n*
a thick, solid piece of something
- to chop** *vb*
to cut into very small pieces
- to set aside** *exp*
to put on the side for a short time
- to melt** *vb*
if butter "melts", it becomes liquid
- to tilt** *vb*
if you "tilt" something, you turn it a little bit to the side (at a slight angle)
- to coat** *vb*
if you "coat" A with B, you cover A with B
- to foam** *vb*
if a liquid "foams", small bubbles appear on it
- to pour** *vb*
to put a liquid from one container into another
- to drag** *vb*
to move with force, often by using a pulling movement
- a gap** *n*
a space / an area with nothing in it
- to sprinkle** *vb*
if you "sprinkle" food A on top of food B, you put a small amount of food A on top of food B
- to fold** *vb*
if you "fold" food A over food B, you put one part of food A (half maybe) on top of food B
- to slide** *vb*
to move in a smooth continuous movement
- chopped** *adj*
cut into little pieces

English accents



track 17

Skills BOOKLET

Refer to unit 10 (page 54) of the Upper Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING

Getting Around

Talking about transport in the city.



1 Pre-listening

What are the pros and cons of travelling by the following forms of transport? Discuss with a partner.

- by bus** **on the Underground** **by car**
by bicycle **by train** **on foot**

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to six people talking about how they get to work. Listen once. Who has the most pleasant journey into work? Why?

3 Listening II

Complete the sentences with the missing words. Then, listen again to check your answers.

1. If the bus is late, it's usually _____.
2. Sometimes, the train stops in _____ for no apparent reason.
3. The thing is, if I took the train, _____ two hours...
4. I've heard that prices _____ 30% over the last few years.
5. The first part of the journey isn't bad as there are _____.
6. Sometimes, if it's pouring down with rain _____, I'll take the bus...

4 Language focus Phrasal verbs

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Getting Around: "... Buses often turn up late..." The speaker has used a phrasal verb ("turn up"). Read through the transcript again and find as many examples of phrasal verbs as you can.

5 Discussion

1. How do you get to work/school? What's the journey like?
2. How would you like to travel to work/school? Why?
3. What's the worst journey you've ever had into work/school? Why was it so bad?

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Situation



Formal*



Normal



Informal

You couldn't understand how something worked.	I failed to ascertain how it functioned.	I didn't understand it.		I couldn't suss it out.
You don't have any money.	I am bereft of any financial sustenance.	I don't have any money.		I'm skint. / I'm broke.
You bought some shares that were worthless.	I was defrauded through artifice.	I was cheated. / I was tricked.		I was double-crossed. / I was taken for a ride. / I got ripped off.
Your daughter spent the day in a shopping centre instead of going to school.	She absented herself from the educational institution that she is obliged to attend.	She didn't go to school.		She skived off. / She played hooky (US).
A friend asks you for a favour. You agree, willingly.	It would be a pleasure.	Yes, of course.		Sure, no sweat.
You have been studying some verbs for an exam.	I have been perusing my verb table in a bid to prepare myself for the pending examination.	I've been studying my verb list for the exam.		I've been swotting up on the verbs for the exam. / I've been mugging up on the verbs for the exam. / I've been cramming up on the verbs for the exam.

*Please note that the "Formal" way of speaking is intended as a joke - no one really speaks like that.

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FILM & TV SCRIPTS

In this section, we look at short clips from films or TV shows. This month: *The Princess Bride*.



This 1987 American film combines comedy, romance, adventure and fantasy. In the film, an old man (Peter Falk) reads a book to his **grandson** (Fred Savage), who's sick in bed. As the grandfather reads the book, which is called *The Princess Bride*, the book's story becomes the movie. The film is about a pirate called Westley (Cary Elwes) who is **on a mission** to rescue his true love, Buttercup, (Robin Wright) from an **evil** prince.

This following scene takes place at the beginning of the film, on Buttercup's farm. Westley is her servant, but they soon fall in love. We can hear the **grandfather** reading the book to his grandson in **voiceover** (v/o).



The script

GF: Grandfather [v/o]

B: Buttercup

W: Westley

G: Grandson

GF: Nothing gave Buttercup as much pleasure as **ordering Westley around**.

[Westley is **grooming** the horses.]

B: Farm boy, **polish** my horse's **saddle**. I want to see my face shining in it by morning.

W: As you wish.

GF: "As you wish" was all he ever said to her.

[Another day, Westley is cutting wood.]

B: [She brings two buckets.] Farm boy, fill these with water... Please.

W: As you wish.

GF: That day, she was **amazed** to discover that when he was saying, "As you wish", what he meant was, "I love you." And even more amazing was the day she realised she truly loved him back.

[Another day, in the farmhouse.]

B: Farm boy... **fetch** me that **pitcher**. [She points to a jug hanging above her head. Westley approaches and stands in front of her.]

W: [Tenderly] As you wish... [Buttercup blushes.]

[Cut to Buttercup and Westley kissing.]

G: [angry / impatient] **Hold it, hold it. What is this? Are you trying to trick me? Where are the sports? Is this a kissing book?**

GF: Wait, just wait.

G: Well, when does it get good?

GF: **Keep your shirt on**, and let me read.

You Tube

To watch and read along, here is the clip:
<http://youtu.be/J3AE8lzdd0g>
[starts at 0:30]



GLOSSARY

- a grandson** *n*
the son of your son or daughter
- on a mission** *exp*
if someone is "on a mission", they have something important to do. This often involves travelling to another country
- evil** *adj*
very bad (a person)
- a grandfather** *n*
the father of your father or mother
- a voiceover** *n*
a voice speaking during a film by someone you can't see on the screen
- to order around** *phr vb*
if you "order someone around", you tell them what to do
- to groom** *vb*
to clean a horse by brushing its hair
- to polish** *vb*
to clean something until it shines (reflects light)
- a saddle** *n*
the "seat" you place on a horse so you can ride it
- as you wish** *exp*
whatever you want
- amazed** *adj*
if someone is "amazed", they are surprised and can't believe what is happening
- to fetch** *vb*
if you "fetch" something, you go and get it from a place and bring it back
- a pitcher** *n*
a container for water/wine, etc.
- tenderly** *adv*
gently; lovingly
- to blush** *vb*
if someone "blushes", their face becomes red (often because they're embarrassed)
- hold it!** *exp*
stop!
- keep your shirt on** *exp*
calm down!

Englishman, Irish woman & US woman
track 20

Skills BOOKLET
Refer to unit 10 (page 54) of the Advanced Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.

hot **english** LANGUAGE SERVICES

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



Negotiation Nightmare

Unusual negotiations with street sellers.

1 Pre-listening
You're going to listen to three separate dialogues between street vendors and potential customers. The three items being purchased are: a hotdog, a handbag and a DVD player. Think of some typical ways of haggling (negotiating) over the price. What could you say to get a better deal?

2 Listening I
Listen to the three dialogues and compare your ideas from the Pre-listening task.

3 Listening II
Complete the sentences with the missing words. Then, listen again to check your answers.

1. Look, if you took the onions off, could you _____?
2. All right, give me the sausage and keep the bread and _____
3. Oh, all right. Here you go. But don't forget _____
4. If those were real diamond earrings, you wouldn't _____
5. If I was easily offended, I'd be _____
6. If they were your grandmother's, why _____?
7. No, but I wouldn't want to get into trouble, if you _____
8. Throw in one of those DVDs and I'll _____

4 Language focus Conditional structures
Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Negotiation Nightmare: "...if you took the onions off, could you drop the price a bit?..." The speaker has used a conditional structure. Read through the transcript of the dialogues and see how many conditional structures you can identify. Which tenses are being used? Why?

5 Discussion

1. When was the last time you haggled for something? How did it go?
2. Do you ever try to negotiate on price? When? How?
3. How good are you at dealing with sales people? What are some of their tricks?

BASEBALL IDIOMS (part 11)

This month we're looking at some more idioms that have come from baseball.

Take a rain check

THIS IS SOMETHING YOU SAY WHEN YOU CAN'T ACCEPT SOMEONE'S INVITATION TO DO SOMETHING, BUT YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO IT ANOTHER TIME.

A: Do you want to go out tonight?

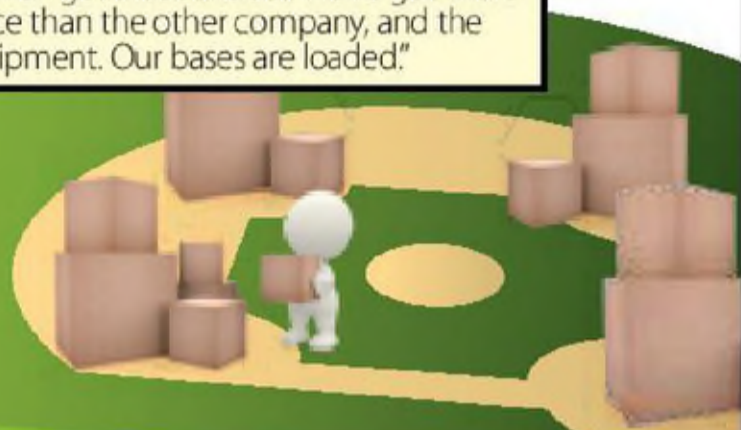
B: I think I'll take a rain check on that as I've got a lot of work to do tomorrow.



Bases are loaded

IF YOUR "BASES ARE LOADED", YOU'VE GOT A BIG COMPETITIVE ADVANTAGE.

"I'm sure we'll get that contract. We've got more experience than the other company, and the right equipment. Our bases are loaded."



Make a pitch for something

TO TRY TO PERSUADE PEOPLE TO SUPPORT YOU.

"They made a pitch for changing over to the new system."



Not in the same league

NOT NEARLY AS GOOD AS SOMETHING OR SOMEONE ELSE.

"This computer isn't in the same league as the one I had before. It isn't half as good."



Knock one out of the park

TO HAVE A GREAT IDEA; TO DO SOMETHING EXTREMELY WELL.

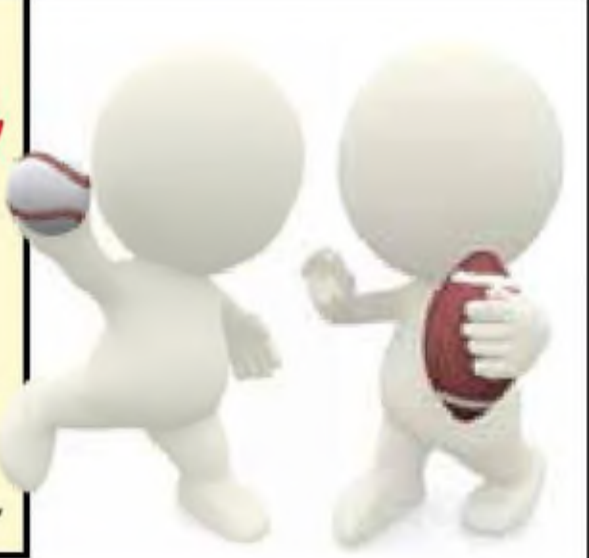
"You knocked one out of the park in that meeting – the presentation was a real success."



A totally different ball game / a whole new ball game / a whole other ball game

A COMPLETELY DIFFERENT SITUATION.

"I'd been climbing many times before, but going up an icy rock face in the Alps was a totally different ball game."



Two strikes against you

IF SOMEONE HAS "TWO STRIKES AGAINST THEM", THEY ONLY HAVE ONE MORE CHANCE. IF THEY DO SOMETHING ELSE BAD, THEY WILL BE PUNISHED / SENT TO PRISON, ETC.

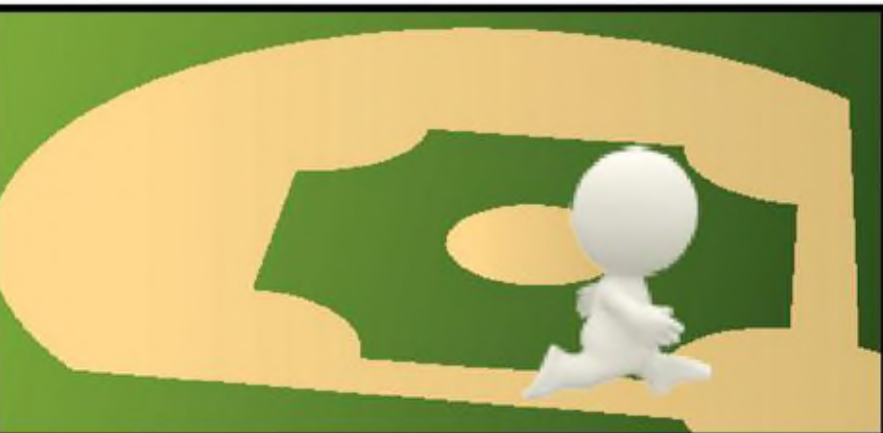
"You've already got two strikes against you, so be careful or you'll be out of here!"



Score a home run / hit a home run

TO DO SOMETHING VERY WELL; TO BE A WINNER.

"You really scored a home run in that scene you acted in. You really looked like a professional actor."



Three strikes and you're out.

THIS MEANS THAT YOU COULD BE PUNISHED OR OUT OF A JOB IF YOU DO THREE BAD THINGS CONSECUTIVELY.

"OK, you can have the job, but three strikes and you're out."





Product Promotion

How to sell cars to the British.

NEW! 2015
PAGE
45

1 Pre-reading

Match the car names (1 to 6) to the car logos (a-f).

1. Skoda
2. Volkswagen
3. Seat
4. Citroën
5. BMW
6. Vauxhall



2 Reading I

The article is about how the Skoda became popular. Think of three questions to ask related to this story. Then, read the article to see if you can find any answers to your questions.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write a 50-word summary of the main points.

4 Language focus Phrasal verb particles

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...to break into the lucrative UK market..." The writer has used a phrasal verb with the particle "into" ("break into"). Read through the article again and find as many phrasal verbs as you can.

5 Discussion

1. What type of car do you drive? What do you think of it?
2. What type of car would you like to drive? Why?
3. What's the best/worst car you've ever had or driven?

How can a product that's regarded as a joke be turned into something that can sell? This was the problem facing the people in charge of promoting the Czech car Skoda.

There's no denying the car's poor reputation at the time. Here are just three of the jokes associated with the car:

1. **A:** What do you call a Skoda with a sun-roof?
B: A skip.
2. **A:** Why does a Skoda have a heated rear windscreen?
B: To keep your hands warm when you're pushing it.
3. **A:** What do you call a Skoda with twin exhaust pipes?
B: A wheelbarrow.

So, did the Skoda really deserve such cruel treatment? Of course not. But the problem was that it suffered from a tendency by Western Europeans to find Eastern European cars funny. On top of that, Skodas were produced by a company that had a state monopoly, so how could they possibly be any good? This was certainly the view of many western motor experts. Whether it was fair or not was irrelevant, the perception existed and it had to be changed.

After the Velvet Revolution of 1989, the new democratic Czech government wanted to find a partner to help them revitalise the Skoda company. And this is where the German car giant Volkswagen (VW) stepped in. They bought 30% of the ailing Czech company and invested heavily in training, advanced machinery and new models. They created the Felicia in 1994, and the Octavia in 1998. Although, the cars were favourably reviewed

by the motoring press, VW needed to find a way to convince the general public that their Skodas were to be taken seriously... especially as investment in the company had increased the price of the cars.

Unfortunately, their first attempts weren't that successful. After spending \$10 million launching the Octavia in the UK, only 6,000 cars were sold in the first year. And a third of these were sold to people who had owned a Skoda before... and hardly any of them were to people under 45. The Octavia's image was that it was old-fashioned. So, what could the company do to break into the lucrative UK market?



The inspired answer was to play on the brand's "joke" image. If everyone thought Skoda's were a joke, then design a campaign to exploit this. So, the company launched its new version, the Fabia, with the slogan, "The Fabia is a car so good you won't believe it's a Skoda." This slogan was featured heavily in TV ads and a newspaper and poster campaign. And the British liked it.

After a year 11,000 Skoda Fabia's had been sold, and sales of the Octavia had risen by 29%. Another year on, and there was a waiting list for Skodas in the UK. Perception of the Skoda brand had changed so much that an estimated 58% of British drivers said that they'd consider buying a Skoda. Today, the Skoda is one of the most successful cars in Europe. Its market share has grown by 34% in the UK, and it continues to do well.

The message is clear: if you want to sell to the British, first you have to make them laugh! ☺

READING I

Artificial Intelligence

Science fiction or science fact?

1 Pre-reading

What gadgets have you got (a smartphone, an iPhone, a tablet computer, an iPad, a palmtop, etc.)? What can they do? What features do they have (touch screen, voice recognition, etc.)? Discuss with a partner.

2 Reading I

How clever are computers right now? How intelligent could they be in the future? What could the consequences of this be? Discuss with a partner. Then, read the article to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

Answer the questions. Then, read the article again to check your answers.

- How does John McCarthy define artificial intelligence?
- What example of weak artificial intelligence is given?
- Why isn't strong AI possible at the moment?
- What fear does Stephen Hawking express?
- What does Professor Hirose say about robots?
- What did the supercomputer Watson manage to do?

4 Discussion

- What do you think computers will be like in 10 years?
- What sort of tasks might computers or robots be doing in five to 10 years from now?
- What sort of features would you like to have on your gadgets in the future?

Computer scientist John McCarthy **coined** the term "artificial intelligence" (AI) in 1956. He defined it as "the science and engineering of making intelligent machines." Back then it sounded like science fiction. And, in many ways, it still does. But AI is actually all around us.

Google uses Artificial Intelligence in its **search engine**. Google's computers analyse web searches and "learn" to better understand what people want when they search. And Apple's latest iPhone includes a virtual assistant that understands human commands. So, if you say, "Remind me to buy some milk on the way home!" the assistant will reply, "OK, I'll add that to your calendar." And it puts a reminder in your iPhone calendar.

But these are examples of "weak AI". These computers are acting *as if* they're intelligent, but they aren't really... they're simply analysing **huge** amounts of data and, based on that data, giving a response. However, a computer or robot with "strong AI" can think for itself, has **social skills** and can be creative. In other words, it's just like us. At present, strong AI still isn't possible. And scientists say it's very difficult to create a computer that **simulates** the human **brain**, because they still don't really understand the brain itself.

But do we really want computers to be as clever as us? Famous physicist Stephen Hawking says, "The danger is that [artificial] intelligence will develop and take over the world." Of course, robots already do many **automated tasks**. But as computers grow more intelligent, they may begin doing "thinking" jobs. For example, radiologists examine x-rays for disease. And in the United States, they are paid about \$300,000 a year. But a computer with pattern-recognition software could do the same job for a **fraction of the cost**. Marshall Brain, author of *Robotic Nation*, predicts that by 2030 **smart** robots will replace human employees in industries such as **retail**, fast food and cleaning.



But not everyone is so negative about the future. Professor Hirose, a Japanese AI and robotics expert thinks that robots can support human societies. And they're great for performing jobs that are unsafe or impossible for humans. For example, we use robots to explore Mars. And Professor Hirose is currently building a robot that locates and clears **landmines**.



Whatever the consequences, there's no doubt that computers and robots are getting smarter. In 2010, a supercomputer named Watson **took on** two humans in the American quiz show *Jeopardy!* The show tests general knowledge, and Watson **had no trouble beating** the two former champions.

So, how can we compete with computers such as Watson? According to Stephen Hawking, we can't. He believes our only choice is to connect computers directly into our own brains. That way, he says, "artificial brains [will] contribute to human intelligence rather than opposing it." Sergey Brin, one of Google's founders, agrees. He says, "If you had all the world's information directly attached to your brain... you'd be a lot **better off**." So, as the old saying goes: if you can't beat them, join them. *



HOW INTELLIGENT ARE YOU?

You Tube
Watch Watson against the humans on *Jeopardy!*
http://youtu.be/WFR310m_xhE



Check out Siri, the iPhone virtual assistant:
<http://youtu.be/mpcvvHh98E8>



GLOSSARY

to coin *vb*
if you "coin" a word or phrase, you are the first person to use it

a search engine *n*
a website (such as Google) that helps you find things on the internet

huge *adj*
very big

social skills *n*
the skills (abilities) people use to communicate and socialise with others

to simulate *vb*
if you "simulate" something, you copy it and do a version of it

a brain *n*
the large organ in your head that is used for thinking, etc.

automated tasks *n*
jobs that can be done by machines – they don't require any thinking

a fraction of the cost *exp*
for much less money than the usual amount

smart *adj*
intelligent

retail *n*
the sale of goods directly to customers

a landmine *n*
a bomb that explodes when someone steps on it

to take on *phr vb*
if A "takes on" B, A tries to beat B in a competition

to have no trouble *exp*
to do something without any difficulty

to beat *vb*
to win against

(be) better off *exp*
if you're "better off" doing X, it's better for you to do X

Caught on Camera

Hidden cameras catch the action.

New Zealand man
Puerto Rican woman



track 22

ACQUAINTED WITH THIS 45

1 Pre-reading

This article is about people who have been caught doing funny/silly things on CCTV cameras. The words below appear in some of the videos. What do you think the videos could be about?

cat robber

drunk man dog

angry man deer

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Answer the questions. Then, read the article again to check your answers.

1. What did Mary do before putting the cat in the bin?
2. What did one animal lover suggest as a punishment for Mary?
3. What did the robber try to steal in the store?
4. How does the robber try to get out of the store?
5. Why was the man kicked out of the hotel?
6. What did the band make with footage of themselves from CCTV cameras?

4 Discussion

1. What do you think of CCTV cameras?
2. Are there many CCTV cameras where you live? Is this a good or bad thing? Why?
3. Have you heard any other stories of people being caught doing something funny/unusual on camera? What did they involve?

CCTV cameras are everywhere. They help the police solve crimes and keep the streets safe. But that's not all they do. They also catch people doing very stupid things. Here are some of our favourite CCTV clips.



Cat lady

One of the videos is of British woman Mary Bale. She clearly doesn't like cats. In 2010 she was caught on CCTV throwing one into a rubbish bin. The video shows Mary walking down a quiet suburban street. All of a sudden, she notices Lola the cat jump onto a fence. Mary stops and pats Lola on the head. There's nothing strange about that. But then Mary glances around to see if anyone's looking. There isn't, so she picks up Lola and drops her into a large wheelie bin. Then Mary closes the lid and walks off. Lola was rescued fifteen hours later. And Mary was arrested for causing unnecessary suffering to an animal. She was fined £250 and banned from owning pets for five years. The public were outraged. And Mary received hate-mail, abusive phone calls and even death threats. One animal lover wrote on an internet forum, "What a nasty piece of work Mary Bale is. She should have gone to prison."



Robbery gone wrong

Another clip shows how *not* to rob a liquor store. Footage from cameras inside and outside the shop show the burglar trying to break in. He starts off climbing up the side of the building, but falls backwards onto the ground. Then, he tries to get in through the roof, but ends up falling through it. Once inside, he fills a trolley with bottles of booze. But there's just one problem – he can't get out! Desperate, he tries to smash open the locked front door. But it won't move. By this time the alarm has gone off and the police are on their way. So, he tries to escape through the hole in the roof. This results in another painful fall. Eventually, he sits on a keg of beer, lights a cigarette, and waits for the cops to arrive.



Under the influence

Another video shows "Britain's drunkest man". He'd been at a party at London's exclusive Savoy Hotel. And he'd obviously had a few too many glasses of champagne. At about 2am, he was kicked out for being too drunk. So, he decided to walk home. On the way, CCTV cameras filmed him falling down stairs, staggering across roads and even doing a backward flip. A Savoy Hotel staff member later said, "He was a mess. It's amazing he didn't hurt himself badly."



And now for something completely different...

So, now you've seen the dumbest things on CCTV. But what about the smartest? In 2008, British band The Get Out Clause didn't have any money to make a music video. So, they came up with an ingenious idea. They set up their instruments and played a song in front of eighty Manchester CCTV cameras. And then they asked for a copy of all the footage (anyone can ask for this under the English Freedom of Information Act), which they edited. The result is a music video that's totally original... and it didn't cost them a penny. ☺



You Tube

Watch Mary and Lola:
<http://youtu.be/R-0j8GUua2g>

Watch the drunk man's walk of shame:
http://youtu.be/o2B_4UQ1T_A

Watch the band's CCTV music video:
http://youtu.be/W2iuZMEEs_A

GLOSSARY

- CCTV cameras** *n*
small cameras that film you in the street / outside train stations, etc.
- a fence** *n*
a wooden/metal barrier that goes around a garden, etc.
- to pat** *vb*
to touch gently
- to glance around** *phr vb*
if you "glance around", you look around quickly to check who is there
- a wheelie bin** *n*
a large container for rubbish. It has little wheels
- a lid** *n*
the top part of a container that closes it
- outraged** *adj*
extremely angry
- hate-mail** *n*
if someone receives "hate-mail", they receive horrible, angry letters that say bad things
- a death threat** *n*
if A receives a "death threat" from B, A receives a message saying that B is going to kill him/her
- a nasty piece of work** *exp*
someone who isn't very nice
- a liquor store** *n US*
a shop that sells alcoholic drinks
- footage** *n*
part of a film or video
- a trolley** *n*
a metal object with wheels you use to put food in when you're in a supermarket
- booze** *n inform*
alcohol
- to smash open** *exp*
to open by hitting
- to go off** *phr vb*
if an alarm "goes off", it starts making a noise
- a keg** *n*
a large container for beer that can hold about 100 litres
- a cop** *n inform*
a police officer
- to kick out** *phr vb*
to force someone to leave a place
- to stagger** *vb*
if someone "staggers", they move from side to side as they are walking
- a backward flip** *n*
an acrobatic movement in which your feet go over your head as you jump backwards
- a mess** *n inform*
if someone is a "mess", they are very drunk and out of control
- ingenious** *adj*
something "ingenious" has been created with intelligence and imagination
- to set up** *phr vb*
if you "set something up", you prepare it so it can be used
- the Freedom of Information Act** *n*
a law that gives people access to government information

PHRASAL VERB THEMES

Politics

Here are some phrasal verbs for you to use. Complete the sentences (1 to 8) with the words from below.

majority place parliament election votes piracy proposal system



Bring in
WHEN A GOVERNMENT "BRINGS IN" A NEW LAW, THEY INTRODUCE IT.

1

"They brought in a new law to try to control online _____."

Stand down
IF SOMEONE "STANDS DOWN", THEY RESIGN FROM AN IMPORTANT POSITION IN ORDER TO LET SOMEONE ELSE TAKE THEIR PLACE.

2

"She stood down from her position in the party to let a younger member of the party take her _____."

Stand for (ideas)
THE IDEAS OR ATTITUDES THAT SOMEONE (OR A PARTY) "STANDS FOR" ARE THE ONES THEY SUPPORT.

3

"Our party stands for green policies and a fair _____ of taxation for all."

Stand for (election)
IF SOMEONE "STANDS FOR" ELECTION, THEY ARE A CANDIDATE FOR THAT ELECTION.

4

"He wanted to stand as an independent MP in the _____."

Put forward
IF SOMEONE "PUTS FORWARD" AN IDEA, THEY SUGGEST THAT IDEA.

5

"The government put forward a _____ to change the law."

Vote in (to a position of power)
IF SOMEONE IS "VOTED IN", THEY GET ENOUGH VOTES IN AN ELECTION AND CAN HOLD A POSITION OF POWER. OR, IF A PARTY IS "VOTED IN", THEY WIN THE ELECTION AND CAN START RUNNING A COUNTRY.

6

"The candidate was voted in by just 16 _____."

Vote out
IF SOMEONE IN POWER (A MEMBER OF THE GOVERNMENT, FOR EXAMPLE) IS "VOTED OUT", THEY DON'T RECEIVE ENOUGH VOTES TO CONTINUE BEING IN POWER.

7

"She was voted out in the election and lost her seat in _____."

Vote through
IF A LAW OR PROPOSAL IS "VOTED THROUGH", A MAJORITY OF THE MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT VOTE FOR IT AND IT PASSES AND BECOMES LAW.

8

"The reforms were voted through by a very small _____."



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TAPESCRIPTS

track **6** **Art Attack (track 6)**

A presentation for an up-coming art exhibition.

Malcom is the director of a London art gallery, which is about to open a new exhibition of avant-garde art. Malcolm is giving a press conference about the exhibition.

First of all, I'd just like to thank you all for coming to today's press conference. We're very excited about the upcoming exhibition next Friday 28th February. Let me just start by saying that you're all invited to the opening night party, which will take place on Thursday 27th at 6pm. It's going to be a wonderful evening of champagne, caviar and avant-garde art. And I'm sure you're all going to have a fantastic time.

But today, I'm going to tell you about some of the works of art on display in the exhibition. French artist Jacques La Croix will be presenting his latest work of performance art. As part of this, Jacques is going to stand on his head for six days in the main gallery, whilst singing some traditional French songs. I'm sure you'll all agree that it's going to be a very powerful performance.

Welsh artist Maria Jones has painted "The Invisible Painting", which can't actually be seen with the naked eye as it's, erm, completely invisible. But Maria has assured us that it's very beautiful. We're going to hang her painting in the main foyer.

And finally, English photographer Bill Smith is going to present a series of photos from a recent project. Over the past three years, Bill has taken over one thousand photographs of his feet. He's going to discuss each photo in detail over the course of an entire day.

Well, it's going to be a fascinating day, and I firmly believe that this exhibition is going to be one of the most important art events of the year. We hope you're all able to make it. Now, does anyone have any questions?

track **11** **Social Splash (track 11)**

Meeting for the first time after an online relationship.

Benny and Julia met six months ago on an online dating site. This is their first face-to-face meeting.

Julia: Hi, Benny. It's great to finally meet you.
Benny: You too, Julia. Wow! You look, erm, different. I mean, you've got blonde hair in the picture you sent me, haven't you?
Julia: Well, you know, that was a long time ago.
Benny: A few years, I'd say. You aren't really 27, are you?
Julia: Give or take a few years. You certainly aren't in your early 30s. Early 40s more like.
Benny: [angry] No, I'm still in my 30s. Right, I'll get the first round. You like beer, don't you?
Julia: Erm, actually, I gave up alcohol a few months ago. I think I'll have a lemonade.
Benny: Oh, OK. One lemonade coming up.
Julia: It's nice here.
Benny: Yes.
Julia: So, have you got any plans for the weekend?
Benny: Yeah, I'm going to see the match with a few mates from work.
Julia: The match?
Benny: Yeah, Chelsea are playing at home.
Julia: Oh, right, football. I'm not really a big fan.
Benny: [silence] So, erm, what about you? What are you up to this weekend?
Julia: I'm going to a conference on vegetarianism. It's going to be really interesting.
Benny: Vegetarianism? You're a vegetarian!
Julia: Yes, I hate meat.
Benny: Oh, well, actually I work in the marketing department of a large meat supplier. We're the number-one producer of ham.
Julia: Oh, you were working in an advertising agency, weren't you?
Benny: I was, but I left.
Julia: But you do like animals, don't you?
Benny: Oh, yes. [pause] I often go to the zoo.
Julia: The zoo! I can't stand zoos. They're so cruel. [silence] You have got a pet cat, haven't you?
Benny: Oh, right, Tibbles. Yes, erm, I found out that I was allergic to cat hair, so, unfortunately I had to get rid of him.
Julia: Get rid of him? What did you do?
Benny: I released him into the wild.
Julia: You can't release a domesticated cat into the wild. Please tell me you didn't do that.
Benny: He was perfectly happy. I left

him in the local woods. I'm sure he's having a great time.
Julia: [shaking her head] Incredible! Perhaps we should change the topic.
Benny: Hey, I'm going to the cinema tonight. We're going to see the latest Vin Diesel film. You should come along. You have heard of Vin Diesel, haven't you?
Julia: Yes, but I'm not a big fan of Hollywood action films.
Benny: Oh. [awkward silence] Erm, we aren't really getting off to a great start, are we?
Julia: Not really.
Benny: And we don't seem to have much in common, do we?
Julia: No.
Benny: Shall we end this now, before it gets any worse?
Julia: Good idea.
Benny: I'll walk you to the station.
Julia: No, it's OK. I'll get a taxi.
Benny: OK. Bye.
Julia: Goodbye.

track **17** **Getting Around (track 17)**

Talking about transport in the city.

We asked a few people how they get to work in the morning.

I take the bus to work but it's a bit of a nightmare. Buses often turn up late and you're left waiting around for about twenty minutes in the cold. Then, all of a sudden, three will show up one after the other. If the bus is late, it's usually really crowded and it's impossible to get a seat. The local council have promised to build some bus lanes to help with traffic problems, but so far, nothing's been done about it yet.

I have to take the Underground to get to work. During rush hour, the trains are really crowded. Sometimes, you have to push hard to get on. On top of that, there are often pickpockets around, so you have to keep your hands on your wallet. Sometimes, the train stops in the middle of a tunnel for no apparent reason. The worst thing is in winter when it's cold outside and you've got all your winter clothes on and it's boiling hot in the carriage.

I drive to work, which can be pretty nasty with all the traffic jams. There are almost permanent road works going on, which doesn't help. A few months ago, they brought in this new congestion charge,

so you have to pay if you want to drive into the city. On top of that, I have to pay for parking, so the journey ends up being really expensive. The thing is, if I took the train, it'd take me about two hours as there's no direct line from where I live.

I take the train to get into work. The journey takes about an hour, but I don't mind because I can work. The worst thing is getting home. If I have to work late and get to the station after 7pm, the trains run every half hour (instead of every ten minutes), so sometimes I don't get back till really late. Another thing about the trains is the ticket prices. They just keep going up. In fact, I've heard that prices have risen more than 30% over the last few years. That's ridiculous!

I cycle to work and have been doing so for the past six years. The first part of the journey isn't bad as there are cycle lanes, but for the last two kilometres I have to cycle along a busy main road. Apart from that, it's a nice way to get to work. The local council have promised to add some more cycle lanes along that last stretch, so hopefully it'll be better in a couple of years.

I walk to work every morning. I leave my home at about 8am and walk across a park. Then, I go along the river for about half a kilometre. It's really beautiful and I never get tired of it, especially the way the leaves on the trees change colour with the different seasons. Sometimes, if it's pouring down with rain or freezing cold, I'll take the bus, but I'd much rather walk. By the time I get to work, I feel really energised. It's a great way to start off the day.

track **20** **Negotiation Nightmare (track 20)**

Unusual negotiations with street sellers.

The Hotdog
Jess wants to buy a hotdog from a street vendor.
Jess: Afternoon. I'll have one of those hotdogs, please.
Vendor: Extra cheese and fried onion?
Jess: Yes, please, the full works.
Vendor: Here you go. That'll be £6, please.
Jess: [She looks for the money in her wallet.] Oh, no I've only got £4 and a bit of loose change.
Vendor: And what am I supposed to do about that?
Jess: Well, what if I just gave you

everything I've got?

Vendor: I can't run a business like that. If I started doing favours, I'd soon be out of a job. Look, there's a cashpoint machine over there. I'll hold onto your hotdog while you go over and get some money out.

Jess: Yes, but I haven't got my debit card with me. Look, if you took the onions off, could you drop the price a bit?

Vendor: You're joking!

Jess: OK, what about the cheese?

Vendor: How am I supposed to get that off?

Jess: All right, give me the sausage and keep the bread and we'll call it £4. It's win-win.

Vendor: No, it isn't. If I did that, I'd be left with a bit of used bread.

Jess: OK. Look, if you give me half the hotdog, I'll give you £4 – that's more than 50% of the price!

Vendor: You must think I'm an idiot.

Jess: OK, what if I give you all my money, eat the hotdog now, then, I'll come back tomorrow and give you another £4 – that's more than £8 you'll be getting for a £6 hotdog.

Vendor: Oh, all right. Here you go. But don't forget to come back tomorrow.

Jess: I come here every day.

Vendor: Do you?

Jess: You didn't notice?

Vendor: Can't say I did. *[shouting]* Hotdogs, hotdogs, get your lovely hotdogs!

The Handbag

Janine is looking for a handbag. She's at a market stall.

Janine: How much are the handbags?

Vendor: £5 each. But if you buy three, I'll do you a special price of £20.

Janine: Hang on. If one handbag costs £5, how can three cost £20?

Vendor: You drive a hard bargain, madam. OK. Three handbags for £20 and I'll throw in these diamond earrings.

Janine: Diamond earrings! They can't be real diamond earrings.

Vendor: And why not?

Janine: If those were real diamond earrings, you wouldn't be giving them away.

Vendor: How do you know?

Janine: Because they'd be worth a lot of money.

Vendor: Maybe I'm just generous.

Janine: I doubt it.

Vendor: If I was easily offended, I'd be

very upset by that comment.

Janine: Anyway, if those are real diamond earrings, where did you get them?

Vendor: They belonged to my grandmother.

Janine: If they were your grandmother's, why are you giving them away?

Vendor: If you'd known my grandmother, you'd understand. She was a very nasty piece of work.

Janine: This is getting strange. I'm going. Goodbye.

Vendor: OK, your loss. *[shouting]* Handbags, handbags, come and get your handbags! Lovely handbags!

The DVD player

Emma: Erm, those DVD players, are they legit?

Vendor: What do you mean?

Emma: You know, have they fallen off the back of a lorry?

Vendor: You calling me a thief?

Emma: No, but I wouldn't want to get into trouble, if you know what I mean.

Vendor: Yeah, right!

Emma: So, how much are they?

Vendor: Twenty pounds each.

Emma: Twenty? I'll give you a tenner.

Vendor: You're joking. I'd be losing money. I'm not running a charity here.

Emma: They're a bit dirty.

Vendor: Well, I'll clean one for you then. *[He cleans one.]* Here, just like new. All right, you look like a nice person, £18, and that's my final offer.

Emma: How do I know it works?

Vendor: Well, if you take it home and it doesn't work, you can bring it back tomorrow and I'll replace it for you.

Emma: I don't know. They don't even come in a box. Here, I'll give you £12.

Vendor: No, I can't go any lower than £18.

Emma: Why not split the difference? You want £18 and I want to pay £12. Make it £15 and you've got yourself a deal.

Vendor: £16 is my final offer.

Emma: Throw in one of those DVDs and I'll walk away a happy woman.

Vendor: OK. Here you go.

Emma: A pleasure doing business with you.

Vendor: Yeah, right.

Unusual Jobs (page 6)

3 Reading II

1. Animal behaviourist;
2. Bounty hunter;
3. Ghostwriter;
4. Golf ball diver;
5. Foley artist;
6. Furniture tester;
7. Ice cream flavour expert

Viral Videos (Page 7)

3 Reading II

1. Saxophone Superstar;
2. Man Chases Dog;
3. Waving Bear;
4. Don't Slip!
5. Parallel Parking

4 Language focus

1. whoever;
2. wherever;
3. whatever

Useful Language (Page 10)

- 1l 2g 3f 4e 5i 6a 7m 8j 9b
10n 11c 12k 13d 14h

Art Attack (Page 12)

1 Pre-listening

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

3 Listening II

1. Friday 28th February
2. Thursday 27th at 6pm
3. Six days
4. In the main foyer
5. One thousand

Travel Time (Page 14)

3 Reading II

1. Bucharest;
2. Budapest;
3. Sofia;
4. Sofia;
5. Budapest;
6. Bucharest

Negotiation Fun (Page 15)

1 Pre-reading

- 1b 2e 3d 4a 5c

3 Reading II

1. Two years; 2. November 2009;
3. From 2010; 4. 10%; 5. up to 7.5%;
6. 72%; 7. £5.5bn

4 Language focus

1. They said that it was going to be difficult.
2. She said that they would talk about it.
3. He said that they needed to rebuild confidence.

The Apprentice (Page 16)

3 Reading II

1. V; 2. L; 3. L; 4. L; 5. V;
6. V; 7. V

Monsters (Page 17)

1 Pre-reading

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

3 Reading II

1. The Himalayas;
2. Fur, footprints and the remains of a bed;
3. 1933;
4. 2003;
5. £1,000;
6. 2002

Social Splash (Page 19)

3 Listening II

1. 27; 2. 30s; 3. months;
4. weekend; 5. work;
6. conference; 7. meat;

8. cat; 9. film

4 Language focus

1. aren't you; 2. didn't you;

3. aren't you; 4. haven't you

Grammar Fun (page 26)

1. denied;
2. confirmed;
3. decided;
4. admitted;
5. insisted;
6. claimed;
7. promised;
8. agreed;
9. announced

Corruption (Page 28)

3 Reading II

- 1F; 2F; 3T; 4F; 5F; 6F

4 Language focus

1. They had gone/been out last night.
2. He hadn't seen the film.
3. She had left through the door.
4. We had spoken to her.

Heroes (Page 29)

3 Reading II

1. Zeitoun; 2. Big Man;
3. Big Man; 4. Autrey;
5. Zeitoun; 6. Autrey

History Hit (Page 31)

3 Reading II (wording may vary)

1. It wouldn't have been cleaned;
 2. burnt it;
 3. a reward;
 4. using a bit more colour;
 5. a lawnmower
- 4 Language focus**
1. If you'd told me before, I wouldn't have taken it.
 2. If they'd left a bit earlier, they wouldn't have missed the flight.
 3. If you'd asked me, I would have helped you.

Getting Around (Page 34)

3 Listening II

1. really crowded
2. the middle of a tunnel
3. it'd take me about
4. have risen more than
5. cycle lanes
6. or freezing cold

Negotiation Nightmare (page 37)

3 Listening II

1. drop the price a bit
2. we'll call it £4
3. to come back tomorrow
4. be giving them away
5. very upset by that comment
6. are you giving them away
7. know what I mean
8. walk away a happy woman

Product Promotion (page 39)

1 Pre-reading

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

Artificial Intelligence (page 40)

3 Reading II (wording may vary)

1. The science and engineering of making intelligent machines.
2. A computer responding to voice commands.
3. Because scientist still don't really understand the brain.
4. That artificial intelligence will take over the world.
5. That they can support human societies.
6. Beat two former champions in the American quiz show *Jeopardy!*

Caught on Camera (page 41)

3 Reading II (wording may vary)

1. make sure no one was baking;
2. that she should have been sent to prison;
3. bottles of alcohol (and possibly a packet of cigarettes);
4. through the roof and through the front door;
5. because he was too drunk;
6. a music video

Phrasal Verbs (page 42)

1. piracy;
2. place;
3. system;
4. election;
5. proposal;
6. votes;
7. parliament;
8. majority

WORD OF THE MONTH

Nominative Determinism

This month's word of the month is: nominative determinism.



Look at the people's names below. What do you think their jobs are?

- a) Dr John Fish
- b) Lord Brain

Incredibly, Dr John Fish is a Marine Biologist at Aberystwyth University. And Lord Brain is a leading neurologist. Welcome to the weird and wonderful world of "nominative determinism" – the theory that a person's name can determine what profession they'll have. Still not convinced? Just look at these examples:

Louise Story – a New York Times journalist.

Chris MoneyMaker – a world-famous poker player.



Peter Fryer – professor of Food Engineering at the University of Birmingham.

Carla Dove – an ornithologist.

Jim McGovern – a Scottish politician.

Amy Freeze – a TV meteorologist.

Scott Speed – an ex-Formula One race car driver.

Lake Speed – a NASCAR driver.

Lord Judge – the Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales.

Lord Justice Laws – a judge in the Court of Appeal.

Cardinal Sin – the former Archbishop of Manila.

Usain Bolt – a world 100m and 200m record holder.

Stephen Rowbotham – a British Olympic rower.



Robin Mahfood – the President of Food for the Poor.

Ian Watts – the head of energy and utilities at a UK data security firm.

Robert Diamond – the head of Barclays Bank.

John Wisdom – a Cambridge philosopher.

William Bishop – a 17th-century English Roman Catholic bishop, the only recorded "Bishop" bishop in history.

John Tory – the former leader of the Ontario Progressive Conservative Party.

Anna Smashnova – an Israeli tennis player.

Bob Flowerdew – a celebrity British gardener.

Amelia Earhart – aviation pioneer (her surname is pronounced "air heart").

Tiger Woods – golfer.

Now, if only my parents had called me "Millionaire"! ☺



English names Interestingly, many surnames in English are the names of jobs (Baker, Cook, Farmer, Hunter, Carpenter, etc.). In the past, people were given these names because of their profession. And because a son often had the same job as his father, the name stayed in the family. However, the idea that a surname can actually influence the job you choose is another question altogether. Surely, it's a coincidence... or not?

GLOSSARY

a brain *n*
the large organ in your head that you use for thinking, etc.

a neurologist *n*
a medical specialist who treats disorders in the nervous system – including the brain

a fryer *n*
a person who fries (cooks food in hot oil); also, an electrical device for frying food

a dove *n*
a white bird often used as the symbol of peace

an ornithologist *n*
someone who studies birds

to govern *vb*
if someone "governs" in a place, they are in control of that place

to freeze *vb*
when water "freezes", it becomes ice

a meteorologist *n*
someone who studies the weather

speed *n*
the "speed" of something is how fast it travels

NASCAR *abbr*
the National Association for Stock Car Auto Racing

the Lord Chief Justice *n*
one of the most important judges (a person in a court of law who decides how the law should be applied) in the English legal system

a sin *n*
an act which breaks one of God's laws

to bolt *vb*
if someone "bolts", they suddenly start to run very fast

to row *vb*
to move a small boat through the water with oars (long pieces of wood)

a rower *n*
a person who "rows" a boat (see previous entry)

wisdom *n*
if someone has a lot of "wisdom", they have a lot of knowledge and experience

a bishop *n*
an important and official member of the Catholic / Anglican, etc. church

Tory (party) *n*
another name for the Conservative Party – a centre-right wing party

to smash *vb*
if a tennis player "smashes" the ball, they hit it very hard

dew *n*
small drops of water that form on the ground or on grass during the night

woods *n*
"woods" (also called "drivers") are golf clubs used to hit balls over long distances. Traditionally, they were made of wood

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Irish English accent

New words for 2012

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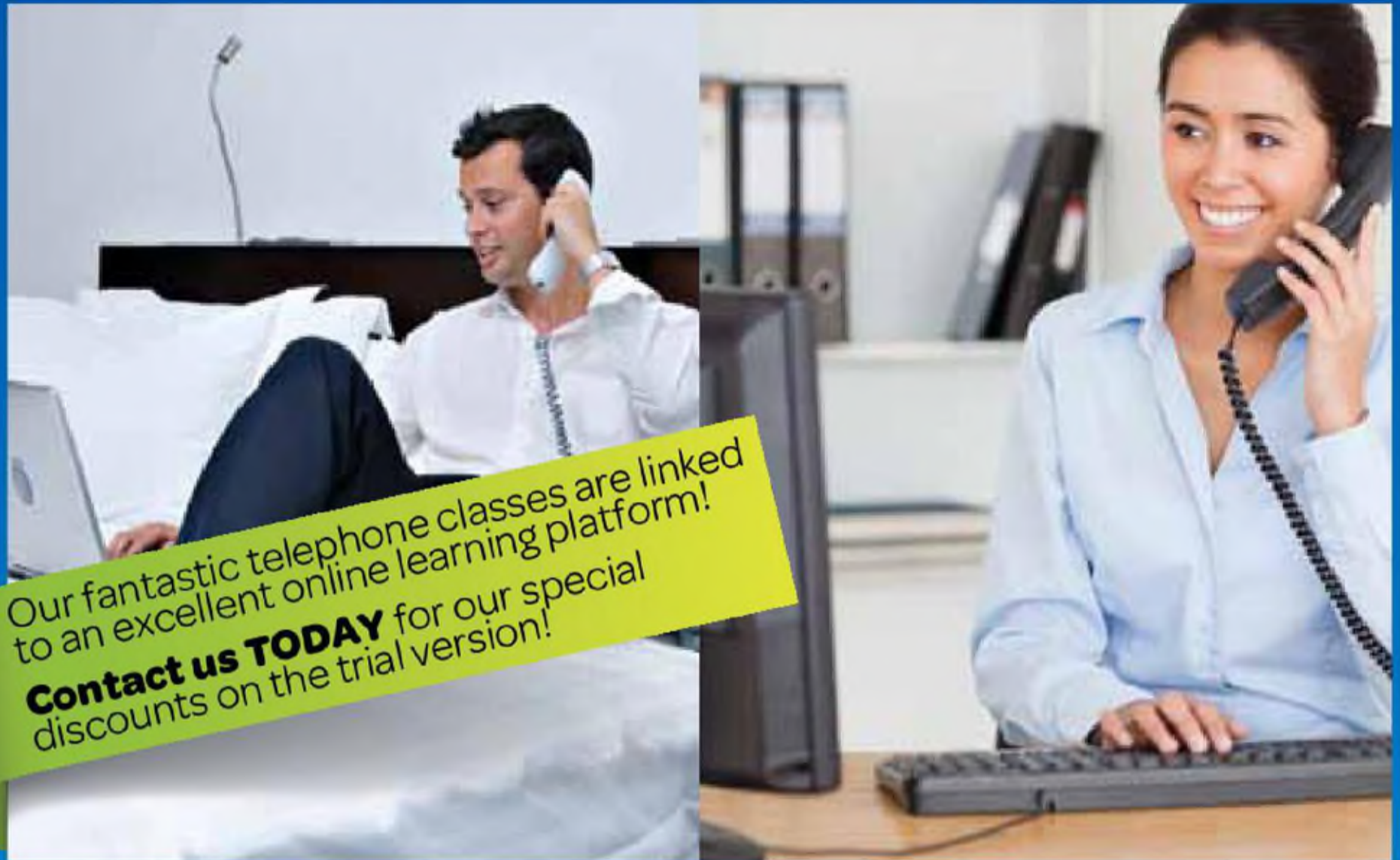
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