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No.135

english magazine

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How to apologise in English!

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EDITOR'S INTRO

How you learn English with Hot English magazine

WHY ARE YOU LEARNING ENGLISH? TO GET A BETTER JOB, TO PASS AN OFFICIAL ENGLISH EXAM, TO TRAVEL, OR JUST TO COMMUNICATE IN ENGLISH? HOT ENGLISH MAGAZINE HELPS WITH ALL THIS.

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

Our special topic this month is travel. We've got 42 essential travel expressions for you to learn, an article on three interesting travel books, and some new words to describe unusual travel experiences. Plus, we're also looking at some of the New Seven Wonders of the World. These were chosen by poll from a selection of 200 existing monuments, and the winners were announced on 7th July 2007 in Lisbon. More than 100 million votes were cast online or by telephone. You can find out about them on page 17 of this month's issue.

If you're looking for some really extreme travel experiences, you should turn to our article on page 28, where you can read about swimming with enormous crocodiles or bungee jumping into a live volcano!

Of course, that's not all! We've also got articles on how to say sorry, the food we hate, trending topics, celebrity hotels, eggs, actors who lost millions, the Beatles, top tips for learning English, crime novels, and how the UK has changed over the past 40 years!

NEWS! Our new audio booklets *Phrasal Verbs II* and *Idioms II* are now available from the Apple App Store or Google Play. You can learn hundreds of useful phrasal verbs and idiomatic expressions from the sound files, example sentences and descriptive images. Simply download the Hot English App for free, then buy the booklets in-app. Or you can get the physical copies from the shop on our website (www.hotenglishmagazine.com). Over the coming months, we'll be putting lots more booklets up there.

And before I go, remember, there's no magazine in July or August. So, have a great summer, practise your English and see you all again in September for lots more exciting ideas for learning English!

Yours,
Andy

Remember to download the Hot English app for iPad, iPhone, iPod Touch and Android. It's fantastic!

Sign up for some Speaking Classes with Hot English. See page two of this magazine for more details, or visit: www.telephone-english.com

GLOSSARY

a poll 16
if there's a "poll", people are asked for their opinions about something, or are asked to vote on something
to cast 17
if you "cast" your vote in an election, you vote for someone



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All material in this publication is strictly copyright, and all rights are reserved. Reproduction without permission is prohibited. The views expressed in Hot English Magazine do not necessarily represent the views of Hot English Publishing SL. However, we do think that saying sorry is often very hard, it is probably worth going to university and nothing beats a fried egg on toast as a late night snack.

In the News

IN THE NEWS N°20

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

LONDON 2013

Objective To read and understand the news in English

Think about it

Do you think George W. Bush was a good president? Why? Why not? Do you think children should be allowed to play with smartphones and tablet computers? Why? Why not?

POLITICS

BUSH THE ARTIST



It's been five years since George W. Bush left the White House. So, what's he been **up to**? A lot of painting! "I love to paint. It's changed my life in an unbelievably positive way," the ex-president said. Bush started painting five years ago, and he does **self-portraits, landscapes** and pictures of animals. "I paint people's pets. And I love to give it to them as a **gift**," he said. So, is his art worth anything? "The

signature is more valuable than the painting," Bush admitted. And what do the critics say? Leading art writer Jerry Saltz **reckons** Bush is "a good painter" and thinks an exhibition of the former commander-in-chief's art would be very popular. "These are the **works of a man who came this close** to all but burning down our great country. Who wouldn't be interested?"

GLOSSARY

up to *exp*

the things that you've been "up to" are the things you've been doing

a self-portrait *n*

a picture that you paint of yourself

a landscape *n*

a picture that shows a scene in the countryside, with mountains, rivers, etc.

a gift *n*

a present; something you give to someone for their birthday, etc.

a signature *n*

if you put your "signature" on a cheque, etc., you write your name on it

to reckon *vb*

if you "reckon" that something is true, you think it's true

this close *exp*

if you say that someone came "this close" to doing something, you're saying that they almost did it. We often use our fingers to illustrate this by holding our index finger and thumb close together

to deliver a speech *exp*

to speak in public to a group of people

a toddler *n*

a child who has just learned how to walk (they're usually about two years old)

a device *n*

a little machine that does something useful: an MP3 player, for example

a tantrum *n*

if a child has a "tantrum", they become very angry and it's hard to control them

a tot *n*

a very young child

a detox *n*

a type of treatment given to someone who is addicted to something (drugs, alcohol, etc.)

to kick *vb*

if you "kick" a habit or addiction, you stop it

a dependency *n*

if someone has a "dependency", they're addicted to something and can't stop doing it

a catch *n*

a hidden problem or difficulty

FUN FACT

George W. Bush was the first US president to **deliver a speech** in Spanish. He did so during a weekly radio address in 2001.

TECHNOLOGY

iBABY

Should babies be allowed to use iPads? A recent survey has

revealed that over fifty per cent of UK parents let their infants play with tablet computers. Some **toddlers** even spend up to four hours a day on the **devices**. And experts are starting to worry. "Babies become

addicted to the tablets, reacting with **tantrums** and uncontrollable behaviour when they're taken away," said child psychiatrist Dr Richard Graham. He warned that **tots** with technology addictions will have problems forming social relationships as they grow up. So what's the solution? Dr Graham offers a "digital **detox**" programme that helps children **kick their iPad dependency**. But there's a **catch**. The 28-day treatment costs around £16,000.



FUN FACT

A 2011 study showed that 25% of Britons spend more time online than asleep.

INCREDIBLE, EDIBLE EGGS

How much do you know about eggs? Here are some amazing facts about them.



In total, the US produces about 75 billion eggs a year, about 10% of the world **supply**.

Most eggs are **laid** between the hours of 7am and 11am.

A **hen** requires 24 to 26 hours to produce an egg. Thirty minutes after laying the egg, she starts all over again.

Eggs are laid by females of many different species, including birds, reptiles and amphibians. However, the most popular eggs for **consumption** are those from chickens.

Eggs **age** more in one day at room temperature than one week in the **fridge**.

Hens with white feathers produce white shelled eggs. Hens with red or brown feathers produce brown shelled eggs.

A large egg contains about 70 calories and six grams of **protein**, and each egg has 13 **nutrients**.

Traditionally, a **chef's** hat had a **pleat** for each of the many ways you can cook an egg. At one time, a chef's hat had 100 pleats! These days, a chef's hats doesn't have so many pleats, but the number of pleats is still a sign of a chef's level of experience.

To tell if an egg is **raw** or hard-cooked, simply **spin** it. If the egg spins easily, it's hard-cooked but if it **wobbles**, it's raw.

Due to their protein content, the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) categorises eggs as a type of meat.

The shell of an egg is mostly made of calcium carbonate (about 94%) with small amounts of magnesium carbonate, calcium phosphate and other organic matter.

Shell size is related to a hen's age. As the hen ages, egg size increases.

Eggs are an important source of protein for vegetarians. One egg is the equivalent of about 30 grams of **lean** meat, fish or poultry.

Eggs are used in the production of a lot of types of food, including mayonnaise, **salad dressing**, sauces, biscuits, cakes, **quiches** and **soufflés**.

Eat an egg! They're "eggsellent"! 🍳

THE "INCREDIBLE EDIBLE EGG"

The "Incredible Edible Egg" slogan was created in 1977 by the advertising agency Campbell Mithun, and was used in a **jingle** that became extremely popular in the US.



VIDEO

YouTube

Watch egg farmers sing the jingle. Search YouTube for "Egg Farmers Sing Incredible jingle" and sing along!

"INCREDIBLE EGG" LYRICS

You should wake up to eggs
each day,
And then you'll be on your way,
With so much energy,
For your whole family.
When you've got a real big test,
And you want to be your best,
The Incredible Edible Egg.

The USDA has made the call,
Eggs have 14% less **cholesterol**,
And 64% more Vitamin D,
Than they previously thought
you see,
And we just **barely** got those
lines,
With the percentages to rhyme,
The Incredible Edible Egg.

It can keep you **fuller** longer,
It might even make you
stronger,
It might even grow your hair,
Fine we're exaggerating there,
Microwave it or make quiche,
That's a funny word – quiche,
The Incredible Edible Egg,
The Incredible Edible Egg.

See page 14 for our article on ways to cook eggs, and page 27 for our omelette recipe.

GLOSSARY

- a supply** *n*
a "supply" of something is an amount of it which people can use
- to lay** *v*
when a chicken "lays" an egg, the egg comes out of the chicken
- a hen** *n*
a female chicken
- consumption** *n*
the "consumption" of food is the act of eating it
- to age** *v*
to become older
- a fridge** *n*
a large metal container in the kitchen for keeping food cold and fresh
- protein** *n*
a substance in food such as meat, eggs and milk. You need "protein" to grow and be healthy
- a nutrient** *n*
a substance that helps plants and animals to grow
- a chef** *n*
a person whose job is to cook food in the kitchen of a restaurant, hotel, etc.
- a pleat** *n*
a "pleat" in a piece of clothing is a permanent fold in the cloth. A "fold" is where one part of the cloth is on top of the other
- raw** *adj*
not cooked
- to spin** *v*
if you "spin" something, you turn it around and around
- to wobble** *v*
if something "wobbles", it makes small movements from side to side, usually because it isn't attached or standing firmly
- lean** *adj*
if meat is "lean", it doesn't have much fat
- salad dressing** *n*
a mixture of oil, vinegar and herbs that is used on salads
- a quiche** *n*
food that consists of a pastry (made from flour, fat and water) container filled with a mixture of eggs, cheese and other foods
- a soufflé** *n*
a light food made from a mixture of beaten egg whites and other ingredients (such as cheese, vegetables). It's baked in the oven
- a slogan** *n*
a short phrase that's easy to remember and that's used in adverts to describe a product
- a jingle** *n*
a short, simple tune (often with words) which is used to promote and sell a product, etc.
- cholesterol** *n*
a substance that exists in the fat, tissues and blood of all animals. Too much cholesterol can cause heart disease
- barely** *adv*
if you say that you "barely" understood something, you're saying that you almost didn't understand it
- full** *adj*
if you're "full", you've eaten enough and you don't want any more food

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What type of food do you dislike or hate? Why? What food did you hate as a child but now quite like? What type of food do you like?

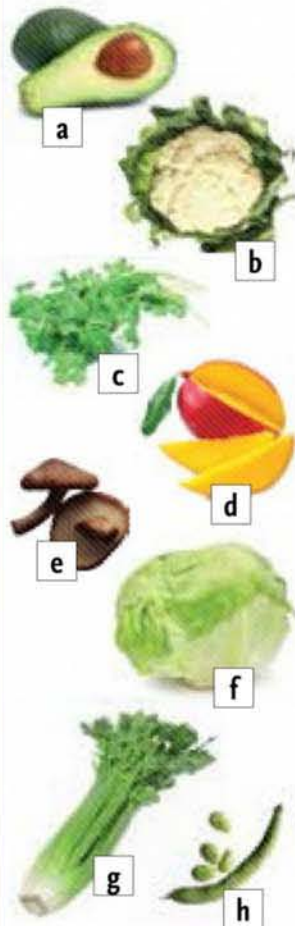
Exams This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as KET and TOEFL.

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

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

1. Mushroom
2. Coriander
3. Green beans
4. Avocado (pear)
5. Celery
6. Cabbage
7. Cauliflower
8. Mango



2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which comments do you agree with?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of an item of food next to each statement.

1. It doesn't fill you up.
2. It tastes like medicine.
3. They're rubbery.
4. It's like eating cotton wool with needles.
5. It tastes like soap.
6. It produces a horrible smell when it's being cooked.



WHAT TYPE OF FOOD DO YOU HATE?

We asked several people about the food they don't like. Here's what they said.

I really hate mushrooms. They're just so **rubbery**.
Jack, 32

I **can't stand** coriander. It tastes like **soap** to me.
Kiera, 28

I can't stand **mushy** food, like overripe bananas or soft tomatoes.
Megan, 28

I hate any **stringy** vegetables like green beans, **over-ripe** avocados or celery, which also has this really nasty bitter taste.
Morgan, 26

I can't bear the smell or taste of whisky. I got drunk on it once when I was young, and now even the smell is enough to make me feel sick again.
Bradley, 31

I was forced to eat a lot of soup at school, and my parents gave it to me for dinner almost every evening at home, so I'm not a big fan. Apart from that, it doesn't **fill you up**, so you end up **pigging out** on bread

and cheese!
Amelia, 33

I can't stand **overcooked**, **soggy** cabbage or cauliflower, and the smell they produce when you're cooking them just makes me want to **retch**. However, I do like **sauerkraut**, which is made from cabbage. Strange!
Nicole, 29

The only vegetable I like is the potato – I can't stand the rest. If I have to eat vegetables in a restaurant or at someone's house, I put lots of mayonnaise or ketchup on to hide the taste. It's the only way I can eat them!
Diane, 24

I'm not that **keen on** mango. It's got this strange metallic aftertaste which is a bit like medicine, and I hate the soft, firm texture. However, I do like mango juice.
Ben, 35

I hate fish, especially fish with lots of bones in it – it's like eating **cotton wool** with **needles**. Once, I went to stay with my uncle in northern Norway. I remember that I was really hungry when I arrived, but he didn't have

anything in the fridge. So, we went out on his **rowing boat** and caught some fish. Later, he boiled it up and we ate it plain without even any salt or anything. It was horrible.

Mike, 34

GLOSSARY

- rubbery** *adj*
"rubbery" food feels soft or elastic, just like rubber
- can't stand** *exp*
if you "can't stand" something, you don't like that thing
- soap** *n*
a substance you use with water to wash or clean yourself
- mushy** *adj*
"mushy" food is soft and has no shape
- stringy** *adj*
"stringy" food has long, thin pieces that are difficult to eat
- over-ripe** *adj*
"over-ripe" fruit is very soft and old
- to fill up** *phr vb*
if food "fills you up", you don't feel hungry after eating it – you feel full
- to pig out** *phr vb inform*
if you "pig out", you eat a lot of food very quickly
- overcooked** *adj*
if food is "overcooked", it has been cooked for too long
- soggy** *adj*
"soggy" food has a lot of water in it
- to retch** *vb*
if you "retch", your stomach moves and you feel as if you're going to vomit (when food comes up from your stomach and out of your mouth)
- sauerkraut** *n*
cabbage which has been cut into small pieces and pickled (preserved in vinegar)
- keen on** *phr vb*
if you're "keen on" something, you like that thing
- cotton wool** *n*
a soft mass of white cotton. It's often used to put cream on your face, etc.
- a needle** *n*
a small, very thin piece of metal which is used for sewing. It has a sharp point at one end and a hole in the other
- a rowing boat** *n*
a small boat that you move through water by using oars (long pieces of wood)

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Why do you think Twitter is so popular? What are the pros and cons of Twitter? What do you use Twitter for? What would you use Twitter for? What's the best way to find out about the latest news?

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



WHAT PEOPLE ARE TALKING ABOUT ON TWITTER

Twitter has more than half a billion users. And they send over 170,000 tweets a second. So, what's everyone tweeting about? Anything and everything, it appears! But sometimes certain subjects become especially popular. And these are called Trending Topics.

Twitter launched **Trending Topics** in 2009. This feature shows users which topics are the most popular on the social network at any given time. For example, if lots of people start tweeting about Justin Bieber (say, because he's just released a new single), then he'll become a Trending Topic. Also, Trending Topics are region-specific. So, Twitter users in France, for example, will only see topics that are trending in France. Here are five of the biggest Trending Topics from the past few years.

The Queen's Jubilee
In 2012, the Queen of England celebrated her 60th **Jubilee**. During the four-day party, people sent more than one million jubilee-related tweets. And the Queen's jubilee was an even bigger Trending Topic than Prince William's wedding.

Steve Jobs
On 5th October 2011, Apple co-founder Steve Jobs died. And Twitter **went into overload** as people sent tweets **mourning** his death. In fact, for the following 24 hours, more or less 20% of all tweets were about the iPhone inventor. And Twitter

crashed several times because it simply couldn't **keep up**.

The Olympics

The London Olympics were called "the first social media Olympics". Athletes and fans used Twitter, among other social networks, to spread Olympic news. In total, 150 million Olympics-related tweets were sent during the Games. But the biggest Olympics Trending Topic had nothing to do with sport at all. It was when girl band the Spice Girls **performed** during the **closing ceremony!** Over half a million Spice Girls-related tweets were sent during the performance.

The Jump

On 13th October 2012, Felix Baumgartner jumped out of a space ship. The Austrian **daredevil set** the world skydiving **record** by parachuting to Earth from a capsule in the **stratosphere**. That day, Felix's name was mentioned in over 700,000 tweets.

Four More Years

The 2012 US election was a **tight race**. And in the weeks leading up to Election Day, Barack Obama and Mitt Romney were regular Trending Topics. But once the votes were counted, the only Trending Topic was Obama. The President tweeted a photo of himself **hugging** Michele Obama, with the message, "Four more years." It was **re-tweeted** 800,000 times, making it the most popular tweet in history. 🗳️

TrendsMap.com

TrendsMap.com is a very cool website that lets you track Trending Topics in your country or city in real time.

HASH TAGS

A hash tag (#) is placed before a word that is trending. For example: #justinbieber. Twitter messages can only have a maximum of 140 characters (a character being any letter (ABC, etc.), punctuation mark or space).

twitter.com/LearnHotEnglish

Follow Hot English on Twitter. Find out about the latest news, get fantastic offers and hear about some great language learning ideas: twitter.com/LearnHotEnglish

GLOSSARY

- a tweet** *n* a message you send through the social network Twitter
- to tweet** *vb* to send a message through Twitter
- trending** *n* a "trending" topic is a popular topic on Twitter. Literally, a "trend" is a fashion
- a jubilee** *n* a special anniversary of an event. The Queen was celebrating her Diamond Jubilee to mark 60 years as queen
- to go into overload** *exp* if a system "goes into overload", too many people use it and the system could crash (stop working)
- to mourn** *vb* someone who is "mourning" is sad because a friend/relative, etc. has died
- to crash** *vb* if a system "crashes", it stops working
- to keep up** *phr vb* if a system can't "keep up", it can't process all the information it's receiving
- to perform** *vb* if a band "performs", they sing/act, etc. in front of an audience
- a closing ceremony** *n* the party/ceremony to celebrate the end of an event
- a daredevil** *n* someone who enjoys doing dangerous things
- to set a record** *exp* to be the fastest or best at something
- the stratosphere** *n* the layer of the earth's atmosphere which is between 10 and 50 kilometres above the earth
- a tight race** *n* if an election is described as a "tight race", both candidates could win
- to hug** *vb* to put your arms around someone because you're pleased to see them and to hold them in an emotional embrace
- re-tweet** *exp* if you "re-tweet" a message from Twitter, you send the message on to other people

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading I

What topics have been popular in your country over the past few months? Think of any three ideas from the following areas (or any others): sport, politics, technology, famous people, music, film, theatre...

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which topics mentioned in the article were in the news in your country?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a topic or person next to each statement.

- 150 million tweets were sent during this event.
- It was a four-day event.
- His name was mentioned in over 700,000 tweets.
- He sent a photo of himself hugging his wife.
- He died in October 2011.
- Over half a million tweets were sent during a performance of this group.

GRAMMAR BOOSTER THE PAST SIMPLE

Affirmative	Negative	Interrogative
I saw a good film.	I didn't see a good film.	Did I see a good film?
You saw a good film.	You didn't see a good film.	Did you see a good film?
He saw a good film.	He didn't see a good film.	Did he see a good film?
She saw a good film.	She didn't see a good film.	Did she see a good film?
It saw a good film.	It didn't see a good film.	Did it see a good film?
We saw a good film.	We didn't see a good film.	Did we see a good film?
They saw a good film.	They didn't see a good film.	Did they see a good film?



Dialogue: Disaster day!

It's Monday evening and Madison and Henry are chatting in the pub. [Listen and complete with the correct words.]

Madison: So, did you have a good weekend?

Henry: No, not great.

Madison: Oh, what happened?

Henry: Well, we'd planned to play (1) _____ on Saturday morning, but it started to rain so we had to cancel it.

Madison: That's a shame!

Henry: Yeah, and after that I met up with a friend for

(2) _____, but she got food poisoning so I had to take her to hospital.

Madison: Oh, no.

Henry: Later that afternoon, I arranged to meet up with some other friends, but they went to the wrong (3) _____ and we wasted about an hour trying to find each other.

Madison: Disaster!

Henry: Yeah, and then while we were in a pub, a customer had a heart attack so we had to call an (4) _____ and look after him until the paramedics got there.

Madison: Oh, no.

Henry: Finally, we went to the cinema, but we couldn't get any seats for the (5) _____ we wanted to see.

Madison: You should have reserved them online.

Henry: Yeah, I know. Next time. So, what about you? How was your weekend?

Madison: Well, we went on a

(6) _____ ...

Henry: That's nice!

Madison: ...yeah, but we got attacked by a swarm of bees. Then, it started to rain so we... [fades out]

The Past Simple

We use the Past Simple to refer to actions from the past that are complete and remote. For example, "I gave it to him last week."

We add *-ed* at the end of regular Past Simple verbs, but there are many important irregular verbs: *see-saw*; *do-did*; *have-had*, etc. For example, "I saw her at the party."

We can use question words (*who*, *what*, *when*, *where*, *why*, etc.) with the Past Simple. For example, "Who did you see there?"

Typical time expressions with the Past Simple include: *last week* / *last month* / *last night* / *an hour ago* / *three days ago* / *in the past* / *yesterday*



GLOSSARY

heart attack n
if someone has a "heart attack", their heart stops beating for a period of time

paramedics n
a type of nurse who often travels to the scene of an accident to help injured people

WORD BOOSTER

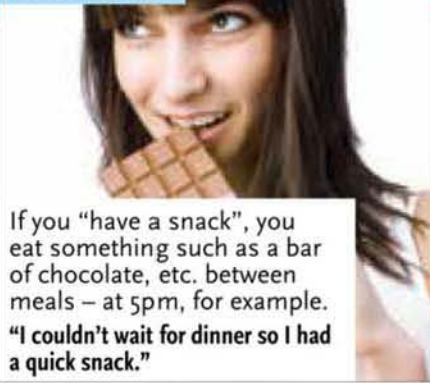
USEFUL EXPRESSION WITH HAVE

Have a drink



If you "have a drink", you drink something.
"We had a drink in a pub near where I work."

Have a snack



If you "have a snack", you eat something such as a bar of chocolate, etc. between meals – at 5pm, for example.
"I couldn't wait for dinner so I had a quick snack."

Have a bath / shower



If you "have a bath", you wash yourself in the bath.
"I had a hot bath after the rugby match."

Have a shave



If you "have a shave", you remove the hair from your face, etc.
"He had a shave then went downstairs for breakfast."

Have a rest



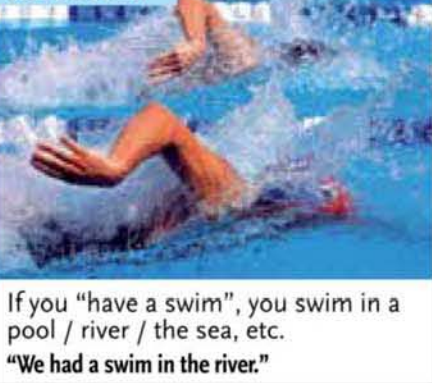
If you "have a rest", you relax for a short period of time.
"Can we have a rest? I'm really tired."

Have a lie-down



If you "have a lie-down", you lie down on a bed or the sofa so you can sleep or rest a bit.
"I need a lie-down after all that heavy lifting."

Have a swim



If you "have a swim", you swim in a pool / river / the sea, etc.
"We had a swim in the river."

Have a sleep



If you "have a sleep", you go to sleep for a short period of time.
"I had a little sleep after lunch."

Have a good/bad time



If you "have a good time", you enjoy yourself.
"We had a good time at the party."

Have a chat



If you "have a chat" with someone, you talk to them.
"We had a chat about our holidays."

Have an argument / quarrel / row



If you "have an argument with someone", you speak angrily to them, often shouting (speaking in a loud voice).
"I had an argument with her."

Have breakfast / lunch / dinner (or supper)



If you "have breakfast" (for example), you eat something in the morning; if you "have lunch", you eat something at midday; and if you "have dinner", you eat something in the evening.
"I had breakfast really early this morning."

Think about it

When was the last time you went on a trip? Where did you go? Did you enjoy it? Why? Why not?

ENGLISH IN ACTION... TRAVEL

Useful words



Cruise ship



Train



Aeroplane / airplane



Coach



Passport



Backpack



Map



Insect / mosquito repellent



(Sun) hat



Camera



Wash bag



Sun cream



Sunglasses



Sandals



Bum bag / fanny pack (US English)

More words

- **Package deal/holiday** – a holiday that includes everything: the flight, hotel, meals, etc.
- **Overnight stay** – if you have an “overnight stay”, you sleep in a hotel during your journey.
- **Resort** – a place with hotels / restaurants, etc. where people spend their holidays: a beach resort / a ski resort.
- **Journey** – when you go on a “journey”, you travel somewhere. Typical expressions include: *car journey / train journey / long journey / short journey...*
- **Trip** – a journey that you make to a particular place. Typical expressions include: *day trip, business trip, round trip* (a journey to a place and then back over the same route)...
- **Travel** – if you “travel” somewhere, you go there.
- **Voyage** – a long journey on a ship or in a spacecraft.
- **Tour guide** – someone whose job is to show tourists around a place and explain its history, architecture, etc.
- **Guided tour** – if someone takes you on a “guided tour”, they show you around a place of interest and tell you all about it.
- **Travel agency / travel agent's** – a shop where you can buy holidays.
- **Visa** – an official document or a stamp in your passport which allows you to enter or leave a particular country.
- **Stop-over** – if you have a “stop-over” during your journey, you stop in a place and stay there for one or two nights.
- **Customs** – the place in an airport where customs officials may check your bags for drugs / weapons, etc.
- **Exchange rate** – the rate at which one currency can be exchanged for another. For example, the exchange rate for euros to dollars.
- **Seasick / carsick / airsick** – if you get “carsick”, you feel sick during a car journey.
- **B/O = Bed Only** – just a bed in a hotel.
- **B/B = Bed and Breakfast** – a bed in a hotel with breakfast included.
- **H/B = Half board** – a bed in a hotel with breakfast and either lunch or dinner included.
- **F/B = Full board** – a bed in a hotel with breakfast, lunch and dinner.

Dialogue: Deciding where to go

Jim wants to go on holiday. He's talking to a travel agent, who's helping him plan the trip. [Listen and complete with the correct prepositions.]

J=Jim
A=Agent



- J: Morning!
A: Good morning! Can I help you?
J: Yes, erm, I've never been (1) _____ holiday before, but I've finally decided to take an overseas trip. The trip of a lifetime!
A: How exciting! How long would you like to go (2) _____?
J: Two weeks. During the Christmas holidays. Where do you suggest?
A: How about a luxury safari in Mozambique? The weather will be warm and you'll have a real adventure.
J: Erm, will there be mosquitoes?
A: I guess so. But you can take some insect repellent.
J: I'm allergic (3) _____ mosquitoes. What else have you got?
A: What about southern Spain? I can get you a package deal that includes flights, accommodation and meals.
J: Aren't the beaches there full of Brits? I'd rather go somewhere “off the beaten path”, so to speak.
A: Well, British Airways have a great deal (4) _____ the moment on flights to the Solomon Islands. It's beautiful there this time of year. And the exchange rate is great.
J: How long is the flight?
A: About 20 hours.
J: Oh, that won't do. I get **cramp** if I sit too long. Anything closer to home?
- A: Erm, Germany?
J: I'm not a big fan (5) _____ sausages.
A: There's more to Germany than just sausages! Mmm... well, you could always go somewhere closer to home. Maybe take the ferry (6) _____ Dublin?
J: I'd love to. But I get seasick. How about Brighton?
A: Well, it might be a bit cold and depressing in December.
J: Sounds perfect!
A: Erm, OK! And because it's low season I can get you a great deal (7) _____ a 5-star hotel. I'll book the train too. Window or aisle seat?
J: Train?
A: Yeah. Brighton is only 45-minutes from London by train.
J: Erm, I don't do trains. Long story. Maybe I'll just stay in London.
A: Not much of a holiday though. I mean, you already live (8) _____ London.
J: I'll go to the British Museum, visit Big Ben, walk across London Bridge. It'll be the holiday of my dreams! Thanks so much for your advice.
A: Erm, my pleasure.
J: I'll send you a postcard. Bye!



GLOSSARY

off the beaten path ɒf ðə bi:tən pæθ
if a place is “off the beaten path”, it's in a remote area, often far away from the nearest town or city
cramp kræmp
if you get “cramp”, you have a sudden pain in a muscle in your body

NATURAL ENGLISH

What are your favourite websites?

Photos and interviews by Georgie & Danielle

TRACK 6: ENGLISHMAN, IRISHMAN, PUERTO RICAN WOMAN, IRISHWOMAN, AMERICAN WOMAN, SCOTTISH WOMAN

Remember!

Remember, when people talk informally and spontaneously, they often use non-standard English.

Duncan McQueen
(England, chef)



I use the internet a lot, er, I use Word Reference (wordreference.com) to translate a word, I often visit the *Guardian* website (guardian.co.uk) to **catch up with** news from back home and I use the *BBC* website (bbc.co.uk) when I need to find a **recipe**.

James Duggan
(Ireland, actor)



Oh, my favourite websites would probably be the flight ones, ryanair.com or easyjet.com, just to **get away** now and again.

Melissa Armstrong
(Puerto Rico, food critic)



My favourite websites would be *The Atlantic* (theatlantic.com) and the *Huffington Post* (huffingtonpost.com) for news, their content is **current** and **relevant** and they always have things that are interesting. If I'm looking for a **laugh**, then I would go to BuzzFeed (buzzfeed.com), erm, they have funny pictures all the time and Wimp (wimp.com) has funny videos of animals doing **crazy stuff**.

Anne Lydon
(Ireland, theatre director)



My favourite websites, erm, are aerlingus.com, er, to **look up** good offers for going home to Ireland and, erm, lastminute.com for theatre and concert tickets.

Rayna Taylor
(USA, marketing executive)



My favourite websites are *MadameNoir* (madamenoir.com), which is a website **geared towards** African-American women. Second one is *Fashion Bomb Daily* (fashionbombdaily.com), which is a fashion advice website. And Facebook, which is a social network, and *RetailMeNot* (retailmenot.com), which I use to get **coupons** on consumer items.

Lindsay MacNaughton
(Scotland, translator)



My favourite website is probably asos.com. It's a clothing website and I like to go on it to check out **trends** and clothes and different styles and there's [**sic**]* often lots of **sales** and **free shipping**.

*SIC

"sic" is used to indicate that the text has appeared exactly the way someone said something, often when that text is non-standard or incorrect. Literally, "sic" is Latin for "thus". "Sic" often appears in square brackets [sic]. Here are the corrections for the non-standard phrases in this text:

sic' = there's often lots of sales... = there **are** often lots of sales...

GLOSSARY

- to catch up with** *exp*
if you "catch up with" the news, you read a newspaper to see what's happened
- a recipe** *n*
a list of ingredients and a set of instructions that tell you how to cook something
- to get away** *phr vb*
if you "get away", you go on holiday somewhere
- current** *adj*
something "current" is happening now
- relevant** *adj*
if something is "relevant" to you, it's important or significant for you
- a laugh** *n*
if you're looking for a "laugh", you're looking for something funny to look at, etc.
- crazy stuff** *exp*
silly, funny things
- to look up** *phr vb*
if you "look up" information, you try to find the information online or in a dictionary
- geared towards** *exp*
if a website is "geared towards" a certain group of people, it's for that group of people
- a coupon** *n*
a small piece of paper with information about a reduced price. When you present the "coupon" in a shop, you pay less for a product
- a trend** *n*
a fashion; a change or new way of doing something
- sales** *n*
when there are "sales", products in a shop are cheaper
- free shipping** *n*
if there's "free shipping", you don't have to pay any of the costs associated with sending the product to your house



Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it What are some of the best hotels you've ever stayed in? What are some of the worst? What do you like/dislike about staying in hotels?

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

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

Where do you think the following celebrities have hotels? Match each famous person (1 to 4) to the place where they have a hotel (a-d).



- a. Scotland
- b. New York City (in the USA)
- c. Eastbourne (in England)
- d. Belize (in Central America)

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to two people talking about celebrities who own hotels. Listen once to check your ideas from the Pre-listening activity.

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, choose the correct answers.

1. Chloe wants to take Phil on a **short / long** holiday.
2. Phil **really likes / doesn't like** tennis.
3. Robert De Niro's hotel is called the **Greenwich Hotel / Aldwych Hotel**.
4. Eastbourne is in **Scotland / England**.
5. Chloe seems to be interested in the hotel in **New York / Belize**.

4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct verbs.



Note!

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

Celebrity hotels from around the world

Audio script

Georgina: Hi, Chloe, how's things?

Chloe: Good, thanks. It's our first wedding anniversary next (1) _____.

Georgina: A year already?

Chloe: Yeah. I want to take Phil on a trip. A short holiday. But somewhere really special, you know.

Georgina: I read an (2) _____ about celebrities who own hotels.

Chloe: Yeah?

Georgina: You know, for example, Andy Murray, the tennis player – he's got a hotel in Scotland.

Chloe: Oh, right. Nice idea. Phil really likes tennis. Where's the hotel?

Georgina: Wait a (3) _____, I'll get the article. [slight pause] Oh... Andy Murray's hotel hasn't opened yet. Next year. Sorry.

Chloe: Well, where else is there?

Georgina: What about the Greenwich Hotel in New York?

Chloe: Who owns that?

Georgina: Robert De Niro. It looks great, but it's quite expensive. The cheapest (4) _____ is more than \$500 a night.

Chloe: And I'd have to buy flights, too. But it's a possibility. Any other places?

Georgina: How about John Malkovich?

Chloe: Where's his hotel?

Georgina: Eastbourne. It's called The Big Sleep.

Chloe: Eastbourne? You mean Eastbourne on the south (5) _____ of England?

Georgina: Yeah.

Chloe: I'm not going there.

Georgina: But it's cheaper than New York. John

Malkovich's hotel only costs about £75 a night.

Chloe: No, we're not going to Eastbourne.

Georgina: Well, Francis Ford Coppola, the film (6) _____ ...

Chloe: He made *The Godfather* films, didn't he?

Georgina: Yeah. Well, he owns five hotels. Two in Belize...

Chloe: Where's Belize?

Georgina: Central America.

Chloe: That's even further away than New York. No. I think Robert De Niro's (7) _____ in New York sounds best. What was it called again?

Georgina: The Greenwich.

Chloe: OK. Thanks a lot. I'll look it up on the internet. Cheers.

Georgina: No problem. [fades out]

Think about it!

What type of films do you like? What type of music are you into? What type of food do you enjoy eating? What do you like doing in your free time? Is there anything you really hate? Why don't you like it?

PRACTICAL ENGLISH

EXPRESSING LIKES & DISLIKES

This month we're looking at expressing likes and dislikes.

Expressing likes

- I like it a lot!
- I love it!
- It's amazing / incredible / great / wonderful / superb!
- I'm crazy about it! / I'm mad about it! (very enthusiastic)
- I'm quite keen on the idea!
- I'm really fond of her.
- I adore him!
- I'm pretty hot on the idea. (informal)

Expressing dislikes

- I don't like it.
- I dislike it.
- I hate it.
- It's horrible / terrible / awful / disgusting!
- I can't stand people who do things like that.
- I can't bear people who talk like that.
- I detest having my photo taken.
- Those two loathe one another. (hate)
- I'm not particularly hot on the idea. (informal)

The following expressions are followed by a verb in the gerund (verb + *ing*) when we're talking about things in general (not really anything in particular):

- a) I **like listening** to rock music.
- b) I **love swimming** in the sea.
- c) I **hate wearing** a tie.
- d) I **can't stand waiting** in long queues.

And they're followed by an infinitive when we're talking about something more specific:

- a) I **like to go** to the dentist at least once a year.
- b) I **like to get up** early so I've got time to paint a bit before work.

However, as with everything in English, there are always exceptions!

I REALLY LIKE MY NEW SONG!



Dialogue: The debut album

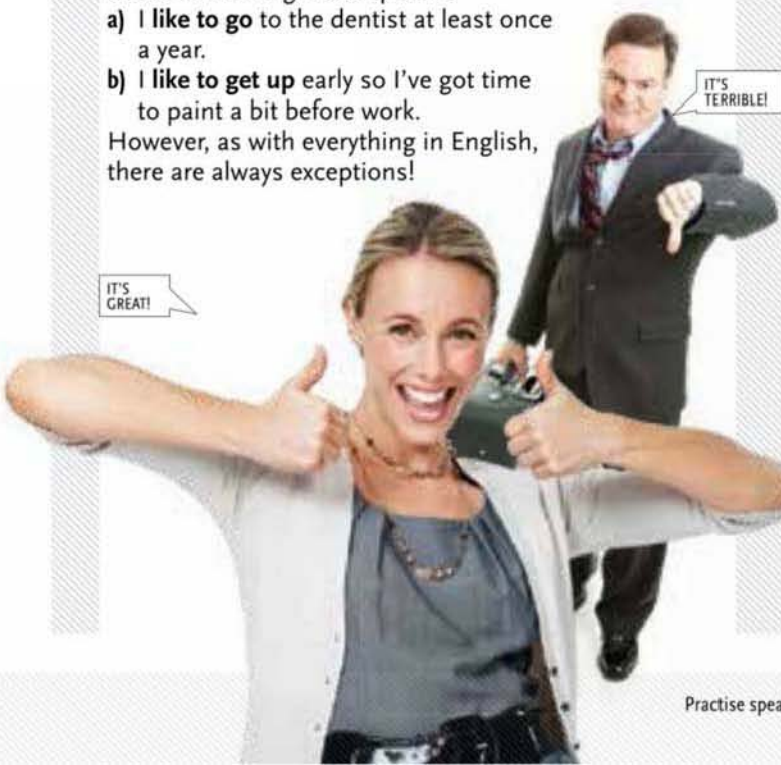
Randy and Flynn are in a band. They're about to record their debut album and are discussing what style of music it should be. [Listen and complete with the correct words.]

R=Randy F=Flynn

- R: I think we should make a pop/rock album. I really like the Rolling Stones and absolutely love the Beatles.
- F: I don't mind the Beatles, but their music is a bit out-of-date. We need to (1) _____ an album that appeals to a teen audience.
- R: Like what?
- F: I'm really into that Korean singer Psy.
- R: You mean the Gangnam Style guy? I can't stand that song and his stupid dance.
- F: Well, I'm not crazy about it either, but that "stupid dance" made him a millionaire. All we have to do is invent our own dance. We could (2) _____ it Flynn-nam Style.
- R: That's a terrible idea. And anyway, I hate dancing.
- F: Mmm... what about gangsta-rap? My brother's crazy about Lil Wayne. I'm not that keen on rap, but it's really popular.
- R: But we don't even (3) _____ how to rap!
- F: Doesn't matter. All we have to do is get thrown in jail.
- R: What?
- F: Lil Wayne served time for drug possession. And when he (4) _____ out, he was more popular than ever!
- R: What are you suggesting?
- F: I think we should rob a bank.
- R: I want to make music, not break the law. Mmm... What about a folk album? I'm quite fond of Bob Dylan.
- F: No way! OK. Instead of (5) _____ a bank, let's just steal a few cars.
- R: You're insane. I know. Let's make a death metal album! We could move to Norway. Death metal is really popular there, apparently.
- F: Mmm... death metal isn't really my thing.
- R: Oh, that's a pity, I was pretty hot on that one.
- F: You know, I still think we need to rob a bank. I can (6) _____ the headline now! Gangsta-rap band robs bank to pay for latest album.
- R: Let's keep brainstorming, eh?

IT'S GREAT!

IT'S TERRIBLE!





Objective To improve your reading skills.

Think about it How often do you eat eggs? How do you like to cook your eggs? Which egg dishes do you like?

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

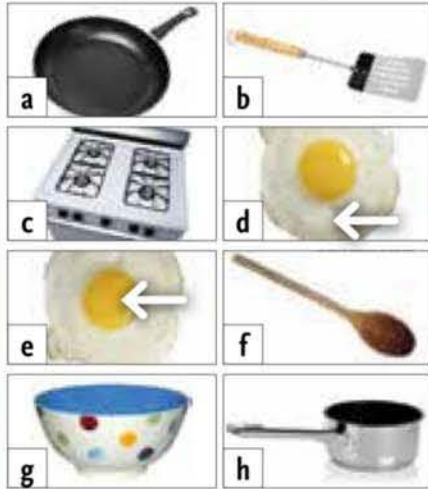
Answers on page 44

By Danielle Ott

1 Pre-reading

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

1. (Egg) yolk
2. (Egg) white
3. Stove / oven / cooker
4. Spatula
5. Frying pan (also, "pan")
6. Pan
7. Wooden spoon
8. Bowl



2 Reading I

Look at the five ways to prepare eggs (Boiled egg, etc.). How do you prepare the eggs in each case? Make notes. Then, read the article once to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

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

1. It's cooked with hot oil.
2. They're served with salmon in some countries.
3. The egg is cooked for about three minutes.
4. It's folded over so it's half the size.
5. The egg is cooked for about 12 minutes.
6. It's cooked in hot water.

4 Language focus

The Present Simple Passive

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...scrambled eggs are served with..." The writer has used the present simple passive ("are served"). Complete the following sentences with the participles from below. Some words may be repeated

left placed boiled served

1. The water is _____ in a pan.
2. The food is _____ to cool for a few minutes.
3. It's often _____ with a salad.
4. It's _____ in the oven for 2 hours.

5 ways to cook eggs

Do you like eggs? Here are five easy ways to cook them. What's your favourite?



Boiled egg

For a soft-boiled egg (with the yolk soft and runny), the egg is cooked for about three minutes. For a hard-boiled egg (with a firm

yolk), the egg needs to stay in the pan for about 12 minutes.



Fried egg

Add some oil to a frying pan and place it on medium heat. Once the oil is hot, crack an egg into the pan and let it sit there for a few minutes. When the edges of the white begin to curl up, your egg is ready! This is known as sunny-side up (cooked on just one side). If you like your egg yolk cooked (and less runny), do it "over easy" – this means that the egg is fried on both sides. Follow the instructions above, then flip the egg over and let it cook for another minute or so.



Poached egg

Fill a pan with water and heat it on the stove. When the water begins to bubble, turn the

heat down a little so it doesn't start boiling. Then, crack an egg into a bowl and slowly pour the egg into the hot water. Leave it for 3-5 minutes. When it's ready, use a spoon to carefully remove the egg. Top tip! Add 1-2 teaspoons of vinegar to the water. This helps keep the egg white together.



Scrambled eggs

Beat two eggs (or more if you want) in a bowl and season with salt and pepper. Heat some oil in a frying pan over a medium heat. Add the egg mixture, and use a wooden spoon to mix the egg in the pan. Keep mixing with your spatula until the eggs are cooked to the consistency you like. In some Scandinavian countries, scrambled eggs are served with smoked salmon and a cucumber salad. Delicious!



Omelette

Omelettes are prepared in the same way as scrambled eggs. Crack the eggs into a bowl. Beat the eggs with a fork, and season with salt and pepper. Heat some oil over medium heat. Add the mixture to the frying pan, and let it sit for 1-2 minutes. When the edges start to cook, use a spatula to gently lift the bottom of the egg and roll it over so it's half the size. For variety, add other ingredients on top of the omelette (cheese, mushrooms, bacon...). When it's cooked a bit more, roll the omelette onto your plate and eat it! ☺

Objective To improve your reading skills.

Think about it Do you have any Apple products? Which ones? Which ones would you like to have? Why? What do you think of them? Do you ever eat at McDonald's? What do you like /dislike about it?

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

Answers on page 44

1 Reading I

You're going to read about two PR (public relations) disasters that affected Apple and McDonald's. What do you think could have happened? Make notes. Then, read the article once to compare your ideas. Were any of your ideas similar to the ones in the article?

2 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

1. When did the first iPhone appear?
2. What was wrong with the Maps app?
3. What did CEO Tim Cook advise iPhone users to do?
4. When did McDonald's start the "#MeetTheFarmers" Twitter campaign?
5. How long was "#McDStories" promoted for?
6. What percentage of the comments about McDonald's were negative?

Language focus Transitive verbs

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...Apple Maps often displayed shops..." The writer has used a transitive verb ("to display"). Complete the following sentences (with transitive verbs from the article) with your own ideas.

1. They used...
2. They missed...
3. They're improving...
4. They delivered...



Two major PR disasters!

Apple and McDonald's are both hugely successful companies. They know their markets and produce quality products. It's very rare that they get things wrong, but when they do, it can quickly turn into a major disaster, as these two examples clearly show.

Apple

The first iPhone appeared in 2007. Included with the phone was Google Maps. However, in 2012, Apple decided to drop Google Maps and use their own version, Maps. But unfortunately, the new app, Maps, was full of errors.

Apple Maps often displayed shops and restaurants far away from their true location. Important sites, including some railway stations, were missing. The search function did not understand simple requests. And satellite images were completely clouded over in places.

Things were so bad that CEO Tim Cook had to issue a public apology. "At Apple, we strive to make world-class products that deliver the best experience possible to our customers. With the launch of our new Maps last week, we fell short on this commitment," he said. "We are extremely sorry for the frustration this has caused our customers and we are doing everything we can to make Maps better," he added.

He even encouraged frustrated iPhone users to use rival map apps. "While we're improving Maps, you can try alternatives by downloading map apps from the App Store like Bing, MapQuest and Waze, or

use Google or Nokia maps by going to their websites and creating an icon on your home screen to their web app," said Mr Cook.

McDonald's

Early in January 2012, McDonald's launched a social media Twitter campaign with the hashtag "#MeetTheFarmers". It was aimed at highlighting good news stories about the farmers who deliver fresh food to the restaurant chain. One tweet read, "Meet Dirk Giannini, McDonald's lettuce supplier, as he shows us his life on the farm."

A few days later, McDonald's sent out two tweets with the hashtag "#McDStories" in an attempt to get readers to tweet their special stories. However, it soon turned into a disaster as people used the hashtag to talk about their own *horror* stories.

One tweeter wrote, "Hospitalized for food poisoning after eating McDonalds in 1989. Never ate there again and became vegetarian. Should have sued."

And another wrote, "I lost 50lbs in 6 months after I quit working and eating at McDonald's."

Soon afterwards, McDonald's social media director Rick Wion e-mailed, "#mcdstories did not go as planned. We quickly pulled #mcdstories and it was promoted for less than two hours." Admittedly, only about 2% of the 72,788 comments about McDonald's on Twitter were negative, but the story appeared in newspapers all over the world... and the damage was done! ☹

Objective To read and listen to an article about apologising in English.

Think about it When was the last time you said sorry for something? What were you apologising for? How did you word your apology? Is it important to apologise for your mistakes? Why? Why not?

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



HOW TO SAY YOU'RE SORRY!

Nobody likes saying sorry. Why? Because it means you have to admit you did something wrong! But apologising is even harder when you have to do it on national TV. Here are three high-profile figures who decided to make a public apology... and another who decided not to.



Anthony Weiner

Anthony Weiner is a former member of the United States Congress. In 2011, he was accused of sending women **suggestive** images of himself via Twitter. At first, Weiner **denied** the accusations, but he eventually **came clean** and called a press conference. On live TV Weiner said, "I **apologise** to the many members of the media that I **mised**. And I apologise first and foremost to my wife and to my family."



King Juan Carlos of Spain

Even royals have to say sorry sometimes! In April 2012, King Carlos of Spain apologised to the entire Spanish nation. What for? Newspapers discovered that the King had been on a **luxurious** elephant hunting holiday in Botswana (news of the safari leaked to the press because the King injured his **hip** on the trip). Spaniards were angry that their King had been on an expensive vacation while the country was **struggling** with 25% unemployment. So, as he left hospital, Juan Carlos apologised to waiting cameras. "I'm very sorry. I made a mistake. It won't

happen again," he said.



David Cameron

British Prime Minister David

Cameron was recently on a state trip to India, and many were wondering whether he would apologise for the Amritsar massacre. In April 1919, British troops fired on a crowd of **unarmed** Indians in Amritsar, killing up to 1,000 (at the time India was part of the British Empire). No British prime minister has ever apologised for the **slaughter**. And Cameron was no exception. But he did write in the **memorial site visitors'** book, "This was a **deeply shameful** event in British history."



Julia Gillard

Sometimes politicians actually **do** apologise. In March 2013, Australian Prime Minister Julia Gillard said sorry for Australia's policy of forced **adoptions**. Between 1955 and 1975, the Australian government forced many young and unmarried mothers to put their babies up for adoption (because they didn't think the women were capable of raising the children by themselves). "To you, the mothers who were **betrayed** by a system that gave you no choice and subjected you to **manipulation, mistreatment and malpractice**, we apologise... For the loss, the **grief, the disempowerment, the stigmatisation** and the guilt, we say sorry," Gillard made the apology to a crowd of 1,000 people (including many of the

affected mothers), and she received a **standing ovation**. Maybe a few politicians can learn from Julia! ☺

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch Julia Gillard's apology. Search YouTube "Julia Gillard babies apology"

Check out Anthony Weiner saying sorry. Search YouTube "Anthony Weiner apology"

GLOSSARY

- suggestive** *adj*
"suggestive" images are often sexual in nature
- to deny** *vb*
if you "deny" something, you say it isn't true
- to come clean** *exp*
if you "come clean", you admit something
- to apologise** *vb*
if you "apologise", you say sorry
- to mislead** *vb*
if you "mislead" someone, you lie to them
- luxurious** *adj*
something "luxurious" is sophisticated and expensive
- a hip** *n*
your "hips" are the two areas at the sides of your body at the top of your legs
- to struggle** *vb*
if someone is "struggling", they're having difficulties / problems
- unarmed** *adj*
"unarmed" people have no weapons (guns, knives, etc.)
- slaughter** *n*
if there's a "slaughter", a large number of people are killed in a cruel or unnecessary way
- a memorial site** *n*
a structure / statue, etc. in a special place as a reminder of something that happened in that place
- deeply shameful** *exp*
if you describe someone's actions as "deeply shameful", you're saying that they were very bad
- adoption** *n*
if there's an "adoption", someone takes a child into their family and the child becomes their son or daughter
- to betray** *vb*
if you "betray" someone who trusts you, you lie to them or do something to hurt or disappoint them
- manipulation** *n*
if someone uses "manipulation", they use their power to control you for their own benefit
- mistreatment** *n*
if someone is guilty of "mistreatment", they treat others badly
- malpractice** *n*
if someone is guilty of "malpractice", they do things that are illegal or not permitted
- grief** *n*
a feeling of extreme sadness
- disempowerment** *n*
if someone feels a sense of "disempowerment", they feel that they have no power or influence
- stigmatisation** *n*
if there's "stigmatisation", a group of people is accused of being bad or of having something to be ashamed of
- a standing ovation** *n*
if a public speaker receives a "standing ovation", the audience stand up to clap and show that they like the speech

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the names of the people in the article. Who are they? Why do you think they had to say sorry?

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

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

1. He apologised to his wife and family.
2. She apologised for something that happened many years ago.
3. He denied the accusation at first.
4. He didn't make an apology in the end.
5. She received a standing ovation for her apology.
6. He made the apology as he left hospital.

THE NEW SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD... BY AN IDIOT ABROAD!

By Georgie Kiely

Have you got any plans for your next holiday? You might want to visit one of the New Seven Wonders of the World. This is exactly what Karl Pilkington did as part of the popular British TV series *An Idiot Abroad*. The show is based on a simple idea: take a man who isn't interested in travel, send him abroad and monitor his progress. So, how did Karl get along?



The Great Wall of China (China)

First on Karl's list of places

to visit was the Great Wall of China. It was built along an

east-to-west line across the northern borders of China. Part of it was constructed as early as the 7th century BC. The entire wall is about 20,000 kilometres long (although only about 9,000 kilometres stand today). Karl is challenged to walk along part of it, which he does. It takes him about two weeks!



The Taj Mahal (India)

Next on the list is the Taj Mahal.

This is a white marble mausoleum located in Agra (India). It was built by Mughal emperor Shah Jahan in memory of his third wife, Mumtaz Mahal. Construction began in 1632 and was completed around 1653. During his time in India, Karl takes part in a religious festival known as "Holi" and is pelted with coloured paint and powder. He travels to Agra, but only gets to see the Taj Mahal from a small boat.



Petra (Jordan)

After that, Karl heads off to Petra (Jordan).

This ancient city was carved into rocks as early as 312 BC, and was the capital city of the Nabataeans. It remained unknown to the Western world until it was discovered by Swiss explorer Johann Ludwig Burckhardt in 1812. On Karl's trip to the famous city, he goes on an eight-hour camel ride and spends time in a Bedouin camp, where they prepare lamb eyeballs for his dinner.

Chichen Itza (Mexico)

Chichen Itza was a large pre-Columbian city. It's



WHY ARE THEY CALLED "NEW"?

located in the Mexican state of Yucatán, and was built sometime

between AD 600 and 900 by the Maya civilisation. Karl sees Chichen Itza at sunrise. Afterwards, he talks about how much he enjoyed his visit to Mexico because of the free spirit of the people, but is disappointed that he couldn't find any Mexican jumping beans.



Christ the Redeemer (Brazil)

After a trip to Egypt, Karl

heads off to Brazil to see Christ the Redeemer. This is a statue of Jesus Christ in Rio de Janeiro. It's the 5th largest statue of Jesus in the world, and stands 30 metres tall, not including its 8-metre pedestal. It's located at the peak of the 700-metre Corcovado mountain in the Tijuca Forest National Park overlooking the city. After taking part in the Rio carnival, Karl eventually visits the statue.



Machu Picchu (Peru)

Last on his list of places to

visit is Machu Picchu – a 15th-century Inca site at about 2,400 metres above sea level. Located in the Cusco Region of Peru, most archaeologists believe it was built as an estate for the Inca emperor Pachacuti (1438–1472). It was brought to international attention in 1911 by the American historian Hiram Bingham. Karl embarks on an 11-hour hike up to Machu Picchu, but gives up after eight hours. ☺

THE NEW SEVEN WONDERS OF THE WORLD

- Taj Mahal (India)
- Chichen Itza (Mexico)
- Christ the Redeemer (Brazil)
- Coliseum Rome (Italy)
- Great Wall of China (China)
- Machu Picchu (Peru)
- Petra (Jordan)

In the show, Karl visits six of the New Seven Wonders – instead of visiting the Coliseum in Rome, he goes to Egypt to see the pyramids.

AN IDIOT ABROAD

A British travel documentary television series created by Ricky Gervais and Stephen Merchant and starring Karl Pilkington. Karl has no interest in travel, but he's sent to places around the world, reporting back to Ricky and Stephen.

VIDEO



Watch Karl learning about Kung Fu during his trip to China. Search YouTube for "An Idiot Abroad: Season 1- What Is Going On Here!?"

GLOSSARY

- a border** *n*: the "border" between two countries is the line that separates those countries
- to challenge** *ph*: if you're "challenged" to do something difficult, someone tells you to do that difficult thing to see whether you're capable of doing it
- a mausoleum** *n*: a building which has the body of a famous person in it
- to pelt with** *phr* *ph*: if you're "pelted with" paint (for example), people throw lots of paint at you
- BC** *abbr*: Before Christ – before the birth of Jesus Christ
- the Nabataeans** *n*: a group of ancient Arabic people from North Arabia
- pre-Columbian** *exp*: before the arrival of Christopher Columbus in America (in 1492)
- Maya** *n*: a member of the native-American people who lived in southern Mexico. Their civilization reached its height around AD 300-900.
- disappointed** *adj*: if you're "disappointed", you feel sad because something wasn't as good as you thought it would be
- jumping beans** *n*: a seed of certain Mexican plants that has a larva (an insect at the stage of its life after it has developed from an egg and before it changes into its adult form) of a moth (an insect with wings) inside. The movement of the moth makes the beans jump
- a pedestal** *n*: the base for a statue
- a peak** *n*: the highest part of a mountain
- an estate** *n*: a large area of land which is owned by a rich person or family
- Inca** *n*: a group of people from South America who had an empire in Peru that lasted from about 1100 AD to the early 1530s
- a hike** *n*: a journey on foot

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the paragraph titles. They're the names of six of the New Seven Wonders of the World. What do you know about them? What would you like to know? Think of three questions to ask about any of them.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Were any of your questions from the Pre-reading task answered?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a place or thing next to each statement.

1. It used to be a capital city.
2. It's about 20,000 kilometres long.
3. It's about 2,400 metres above sea level.
4. It was built by the Maya civilisation.
5. It's located in Agra, India.
6. It's 30 metres tall.

TOP TIPS FOR LEARNING ENGLISH!

Here are some of our top tips for learning English. This is the first of a two-part series. More next month!

With just 20 minutes a day, you can really improve your English. Read for 10 minutes (an online article, a **graded reader**, etc.), and listen for 10 minutes (a YouTube video, the news, your favourite TV series, etc.). You'll soon notice the difference!

Try to learn 10 English words every day. In one week, you'll have learnt 70, in a month about 300, and in a year over 3,000! The average British person has an active vocabulary of about 5,000 words. So, it won't take you long to learn all the most important terms in English.

Don't worry about making "mistakes". Even native speakers get things wrong when speaking. It happens when you're talking fast.

Listening is the key to language learning. So, listen to English as much as you can! Just 10 minutes a day (but every day!) is enough to really help you improve your listening ability.

There's a very basic formula for learning a language. It's: input (reading and listening) + practice (speaking and writing) = learning! It's that simple!

Listening to English regularly will help you develop an **ear for the language**. Eventually, you'll be able to **distinguish** words and sounds, and then you'll start learning really quickly.

Repeat words and expressions after you hear them. This will develop your ability to produce language. It'll also help you memorise any words or expressions.

When listening, don't worry about understanding every single

word. Focus on the general meaning and try to **guess** what the speakers are saying. This is what you do in your own language.

Remember to listen for **gist** – a general understanding of what people are saying. It's extremely difficult to hear or understand every single word – not even native speakers do that.

Improve your speaking with "**simultaneous repetition**". Select a phrase or sentence in English from an audio file. Then, as the audio is playing, try to repeat the words at exactly the same time as the speaker. This is also a great way for memorising language and for improving your pronunciation.

Build up your own personal dictionary of words and expressions that you like. Then, spend time learning them. Also, try to use these words and expressions when you're speaking or writing.

Practise writing to develop your language skills. Use the **LCCC** method: **L**ook, **C**over, **C**opy, **C**heck. First, choose a piece of text (a sentence or two, or a short paragraph). Look at it for a couple of minutes. Then **cover** it and try to **copy** it out again word for word. Finally, **check** your version against the original.

Reading is a great way to learn. As you're enjoying a book or article, lots of new words and expressions will **flow into** your brain.

On top of that, you'll see how the language **fits together**.

And this will help with your understanding of grammar, language structures and **collocation**.

More next month! 🌱



GLOSSARY

- a graded reader** n
a book that has been simplified (made easier) for language students. Graded readers are often based on famous books, such as *Hamlet*, *Dracula*, etc.
- an ear for the language** exp
if you've got an "ear for a language", you're good at understanding it when people speak, and you can hear the different words or sounds quite easily
- to distinguish** vb
if you can "distinguish" A from B, you can see/hear how A is different from B
- to guess** vb
if you "guess" something, you imagine what the answer is, even though you aren't sure about it
- gist** n
the "gist" of a conversation (for example) is the general meaning of it
- simultaneous** adj
things which are "simultaneous" happen at the same time
- to flow into** exp
if A "flows into" B, A goes into B continuously
- to fit together** exp
the way that words "fit together" is the way they go together
- collocation** n
"collocation" is the way that words collocate (regularly go together): *heavy rain, free delivery, sales price*, etc.

Business News

BUSINESS NEWS N°4

THE VOICE OF THE PEOPLE

JUNE 2013

Objective To read and understand business news in English.

Think about it

Have you ever checked out a product in a shop before buying it online for less? How do you think showrooming could affect retailers? What do you know about the economic and political situation in Greece? How bad is it?

SHOPPING TRENDS!

Do you shop online? More and more consumers are buying books, **gadgets**, **groceries** and even clothes on the internet. But many still like to touch and try products before they buy them. So they go “**showrooming**”. “Showrooming is the act of **sizing up merchandise** in a high-street store before going home to buy it for the cheapest possible price online,” writes Hollie Shaw in the *Financial Post*. And the trend is a big problem

for many traditional shops, who are losing sales to online **retailers** such as



Amazon and eBay. So, how are stores **fighting back**?

Some clothing boutiques have introduced **fitting fees** – you pay \$5 to try clothes on, and get the money back if you **make a purchase**. Other shops have promised to **match** any on-line price. But a few industry analysts say the key to **beating** showrooming is simply to offer excellent service. “You’ve got to make your retail environment pleasant, have staff who know what they’re talking about, and who are ready to help,” says one New York bookseller. 🍀

*DEBT VERSUS DEFICIT

(Budget) deficit

A (budget) deficit is the difference between what a country earns and what it spends. For example, if a country earns 60 billion (from taxes, etc.) but spends 80 billion (on health, defence, education, etc.), the budget deficit is 20 billion (80-60 = 20). This is sometimes expressed as a percentage of GDP. So, in this case, the deficit would be more or less 33% of GDP (because 20 billion is about 33% of 60 billion).

(Public) debt

A country’s debt is the money that it owes to banks and other institutions. This is sometimes expressed as a percentage of GDP. So, if a country’s debt is 10% of GDP, and its GDP is 60 billion, it has a debt of 6 billion. Of course, if a country has a deficit, its debt will get bigger every year as it needs to keep borrowing more money to cover this.

GLOSSARY

a gadget

a small machine which does something useful: an MP3 player, for example

groceries

food

showrooming

the act of trying / checking out a product in a shop before buying it online

to size up

if you “size something up”, you look at it carefully and decide whether you like it, etc.

merchandise

goods; things you can buy

a retailer

a person / business / shop that sells goods to the public

to fight back

if you “fight back” against something that is attacking you, you attack that thing

fitting

the act of trying on clothes to see if they fit (if clothes “fit”, they’re the right size)

a fee

an amount of money you pay for a service

to try on

if you “try on” clothes, you put them on to see if they’re the right size

to make a purchase

to buy something

to match

if company A “matches” the price of company B, company A offers the same price as company B

to beat

to win against

a chain

a “chain” of shops is a number of them owned by the same person or company

bankruptcy

if there’s a “bankruptcy”, a business stops operating because there’s no more money

GDP

an abbreviation of “Gross Domestic Product” – the total value of goods and services produced within a country in a year (not including its income from investments in other countries)

off the coast

if something is “off the coast”, that thing is in the sea near the coast (the land)

to gauge

to think; to believe

to extract

if you “extract” gas (for example) from the ground, you take it out of the ground

relevant

if something is “relevant” to you, it’s important for you

a resolution

if there’s a “resolution” to a problem, there’s a solution or answer to it

BUSINESS FACT

British camera chain Jessops recently blamed showrooming for sending it into **bankruptcy**. Before closing, a sign in one of Jessops’ shops read, “The staff at Jessops would like to thank you for shopping with Amazon.”

GAS TO THE RESCUE!

The Greek economy is in trouble. Unemployment is at 27%, its **public debt*** is around 150% of GDP, and its **budget deficit*** is at about 10% of GDP (according to recent figures). But it isn’t all bad news. A recent study has discovered there might be \$600 billion of natural gas reserves **off** the country’s coast. If true, that would be enough money to save the Greek economy and make the country rich. “Analysts **gauge** that Greece is in

fact the wealthiest country in Europe due to its oil and gas deposits,” writes journalist Katerina Nikolas. However, it’s going to take several years to explore

and begin to **extract** the gas. “Even if reserves are found and proven, they’re unlikely to be **relevant** to the **resolution** of the Greece crisis for some time,” says Mark Wall, a London economist. 🍀

IT’S GOT TO BE HERE SOMEWHERE!



BUSINESS FACT

The top five countries with the greatest gas reserves in the world are Russia with 55 trillion cubic metres (Tcm), Iran with 33.5, Turkmenistan with 26.2, Qatar with 24.5 and the US with 9.0. If Greece really does have the gas reserves, it’ll be in 15th place with 3.5 trillion cubic metres. [source Deutsche Bank, Wikipedia]



Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it What are some of the biggest mistakes you've made in your life? What do you do when you make a mistake? How do you try to avoid making mistakes?

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

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

Match the actors' names (1 to 8) to the photos.

1. Sean Connery
2. Cary Grant
3. Burt Reynolds
4. Brad Pitt
5. Tom Selleck
6. Will Smith
7. Keanu Reeves
8. Harrison Ford



2 Listening I

You're going to listen to two people talking about actors and the films they starred in. Which actor from the Pre-listening task isn't mentioned?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, write the name of a film, TV series or movie character next to each actor mentioned in the recording.

4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct words.

Audio script

Actors who lost millions!

Mark: Hi. What's wrong with you?

Steve: Oh, I feel terrible.

Mark: Why? What's up?

Steve: Well, you know that job I turned down (1) _____?

Mark: Yeah. Sounded pretty good to me.

Steve: Yeah, well, I had a re-think and decided to accept it after all, but by the time I got back to them, they'd already offered it to (2) _____.

Mark: Oh, I'm sorry. [silence] At least you aren't Sean Connery.

Steve: Sean Connery? What are you talking about?

Mark: Well, I read this article about actors who turned down amazing (3) _____.

Steve: Yeah?

Mark: Sean was once offered the role of Gandalf in *The Lord of the Rings* films.

Steve: Oh, right.

Mark: Anyway, (4) _____ this magazine, they offered him £19 million to be in the three films.

Steve: And he said no?

Mark: Yeah, but wait. He was also offered 15% of the profits.

Steve: [amazed] But they were like the (5) _____ ever!

Mark: Exactly, so he lost about £200 million.

Steve: £200 million!

Mark: That's right. I mean I don't know if the story's true. But if it is... what a mistake!

Steve: I heard a (6) _____ about Cary Grant, you know, the American film star. Apparently,

he was offered the role of James Bond in the first movie. He said no, so Sean Connery got it, which made him a (7) _____.

Mark: So, Sean *has* made some good decisions after all.

Steve: Yeah. Oh, and Burt Reynolds was the first choice to play Han Solo in the *Star Wars* films but he turned it down. Harrison Ford got the role. He was an unknown actor at the time, but he became a (8) _____. Burt said it was the biggest mistake of his career.

Mark: I can imagine.

Steve: Harrison wasn't even (9) _____ for Indiana Jones. Spielberg offered the role to Tom Selleck, but he was making a TV series and didn't have the time to make a film. So, Harrison Ford became Indiana Jones.

Mark: Incredible!

Steve: Oh, and Will Smith turned down the (10) _____ of Neo in *The Matrix*. Keanu Reeves got the part. His career had been quiet for a few years, but he became a big star again after that.

Mark: It's incredible how one little decision can affect your (11) _____.

Steve: [suddenly sounding depressed] Yeah, that's what I'm worried about.

Mark: [realising he's said the wrong thing] Er... you'll be all right. Er, here, let me get you another drink.

Note!

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



Objective: To improve your English by listening and reading along to song lyrics.

Think about it!

Which songs by The Beatles do you like? Why? Are there any songs you don't like? Which ones? Why? What's your favourite Beatles song of all time? Why do you think The Beatles were so popular?

TRACK 13: US WOMAN & NEW ZEALAND MAN

MUSIC... IN ENGLISH

The Beatles



Known as the Fab Four, The Beatles were formed in Liverpool in 1960 and over the next eight years produced more than 50 number-one hits. Their **catchy**, fun and **thought-provoking** music remains popular today. The band members were John Lennon (lead singer and guitarist), Paul McCartney (vocals and bass guitarist), George Harrison (lead guitarist) and Ringo Starr (the drummer).



Eleanor Rigby

There aren't many pop songs about lonely old ladies. But that's exactly what this one is about. Eleanor Rigby is an ageing **spinster**

who cleans the local church after weddings. One journalist said the song's **empathy** is an "example of why The Beatles' **appeal** reached so far beyond the traditional rock audience." The song appeared on the 1966 album *Revolver*.

Song extract

*Eleanor Rigby picks up the rice in the church where a wedding has been,
Lives in a dream,
Waits at the window, wearing the face that she keeps in a jar by the door,
Who is it for?*

Penny Lane

Lennon and McCartney **grew up** near Penny Lane in Liverpool. And this song is all about the people who used to



live in that street. Over the years, the street has become a popular **pilgrimage site** for Beatles fans and some have even stolen the Penny Lane street sign. It became such a problem that police had to install theft-resistant signs. The song was included on the *Magical Mystery Tour LP* that was released in 1967.

Song extract

*Penny Lane is in my ears and in my eyes,
There beneath the blue suburban skies,
I sit, and meanwhile back.*

A Day in the Life



A Day in the Life

A Day in the Life is a totally unique **track**. Why? Because it's actually two songs joined together.

Lennon wrote the first half and McCartney the second, and

both parts are connected by a 40-piece orchestra. The BBC initially **banned** the track from the radio because they thought it contained drug references. Nowadays, the song is among The Beatles' most famous. "It's one of the most **ambitious**, influential, and **groundbreaking** works in pop music history," said music writer Paul Grushkin. The song appeared on The Beatles' *Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band* album, which was released in 1967.

Song extract

*I saw a film today oh boy,
The English army had just won the war,
A crowd of people turned away,
But I just had to look, having read the book,
I'd love to **turn you on**.* ☺

LEARNING ENGLISH WITH SONGS

Listening to music is a great way to learn English. As you sing along to your favourite songs, you learn lots of words, and also improve your pronunciation.

GLOSSARY

- a hit** *n*
a very popular song
- catchy** *adj*
if a song is "catchy", you can remember it easily
- thought-provoking** *adj*
a topic that's "thought-provoking" has ideas that make you think about it seriously
- a spinster** *n*
a woman who has never been married – usually in reference to a middle-aged woman
- empathy** *n*
an ability to understand how other people are feeling or suffering
- appeal** *n*
if something has a lot of "appeal", many people like it
- to pick up** *phr vb*
if you "pick something up", you take it in your hands
- rice** *n*
"rice" consists of little white grains that you can cook and eat with meat, etc.
- a jar** *n*
a glass container for keeping food
- to grow up** *phr vb*
the place where you "grew up" is the place where you lived as a child
- a pilgrimage site** *n*
a special place that people go to for religious reasons
- an LP** *n*
a Long Play record. Before CDs, music was sold on "records": flat, round pieces of plastic
- a track** *n*
a song on an album
- to ban** *vb*
to prohibit; to say that something can't be used / listened to, etc.
- ambitious** *adj*
something "ambitious" is very complex and requires a lot of work / effort / money
- groundbreaking** *adj*
something that is "groundbreaking" is new and influences other people
- to turn on** *phr vb*
if A "turns on" B, A excites B sexually

TRAVEL ENGLISH

AT THE AIRPORT

Practical English to use in English-speaking countries. **This month:** *At the airport.*

Vocabulary



Airport



Aeroplane / airplane



Baggage / luggage



Suitcase



Taxi



Hand luggage / carry-on bag



Boarding card



Baggage carousel



Passport



(Luggage) trolley



Window seat



Aisle seat



Check-in desk attendant



Flight information screen

More words

- **Terminal** – a place where vehicles, passengers, or goods begin or end a journey.
- **Flight time / departure time** – your “flight time” is the time that the plane leaves.
- **Check-in desk** – a place where you can show your ticket and give the airline your bags so they can put them on the plane.
- **Baggage allowance** – the maximum weight for your bags (it’s usually 20 kilos).
- **Excess baggage charge** – an amount of money you have to pay if your bags are heavier than the baggage allowance.
- **Luggage belt / baggage conveyor belt** – a moving rubber belt that takes your bag from the check-in desk to the plane, or from the plane to the baggage reclaim area.
- **Departure lounge** – a large room in an airport where you can sit before getting on the plane
- **Security check area** – the area in an airport where you show your passport.
- **Boarding gate** – the area where you show your boarding pass and get on the plane.
- **Board** – if you “board” a plane, you get on it.
- **Arrival time** – the time your plane arrives at its destination.
- **Land** – if a plane “lands”, it comes to the ground in a controlled manner.
- **Take off** – if a plane “takes off”, it leaves the ground in a controlled manner.
- **Delayed** – if your plane is “delayed”, it leaves later than planned.
- **Cancelled** – if your plane is “cancelled”, it doesn’t leave and you have to get on another flight.

Useful expressions

What you say

- Where’s the check-in desk, please?
- Which terminal does the plane leave from?
- Do you know which gate the plane is leaving from?
- Where’s boarding gate 34, please?
- Can I have a window seat, please?
- Where’s the security check-in area?

What you hear

- Can I see your passport, please?
- Did you pack the bags yourself?
- Your plane is delayed forty-five minutes.
- Would you like a window seat or an aisle seat?
- Here’s your boarding card.
- You’ll be boarding at gate number 34.

Dialogue: Arriving at the airport

Mr Fleet is at the airport check-in desk, hoping to board his plane very shortly. He’s talking to the check-in desk attendant.

Mr Fleet: Hi.

Attendant: Good morning. May I see your ticket and passport, please?

Mr Fleet: Certainly. Here you are.

Attendant: Would you like a window seat or an aisle seat?

Mr Fleet: A window seat, please.

Attendant: Could you place your bag on the luggage belt, please?

Mr Fleet: Sure!

Attendant: Did you pack it yourself?

Mr Fleet: Yes.

Attendant: Has anyone interfered with your bag, or asked you to take anything on board the plane?

Mr Fleet: No.

Attendant: Do you have any firearms, hazardous materials or liquids in your bag?

Mr Fleet: No.

Attendant: Oh, I’m afraid your bag has exceeded the maximum baggage allowance, so you’ll have to pay the excess fare.

Mr Fleet: Oh, right.

Attendant: If you just go over to that counter over there, you can pay the amount. Then, just come back here with the receipt and I’ll put your bag straight through.

Mr Fleet: OK. Thanks.

[Ten minutes later, he comes back and hands her the receipt.] Here you are.

Attendant: Thank you. Here’s your boarding card. Your flight leaves at 13:34. Boarding will commence at 12:45. The boarding gate hasn’t been announced yet, but it should appear on the flight information screens in about half an hour. The security check-in area is just over there. Have a nice flight!

Mr Fleet: Thanks.



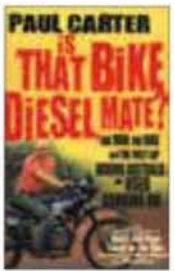
HAVE A NICE FLIGHT!

Objective To learn about some English-language travel books.

Think about it Have you ever read a travel book or article? What was it about? Did it make you want to visit the destination? Why? Why not? Why do you think people like reading travel books?

THREE TOP TRAVEL BOOKS

Adventure. New experiences. Interesting people. Read about other people's exciting travels around the world with these three books.



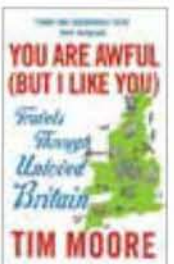
1 Is That Bike Diesel, Mate?: One Man, One Bike and the First Lap Around Australia on Used Cooking Oil
by Paul Carter

There are lots of ways to travel around Australia.

You could do it by plane, train or car. But author Paul Carter decided to tour the country on a homemade motorcycle that **runs on** cooking oil. Why? Well, the author worked in the oil industry for many years, and was keen to explore alternative fuels. So, he bought the unusual bike from a group of Australian university students (who had built it themselves) and **set off**. En route, he has lots of **amusing** experiences, he almost dies in a crash and he even attempts to break the **land speed record** for a motorbike running on biofuel.

What the critics say: "I laughed so hard I cried but there is also **poignancy** here... Carter captures moments perfectly with **pithy** observations..." *Western Australian*

What the readers say: "It will definitely make you laugh. I reckon I had about 20 **laugh-out-loud moments** and three to four real **coffee-sprayers**. A perfect read on the train."



2 You Are Awful (But I Like You): Travels Through Unloved Britain
by Tim Moore

Travel writers usually go to the best destinations. But not Tim Moore. In *You are Awful (But I Like*

You): *Travels through Unloved Britain* Tim travels to the worst places in the UK. Follow him as he heads to "the **bleakest** towns, the **shonkiest** hotels and the **scariest** pubs". And to make matters worse, he does it in the middle of winter. "My primary challenge was to have a good time in places that everyone had said I wouldn't," said the author. So, did he? Not really! But during the book he does meet lots of quirky characters and discovers that even Britain's ugliest parts have an inner beauty.

What the critics say: "Tim's **sharp** and **witty** book is a **pilgrimage** to the most **derelict**, unlovable and **forlorn** parts of Britain."

The Independent

What the readers say: "This is the sort of **eccentric** travel writing I love – the writing is lighthearted but still imparts knowledge."



3 Coasting: A Private Voyage
by Jonathan Raban

In 1982, author Jonathan Raban bought a boat and **circumnavigated** Britain. And this is the book about his adventure.

Along the way he gets caught in a few storms, explores seaside towns and even takes his **ageing** parents along for part of the journey. Raban also uses his time at sea to think about how 1980s Britain is changing under Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

What the critics say: "Coasting is a glorious book, written with energy, **wit** and a **melancholic lyricism**." *The Seattle Times*

What the readers say: "This is a brilliant book. Like all great travel writing, it's actually a story about life." 🌟

GLOSSARY

run on *exp*

if a car "runs on" petrol (for example), it needs petrol to make it work

to set off *phr vb*

the time you "set off" on a journey is the time you leave

amusing *adj*

funny

the land speed record *exp*

the fastest speed achieved by any vehicle on land (as opposed to in the air)

poignancy *n (formal)*

if something has "poignancy", it makes you feel sad

pithy *adj*

a "pithy" comment is short, direct and full of meaning

a laugh-out-loud moment *exp*

a time when you laugh loudly because of something you've read, etc.

a coffee-sprayer *n*

if something is a "coffee-sprayer", it's so funny that it makes you spit out the coffee that you've got in your mouth

bleak *adj*

bad and depressing

shonky *adj informal*

not good / bad

scary *adj*

frightening

sharp *adj*

a "sharp" person notices things and is quick to react to things

witty *adj*

funny and intelligent

a pilgrimage *n*

a journey to a place that is special to you (or important for your religion)

derelict *adj*

a "derelict" building is old and broken

forlorn *adj formal*

a "forlorn" place is empty and abandoned

eccentric *adj*

"eccentric" writing is strange and unusual

to circumnavigate *vb*

if someone "circumnavigates" an island, they sail around it

ageing / aging *adj*

"ageing" people are old or getting old

wit *n*

the ability to use words in a funny, clever and imaginative way

melancholy *n formal*

something "melancholic" makes you feel sad

lyricism *n formal*

romantic emotion expressed in writing, poetry, music, etc.



42

EXPRESSIONS FOR OVERSEAS TRAVEL

Planning a holiday? With these 42 useful English expressions, you'll have a stress-free time and get through every type of situation!

AT THE AIRPORT

WHAT YOU SAY
Where's the **check-in desk**, please?

Can I have a **window seat** please?

Are there any **spare seats** in first class?

WHAT YOU HEAR

Can I see your **passport**, please?

Do you have any **liquids, guns or live animals** in your bag?

Here's your **boarding card**. Your flight leaves from gate 45 at 13:35. You've got about two minutes to get there, so you'd better run!

WHAT YOU SEE

PLEASE WAIT FOR THE PILOT!

THIS AIRPORT USES RECYCLED WATER FOR TOILET FLUSHING. PLEASE DO NOT DRINK.

ON THE PLANE

WHAT YOU SAY
There's no **space** for my bag in the **overhead locker**.

Can I have some more **water**, please?

What time do we **land**?

WHAT YOU HEAR
Can I see your **boarding pass**, please?

Please put your **seat back** in the upright position.

Please fasten your **seat belt** and prepare for landing.

WHAT YOU SEE

PLEASE DO NOT DISTURB! THE CAPTAIN IS SLEEPING.

IF YOU NEED TO SMOKE, PLEASE STEP OUTSIDE!

TAKING A TAXI

WHAT YOU SAY
Where's the **taxi stand**, please?

We'd like to go to the **Hilton Hotel**, please.

Can I pay by **credit card**?

WHAT YOU HEAR
Shall I put your bags in the **boot**?

WHAT YOU HOPEFULLY WON'T HEAR
Have you got a **map**? I'm lost.

That'll be **\$145**, please.

WHAT YOU SEE

NO SMOKING, SINGING, DRINKING, SCREAMING, RUNNING OR JUMPING!

PLEASE TIP GENEROUSLY OR I MIGHT DRIVE OFF WITH YOUR BAG!

AT THE HOTEL

WHAT YOU SAY
Hi, I've got a **reservation** for tonight.

What time is **breakfast served**, please?

What's the **password** for the **wifi**, please?

WHAT YOU HEAR
What name is the **reservation** under?

Breakfast is served from 7am till 10am.

How will you be **paying** for the room?

WHAT YOU SEE

WELCUM TURIS! WE SPIK INGLESSEH GUD!

NO PROTESTORS, MARCHING BANDS OR CIRCUS ANIMALS ALLOWED IN THIS HOTEL!

AT THE RESTAURANT

WHAT YOU SAY
We'd like a **table** for two, please.

Can I see the **wine list**, please?

Can we have the **bill**, please?

WHAT YOU HEAR
Are you ready to **order**?

Can I get you another **drink**?

Would you like any **dessert or coffee**?

WHAT YOU SEE

EAT HERE OR WE WILL STARVE!

ONLY WELL-BEHAVED CHILDREN WHO CAN KEEP THEIR FOOD ON THEIR PLATES AND THEIR BOTTOMS ON THEIR SEATS ARE WELCOME!

PARIS



Objective: To learn lots of English expressions to use while you're on holiday.

Think about it!

When did you last go on holiday? Where did you go and what did you do there? Did you enjoy it? Why? Why not? What language did you speak to the locals? What would your ideal holiday be? Why?

SIGHTSEEING

THINGS YOU SAY

Could you tell me how to get to Tower of London, please?

Do you have any audio guides in Mongolian, please?

Excuse me. Would you mind taking a photo of us next to the statue?

THINGS YOU HEAR

Please leave your bags in the cloakroom.

The museum closes in forty-five minutes.

The photography exhibition is on the second floor.

SHOPPING

WHAT YOU SAY

I'm just looking, thanks.

How much is it?

Do you have this in a smaller size?

WHAT YOU HEAR

Can I help you with anything?

Would you like to try it on?

I'm sorry but your credit card has been declined.

WHAT YOU SEE

WE OPEN MOST DAYS ABOUT 9 OR 10 BUT SOME DAYS AS LATE AS 12 OR 1. PUSH TO OPEN DOOR. IF THAT DOESN'T WORK, PULL! IF THAT DOESN'T WORK, WE MUST BE CLOSED!

PLEASE UNLOAD GUN AND REMOVE SKI MASK BEFORE ENTERING!

GLOSSARY

a check-in desk ˌtʃek.ɪn ˈdesk
the area in an airport where you show your ticket and give them your luggage

spare ˈspɛə
a "spare" seat is a seat that isn't being used by anyone – it's extra

live ˈlɪv
a "live" animal is alive (not dead)

a boarding card ˈbɔːdɪŋ ˈkɑːd
a piece of paper that gives you permission to go on the plane

space ˈspeɪs
an area that is empty and available

an overhead locker ˌoʊ.əvə.ˈhɛd ˈlɒk.ə
the area above the seats in a plane where you can put bags

to land ˈlænd
when a plane "lands", it comes to the ground in a controlled manner

a seat back ˈsiːt ˈbæk
the back of a chair – the part that your back touches as you're sitting down

a taxi stand ˈtæ.ksi ˈstænd
a place in the road where you can wait for taxis

a boot ˈbuːt
the part at the back of a car where you can put bags, etc. A "trunk" in US English

to decline ˈdɪ.klaɪn
if your credit card is "declined", it won't work

WHAT YOU SEE

THIS TOILET BOWL IS AN EXHIBIT. PLEASE DO NOT USE!

OLD STUFF →

← SLIGHTLY OLDER STUFF

REALLY OLD STUFF ↑

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Objective To improve your reading comprehension and learn business tips in English.

Think about it Think of three ways to create customer loyalty. Is it better for a company to have one product, or many? Why? Should business owners be involved in every decision their company makes? Why?

RICK STEVES

The Travel Guru

Rick Steves is an American travel entrepreneur. He writes **guidebooks** to European countries, organises international bus tours, sells travel **gear** and even has his own TV and radio shows. And in the last thirty years, he's gone from a **one-man band** to the head of a multi-million dollar business. So, what are his top five business tips?

1 Start small

You don't need lots of staff to start a business. All you need is *you*. When Rick started writing travel guidebooks in 1976 he did everything himself, including writing and selling his guidebooks, and leading all the company's **guided tours**. Of course, once he became successful, he **hired** people to help him. As business adviser J.D. Roth has said, "By starting small, you're able to control growth and keep things **manageable**."

2 Develop multiple income streams

Rick started by selling travel guides. But nowadays he offers a whole range of products, including **phrase books**, DVDs, travel equipment and, of course, guided tours. This means he has a variety of **income streams**, and he doesn't just **rely** on one source of income. Also, all of his products are interconnected and **feed off** each other. "I **invest** in the books because they help the tours; the tours help the books; the books help the TV show, and out of the books come the TV show **scripts**," Rick says. In other words, if someone buys one product, they're more likely to buy another one, and so on.

3 Build customer loyalty

Rick Steves has a very **loyal client base**. And he works hard to promote **customer fidelity**. For example, Rick's company organises social events in the United States where people who have used his guidebooks can meet up and **swap** travel stories. This helps Rick's customers feel part of a community, and it increases their **allegiance** to the Rick Steves brand. In fact, Rick's customer loyalty is so



I'M THE TRAVEL EXPERT!

strong that people who use his guidebooks are called Rickniks.

4 Become an expert

Rick is a travel specialist. He knows the best bars, restaurants, hotels, museums and monuments throughout Europe. And that's why people buy his books and book his tours. You need to become a recognised expert in your field. Whether you sell wine, cars or light bulbs, you want people to think of you as an authority. So, learn everything you can about your products and your industry.

5 Know your business

Even though Rick has almost 100 staff members and is a millionaire, he still does all his own **research**. Every year he spends over one hundred days travelling through Europe, fact checking his guidebooks and making new discoveries. That means he understands his business intimately. And that helps him

make good decisions. As entrepreneur Stefan Topfer has said, "In order to **sustain** success for the long-term, a business owner must remain **hands-on** and get to know every aspect of the business from the inside out." 🌱

Bio - Rick Steves

Born in the USA in 1955, Rick Steves is a travel entrepreneur. He's written over 50 guidebooks, has his own TV and radio shows, and organises European tours. He's worth about \$6 million.

VIDEO

YouTube

Watch Rick updating one of his guidebooks on the road. Search YouTube for "Updating Guidebooks the Rick Steves Way".

GLOSSARY

- a guidebook** *n*
a book for tourists with information about a town, area or country
- gear** *n*
a general word used to refer to the special clothing or equipment you need for an activity
- a one-man band** *exp*
someone who does several activities alone, or who runs a business alone
- a guided tour** *exp*
if you go on a "guided tour", a guide takes you on a tour of a city / museum, etc. and explains things about the city, etc.
- to hire** *vb*
if you "hire" someone, you pay them to do a job
- manageable** *adj*
if you say that a job is "manageable", you're saying that you can do it or deal with it
- a phrase book** *n*
a book with lists of useful words and expressions, together with the translations
- an income stream** *n*
a regular series of payments from a company or customers
- to rely on** *phr vb*
to depend on
- to feed off** *phr vb*
if A "feeds off" B, A grows / increases / gets better, etc. thanks to B
- to invest** *vb*
if you "invest" time in something, you spend time on that thing in the hope that its value will increase
- a script** *n*
a book with the words that the actors have to say in a film / TV series, etc.
- loyal** *adj*
someone who is "loyal" is a good, honest friend to another person
- a client base** *n*
the customers who pay for a product or service
- customer fidelity** *n*
if there's good "customer fidelity" for a product, customers continue buying that product
- to swap** *vb*
if A and B "swap" stories, A tells a story to B and then B tells one to A
- allegiance** *n*
your "allegiance" to something is your support for that thing
- research** *n*
if you do some "research", you find out about something and investigate it
- to sustain** *vb*
if you "sustain" success (for example), you work hard to ensure that you continue being successful
- hands-on** *exp*
"hands-on" work involves doing the work, rather than just talking about it or telling someone else to do it

RECIPE JAMIE OLIVER'S EASY OMELETTE RECIPE

Jamie Oliver is famous for his simple, tasty recipes. Try this easy omelette – it's perfect for a light lunch or a healthy snack. Serves one.



Ingredients

- 3 eggs.
- ¼ cup of **grated** cheese.
- A **pinch** of salt and pepper.
- A **knob** of butter.
- Olive oil.

Process

1. Heat the oil and butter in a pan on a medium heat. While the pan is warming up, crack the eggs into a bowl. Add the salt and pepper to the eggs and **whisk** them.
2. **Tilt** the pan so the oil and melted butter coat the entire base.
3. Pour the eggs into the pan. Using a fork, lightly **drag** the egg in from the sides of the pan for about 20 seconds. Tilt the pan so the egg runs into any **gaps** around the side.
4. Then, after about 20 to 30 seconds, turn the heat down to low.
5. Add the grated cheese to the egg mixture. Let the egg continue to cook and the cheese **melt** for about 40 seconds.
6. Gently separate the egg from the sides of the pan with a spatula. Lightly **shake** the pan to make sure the omelette doesn't **stick**.
7. Once the omelette looks firm, fold it in half and slide it onto a plate to serve. You can add anything you like to omelettes – tomatoes, mushrooms or spinach are possibilities. If you include extra ingredients, add them at the same time as the cheese (but only cover one half of the omelette, so you can still fold it over). ☺

VIDEO

YouTube

Search YouTube for "Jamie Oliver omelette"

GLOSSARY

grated *adj.*
"grated" cheese has been cut into very small pieces with a grater (a metal object with holes in it)

a pinch of *exp.*
a "pinch of" salt is an amount that you can hold in your thumb and forefinger

a knob of *exp.*
a "knob of" butter is a small amount of it

to whisk *vb.*
if you "whisk" eggs (for example), you use a fork and move them very quickly so that they become more liquid and full of bubbles (circles of air)

to tilt *vb.*
if you "tilt" an object, you move it so that one end is higher than the other

to drag *vb.*
if you "drag" something to a place, you move it there by pulling it

a gap *n.*
a space; an area with nothing in it

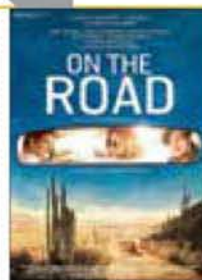
to melt *vb.*
when butter "melts", it becomes liquid

to shake *vb.*
if you "shake" something, you move it quickly backwards and forwards or up and down

to stick *vb.*
if A "sticks" to B, A becomes attached to B and is difficult to take off

Real Language in action

FILM SCRIPT ON THE ROAD



On the Road is a 2012 road movie based on the famous novel of the same name by American writer Jack Kerouac. **Set** in the late 1940s, it follows a young writer called Sal Paradise as he travels around America looking for adventure. Early in the film, Sal meets and becomes friends with Dean Moriarty, a **free-spirited alcoholic**, and his girlfriend Marylou. In this scene, Marylou tells Sal (who's driving) about her hopes and dreams while Dean sleeps in the back of the car.



The Script

S=Sal M=Marylou D=Dean

- S:** Can you wait till we're in Frisco?
- M:** I don't care. Dean's gonna leave me anyway.
- S:** When are you gonna go back to Denver?
- M:** I don't know. I don't know what I'm gonna do. I could go back to my fiancé.
- S:** Fiancé?
- M:** He's a sailor. He's been away a while. He's... he's nice.
- S:** That's good.
- M:** I wish Dean wasn't so crazy now.
- S:** You could be wishing that the rest of your life.
- M:** I just want want a house... a baby. You know, something normal. I really do want that.
- D:** [*Wakes up in the back seat.*] I just had a great idea. You guys are gonna love it.

VIDEO

YouTube

To watch and read along, search YouTube for "On the Road clip Kristen"

GLOSSARY

a road movie *n.*
a film about a journey by car

set in *exp.*
if a film is "set in" the 1940s (for example), it happens in the 1940s

free-spirited *adj.*
someone who is "free-spirited" is independent and lives the way they want to live

alcoholic *adj.*
an "alcoholic" is addicted to alcohol and has to drink alcohol every day

Frisco *n. abbr.*
San Francisco

a fiancé *n.*
a man you've promised to marry

a while *n.*
a period of time: one month, etc.

I wish *exp.*
if you say "I wish...", you're saying "I really want..."

crazy *adj.*
someone who is "crazy" does strange things and seems to have no self-control

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What are some of the most dangerous things you've done? When were you last in danger? What happened? Which activity from this article would you try?

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

FOUR EXTREME EXPERIENCES!

By Danielle Ott

Looking for something exciting to do? You might like to try one of these 4 extreme experiences.



Crocodile watching
Fancy getting up close to some of the most terrifying animals on earth? Crocosaurus Cove, in Darwin (Australia) has the "Cage of Death". It's a plexiglass enclosure that's lowered into a pool. This gives you a 360 degree view of a 5-metre long, 800 kilogram saltwater crocodile as it's being fed. Apparently, the cable broke once and the cage sank to the bottom, but they've fixed it since then and visitors are assured it won't happen again.



Edge walking
How about walking along the edge of a building several hundred metres up in the air? If that sounds like fun, head off to the CN Tower in Toronto (Ontario, Canada). Built in 1976, the tower is 553.33 metres tall, and until 2010 it was the world's tallest building (now superseded by the Burj Khalifa in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates). The Edge Walk consists of

a 20-30 minute stroll along a 1.5 metre wide platform that runs around the tower's restaurant roof. During the 150m-long walk, you're encouraged to lean forwards as you look over Toronto's skyline, and backwards so you can see the people in the Sky Pod observation deck above. Not recommended for sufferers of vertigo!



Plastic ball rolling
Fancy rolling down a hill in a ball of plastic? Zorbing is popular all over the world, but the place to give it a go is in Rotorua (New Zealand) – home of the first zorbing site! Brothers David and Andrew Akers came up with the idea in 1994. A typical orb is about 3 metres in diameter, with an inner orb size of about 2 metres, leaving a 50–60 centimetre air cushion. There's no brake or steering mechanism, but the inner layer of plastic helps absorb the shock. Zorbing usually takes place in hilly areas, allowing zorbers to roll around as they spin down the slope.



Volcano bungee jump
If you're looking for the adventure of a lifetime, how about a bungee jump off a

helicopter into the crater of a live volcano? First done as a stunt on MTV, you can try it yourself for a mere \$12,500. The price includes transportation to and from the Chilean city of Pucón and three days at an adventure resort. As part of the jump, a helicopter ride takes you to the Villarrica volcano, one of the most active in Chile. Once you're at the drop zone, you leap off the helicopter and fall into the volcano, coming within 215 metres of the burning lava. Finally, you enjoy the ride back to the airport flying at 130kph and dangling from a rope 100 metres below the chopper.

What fun! ☺

GLOSSARY

- an enclosure** ⁿ
a type of container for animals or people. In this case, it's a glass box that you can go inside
- to lower** ^v
if you "lower" something, you move it down to a lower level
- a cable** ⁿ
a thick, metal wire
- to sink** ^v
if an object "sinks", it goes to the bottom of the water
- an observation deck** ⁿ
a platform (usually on a tall building) that gives you the best views
- vertigo** ⁿ
a fear of heights
- an air cushion** ⁿ
if an object has an "air cushion", it's got a layer of trapped air that absorbs the shock when the object goes over the ground
- a brake** ⁿ
a device we use to stop a machine
- steering** ⁿ
the "steering" in a car is the mechanical part of it which we use to steer – to turn to the right / left, etc.
- hilly** ^{adj}
a "hilly" area has many hills (little mountains)
- to spin** ^v
to turn around and around
- a slope** ⁿ
a side of a mountain or hill
- a stunt** ⁿ
a dangerous and exciting act, often done to attract attention
- a drop zone** ⁿ
the place you jump into when you parachute out of a plane, etc.
- to leap** ^v
to jump
- lava** ⁿ
the burning material in a volcano
- to dangle** ^v
if you're "dangling", you're hanging in the air, attached by a rope, etc.

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the names of the "extreme experiences". What do you think they involve?

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of an activity next to each statement.

1. It gives you great views of a city.
2. It's quite expensive to do.
3. There was an accident once when a cable broke.
4. It was first invented in New Zealand.
5. It's also known as the "Cage of Death".
6. It was first done as a TV stunt.
7. It involves walking around a building.

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it Have you read any crime novels lately? What did you think of them? Why do you think people enjoy reading about crimes and criminals? What's your favourite book genre? Why?

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

READ & LISTEN II

TRACK 16: ENGLISHMAN & US MAN

TWO CRIME CLASSICS

Nothing beats a story full of murder, kidnapping and theft. And that's why crime novels regularly top bestseller lists. Check out these two crime classics.

1 The Talented Mr. Ripley

The Talented Mr. Ripley (1955) is a psychological thriller by the British novelist Patricia Highsmith. It's about a **conman** called Tom Ripley. He's sent by **shipping magnate** Herbert Greenleaf to Mongibello (Italy) to try to persuade Greenleaf's son, Dickie, to return to the States. Tom **befriends** Dickie and becomes obsessed with him. But Dickie and his friend Marge soon get tired of Tom. Eventually, Tom murders Dickie, **steals** his **identity** and moves to Rome to **live off** his victim's **trust fund**. The question is – will he **get away with it**?

The book won many awards and is the first in the five-part Ripliad Series. Critics attribute the novel's success to the fact that Tom is a fascinating **anti-hero** – he's both a murderer and very likeable. Highsmith described him as "**suave**, agreeable and **utterly amoral**" and one reviewer called Tom "**charming**, **literate** and a monster."

Book extract

*He had offered Dickie friendship, companionship, and respect, everything he had to offer, and Dickie had replied with **ingratitude** and now **hostility**. Dickie was just **shoving him out in the cold**. If he killed him on this trip, Tom thought, he could simply say that some accident had happened. He could... He*

*had just thought of something brilliant: he could become Dickie Greenleaf himself. He could do everything that Dickie did. He could go back to Mongibello first and collect Dickie's things, tell Marge any **damned** story, set up an apartment in Rome or Paris, receive Dickie's cheque every month and **forge** Dickie's signature on it. He could **step right into** Dickie's shoes.*

2 The Long Goodbye

The Long Goodbye (1953) is a crime novel by American writer Raymond Chandler. It's part of an eight-book series following the **hard-living** Los Angeles detective Philip Marlowe. In this story, Marlowe has to find out who killed local woman Terry Lennox. But first he has to prove it wasn't him...

Philip Marlowe is an interesting character. He drinks and smokes to excess, but also enjoys poetry and chess. One writer described him as "the perfect **noir** hero – the classic **tough**, **wise-cracking** detective with a soft heart and a **hunger for the truth**."

Book extract

*I'm a licensed private investigator and have been for quite a while. I'm a **lone wolf**, **unmarried**, **getting middle-aged**, and not rich. I've been in jail more than once and I don't do divorce business. I like **liquor** and women and chess and a few other things. The cops don't like me too well, but I know a couple I get along with. I'm a native son, born in Santa Rosa, both parents dead, no brothers or sisters, and when I get **knocked off** in a dark alley sometime, if it happens, as it could to anyone in my business, nobody will*

feel that the bottom has dropped out of his or her life. ☉

VIDEO

YouTube

Check out the trailer to the film version of *The Talented Mr. Ripley*. Search YouTube for "The Talented Mr. Ripley [Trailer]"

GLOSSARY

- a thriller** *exp*: an exciting story about a crime
- a conman** *n*: someone who steals money from people by tricking them or by lying to them
- a shipping magnate** *n*: someone who has become very rich from owning ships, etc.
- to befriend** *vb*: to make friends with
- to steal an identity** *exp*: if someone "steals your identity", they use your name or personal details to obtain a credit card, passport, ID card, etc. illegally
- to live off** *phr vb*: if you "live off" something, you get money from that thing
- a trust fund** *n*: a financial product that consists of money, shares, property, etc. The beneficiary of the trust receives a regular amount of money from it
- to get away with it** *exp*: if you "get away with" a crime, you aren't caught or punished for that crime
- an anti-hero** *n*: the hero of a story who isn't 100% perfect: he's a criminal, he's dishonest, etc.
- suave** *adj*: someone who is "suave" can be very nice and polite, but often in order to trick people
- utterly amoral** *exp*: someone who is "utterly amoral" doesn't care about other people or their feelings
- charming** *adj*: someone who is "charming" is nice and attractive, and people like him/her
- literate** *adj*: someone who is "literate" is intelligent and knows a lot about a variety of topics
- ingratitude** *n*: if someone responds to your acts of kindness with "ingratitude", they don't thank you for the things you've done
- hostility** *n*: "hostility" is unfriendly or aggressive behaviour towards someone
- to shove someone out in the cold** *exp*: to ignore someone; to reject someone
- damned** *exp*: this word is used to emphasise what you're saying, especially when you're angry
- to forge** *vb*: if someone "forges" a signature on a document, they copy the signature
- to step into someone's shoes** *exp*: to start living someone else's life
- hard-living** *adj*: a "hard-living" person drinks a lot and lives a dangerous life
- (film) noir** *n*: a type of crime film from the 1940s and '50s
- tough** *adj*: strong, either mentally or physically
- wise-cracking** *adj*: a "wise-cracking" person makes funny and intelligent comments
- to hunger for** *exp*: if you "hunger for" something, you really want that thing
- a lone wolf** *n*: a person who prefers to be alone
- liquor** *n*: alcohol: whisky, vodka, etc.
- to knock off** *phr vb inform*: to kill
- the bottom drops out of your life** *exp*: if the "bottom drops out of your life", something terrible happens to you

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

In just two minutes, think of as many crime films, novels or TV series as you can.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which book would you like to read? Why?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

- Why does Herbert send Tom to Italy?
- Why does Tom steal Dickie's identity?
- In the book extract, which expression is used to mean, "to take over someone's life completely"?
- Why does the writer say that Philip Marlowe is an "interesting character"?
- From your understanding of the text in the book extract, what effect would Marlowe's death have on other people?

VOCABULARY CLINIC

UK / US WORDS - COMMON EXPRESSIONS



1

British English: "They threw out all the old **rubbish**." (old things you don't want or need)

American English: "The house was full of **trash**." ("garbage" is also used)



2

British English: "Put it in the **rubbish bin**."

American English: "The **trash can** is full." ("garbage can" is also used)



3

British English: "I've got the address, but what's your **post code**?" (the numbers and letters that tell the post office where you live. For example: "London SW6 1GH")

American English: "I don't know what the **zip code** is for this house."



4

British English: "Tick the box if you earn more than £40,000 a year."

American English: "Check the box if you'd like to receive the newsletter."



5

British English: "Have you got any **scrap paper**?" (an old bit of paper, often with one side used and the other blank)

American English: "I need some **scratch paper**." (Americans also use "scrap paper")



6

British English: "I put the letter in the **post box**."

American English: "We have a **mail box** in our front yard."



7

British English: "We had a barbecue in the back **garden**."

American English: "We played basketball in the back **yard**."



8

British English: "They haven't delivered the **post** yet." (a general word for letters, parcels, etc.)

American English: "Where's the **mail**? I'm expecting a letter."



9

British English: "I hung up my shirts in the **wardrobe**."

American English: "I put my suit in the **closet**."



10

British English: "None of the toilet **cubicles** were free." (a small, enclosed area where you can go to the toilet. A "shower cubicle" is for having a shower)

American English: "There was a funny cartoon on a wall in one of the bathroom **stalls**."



11

British English: "I couldn't turn off the **tap**."

American English: "The **faucet** was stuck and I couldn't turn it on."



12

British English: "I put a **plaster** on the cut."

American English: "She put a **band-aid** on her bleeding finger."

Objective To improve your reading skills.

Think about it How stressful is your job? Are there any hidden dangers? What are the pros and cons of your job? What do you like/dislike about your job?

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

CRAB FOR
TEA, ANYONE?



Answers on page 44

Pre-reading

Look at the names of the six jobs. What dangers are associated with each of them? Think of at least one danger for each job.

Reading I

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

Reading II

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

1. They could get crushed by heavy machinery.
2. They work in a place that is often robbed.
3. It's ranked as the 8th most dangerous job in the United States.
4. Nearly 8% of them experience injuries.
5. There's a TV show about them.
6. More than 600 of them have been killed in the past ten years.

Language focus Verbs & prepositions

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...which in turn can lead to accidents..." The writer has used a verb + a preposition ("lead to"). Complete the following sentences with the correct prepositions.

1. She was faced _____ a difficult decision.
2. They agreed _____ our proposal.
3. He apologised _____ being late.
4. They blamed him _____ the mistakes.

6 dangerous jobs!

by Georgie Kiely

How dangerous is your profession? Perhaps not as lethal as these 6 jobs.

Taxi drivers

Driving a taxi is ranked as the 8th most dangerous job in the United States. The long hours and erratic sleeping can cause fatigue and stress, which in turn can lead to accidents. Taxi drivers are also often the victims of assault as they often carry large amounts of cash in the cabs.

Crab fishers

Fishing for crabs is one of the most hazardous jobs in the world. In fact, it's so dangerous that there's a TV show about it called *Deadliest Catch*. The combination of heavy equipment and bad weather conditions makes it a risky career, with fishers often getting caught in the lines and swept overboard.

Farmers

Farmers face several dangers, including being crushed by heavy machinery, trampled by livestock or attacked by dangerous animals. Plus, they're exposed to hazardous chemicals. And as Judith Hackitt of the HSE (the Health and Safety Executive) said in an interview with *Farmers Weekly* magazine, "People in farming don't have injuries – when they get injured, it's bad."

Foreign correspondents

According to UNESCO, more than 600 journalists have been killed in the past ten years, many while reporting in non-conflict situations. Worse still, in 90% of cases, the killers go unpunished. On World Press Freedom Day (3rd May) in 2013, UN

secretary-general Ban Ki-moon issued a joint message saying, "When it's safe to speak, the whole world benefits."

Cashiers

Convenience store robberies account for approximately 6 percent of all robberies in the USA, with more than 30,000 convenience stores getting robbed every year. And cashiers are often injured or even killed during the robberies. So, why are convenience stores so popular with thieves? Experts say there are several reasons:

- The small number of employees per store makes them easy targets.
- The extended hours give criminals more opportunities to rob.
- The small size of the store makes it easy for criminals to get in and out.
- And the presence of large amounts of money (most people pay with cash) makes them perfect for robbing.

Hotel room cleaners

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, hotel workers have the highest rate of injury at 5% (the average is about 3.4%); and hotel room cleaners have the highest rates of all, with nearly 8% experiencing injuries. Some of the biggest risks for hotel room cleaners include:

- Back injuries from repeated bending and heavy lifting.
- Respiratory and skin problems from chemical cleaning products.
- Slip and fall accidents caused by wet or slippery floors.

Think twice next time you feel like complaining about your job! ☺

Think about it

What type of houses should national presidents or prime ministers live in? Why? Where does the president / prime minister of your country live? Do you think it's fair to charge airline passengers on the basis of how much they weigh? Why? Why not?

QUIRKY NEWS

Unusual news stories from around the world.

A Poor President

President Obama lives in the **opulent** White House. David Cameron has luxurious Number 10 Downing Street. And French president François Hollande works in the spectacular Palais de l'Élysée. So, where does the president of Uruguay live? On a small farm in a **tiny, rundown** house! When José Mujica became the Uruguayan president in 2010, he decided not to live in the enormous presidential mansion with its 42 staff. Instead, he **opted** to stay on the **humble** flower farm he owns with his wife. On top of that, José doesn't have a **limousine** or a **chauffeur**, but prefers to drive himself in his 1987 VW Beetle. "I'm called 'the poorest president', but I don't feel poor," José told the press. He donates 90% of his presidential salary to the **needy**, and earns most of his money growing and selling **chrysanthemums**. "If you don't have many possessions, then you don't need to work all your life like a **slave** to **sustain** them, and therefore you have more time for yourself." ☺



WHO NEEDS MONEY?

Answers on page 44

A Questions!

1. Where does the president of Uruguay live?
2. When did he become president?
3. What type of car does he drive?
4. What does he do with 90% of his salary?

B Questions!

1. Which airline has started charging people according to their weight?
2. What information do customers enter when buying a ticket online?
3. What have critics referred to this policy as?
4. Who else does the policy affect?

GLOSSARY

- opulent** *adj*
"opulent" things or places look expensive
- tiny** *adj*
very small
- rundown** *adj*
a "rundown" building is broken and old and in very poor condition
- to opt** *vb*
if you "opt" to do something, you decide to do it
- humble** *adj*
a "humble" person doesn't believe they are better than other people
- a limousine** *n*
a very long car used by very rich or important people
- a chauffeur** *n*
someone whose job is to drive a car for another person
- the needy** *n*
the poor people
- a chrysanthemum** *n*
a large flower with many long, thin petals (the thin parts that form the flower)
- a slave** *n*
a person who works for a master for free
- to sustain** *vb*
if you have to "sustain" something, you need to support it / feed it / spend money on it, etc.
- sexism** *n*
the belief that the members of one sex are inferior (less intelligent, less capable, etc.) than those of the other sex, and the two sexes shouldn't be treated equally
- ageism** *n*
the belief that older people are of less value than younger people
- to discriminate** *vb*
if a system "discriminates" against a group of people, it treats those people unfairly or worse than other groups
- to have an impact on** *exp*
to affect; to have an effect on
- pregnant** *adj*
a "pregnant" woman has a baby inside her
- cabin crew** *n*
the people who work on a plane, helping passengers, serving food, etc.

FAST FACT:

A 2011 study found the citizens of poorer countries are often happier than people who live in wealthier countries.

B Fat Tax

You've heard of **sexism** and **ageism**, but what about **weightism**? Samoa Air has become the first airline to charge people according to how much they weigh. When customers book their tickets online, they enter their weight and the fare is calculated on that basis. "There's no doubt in my mind that this is the concept of the future. This is the fairest way of travelling," Air Samoa CEO Chris Langton said. But critics have called the policy a "fat tax", and say it unfairly **discriminates** against people based on their weight. And one reporter explained how the system doesn't only **have an impact on** overweight people. "It also affects tall people, muscular people, **pregnant** women, and men generally as they tend to weigh more than women." ☺



FAST FACT:

Until the 1970s, many airlines required female **cabin crew** to be single. If they got married, they lost their job.

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Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it How do you think life has changed in your country over the past 40 years? What are people doing differently? Do you think more people smoke now? Why?

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



Answers on page 44

Pre-listening

Read over the following questions. What do you think the answers are? Do you think the number of...

- ...adults living alone has increased, stayed the same or decreased since 1973?
- ...one-parent families has increased, stayed the same or decreased since 1973?
- ...smokers in the UK has fallen, risen or stayed the same since 1973?

Listening I

You're going to listen to someone who is asking people questions on how life has changed in the UK. Listen once and compare your answers from the Pre-listening task.

Listening II

Now, complete the statements with percentages.

- The number of adults living alone has increased from 9% in 1973 to _____ in 2011.
- In 1971, only 8% of families had one parent, in 2011 it's _____.
- ...the percentage of men who smoke has fallen from 51% to about _____.
- ...and for women it's gone from 41% to _____.

Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct words.

How life in the UK has changed!

Audio script

Interviewer: Excuse me, could you spare a couple of minutes?

Respondent 1: Yeah, sure.

Interviewer: Well, I don't know whether you know but the Office of National Statistics has (1) _____ showing how life in the UK has changed over the past forty years.

Respondent 1: Since the 1970s?

Interviewer: That's right. I just wanted to ask you a few questions (2) _____.

Respondent 1: OK.

Interviewer: So, do you think the number of adults living alone has increased, stayed the same or decreased since 1973?

Respondent 1: Mmm... I don't know. I mean, I live alone, but most of my friends (3) _____. Erm, I'd say it's stayed the same.

Interviewer: In fact, it's increased from 9% in 1973 to 18% in 2011.

Respondent 1: So it's doubled. I'd never have guessed.

Interviewer: And what about one-parent families? Are they more common, less common or about the same?

Respondent 1: Oh, they're definitely more common. I mean the divorce rate (4) _____, so there must be more one-parent families.

Interviewer: You're right. In 1971, only 8% of families had one parent, in 2011 it's 22%, a rise of 14%.

Respondent 1: I thought it'd be higher.

Interviewer: Thank you very much (5) _____.

Respondent 1: That's OK.

Interviewer: Excuse me, could I ask you a couple of questions?

Respondent 2: Sure!

Interviewer: Great. I'm asking people about the differences between life in the 1970s and now.

Respondent 2: OK. Fire away.

Interviewer: Would you say the number of smokers in the UK has fallen, risen or stayed the same?

Respondent 2: Oh, definitely fallen.

Interviewer: By how much?

Respondent 2: Not sure, but I'm sure it's a lot. Everyone (6) _____ but hardly anyone does these days.

Interviewer: Yes, the percentage of men who smoke has fallen from 51% to about 20% and for women it's gone from 41% to 19% in 2011.

Respondent 2: I thought so. Most of my friends (7) _____.

Interviewer: Great. Well, thank you for your time.

Respondent 2: My pleasure.

Interviewer: Excuse me, could you spare a couple of minutes? *[fades out]*

Note!

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

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Have a lot in common



If you "have a lot in common" with someone, you both like the same things.

"After speaking for a few minutes, I soon realised that we had a lot more in common than I'd thought at first."

Blind date



If two people who haven't met before go on a "blind date", they go out together.

"I went on a blind date at university but it wasn't very successful."

Double date



A romantic evening (in a restaurant, at the cinema, etc.) with two couples going out together at the same time.

"It was fun to go on the double date even though everybody wanted to do something different."

Love triangle



A romantic situation in which three people are involved in a complicated relationship: A is in love with B who is in love with C, etc.

"Sam and Patrick are both in love with Melinda. It's an awkward love triangle!"

Go Dutch



If you "go Dutch" with your date, you each pay 50% of the meal (or whatever else you've bought).

A: Let's go Dutch!
B: No, I'll get this. You got the last one.

Hit it off (with someone)



If A and B "hit it off", they both like one another the moment they meet.

"I went out with that new guy in the accounts department and we really hit it off."

Be good together



If two people are "good together", they have a good relationship and get along well.

"I think those two are really good together. I've never once heard them argue."

To have a crush (on someone)



If you "have a crush" on someone, you like that person very much.

"She has a crush on him."

Objective To improve your advanced listening skills by listening to several speakers chatting in an informal setting.

Think about it

What did you study at university? Did it help you get a job? What would you like to study? How easy or hard is it to study and work at the same time?

TRACK 20: NEW ZEALAND MAN, US MAN & ENGLISHWOMAN



Note!

Don't read the audio script until you've completed the exercises. Also, please note that when people chat informally, they often use non-standard English and rarely speak in full sentences.

GROUP TALK

IS IT WORTH GOING TO UNIVERSITY?

Audio script

Sheldon: You know... you know, guys, something that's really annoying me is that now, everyone's got a **degree**. You know... it's like they don't mean anything anymore.

Kiera: Yeah, I think you're right. I think everyone's coming out of university now, and, erm... and there aren't really enough jobs. And in... in a way, having a degree doesn't always help you in your life.

Sheldon: Yeah. Like... yeah, I mean... what do you think, Nate? I mean... I feel like we have degrees everywhere.

Nate: Do you wish you had a higher lever degree?

Sheldon: Maybe! But, you know... I mean... erm... Even if I had a **PhD**, I mean, I've got a couple of degrees, but... You know, I feel like **every man and his dog** has got a degree, and if I had a PhD, it wouldn't make much difference.

Kiera: Yeah, I don't know. I think, erm, sometimes

it's the experience of what you study rather than the piece of paper that you get in the end.

Sheldon: Yeah, that's true. I mean, I... I enjoy studying. I... well, I don't enjoy studying, but I... I enjoy *knowing* that I'm studying. I mean...

Nate: Do you think people with further degrees earn more money?

Sheldon: Probably on average, right?

Kiera: I think they probably do, yeah. I'm sure I've heard that. I'm sure they do earn more money, if they can get... if they can get a job in the first place.

Sheldon: But if you've got a PhD in Philosophy... I mean, you're going to... be a rich philosopher?

Nate: Exactly! Are you going to earn more money than a person with only a Bachelor's degree in another field?

Sheldon: Exactly.

Kiera: Yeah.

Sheldon: I... I mean, do you guys like studying?

Did you study? You got university degrees? Or...

Kiera: Yeah! I... I studied, but I studied, erm, art, so... erm... It wasn't really something that gave me a good job at the end. But I... as I say, the experience was... was **brilliant**, and I wouldn't... I wouldn't **swap** that for anything. I'm glad I did it.

Sheldon: What about you, Nate?

Nate: Yes, I've got a degree, and I really liked studying. But once you start to earn a little bit of money, it's very difficult to continue studying, [Exactly] and not have a job.

Sheldon: Exactly. Yeah, it's worth it, but yeah... in the end it's not worth it. [fades out]

GLOSSARY

a degree *n*
this word is used to refer to: a) a course of study that you take at university; b) the qualification that you get when you have completed the course at university

a PhD *n*
an advanced degree for people who have done research into a particular subject. PhD is an abbreviation for "Doctor of Philosophy"

every man and his dog *exp*
an expression that's used to mean literally "everyone"

brilliant *adj*
excellent; very good

to swap *vb*
if you "swap" A for B, you use (or do) B instead of using (or doing) A

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

Before listening, answer this question: **What are the pros and cons of going to university? Think of as many arguments in favour of or against going to university as you can. Then, listen once to compare your ideas.**

2 Listening I

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. What does one of the male speakers say about his enjoyment of studying?
2. What does the woman say about how much you earn if you've got a degree?
3. What does she say about studying art?
4. What does one of the male speakers say about studying when you've got a job?

Top tip: how to listen

The most important thing to remember when listening to a conversation is that you won't understand every word. So, you should only listen out for the key words – the most important words in the conversation: the nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc. Then, you can use your intuition to fill in the gaps – just as you do in your own language. Knowing the context and topic of the conversation will help with this.

Objective To teach you some slang words and expressions.

Think about it

When was the last time you went to a restaurant? What was it like? What do you like/dislike about restaurants?

TRACK 21:
ENGLISHMAN
& US MAN

SLANG CONVERSATION AT THE RESTAURANT!

Harry and Matt have just met up in a restaurant.

H=Harry M=Matt W=Waiter

Dialogue

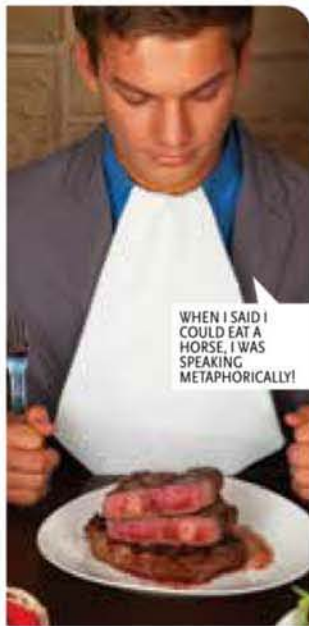
- H: Ah, you **made it** at last. I was just about to order.
M: Got stuck in traffic.
H: **Nightmare**.
M: Tell me about it! I'm **starving**.
H: I ordered some starters but I **scuffed** them all, but we can get some more.
M: Yeah, 'cos I could **eat a horse**!
H: So, what are you having to drink?
M: A pint of lager. Have you eaten here before?
H: Yeah, the food's great and cheap too, plus you get enormous helpings!
M: Sounds like my kind of restaurant.
H: The only thing is the waiter is a bit **grumpy**.
M: It's all part of the charm – I'm sure.
H: Here's the menu.
M: Right, let's have a look. *[The waiter comes over.]*
W: You ready to order?
H: Hi, yes, we'll have two pints of lager. And I'll have the steak and chips.
M: And I'll have the **bangers and mash**.
W: How do you want your steak?
H: Rare, please. *[The waiter leaves.]*

[5 minutes later]

- W: Here you are. *[He tosses the plates on the table.]*
H: Erm, what's this?
W: Steak. You said rare.
H: Yeah, but this is raw! Could you put a bit of colour on it, please?
W: **Tut!** Some people!

[30 minutes later]

- H: Ah! That **went down a treat**.
M: Yeah, I'm **stuffed**. Very good.
H: *[to the waiter]* Could we have the bill, please?
W: Cash or credit card?
H: Credit card.
W: **Tut!** Typical! *[The waiter leaves, then comes back with the bill.]* Here you are.
M: *[to Harry]* So, **what's the damage?**
H: Don't worry, I'll **pick up the tab**!
M: No, **this one's on me!** You paid last time.
H: Don't be silly! It's my turn.
M: Hey, we could **do a runner!**
H: No, I don't **fancy your chances** with the waiter.
M: Yeah, he could probably squash me to death!
W: So, did you enjoy your meal?
H: Yeah, but you ain't gettin' a tip!



WARNING

Many of the words and expressions from this section are used in informal situations. Only use when appropriate!

GLOSSARY

to make it *exp*
if you "make it" to a place, you arrive there eventually
a nightmare *n*
a terrible situation, a bad experience
starving *adj*
very hungry
to scuff *vb inform*
to eat quickly
eat a horse *exp inform*
if you say that you could "eat a horse", you're saying that you're very hungry
grumpy *adj*
a bit angry
bangers and mash *exp inform*
sausages and mashed potato (potato that is like a soft mass)
tut *n*
"tut" is used in writing to represent the sound you make when your tongue touches the top of your mouth. This sound is used to show that you're angry or annoyed
to go down a treat *exp*
if food or drink "goes down a treat", it's perfect for you
stuffed *adj inform*
if you're "stuffed", you have an unpleasant feeling in your stomach because you've eaten too much
what's the damage? *exp inform*
how much is it?
to pick up the tab *exp inform*
to pay the bill
this one's on me *exp*
I'll pay for this
to do a runner *exp inform*
to escape from a restaurant, etc. without paying the bill
fancy your chances *exp inform*
if you "don't fancy your chances", you don't think you can do something

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Objective To improve your listening skills.

Think about it What type of bed do you like to sleep in? What about your pillow? What type of mattress do you have? Why? What position do you like to sleep in: the foetal position, on your back, on your front etc.?

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

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-listening

Look at the pictures below. Which of the beds have you slept in? Which ones did you like? Which ones did you not like? Which ones would you like to try?



2 Listening I

You're going to listen to a group of people in a bar who are talking about beds. Listen once. How many different types of bed are mentioned?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

- Why is the first man's back sore?
- What did the girl say about sleeping on a water bed?
- What did the other girl say about sleeping on a camp bed?
- What type of pillows do most of them seem to like?
- What does one of the girls say about sleeping on the floor?
- What does the other girl do if she's staying at a friend's house?

4 Listening III

Complete the audio script with the correct words.

Audio script

I PREFER MY OWN BED!

What kind of bed do you like?

James: Hey guys, hey erm... I slept last night in this hotel when (1) _____ and God, my back is so sore! It was this really soft bed, I hate soft beds, what kind of beds do you guys like?

Georgina: Erm, yeah sometimes the mattress can give me really bad back pain, mine's, at home it's quite firm but erm, sometimes if I sleep on one that's too soft, yeah, (2) _____.

James: Yeah, really?

Megan: Yeah, I can be really picky. I always like to find the perfect balance.

Georgina: Yeah.

Megan: For me it's soft but not too soft, and then a bit firm but not too firm. [yeah, definitely] You've always got to make sure that you've got (3) _____ otherwise back pain can be horrible.

James: I know, and it's hard to get rid of. I had once, when a friend of mine had a water bed, I never slept in it, but I've never slept in, you, have you guys ever slept in one? I don't know, (4) _____.

Megan: Yeah, I've always wanted to but I never had.

Georgina: I have once, in a hotel in Dubai and it was pretty cool but I have to say (5) _____.

James: Really, why?

Georgina: Well, I just kept moving about a lot and it didn't really feel that secure.

James: You didn't get seasick?

Georgina: No, not too bad but, erm, when I woke up in the morning I did have, erm, really bad lower back pain, So...

Megan: Yeah, I went camping the other week and just sleeping on a camp bed for a few nights I (6) _____.

James: Really?

Megan: I had to go and get a really good massage afterwards, it really helped.

Georgina: Oh that's a good idea!

James: Yeah, I don't know, camping, (7) _____, but I think part of the bed thing and stretchers, camp stretchers, I hate all that stuff. I like, I like my bed at home [yeah, I like my home comforts], it's nice and firm and a nice pillow. Do you guys..., soft or hard pillows?

Georgina: Soft definitely.

Megan: All the way. Always has to be soft and feathery.

Georgina: Yeah.

James: Really? Big pillows or small pillows?

Megan: Big pillows.

James: Really? That you can sink into.

James: Yeah I don't know. I mean, I've never slept on the floor before. No, I did once when I was at a friends' after a party, (8) _____ and that was, that was, it wasn't actually that bad because I like firm, you know, firm mattress but it wasn't particularly comfortable. Have you guys ever slept?...

Georgina: Yeah, I've done it a couple of times like you said, sleeping over at a friend's house, erm but it's not particularly enjoyable.

Megan: No.

Georgina: I think there's firm and then there's sleeping on the floor.

James: Yeah.

Georgina: Which is just uncomfortable.

Megan: If I'm at a friend's, I always try and run to the sofa first.

Georgina: Yeah definitely.

James: Imagine homeless people (9) _____, that must be horrible.

Georgina: I know it must be terrible.

Megan: I can't imagine it.

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



Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Think of three questions to ask about Tibet.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Did you find the answers to any of your questions?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, find a word in the text that means...

- ...a large strong building for protection against enemy soldiers.
- ...objects (embroidery and pottery) which involve making things with your hands in a skilful way.
- ...people who make a journey to a holy place for a religious reason.
- ...an area in a town or city that is flat and open and has buildings all around it.
- ...a level in a building that is above or below other levels.
- ...a building used for the worship of a god or gods.
- ...a religious song or prayer that is sung on only a few notes.
- ...a building or collection of buildings in which monks live.

4 Language focus Fronting

Look at the extract from the information box on this page, "...Situated nearly 4,000 metres above sea level..." The writer has used fronting ("Situated nearly..."). Complete the following sentence beginnings with information about a city in your country.

- Lying close to the coast,...
- Just twenty minutes outside the city,...
- Not far from the centre,...
- Located in the east of the country,...



By Danielle Ott

5 things to do in... Lhasa (Tibet)

If you're looking for somewhere interesting to visit, why not try Lhasa, Tibet – one of the most beautiful places in the world! Here are five things to do or see there!

1 Potala Palace

This 13-storey palace has over 1,000 rooms. It's a long climb to the top; but once there, you get to enjoy the incredible view. Prior to it being a palace it was a fortress, which was built in 637 for King Songtsen Gampo – the founder of Tibet. Later, in 1645, Lozang Gyatso (the Great Fifth Dalai Lama) started construction of the palace. These days, it's a museum.

2 Barkhor Street market

Barkhor Street is one of the oldest in Lhasa, and its traditional style has been preserved. You can walk through the narrow streets and buy handicrafts such as prayer wheels*, jewellery and tapestries. This street is also part of a religious circuit, and pilgrims walk here at all hours of the day and night. In the main square, you can find Jokhang Temple.

3 Jokhang Temple

Situated in Barkhor square (at the centre of Lhasa's old quarter), Jokhang Temple was built as a home to the Buddha statues given to King Songtsen Gampo by his two wives: Princess Wencheng of the Chinese Tang Dynasty, and Princess Bhrikuti of Nepal. This four-storey temple is the ultimate destination for

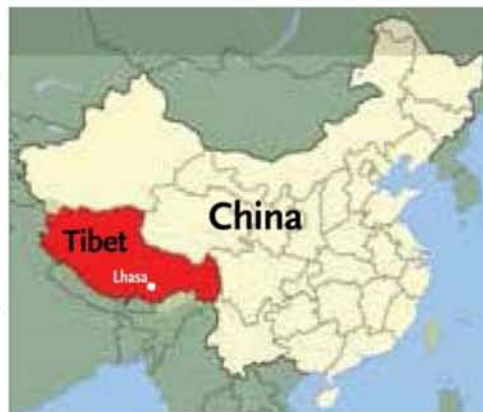
Tibetan pilgrims. And it's here where you can see them carry out "barkhor" – their clockwise circuit around the temple as they chant and spin prayer wheels.

4 Norbulingka summer palace

This palace was originally built in 1755 by the 7th Dalai Lama. Afterwards, each successive Dalai Lama added his own buildings to it, and now there's even a small zoo and gardens. The surrounding park is a popular spot for picnics, theatre shows and festivals. The famous Sho Dun Festival (commonly known as the Yogurt Festival) is also held here. This is a summer celebration that begins with a yogurt banquet for monks. It's followed by dancing, feasting and bonfires at night, with groups of friends and relatives enjoying themselves in the park.

5 Monasteries

There are two famous monasteries in Lhasa: Drepung and Sera. Drepung is about five kilometres from the western suburbs, and is one of the three great Gelukpa (a sect of Tibetan Buddhism) monasteries (the other two being Ganden and Sera). Located, at the foot of Mount Gephel, it was founded in 1416 and it's the largest monastery in Tibet. Its beautiful Coqen Hall has many Buddha statues. Sera was founded three years later, and is also of the Gelukpa sect. It's located about two kilometres north of Lhasa.



- Situated nearly 4,000 metres above sea level, Tibet is an autonomous region of the People's Republic of China (PRC). Tibet covers an area of approximately 1,200,000 square kilometres, and has a population of about 5.4 million; Lhasa has a population of about 3 million people.
- Tibet is often referred to as the "roof of the world".
- Potala Palace, Jokhang and Norbulingka palace are all UNESCO World Heritage Sites.
- Lhasa means Holy Land, or Buddha Land.
- The Dalai Lama is a high lama (teacher / guru) in the Gelug school of Tibetan Buddhism, which was founded by Tsongkhapa (1357–1419).
- King Songtsen Gampo is considered the founder of Tibet. He was born in the late 500s or early 600s.



*A Tibetan prayer wheel.

See you in Lhasa! 🌟

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it How would you describe your boss? Have you ever come across anyone you'd describe as a psychopath? Who were they? Which psychopathic characteristic could be useful to you?

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

HOW TO TELL IF YOUR BOSS IS A PSYCHOPATH!



What are the keys to success? Intelligence? Ambition? Industry expertise? According to some experts, it can also help if you're a psychopath!

For most people, the term "psychopath" conjures up the image of a sadistic killer. But not all psychopaths are evil murderers. Most are seemingly ordinary people who've never committed a crime. Some can come across as charming and charismatic, and several are even highly successful.

So, what is a psychopath? *The Journal of Abnormal Psychology* says that typical psychopaths are selfish, egocentric, callous and manipulative people who lack empathy – an ability to understand the feelings of other people – and who have no sense of remorse.

So, how can you tell if your boss or work colleague is a psychopath? Here are some of the **telltale signs**. A psychopath...

- ...likes to be the centre of attention.
- ...may **take credit** for things they haven't done.
- ...will manipulate others for their own ends.
- ...doesn't feel bad or apologetic after having done something wrong.
- ...may **put down**, humiliate or laugh at others.
- ...isn't concerned about ethical behaviour.
- ...is often unaware of the pain they can cause others.
- ...may lie to get their own way.
- ...won't feel **bad** if they have to sack people.

- ...may exploit and trick others for self-advancement.

Interestingly, many psychopathic characteristics are perfect for succeeding in the world of business. These include ruthlessness, fearlessness, self-confidence, mental toughness, charm and **persuasiveness**. Research psychologist Kevin Dutton talks about this in his book *The Wisdom of Psychopaths: What Saints, Spies and Serial Killers Can Teach Us About Success*. Dutton argues that there are "functional psychopaths" among us who use their personalities to succeed in mainstream society. And shockingly, in some fields, the more "psychopathic" people are, the more likely they are to succeed!

So, where can you find psychopaths? In a 2011 survey (*The Great British Psychopath Survey*), Kevin Dutton asked people to fill out a questionnaire online to find out how "psychopathic" they were. He found that those who scored high on the psychopathic scale included **CEOs**, lawyers, media executives (in radio and television), salespeople, surgeons, journalists, police officers, members of the clergy, chefs and civil servants. And those who scored low on the scale included nurses, therapists, craftspeople, beauticians, teachers, charity workers, creative artists, doctors and accountants.

Do you think your boss could be a psychopath? ❖

PSYCHOPATHIC

Find out how "psychopathic" you are in this mini-test: www.wisdomofpsychopaths.com

It's believed that about 3% of males and 1% of females are psychopaths. And estimates are that about 15% of the prison population is psychopathic. Of course, many ordinary people can have psychopathic traits without being considered psychopaths.

Psychopath versus sociopath: both psychopaths and sociopaths have anti-social personality **disorders**. However, the term "psychopath" is often used to describe someone who is born with the disorder, and "sociopath" is used for someone who develops it as a result of their childhood or social situation.

Psychopathic versus psychotic: someone who is "psychotic" is suffering from a mental disease. In many cases, psychotic people have problems distinguishing reality from fantasy, and may experience hallucinations and delusions, or suffer from **schizophrenia**.

GLOSSARY

to conjure up *phr vb*
if you "conjure up" an image, you create that image in your mind

to come across as *exp*
if you "come across as" a certain type of person, you seem to be that type of person because of the way you act, etc.

telltale signs *n*
signs that give you information about something

to take credit for *exp*
if A "takes credit for" B's work, A says that he/she did the work

to put down *phr vb*
if A "puts down" B, A says horrible, bad things about B

to sack (someone) *vb*
to tell someone that they have to leave their job

CEO *abbr*
the Chief Executive Officer – the most important person in a company

persuasiveness *n*
someone with a lot of "persuasiveness" can persuade other people to do things

a disorder *n*
a problem or illness which affects someone's mind or body

schizophrenia *n*
a serious mental illness. People who suffer from "schizophrenia" find it difficult to tell the difference between reality and fantasy

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

What do you think a psychopath is? Write a short description.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. How does your definition of a psychopath compare to the description in the article?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, find a word that...

1. ...is used to describe someone who enjoys hurting others =
2. ...describes someone who is nice, pleasant and attractive =
3. ...is used to describe someone who can influence people easily =
4. ...is used to describe someone who is often cruel and who shows no concern for others =
5. ...is used to describe someone who can persuade people to act in the way they want =
6. ...refers to an ability to understand other people's feelings and emotions (noun) =
7. ...describes a strong feeling of sadness about something wrong that you did =
8. ...describes a driving determination to do anything necessary to get what you want =
9. ...can be used to describe someone who is mentally very strong (two words) =

Objective To improve your reading and listening skills.

Think about it What are some of the best/worst travel experiences that you've ever had? Which words/situations from this article can you relate to? Can you think of any other words to describe typical travel experiences?

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

READ & LISTEN II

TRACK 25: NEW ZEALAND MAN & US MAN



ALL THESE BAGS
LOOK THE SAME!

9 NEW WORDS TO DESCRIBE TRAVEL EXPERIENCES

Answers on page 44

1 Pre-reading

Look at the 9 invented words. What do you think they mean? What experiences do you think they describe?

2 Reading I

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

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, without referring back to it, write an invented word/expression next to each description. It's used to describe

1. ...someone who tries to make themselves understood by speaking loudly in their own language.
2. ...the noise caused by someone trying to put their bag in the overhead locker.
3. ...someone who takes too long in an aeroplane toilet.
4. ...the expressions on the faces of people who work in passport control.
5. ...someone who moves against the flow of people in a plane aisle.
6. ...the action of becoming flustered because you can't work out how to operate a car in a foreign country.

When was the last time you went travelling? Did anything funny or interesting happen? The *Lonely Planet* blog (www.lonelyplanet.com/blog) has a collection of invented words to describe unusual travel experiences. Here are some of them.

Lavahog (noun)

Someone who takes a long time in an aeroplane toilet. "I had to stand in the aisle for about 10 minutes waiting for this *lavahog* to finish up."

Aisle salmon (noun)

Someone who moves against the **flow** of people in a plane aisle. "There was this *aisle salmon* trying to get past me as I was putting my bag in the overhead locker."

Crankophone (noun)

Someone who tries to make themselves understood in a foreign country by speaking louder in their own language. "There was this *crankophone* in the shop trying to explain why he wanted to return a shirt he'd bought. It was hilarious."

(Get into a) carbungle (expression)

If you "get into a *carbungle*", you become **flustered** as you attempt to operate an unfamiliar car in a foreign country.

"I got into a *carbungle* with the rental car as I couldn't work out how to put it into reverse."

Farflunk (verb)

Someone who "farflunks" talks a lot about travelling to faraway places, but never actually goes on the trip. "He's been *farflunking* about going to Asia for the past three years, but he never does anything about it."

Overhead din (noun)

The disturbance caused by people trying to push an oversized bag into the overhead locker on a plane. "I was trying to read my book, but I couldn't because of all the *overhead din*."

Suitchase (verb)

To run around the baggage carousel as you attempt to **retrieve** your bag because the people in front of you are preventing you from getting it.

"I had to *suitchase* my bag half-way round the carousel because it was too crowded."

Buggage (noun)

Insects that you bring home in your luggage from bug-infested hotel rooms.

"I had to throw out the bag because it was full of *buggage*."

Checkpointlessness (noun)

The bored expression on the faces of customs officials who work in passport control. "I handed the police officer my passport and said good morning, but he just gave me a look of *checkpointlessness* and waved me through." ❖

GLOSSARY

flow *n*
the "flow" of people is a continuous movement of people in one direction

flustered *adj*
nervous and worried

a din *n*
an unpleasant noise that lasts a long time

to retrieve *v*
if you "retrieve" something, you take it from the place where you left it

to wave someone through *exp*
if you "wave someone through" an area, you make a signal with your hand that shows that you're allowing that person to enter the area

PHRASAL VERBS SALES FIGURES

Complete the sentences (1 to 8) with the words from below.

several sharp TV figures cheaper best year warmer

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1

Be down / go down

If sales "are down", they've decreased. / If sales "go down", they decrease.

"Sales of our range of dog food are down on last year's _____."

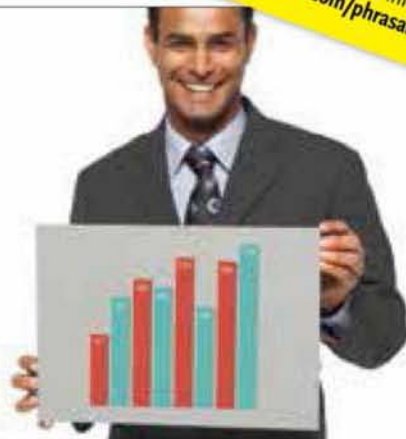


2

Be up / go up

If things "are up", they've increased. / If sales "go up", they increase.

"Sales have been going up for _____ months now."



3

Bottom out

If sales "bottom out", they reach their lowest point and stay there.

"Sales were starting to fall earlier in the _____, but seem to have bottomed out, at last!"

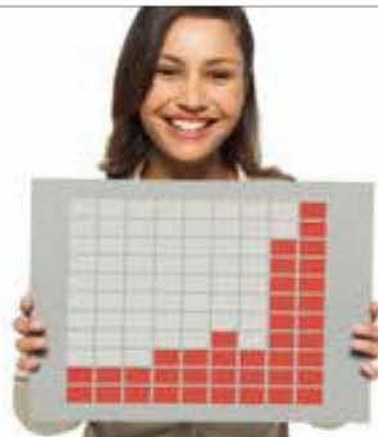


4

Shoot up

If sales "shoot up", they increase very quickly.

"Sales shot up after the adverts appeared on _____."



5

Hold up

If sales "hold up", they remain strong.

"Our sales figures for last year were our _____ yet, and they seem to have held up this year too."



6

Level out / level off

If sales "level out", they remain the same and stop either increasing or decreasing.

"Sales seemed to have levelled off after some _____ decreases."



7

Pick up

If sales "pick up", they improve.

"Retail sales seem to have picked up now the weather is _____."



8

Dry up

If sales "dry up", they stop or disappear completely.

"Sales have dried up since the competition brought out a similar, _____ version of our product."



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PHOTO MAGIC

Photos from the news

Can you think of anything to write in the speech bubbles? Have a competition in class or at home.

Photo 1



Kate Middleton and Princes William and Harry have a magical day out at Warner Bros. Harry Potter Studio.

Photo 2



Photo taken by photographer Joe McNally when he reached the top of the Burj Khalifa (in Dubai) - the world's tallest building.

Photo 3



Willem-Alexander becomes the first Dutch king in more than a century as his mother, Beatrix, abdicates after 33 years as queen.

FOOD (PAGE 6)

Pre-reading

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

Reading II

1. soup; 2. mango; 3. mushrooms; 4. fish; 5. coriander; 6. cabbage / cauliflower

TWITTER TOPICS (PAGE 7)

Reading II

1. the London Olympics; 2. The Queen's Jubilee; 3. Felix Baumgartner; 4. Barack Obama; 5. Steve Jobs; 6. the Spice Girls

GRAMMAR BOOSTER (PAGE 8)

1. tennis; 2. lunch; 3. bar; 4. ambulance; 5. film; 6. picnic

ENGLISH IN ACTION (PAGE 10)

1. on; 2. for; 3. to; 4. at; 5. of; 6. to; 7. on; 8. in

CELEBRITY HOTELS (PAGE 12)

Pre-listening

1a 2c 3b 4d

Listening II

1. short; 2. really likes; 3. Greenwich Hotel; 4. England; 5. New York
1. week; 2. article; 3. second; 4. room; 5. coast; 6. director; 7. place

PRACTICAL ENGLISH (PAGE 13)

1. make; 2. call; 3. know; 4. came; 5. robbing; 6. see

HOW TO COOK EGGS (PAGE 14)

Pre-reading

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

Reading II

1. fried egg; 2. scrambled eggs; 3. soft-boiled egg; 4. omelette; 5. hard-boiled egg; 6. poached egg

Language focus

1. left/placed/boiled; 2. left; 3. served; 4. placed/left

PR DISASTERS (PAGE 15)

Reading II

1. 2007; 2. It was full of errors; 3. To use rival map apps; 4. In January 2012; 5. For less than two hours; 6. About 2%.

HOW TO SAY YOU'RE SORRY (PAGE 16)

Reading II

1. Anthony Weiner; 2. Julia Gillard; 3. Anthony Weiner; 4. David Cameron; 5. Julia Gillard; 6. King Juan Carlos

THE NEW SEVEN WONDERS (PAGE 17)

Reading II

1. Petra; 2. The Great Wall of China; 3. Machu Picchu; 4. Chichen Itza; 5. The Taj Mahal; 6. Christ the Redeemer

ACTORS WHO LOST MILLIONS (PAGE 20)

Pre-listening

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

Listening II

Sean Connery = *The Lord of the Rings*
Cary Grant = *James Bond*
Burt Reynolds = Han Solo
Tom Selleck = *Indiana Jones*
Will Smith = *The Matrix*
Keanu Reeves = *The Matrix*
Harrison Ford = Han Solo

Listening III

1. last week; 2. someone else; 3. film roles; 4. according to; 5. biggest films; 6. similar story; 7. massive star; 8. huge star; 9. first choice; 10. lead role; 11. whole life

EXTREME SPORTS (PAGE 28)

Reading II

1. Edge walking; 2. Volcano bungee jump; 3. Crocodile watching; 4. Plastic ball rolling; 5. Crocodile watching; 6. Volcano bungee jump; 7. Edge walking

CRIME NOVELS (PAGE 29)

Reading II

- (wording may vary)
1. To try to persuade his son Dickie to return to the States.
 2. So he can live off his trust fund.
 3. To step into someone's shoes.
 4. Because his life is somewhat contradictory: he drinks and smokes, but also enjoys poetry and chess.
 5. It wouldn't affect anyone because he's a lone wolf!

DANGEROUS JOBS (PAGE 31)

Reading II

1. farmers; 2. cashiers; 3. taxi driving; 4. hotel room cleaners; 5. crab fishers; 6. journalists
- Language focus**
1. with; 2. with / to; 3. for; 4. for

QUIRKY NEWS (PAGE 32)

Questions!

1. On a small farm in a tiny, rundown house.
2. In 2010.
3. A 1987 VW Beetle.
4. He donates it to the needy.

Questions!

1. Samoa Air.
2. Their weight.
3. A fat tax.
4. Tall people, muscular people, pregnant women, and men generally.

HOW THE UK HAS CHANGED (PAGE 34)

Listening II

1. 18%
2. 22%
3. 20%
4. 19%

Listening III

1. released some data
2. about the statistics
3. live with partners
4. is much higher
5. for your time
6. used to smoke
7. gave up years ago

GROUP TALK (PAGE 36)

Listening II

1. He says that he enjoys knowing that he's studying.
2. She's heard that people with a degree earn more.
3. She enjoyed it, but it didn't give her a good job.
4. It's hard to study when you're working.

BEDS (PAGE 38)

Listening II

1. Because the bed was too soft.
2. She didn't feel that secure.
3. It gave her back pain.
4. Big, soft ones.
5. It isn't particularly enjoyable.
6. She tries to get the sofa first.

Listening III

1. I was away for work
2. I get really bad muscle ache
3. a perfect mattress for you
4. they're kind of weird
5. it was a really bad night's sleep
6. got the worst back pain ever
7. I don't really like camping anyway
8. I had to sleep on the floor
9. who have to sleep outside

LHASA, TIBET (PAGE 39)

Reading II

1. fortress; 2. handicrafts; 3. pilgrims; 4. square; 5. storey; 6. temple; 7. chant; 8. monastery

IS YOUR BOSS A PSYCHOPATH? (PAGE 40)

Reading II

1. sadistic; 2. charming; 3. charismatic; 4. callous; 5. manipulative; 6. empathy; 7. remorse; 8. ruthlessness; 9. mental toughness

NEW TRAVEL WORDS (PAGE 41)

Reading II

1. crankophone; 2. overhead din; 3. lavahog; 4. checkpointlessness; 5. aisle salmon; 6. get into a carbungle

PHRASAL VERBS (PAGE 42)

1. figures; 2. several; 3. year; 4. TV; 5. best; 6. sharp; 7. warmer; 8. cheaper



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STORY TIME

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

Travel joke

A: I say, I say, I say. What travels around the world but stays in a corner?

B: I don't know. What travels around the world but stays in a corner?

A: A stamp!

Killer aunt

A teacher gives her class an assignment. "Ask your parents to tell you a story with a moral at the end of it," she explains. "Then, write it up and tell us your stories in the next class."

The following day, the students come back and start to tell their stories. "My father's a farmer and we've got a lot of egg-laying hens," says Kathy. "One time, we were taking our eggs to market in a basket on the front seat of the pickup when we hit a bump in the road and all the eggs went flying and broke," she adds. "And what's the moral of the story?" the teacher asks. And Kathy says, "Don't

put all your eggs in one basket!"

Next, little Lucy raises a hand and says, "Our family are farmers, too. We had a dozen eggs one time, but only eight hatched. The moral of the story is, don't count your chickens before they're hatched." "Perfect," the teacher says.

Next, Johnny puts up his hand. "My daddy told me this story about my Aunt Marge," he says. "She was a soldier during the war. One day, the plane she was travelling in got hit by anti-aircraft fire. She had to bail out over enemy territory, and all she had was a bottle of whisky, a machine gun and a machete. She drank the whisky on the way down, before landing in the middle of 100 enemy troops. She took out 70 of them with the machine gun before it ran out of bullets. Then, she finished off 20 more with the machete before the blade broke. Finally,

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Pronunciation section, top tips for learning English, spelling mistakes, film scripts, the world's best drinks, apps for learning English, e-mail English, management speak, unusual office rules, and lots, lots more.

DON'T MESS WITH ME!

she killed the remaining 10 with her bare hands."

"Good heavens!" says the horrified teacher. "But what's the moral of that story?" And Johnny replies, "Stay away from Aunt Marge when she's been drinking!" *

GLOSSARY

- a stamp** *n*
a small piece of paper that you put on an envelope before you post it. This represents payment for sending the letter
- an assignment** *n*
a piece of work that students at school have to do for homework
- a moral** *n*
the "moral" of a story is a lesson that you learn from it
- a hen** *n*
a female chicken – it lays eggs
- don't put all your eggs in one basket** *exp*
don't concentrate all your efforts/money/resources, etc. in one thing – you should spread the risk
- to hatch** *vb*
when a baby bird "hatches", it comes out of an egg
- don't count your chickens before they're hatched** *exp*
wait until a good thing has really happened before making any plans related to it
- to bail out** *phr vb*
if someone in a plane "bails out", they jump out of the plane with a parachute
- a machete** *n*
a large knife with a wide blade (the sharp part used for cutting)
- to take out** *phr vb* *inform*
to kill
- to finish off** *phr vb*
to kill
- with your bare hands** *exp*
if you do something "with your bare hands", you do it without any protection or without using a weapon (a gun, etc.)

Directors

Managing Director

Thorley Russell (00 34 91 543 3573)
thorleyr@hotenglishmagazine.com

Editorial Director

Andy Coney (00 34 91 543 3573)
andyc@hotenglishmagazine.com

Finance

Financial Director

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

Classes Department

(00 34 91 455 0273)
classes@hotenglishmagazine.com

Teacher Coordinator

Melissa Armstrong
teacherinfo@hotenglishmagazine.com

Accounts manager

Chelo Requena
classes@hotenglishmagazine.com

Administration Department

Subscriptions (9:30-13:00)

Jorge Toral (tel / fax) (00 34 91 549 8523)

Skype: hotenglishgroup
subs@hotenglishmagazine.com
payments@hotenglishmagazine.com
Credit control and administration
9:00 - 2pm (by e-mail thereafter)
Office hours 10am to 6pm (Spanish time)

Barcelona office (Hot English)

barcelona@hotenglishmagazine.com

Seville office (Hot English)

classes@hotenglishmagazine.com

Editorial Department

James Blick **assistant editor**

Philip McIvor **designer**

Patrick Howarth **writer**

Steve Brown **writer**

Christine Saunders **writer**

Louisa Glancy **writer**

Contributors

Blanca San Roman **translation**

Magnus Coney **proof reading**

Marcie Lambert **proof reading**

Natalia T. Piekarowicz **proof reading**

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Danielle Ott **intern**

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Rayner Taylor **intern**

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Megan Boyle **intern**

JohnMichael Mulderig **intern**

Slim Pickens **special intern**

Nick Hargreaves **writer**

Printing

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oficina 1, Madrid 28008
Phone: (00 34) 91 549 8523
Fax: (00 34) 672 317 912

info@hotenglishmagazine.com
www.hotenglishmagazine.com
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