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No.151

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# EDITOR'S INTRO

## How you learn English with Learn Hot English magazine

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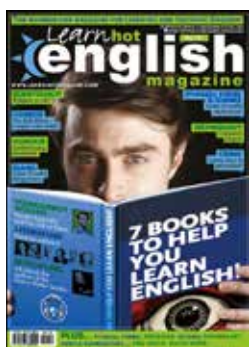
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**7 Want to learn even more?** Get a Skills Booklet! You'll learn extra vocabulary, grammar, social English and business English. The Skills Booklets are linked to the topics in Hot English magazine. They're sold separately – see page 25 for more information.



Hi everybody and welcome to another issue of Learn Hot English magazine – the fun magazine for learning English... and getting a better job, and improving your range of vocabulary, and increasing your listening ability, and passing exams... and lots, lots more. This month

we've got lots of great content for you. We're looking at some books that you could read to improve your English. We're also taking a look at some famous authors whose books you might like to read, as well as the author of the Harry Potter books, JK Rowling. Of course, that's not all. We've also got articles on embarrassing moments, tribute bands, idioms, child actors, vocabulary, a famous witch, phrasal verbs, scientology, scams (tricks), English grammar, online security... and lots, lots more. Have a great month, learn lots of English and see you again soon,

Yours,

*Andy*



### AUDIO FILES

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# Used to/didn't use to/usually Grammar fun

In this month's grammar fun section we'll be looking at "used to".

We can use "used to" + an infinitive to talk about past habits or states. If we say that we "used to do" something, it means that we did it frequently in the past, but that we don't do it now. For example:

- a) I used to play lots of tennis when I was younger.
- b) She used to go swimming every Saturday afternoon.

For questions and negatives, we use the auxiliaries "do/does". For example:

- a) Did you use to come to this club much?
- b) Did she use to play in this team?
- c) We didn't use to eat much.
- d) They didn't use to do much sport.

We can also use "used to" to talk about past states or the existence of something in the past. For example:

- a) I used to be really shy, but now I'm quite confident.
- b) The dog used to be a bit aggressive, but she's really calm now.
- c) There used to be a church here, but they knocked it down.
- d) There used to be three houses here, but now there's just one.

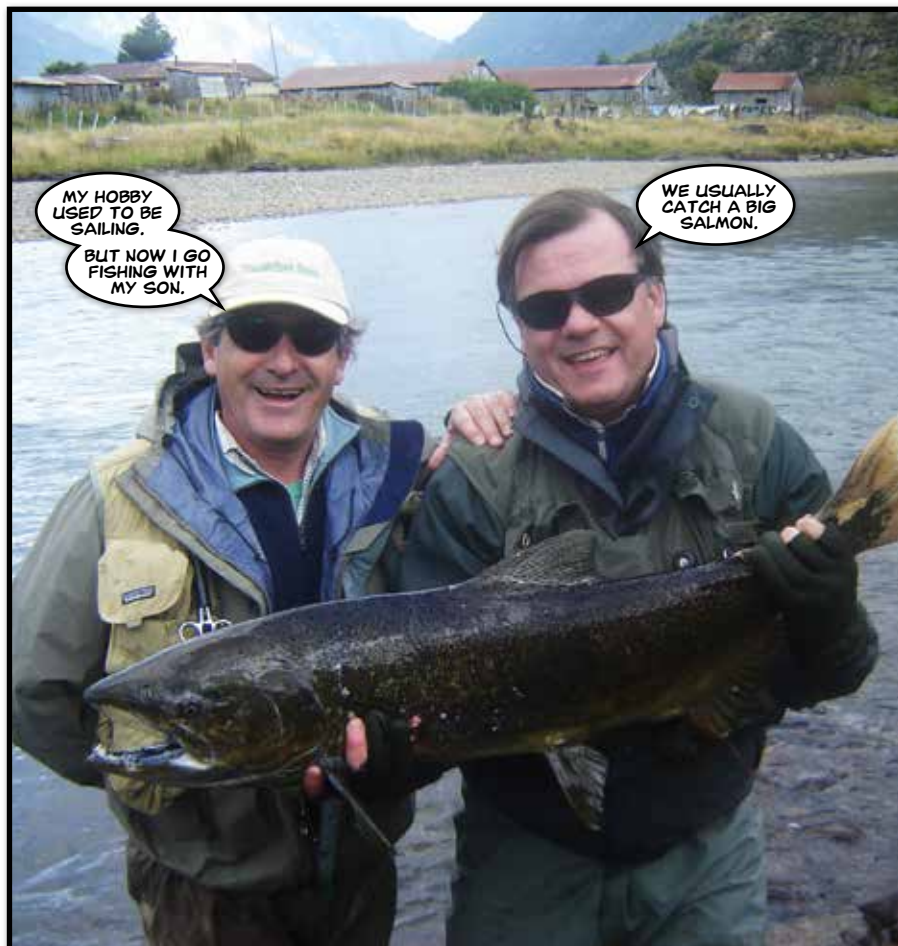


To express the same idea of frequency in the present, we often use the simple present tense. We can also use an adverb such as "usually". For example:

- a) I play lots of board games.
- b) She usually goes swimming every Saturday afternoon.
- c) They go to this club quite a lot.
- b) She usually plays in this team.

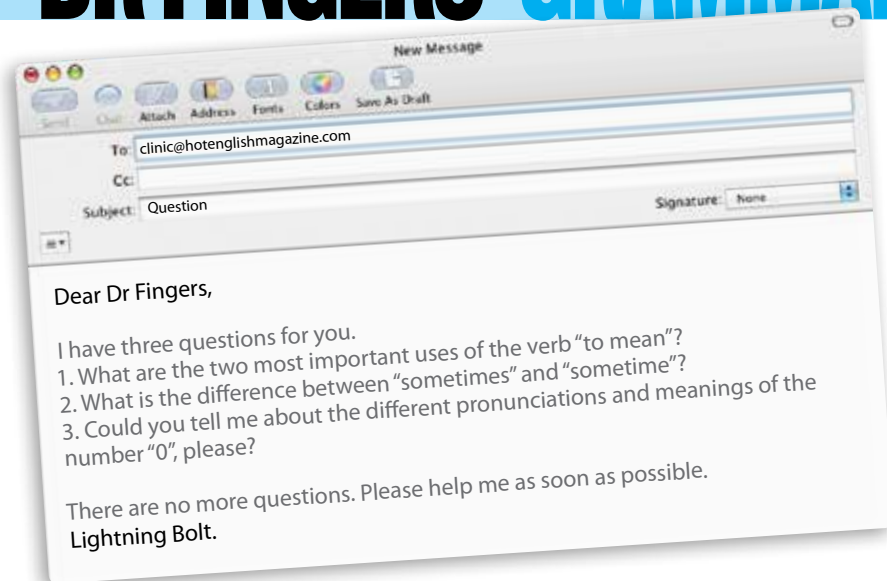
You can NOT use "used to" to talk about how often something happened or how long it took. For example:

- a) INCORRECT: I used to go to Germany seven times. CORRECT: I went to Germany seven times.
- b) INCORRECT: She used to live in New York for six years. CORRECT: She lived in New York for six years. ✚



# DR FINGERS' GRAMMAR CLINIC

WELCOME TO MY GRAMMAR CLINIC.



**Dear Ms Bolt,**

Of course, I would be delighted to help you. OK, here goes.

1. "To mean" can be used to say "to intend". In these cases, the verb is followed by an infinitive with "to". For example:

- a) I didn't mean to hit you.
- b) I meant to come earlier, but the traffic was terrible.
- c) She didn't mean to insult you.
- d) We didn't mean to cause you any trouble.

However, when "to mean" is used as a way of describing the meaning of something, it is followed by a noun or by a clause. For example:

- a) The abbreviation "US" means the "United States".
- b) This word means "short" in English.
- c) This means that we will earn more money.
- d) That means that we won't be able to go.

2. The word "sometimes" is an adverb of frequency that says how often you do something. For example:

- a) I go to the cinema sometimes.
- b) She sometimes calls me.
- c) Sometimes, I clean my room.

However, "sometime" means "at some point" or "at some moment". For example:

- a) I'll visit you sometime this week.
- b) She'll do it sometime this month.
- c) We'll talk about it sometime next week.

3. And finally, let's look at the numerical symbol 0.

In British English, we sometimes pronounce "0" as "oh" when we say the numbers figure by figure (in American English they use the word "zero"). For example:

- a) British: 109 = One, oh, nine.
- American: 109 = One, zero, nine.

- b) British: 38076 = Three, eight, oh, seven, six.
- American: 38076 = Three, eight, zero, seven, six.

With measurements of temperature, we use the word zero (in both British and American English). For example:

- a) 0°C = Zero degrees centigrade.
- b) -4°C = Four degrees below zero.

And finally, some other ways of saying "0".

Zero scores in British English are called nil. For example: 10-0 = ten nil.

In tennis, table tennis and other similar games, the word "love" is used to mean zero. This comes from the French "l'oeuf", which means "the egg". Presumably, this is because a zero looks a bit like an egg. For example: 30-0 = Thirty love.

Well, Ms Bolt, I hope that has helped you.

**Yours, Dr Fingers.**

Please send your questions or stories to:  
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A look at some unusual British bands.

TRACK 2

# Tribute Bands

The Dead Hot Chili Peppers. Oasis. Pink Floyd. They almost sound like famous bands, but they aren't. They're **tribute bands**. And the fans love them. Find out more.

## Fast fame

"If you want to play on a big **stage** with an adoring crowd, then this is the **way forward**," said Mr Haveron of Psycho Management, a company that represents tribute bands. "Unfortunately, when you take off the **wig** and **step off** stage, people don't know who you are, and it is a bit disappointing," he added. Welcome to the world of tribute bands. Hundreds of groups which look like the original, sound like the original and even act like the original group, but which aren't the original. And the place to see these bands is the **Glastonbudget** Music Festival



● Glastonbudget

– a cheap music festival, and an alternative to the better known **Glastonbury** Festival. It has the tents, rain clouds and bizarre fashions you would expect at the annual Glastonbury festival. However, it's not the *Red Hot Chili Peppers* who are playing – it's the *Dead Hot Chili Peppers*. Rather than *Oasis*, it's *Oasish*. And instead of *Pink Floyd*, it's *Pink Fraud*.



● Oasish

## Serious fun

They may not be the genuine stars, but you do get the band playing all the classics, which is what most fans want to hear anyway. Patrick Haveron, of Psycho Management, represents 237 tribute bands and is creating more. "We now have four *Take That* tributes



● The Bootleg Beatles

and they are all **selling out**. I don't understand why four **blokes** singing to a **backing track** is so popular, but it is," explains Mr Haveron. Some bands take it all very seriously. *Pink Fraud* have some of *Pink Floyd's* original clothing, and the guitarist has one of David Gilmour's own **plectrums**. What began as a shared passion for *Pink Floyd's* '70s albums has turned into an elaborate attempt to recreate the look, sound and feel of being at a **Floyd gig** in 1975.



● Pink Fraud

## Going back in time

For many people, seeing a tribute band is a unique experience. "I remember seeing a band called The Bootleg Beatles in a small club in London," said Nigel Haversham. "It was **packed** and it was just incredible. They looked just like the Beatles,

and they played all the classics (*I Wanna Hold your Hand*, *Love*, *Love me Do*, etc), and it just felt like I'd gone back in time to the late fifties, early sixties in Hamburg or Liverpool. I'll never forget it."

## The start

So, where did it all start? Actually, tribute bands began in Australia. It was seen as a solution to the problem of bands not touring over there. In Britain, it is largely a small-town phenomenon. And it gives fans a chance to see bands from many years ago. For example, Kurt Cobain died in 1994, but fans of *Nirvana* can now see Burt Cocaine



● Kurt Cobain

in the band *Teen Spirit*. It's also a very competitive market. There are, according to the latest statistics, more than 30 *Pink Floyd* tribute bands in Britain, with more appearing all the time. Will you be going to see a tribute band? ☆



● The Bootleg Beatles

## GLOSSARY

- a tribute band** *n*  
a band whose members dress, sing and act like a famous band
- a stage** *n*  
the raised platform where a band plays to an audience
- the way forward** *n*  
the way to progress
- a wig** *n*  
a piece of false hair that is worn on the head
- to step off** *phr vb*  
to leave a place by taking your foot off it
- budget** *adj*  
cheap. For example, a budget airline, is a cheap, low-cost airline
- Glastonbury** *n*  
a famous summer music festival in the south of England
- to sell out** *phr vb*  
if a concert is "sold out", there are no more tickets available
- a bloke** *n inform*  
a man
- a backing track** *n*  
recorded music that accompanies the main tune, or the singers
- a plectrum** *n*  
a small, plastic object that guitarists use to play the guitar
- a gig** *n inform*  
a concert
- packed** *adj*  
filled to the maximum capacity

# DR FINGERS' ERROR CORRECTION CLINIC



The section in which Dr Fingers corrects typical English errors.



### Activity

Read the sentences, find the errors and correct the sentences. Then listen to the CD to check your answers. Good luck! Afterwards, you can read the error analysis section.

1. I am very boring here.
2. His name is John and he born in Wales.
3. Our baby daughter has been born three weeks ago.
4. I asked him to borrow me some money.
5. I borrowed him some books.
6. Both of them haven't paid me yet.
7. Michael and Sandra both are engineers.
8. She went to buy a fresh bread.
9. The police broke the door so they could get in.
10. After the breakfast, we went out for a walk.
11. She always drinks water before she has a lunch.
12. I can bring you home if you like.
13. She went inside to bring her bag.
14. I'm sorry I can't do it now because I have very busy.
15. I am here on businesses.

### Error Analysis

1. We use "boring" to describe someone's character or a film; we use "bored" to describe how we feel about something.
2. In English, we use the past tense of the verb "to be" with "born".
3. With expressions such as "three weeks ago", we use the past tense.
4. In English, you "lend" someone some money.
5. You borrow something "from" someone.
6. We use "neither of them" and an affirmative verb to describe a negative situation.
7. We place "both" after the verb "to be".
8. "Bread" is uncountable and is used with "some/any".
9. You can use force to "break down" a door.
10. When speaking generally, we don't use "the/a/an" with words such as "breakfast, lunch" and "dinner".
11. When speaking generally, we don't use "the/a/an" with words such as "breakfast, lunch" and "dinner".
12. If you "take" something, you go with that thing; if you "bring" something, you come with that thing.
13. If you "fetch" something, you go to a place, take something then come back with it.
14. In English, you "are" busy.
15. In English, you go somewhere on "business" (in the singular).



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# Story Time

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

## Penguin Joke

A penguin walks in to a bar and asks the **barman**, "Have you seen my father?" And the barman replies, "What does he look like?"



## Mr Thickie

Three men are running down the street, trying to escape from a police officer. All of a sudden, they **come across** three **sacks** and decide to hide in them. When the police officer discovers the sacks, he **kicks** the first one. "**Meow**", the first man says, **pretending** to be a sack full of cats. The police officer moves to the next sack and kicks it. "**Woof, woof**," the next man says, pretending to be

a sack full of dogs. Finally, the police officer moves on to the last sack and kicks it. And the man in that sack shouts out, "Potatoes!"

## Clever Dog

The manager of a small business puts a sign in the window: "HELP WANTED. You must be a fast **typist**, have good computer skills and be bilingual. We are an Equal Opportunity Employer." A short time later, a dog goes up to the window, sees the sign and goes inside. The dog looks at the woman, **wags his tail** and starts **pawing at** the sign. The woman looks at the dog, and says, "I can't **hire** you. The sign says you must be able to type." Immediately, the dog jumps down, goes to the typewriter and quickly types a perfect business letter. The woman is **stunned**, but says to the dog, "That was

fantastic, but I'm sorry. The sign clearly says that you must have computer skills." In a flash, the dog goes to the computer and produces an Excel **spreadsheet**, a Power Point presentation, and a logo in Photoshop, and then prints them all for the woman. The woman is **dumbfounded**. She says to the dog, "Listen, I realise that you are a very intelligent applicant and have fantastic talent, but you're a dog! There's no way I can hire you!" The dog jumps down and

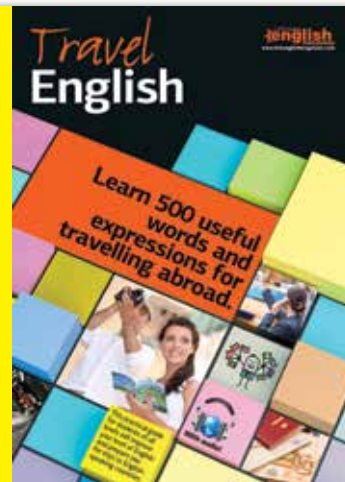


goes to the sign in the window and points his paw at the words "Equal Opportunity Employer". The woman says, "Yes, I know what the sign says. But the sign also says you have to be bilingual." The dog looks the woman straight in the eye and says, "Meow." ✨

## GLOSSARY

**a barman** *n*  
a man who works in a bar serving drinks  
**to come across something** *exp*  
to find something unexpectedly  
**a sack** *n*  
a material container for potatoes/ money, etc  
**to kick** *vb*  
to hit with your foot  
**meow** *exp*  
the noise a cat makes  
**to pretend** *vb*  
to act as if something is true even though it isn't  
**woof** *exp*  
the noise a dog makes  
**a typist** *n*  
a person who writes on a computer or typewriter  
**to wag a tail** *exp*  
the "tail" is the long object at the back of a dog's body. When a dog "wags" its tail, the tail moves from one side to another  
**to paw at** *exp*  
a dog's "paws" are its hands. If a dog "paws" at something, it touches that thing with its paws  
**to hire** *vb*  
to employ  
**stunned** *adj*  
shocked; really surprised  
**a spreadsheet** *n*  
a computer file with figures, numbers and calculations  
**dumbfounded** *adj*  
shocked; so surprised that you cannot speak

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# The Office

## Useful Expressions –The Office

Listen and repeat these useful expressions.

- Could you send this by fax, please?
- Could you make me six copies of this, please?
- You've got a phone call.
- Can you **staple** these together, please?
- Could you take this paper down to the **recycling bin**, please?
- Which **drawer** does this go in?
- Can I **borrow** your pen, please?
- Is this **scrap paper**?
- Just take a message, please.
- Could you **file** these documents, please?
- Put it in the top drawer, please.
- Have you got a pen I could borrow, please?
- **Stick** a post-it note on it.
- The photocopier has **run out of** paper.
- Could you order some more **toner** for the photocopier, please?
- What's the fax number, please?
- Put it in my **in-tray**.



### GLOSSARY

**to staple** *vb*  
to fix pages together by using a staple (a small, thin piece of metal that looks like a little bridge)

**a recycling bin** *n*  
a container for rubbish (old paper, cartons, glass, etc) that can be recycled

**a drawer** *n*  
a box that is part of a piece of furniture, and in which you can place things

**to borrow** *vb*  
if you "borrow" something from someone, you take that thing (with permission) for a limited period of time

**scrap paper** *n*  
old paper that can be used for another purpose, or for rough notes

**to file** *vb*  
to put a document/paper/contract, etc into a box or folder

**to stick** *vb*  
to put

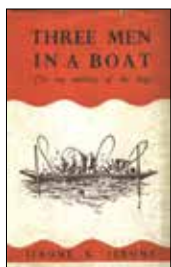
**to run out of** *exp*  
if you "run out of something", you have no more of that thing

**toner** *n*  
ink (a black, chemical substance) for a photocopier or printer

**an in-tray** *n*  
a box where people can place letters/documents/internal notes, etc for you to read

# 7 BOOKS TO HELP YOU LEARN ENGLISH

**R**eading books is a great way to improve your English. As you're enjoying the story, you're learning hundreds of useful words, phrases and expressions without even realising it. Plus, you're improving your knowledge of grammar. You can read graded readers (simplified versions of books) or the original versions (if you've got a high level of English). The following are some books recommended by students of English.



**1 Three Men In A Boat**  
by Jerome K. Jerome

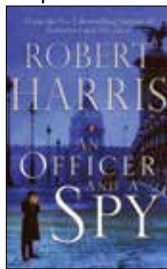
This book is about three friends (Jerome, Harris, and George) who decide to go on a trip down the River Thames with their dog, Montmorency. As they travel along the water, they get into all sorts of trouble. The thing you'll love about this book is the humour as it's written in an ironic style.

Amal (from India)

**2 An Officer and a Spy**  
by Robert Harris

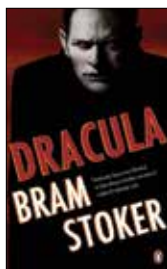
Georges Picquart runs a top-secret

department in the French secret service.



He finds that the evidence against a man called Alfred Dreyfus for spying is false. While Picquart investigates the case, he risks his career and his life to prove that Dreyfus is innocent. This book is based on a true story known as the "Dreyfus affair". I found it really interesting and I enjoyed reading it.

Yuki (from Japan)



**3 Dracula**  
by Bram Stoker

Dracula was first published in 1897 and has been an inspiration for many writers and film producers. The writer, Bram Stoker, based the character of Dracula on a 15th-century prince called Vlad Dracul. The book is mostly written as a series of letters and diary extracts. Events in the novel take place in England and Transylvania during 1893. I love horror stories, but this is definitely one of my favourites.

By Chen (from China)

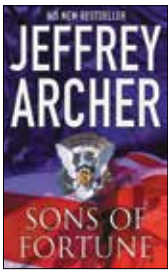


**4 Love Actually**  
by Richard Curtis

*Love Actually* has nine mini-stories all about the importance of love. It takes place a few weeks before Christmas and jumps from story to story. Some of the characters who appear in the book include Daniel, who has just lost his wife in a tragic accident, Harry, who starts an affair with a colleague, Jamie,

who falls in love with his Portuguese maid after his wife leaves him, and Billy, who is an aging rock star. This book is actually the screenplay for the film, so it isn't like an ordinary book. However, I like romantic stories, and loved the movie, so this book was perfect for me.

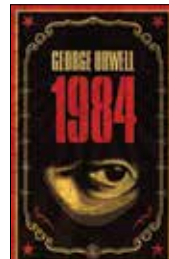
Amelie (from France)



**5 Sons of Fortune**  
by Jeffrey Archer

Two twins are separated at birth and lead very different lives. One brother, Nat, grows up with a school teacher and insurance salesperson as parents. After graduating from university, he serves in the Vietnam War. The other brother, Fletcher, grows up with multimillionaire parents and becomes a criminal defence lawyer. Both brothers continue on their separate paths until one has to defend the other for a murder he didn't commit. This is a great book and really exciting.

Carmen (from Spain)



**6 1984**  
by George Orwell

Winston Smith lives in the fictitious country of Oceania, which is ruled by a dictator called Big Brother. The world is divided into three zones that cover the entire globe: Oceania, Eurasia, and Eastasia. Big Brother is at constant war with the two other super states. He also watches over his citizens at all times. I really like politics so this book was great for me.

Edgardo (from Argentina)



**7 The Da Vinci Code**  
by Dan Brown

While in Paris on business, Harvard professor Robert Langdon receives an urgent call from the French police. They want him to decode a cryptic message left by the murdered curator of the Louvre museum. Robert solves it and discovers that the message leads to a number of clues hidden in works of art by the Italian artist Leonardo Da Vinci. Langdon joins forces with French cryptologist Sophie Neveu, the granddaughter of the murdered curator. If you like mysteries, you'll love this book.

Gustavo (Brazil) ✪

# about Harry Potter

Harry Potter quotes, facts and trivia.

You can go on organised Potter tours in Britain, visiting film locations in ancient cities such as Oxford, York, Durham and Edinburgh.



○ Oxford

Hogwarts was based on a typical English **boarding school**.

Harry gets the train to Hogwarts from platform 9 and three-quarters at King's Cross Station (in London). If you go to King's Cross, you can see a **plaque** on the wall that mentions this mythical place.

The **make of car** that Harry and Ron take to Hogwart's in *The Chamber of Secrets* is a Ford Anglia. This is similar to the one that JK Rowling's best friend had in Rowling's childhood days in Chepstow.



Before writing Harry Potter, what do you think JK Rowling did? Actually, she was an English foreign language teacher in Portugal.

Rowling studied modern languages at university and speaks French well. If you look at most of the spells and character names, you can see they have a hidden meaning.

Many actors and actresses in the Harry Potter films have had Oscar



○ Maggie Smith

nominations: Maggie Smith (6), Emma Thompson (5), Kenneth Branagh (4), Julie Christie (3), Richard Harris (2), John Cleese (1).

Rowling once said that she would end the last chapter of the final *Harry Potter* book with the word "**scar**".

The popular and **mischievous** Weasley twins are born on none other than 1st April (**April Fools Day**).



○ Weasley twins

JK Rowling and Harry Potter have the same birthday.

Book six of the Harry Potter series earned Rowling a Guinness World Records Award for being the fastest-selling book ever, selling more copies in 24 hours than *The Da Vinci Code* sold in a year.

Rowling worked on the seventh book (*Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*) while staying at the Balmoral Hotel in Edinburgh.



○ Balmoral Hotel

On 11th January 2007, she wrote on a statue in the room she was staying in (room 652), saying that she finished writing the book there.

In a press conference, authors Stephen King and John Irving once asked Rowling not to **kill off** Harry. At the time, Rowling remained ambiguous regarding Harry's fate.

In June 2006, the British public named Rowling "The greatest living British writer" in a **poll** by *The Book Magazine*. Rowling topped the poll, receiving nearly three times as many votes as the second-place author, fantasy writer Terry Pratchett.



○ Terry Pratchett

In July 2006, Rowling received an honorary degree from the

University of Aberdeen for her "significant contribution to many charitable causes" and "her many contributions to society".

Rowling demanded that Hollywood studios Warner Bros. **shoot** the *Harry Potter* films in Britain with an all-British **cast**. Rowling also demanded that one of the film's sponsors, Coca Cola, donate \$18 million to the American charity *Reading is Fundamental*.

The first four films were scripted by Steve Kloves; Rowling assisted him in the writing process, ensuring that his scripts did not contradict future books in the series. She once admitted that she had told him more about the later books than anybody else, but not everything.

She also said that during filming, she told actors Alan Rickman (Snape) and Robbie Coltrane (Hagrid) certain secrets about their characters that had not been revealed to anyone else.



○ Alan Rickman

Rowling's first choice for the director of the first Harry Potter film had been Terry Gilliam (of Monty Python). Warner Bros. studios wanted a more family-friendly film, however. Both parties eventually **settled for** Chris Columbus.

Rowling has contributed money and support to many charitable causes, especially the research and treatment of multiple sclerosis. ⚡



## Harry Potter Films and books

Here are the seven Harry Potter books in order.

**Book 1:** Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone\*



**Book 2:** Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets\*

**Book 3:** Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban\*



**Book 4:** Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire\*

**Book 5:** Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix\*



**Book 6:** Harry Potter and the Half Blood Prince

**Book 7:** Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows

## GLOSSARY

- a boarding school** *n*  
a school in which the children live
- a plaque** *n*  
a piece of metal/wood, etc that is fixed to a wall and that has information on it
- a make of car** *n*  
a type of car
- a scar** *n*  
a mark on your body where you were once cut
- mischievous** *adj*  
naughty and badly behaved
- April Fool's Day** *n*  
the 1st April – a day on which British people play jokes on one another
- to kill off** *phr vb*  
to destroy; to eliminate
- a poll** *n*  
a series of questions in order to discover people's opinions
- to shoot** *vb*  
to film
- a cast** *n*  
the people who are acting in the film
- to settle for** *phr vb*  
to decide to accept



# WONDERBOY WIZARD

Daniel Radcliffe and his rise to fame.

Daniel Jacob Radcliffe is best known for his role as the **wizard** Harry Potter in the films based on the best-selling *Harry Potter* books. Let's find out more about him.

## EARLY LIFE

Radcliffe was born in London on 23rd July 1989. He was the only child of Alan Radcliffe and Marcia Gresham. Radcliffe first expressed a desire to act at the age of five. In December 1999, he made his acting debut in the BBC's televised two-part version of the Charles Dickens novel *David Copperfield*. He played the **lead role**.

In August 2000, after several auditions, he was selected for his most prominent role to date: Harry Potter. However, before that, Radcliffe made his film debut in 2001 with a supporting role alongside Pierce Brosnan in *The Tailor of Panama*, while the first Harry Potter film, *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* was released later that year.

## POTTER FILMS

Radcliffe has also starred in the four subsequent Harry Potter film adaptations: *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (2002), *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban* (2004), *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire* (2005) and *Harry Potter and the Order of the Phoenix* (2007). He has **signed on for** the

sixth and seventh films: *Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince* scheduled for release in November 2008, and *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows* expected sometime in 2010. The films continue to produce **high box office returns** worldwide.

## THE TRANSITION

Unlike many other child stars, Daniel has managed to make the transition from child star to adult star. In 2002, he appeared as a guest in the West End production *The Play What I Wrote* directed by Kenneth Branagh. And in 2006, he appeared in the television series *Extras* as a **parody of himself**, as well as filming the independent Australian drama *December Boys*. In February 2007, he starred in a revival of Peter Shaffer's play *Equus* as Alan Strang, a boy who has an obsession with horses. Radcliffe appears **nude** in one scene in the play. Reviewers were really impressed, and some wrote, "Brilliant Radcliffe throws off Harry Potter's cloak." Another wrote, "He is a **thrilling** stage actor."

He also starred in the 2011 Broadway musical *How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying*. And has appeared in several films such as the 2012 horror movie *The Woman in Black*, and the 2013 film *Kill Your Darlings*, in which he plays the part of beat poet Allen Ginsberg. ✪



## Daniel Trivia

Here's some Daniel Radcliffe trivia.

At the age of sixteen, Radcliffe became the youngest non-royal ever to have an individual portrait in the museum The National **Portrait Gallery**.



Radcliffe went to an all-boys school: the Sussex House School.

Radcliffe plays bass guitar and was taught by Gary Oldman.

He is a fan of punk rock music, and likes bands such as the Sex Pistols.



He is also a fan of Fulham Football Club.

While on the **set**, he enjoyed playing table tennis and video games with his **fellow cast members**.

## GLOSSARY

- a wizard** *n*  
a man/boy with magic powers
- a lead role** *n*  
the most important part in the film
- to make your film debut** *exp*  
to be in a film for the first time
- to sign on for** *exp*  
to put your name on a contract; to agree to formally
- high box office returns** *exp*  
if there are "high box office returns", the film makes a lot of money
- a parody of yourself** *exp*  
if you do a "parody of yourself", you imitate yourself in a funny way
- nude** *adj*  
with no clothes on
- thrilling** *adj*  
exciting
- a portrait** *n*  
a painting of someone's head and face
- the set** *n*  
the furniture or scenery on a stage where a film is being shot
- fellow cast members** *n*  
other people who are acting in the film

# TINY STARS

Film stars who started their careers as children.



Daniel Radcliffe, the star of the Harry Potter films, has made the transition from child actor to adult star. But what about other child stars? What happened to them?



**Christina Ricci** (born 12th February 1980)

Christina Ricci is probably most famous for her role as Wednesday Addams in the film *Addams Family* (1991) and its sequel *Addams Family Values* (1993). She **made her movie debut** at the age of 10, starring with Cher and Winona Ryder in the 1990 film *Mermaids*. As an adult, Ricci began appearing in more mature roles, particularly *The Ice Storm* (1997). She has starred in many low-budget (but critically acclaimed) independent films, such as *The Opposite of Sex* (1998), and *Pumpkin* (2002). She also starred in major blockbusters such as *Sleepy Hollow* (1999) and *Monster* (2004).



**Elijah Wood** (born 28th January 1981)

Elijah Wood is best known for his role as Frodo in *The Lord of the Rings*. This made him a star. He began acting at the age of nine, with a minor part in *Back to the Future Part II* (1989). Wood secured his first starring role in *Paradise* (1991), in which he played a young boy who reunites a **couple** (played by Melanie Griffith and Don Johnson). His biggest break came with the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy, directed by Peter Jackson. In the films, Wood plays the part of Frodo Baggins. Wood also seems to be making the transition from child star to adult star. His most recent films are Emilio Estevez's *Bobby* (2006), and *The Passenger* (2007), a biopic about pop singer Iggy Pop.



**Jodie Foster** (born 19th November 1962)

Jodie Foster became famous for her role as a teenage prostitute in *Taxi Driver* (1976), receiving an Oscar nomination for Best Supporting Actress. She was just 14 at the time. Later, she won an Oscar for Best Actress in 1988 for playing a rape victim in *The Accused*. And in 1991, she starred in *The Silence of the Lambs* as Clarice Starling, a gifted FBI agent investigating a serial killer. Foster is another child star who has seen a lot of success as an adult actress. For many years, she was **stalked** by a **deranged fan**, John Hinckley Jr. On 30th March 1981, he shot US President Ronald Reagan and three other people, claiming that his motive was to impress Foster.



**Shirley Temple** (born 23rd April 1928)

Shirley Temple is an Academy Award-winning former child actress. She starred in over 40 films during the 1930s. Her career began at the age of 3. In late 1933, Temple signed to 20th Century Fox, where she stayed until 1940. She became the studio's most lucrative actress. Even at the age of five, she always had her **lines** memorised and dance steps prepared when shooting began. In 1940, Temple left Fox. She had some success as an older actress, starring with John Wayne in *Fort Apache*, but she eventually retired in 1949, claiming that she wanted to raise her family. Others said it was because the public couldn't accept her appearing in adult roles. In the 1960s, she became involved in the Republican Party and went on to hold several diplomatic posts.



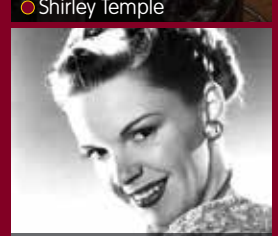
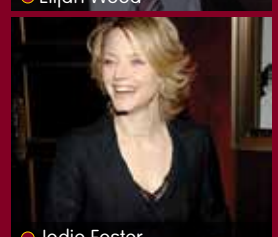
**Judy Garland** (Born 10th June 1922; died 22nd June 1969)

Judy Garland is best known for her role as Dorothy in the 1939 film *The Wizard of Oz*. In 1935, she was signed to Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. After a number of minor roles, she got the leading role of Dorothy in the MGM film *The Wizard of Oz* at the age of 16. Afterwards, she starred with fellow child star Mickey Rooney in a number of musicals. In order to **keep up with** the frantic film making, Garland, Rooney, and other young performers were given drugs, such as amphetamines. Sadly, this would lead to addiction. And later in life, Garland had a number of **breakdowns**, and even made a few suicide attempts.



**Tatum O'Neal** (born 5th November 1963)

In 1974, Tatum O'Neal became the youngest person ever to win an Oscar for her performance in the film *Paper Moon*. O'Neal played the role of Addie Loggins, a child **con artist** who travels around the US with her uncle (played by her real-life father, Ryan O'Neal). She was 10 years old at the time she won the award. After *Paper Moon*, she starred in a number of films, including *International Velvet* (1978), and *Little Darlings* (1980). She married tennis star John McEnroe, with whom she had three children. The couple eventually divorced. She has had a conflictive relationship with her father, and problems with drug abuse. ❖



**GLOSSARY**

**to make your film debut** *exp*  
to be in a film for the first time

**a couple** *n*  
two people in a relationship

**to stalk** *vb*  
if a famous person is "stalked", they are followed quietly and carefully

**a deranged fan** *n*  
a fan with psychological problems

**lines** *n*  
the words you must speak in a film

**to keep up with** *exp*  
to maintain the same speed as

**a breakdown** *n*  
if someone has a "breakdown", they suffer a deep depression

**a con artist** *n*  
a person who tricks other people in order to get money

"In our time, when the literature for adults is deteriorating, good books for children are the only hope, the only refuge." Isaac Bashevis Singer.

# JK ROWLING

All about the author of the Harry Potter books.

She's author of the Harry Potter fantasy series. She's internationally famous. And her books have sold over 400 million copies worldwide. JK Rowling is one of the world's most successful writers.

## SUCCESS

In February 2004, *Forbes* magazine estimated Rowling's fortune to be 576 million pounds; and in 2006, *Forbes* named her the second richest female entertainer in the world, after talk show host Oprah Winfrey. So, how did she get there? Rowling was born near Bristol, England. As a child, she enjoyed writing stories, which she often read to her sister. At school, Rowling was good at languages, but didn't like sports or maths.

After studying French and Classics at the University of Exeter (with a year of study in Paris), she moved to London to work as a **researcher** and bilingual secretary for Amnesty International. One day, while she was on a four-hour delayed-train trip between Manchester and London, she developed the idea for a story of a young boy who goes to a school of wizardry. As soon as she got home, she began writing.

## PORTUGAL

A few months later, Rowling moved to Porto (in Portugal) to teach English as a foreign language. While there, she married Portuguese television journalist Jorge Arantes on 16th October 1992. They had one child, Jessica, who was named after Rowling's heroine, Jessica Mitford (an early 20th century political radical from an upper-class family). They divorced in 1993.

In December 1994, Rowling and her daughter moved to be near Rowling's sister in Edinburgh, Scotland. At the time, she was **unemployed** and living on **state benefits**.

## HARRY POTTER

In 1995, Rowling completed her manuscript for *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* on an old **typewriter**. After good reviews of the book by a professional reader, Rowling found an agency to represent her. Shortly afterwards, the book was sent to twelve publishing houses. All of them **rejected** it.

A year later, Rowling was given a £1,500 advance by the editor, Barry Cunningham, from the small publisher Bloomsbury. Apparently, Bloomsbury agreed to publish the book after 8-year-old Alice Newton (the daughter of the company chairman) read the first chapter and then immediately demanded the next one. Cunningham advised Rowling to get a day job, as she had **little chance of** making money in children's books. Soon afterwards, Rowling received an £8,000 **grant** from the Scottish Arts Council to enable her to continue writing.

At the time, Bloomsbury were worried that the **target audience** of young boys might not want to buy books by a female author. So, they asked Rowling to use two initials (rather than reveal her first name, Joanne). As she had no middle name, Rowling chose K from her grandmother's name Kathleen, as the second initial of her **pseudonym**.

## US RIGHTS

The following spring, the US rights to the book were sold to a publisher in America. There was an **auction**, which was won by Scholastic Inc. Scholastic paid Rowling more than \$100,000. Rowling said she "nearly died" when she heard the news. In June 1997, Bloomsbury published *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* with an initial **print run** of only one-thousand copies (five-hundred of which were given to libraries). Today, these copies are worth between £16,000 and £25,000. The book soon started winning awards. And in October 1998, Scholastic Inc published the book in the US under the title *Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone*. And the rest is history. ✨



## Information Box

**Name:** Joanne Rowling.  
**Born:** 31st July 1965.  
**Famous for:** being the author of the Harry Potter series of books.

In October 2010, JK Rowling was named the "Most Influential Woman in Britain" by leading magazine editors. She has supported numerous charities including Comic Relief, One Parent Families, the Multiple Sclerosis Society of Great Britain and Lumos (formerly the Children's High Level Group).

## Quotes

Here are some quotes by JK Rowling.

"Anything's possible if you've got enough nerve."

"Death is just life's next big adventure."

"I really don't believe in magic."

## GLOSSARY

- a researcher** *n*  
an investigator
- unemployed** *adj*  
with no job
- state benefits** *n*  
money from the government for food, housing, etc
- a typewriter** *n*  
a machine for writing text
- to reject** *vb*  
if you "reject" something, you say that you don't want it
- little chance of** *exp*  
little possibility of
- a grant** *n*  
money given by the government for a specific purpose, often for studying
- a target audience** *n*  
the people you are writing the book for
- a pseudonym** *n*  
an invented name
- an auction** *n*  
a public sale
- a print run** *n*  
the number of magazines/books that are printed

# FAMOUS AUTHORS

Here are some famous authors. Have you read any of their books?



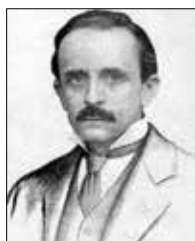
**Roald Dahl** (born 13th September 1916; died 23rd November 1990)

Roald Dahl is famous as a writer for both children's literature and adults. His parents were both Norwegian. His most popular books include *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*, *James and the Giant Peach*, *Matilda*, *The Witches*, *The BFG*, and *Kiss Kiss*. Many of the characters in his books are cruel adults. He says that the inspiration for these came from his experiences at **boarding school**, which he hated. Later, Dahl fought as a **fighter pilot** in the Second World War, shooting down a number of enemy planes.



**A A Milne** (born 18th January 1882; died 31st January 1956)

Alan Alexander Milne is an English author best known for his books about the teddy bear Winnie-the-Pooh. He fought as an officer in the First World War (1914-18). The inspiration for Christopher Robin and his **animal friends** came from Milne's own son and his son's stuffed animals, most notably the bear named Winnie the Pooh. The source of the name was a real Canadian black bear called Winnipeg Bear. This real-life bear was a **mascot** for the Royal Winnipeg Rifles (a Canadian Infantry Regiment in World War I).



**JM Barrie** (born 9th May 1860; died 19th June 1937)

JM Barrie is most famous for his book and theatre play *Peter Pan*. Barrie was the ninth of ten children, and he grew up with stories of pirates and adventure. When Barrie was six, something happened that would affect him for the rest of his life: his brother David (who was 14 at the time) died in an accident. Barrie's mother fell into a depression as David had been her favourite child. Barrie was only six at the time, but he wrote about his desire to "become so like David that even my mother should not know the difference". This idea of everlasting childhood stayed with Barrie for the rest of his life. It also became the inspiration for his most famous play and book, *Peter Pan*.



**Enid Blyton** (born 11th August 1897; died 28th November 1968)

Enid Mary Blyton was a popular English writer of children's literature. She is most famous for her series of books, which include *The Famous Five* (consisting of 21 novels based on four children and their dog who have various adventures), and *The Secret Seven* (which consists of 15 novels about a society of seven children who solve various mysteries). Her books have sold more than 400 million copies all over the world. In 2007, Blyton was named the fifth most popular author in the world.



**Beatrix Potter** (born 28th July 1866; died 22nd December 1943)

Helen Beatrix Potter is famous for her books about little animal characters. As a child, she was educated at home and had little opportunity to mix with other children. So, she made friends with **pet animals**: frogs, rabbits and even a **bat**. Her first rabbit was Benjamin, whom she described as "an **impudent, cheeky** little thing", while her second was Peter. She took Peter everywhere with her, even on trains. Potter eventually wrote 23 books. These were published in a small format, easy for a child to hold and read. *The Tale of Peter Rabbit* (1902) is the 27th best-selling book of all time, with 45 million copies sold.



**Tolkien** (born 3rd January 1892; died 2nd September 1973)

John Ronald Reuel Tolkien is most famous as the author of *The Hobbit* and *The Lord of the Rings*. Apparently, Tolkien could read by the age of four, and could write fluently soon afterwards. He served in the army during World War I. After the war, his first job was at Oxford University Press, where he worked on the history and **etymology** of words of Germanic origin beginning with the letter "w". Interestingly, Tolkien never expected his stories to become popular. However, in 1937, he was persuaded to publish a book that he had written for his own children called *The Hobbit*. The book became really popular and attracted both young and adult readers. Tolkien's publisher asked him to work on a sequel. Soon afterwards, Tolkien began to write what would become his most famous work: the epic three-volume novel *The Lord of the Rings* (published 1954-55). 📖



○ The BFG



○ Winnie the Pooh



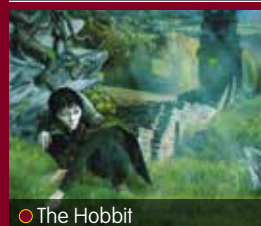
○ Peter Pan



○ The Secret Seven



○ The Tale of Peter Rabbit



○ The Hobbit

## GLOSSARY

- a boarding school** *n*  
a school in which children live
- a fighter pilot** *n*  
a person who flies a fighter (a fast, military plane used for shooting other planes)
- a stuffed animal** *n*  
a little, soft toy that looks like an animal
- a mascot** *n*  
an animal, toy or symbol that is associated with a group or organisation
- a pet animal** *n*  
an animal that lives in your house
- a bat** *n*  
a bird that flies at night. Some like to drink blood
- impudent** *adj*  
with no respect for authority
- cheeky** *adj*  
with no respect for authority
- etymology** *n*  
the study of words and their origin



# AMERICAN 21

This is the last part of our series on 21 things to do in the US.  
By Ayelet Drori (US English spelling)

## Blueberries

July is **blueberry** month in the States. Go and **pick** your own in America's blueberry state: Michigan. Michigan produces about 32% of the blueberries for the United States. Visit farms such as the Blueberries Galore Farm, and pick some yourself. Use the berries in blueberry **pies** or just eat them fresh. Not only do they taste great, but apparently blueberries are a wonderful source of vitamins and nutrients that **prevent aging**.



## Crater Lake

Come see the most amazing lake in the world: **Crater Lake**. It's in the state of Oregon, and the best view of the lake is from the top. As the **deepest** (and probably least-polluted) lake in the US, Crater Lake gets its name from the volcano that it once was. Apparently, the **tip** of the volcano fell in after an **eruption**, and then it was filled with rain and melted snow. There are so many different ways to enjoy the view. You can drive along the **rim**, **hike** up Mt Scott, take a **boat ride** on the lake, or have a **snack** in a **lodge** on the rim. For more information, check out this website: [www.crater.lake.national-park.com](http://www.crater.lake.national-park.com)

## Mt Rainier

For another great trip, hike up Mt Rainier and see the glacier. You can also get beautiful pictures of the **alpine prairies** that **surround** the **trail**. Summer is a great time to make the trip because all the flowers are in bloom. While the rest of the United States is **scorching hot**, Seattle, Washington, is refreshingly cool. You can see the silhouette of Mt Rainier from the city.

## Giant Redwoods

**Wander around** the tallest trees in the world in The Redwood National State Park. The park is along the



Pacific Coast in northern California. It protects 45% of the remaining **groves** of coastal redwood trees. It's a lot of fun to camp there too.

## The Grand Canyon

The Grand Canyon is a **steep gorge** created by the Colorado River. It's in the state of Arizona and is part of the Grand Canyon National Park. There are hundreds of trails along the top. And, of course, you can't leave the park without hearing your echo as you shout down into the canyon. For more information, check out [www.nps.gov/grca](http://www.nps.gov/grca)

## The Rocky Mountains

The Rocky Mountains (also known as the Rockies) are in western North America. The mountain range is more than 4,800 kilometers long, stretching from British Columbia (in Canada) to New Mexico (in the US). The highest peak is Mount Elbert in Colorado, which is 4,401 meters above sea level. The Rocky Mountains National Park offers a lot of different activities, including hiking, horse riding, fishing and cross-country skiing. There are always a lot of animals and birds around to watch as well. ☺



## GLOSSARY

- a blueberry** *n*  
a small, dark blue fruit found in North America
- to pick** *vb*  
to take fruit from a tree
- a pie** *n*  
food that consists of fruit in pastry
- to prevent** *vb*  
to stop something from happening
- aging** *n*  
the process by which we become old
- a crater** *n*  
a large hole caused by a volcano exploding
- deep** *adj*  
if something is "deep", it goes a long way down
- the tip** *n*  
the "tip" of something, is the long, narrow end of it
- an eruption** *n*  
if there is "an eruption", the volcano explodes and throws out lava and hot dust
- the rim** *n*  
the edge
- to hike** *vb*  
to go walking in the mountains, hills, etc
- a boat ride** *n*  
a trip in a boat
- a snack** *n*  
a small amount of food you eat between meals
- a lodge** *n*  
a small house or hut in the country
- alpine** *adj*  
an "alpine" scene is one that is typical of the Alps region in Europe, with mountains, grass and pine trees
- a prairie** *n*  
a large area of flat, grassy land in North America
- to surround** *vb*  
to be all around a place/thing, etc
- a trail** *n*  
a small road for people to walk along
- scorching hot** *n*  
very, very hot
- to wander around** *phr vb*  
to walk in an area with no particular objective
- a grove** *n*  
an area with a group of trees that are close together
- steep** *adj*  
a "steep" mountain has very high sides that go up at a sharp angle (90°, for example)
- a gorge** *n*  
a deep, narrow valley with very steep sides

# CORNY CRIMINALS

Here's another part in our series on good, bad and funny criminals.

## YouTube Catch

Computer shop owner Thomas Karer was tired of people stealing from his shop. So, he installed video surveillance cameras in his store. One of the cameras caught two teenage thieves stealing a 2,000-euro **laptop**. The video showed how one of the teenagers **kept watch** while the other one put the computer under his jacket. Karer, 45, then put the CCTV footage on YouTube, with a note to get in contact if anyone recognised the pair. Within a few days, a man called Kaere rang and gave information on the identity of the mystery teenagers. Immediately, Karer informed the police, who arrested the two teens.



## Helpful Mother

"I was so worried about what might happen to him that I went along to make sure he would be safe," a German woman said after admitting that she had driven her son to a jewellery shop so he could rob it. "He was determined to do it and I could not **talk him out of** it, so I offered to drive him there to **keep an eye on** him. I was worried about him," Brigitte Schwammer, 39, told the court. Schwammer's son, 18-year-old Bruno, told her what he was going to do. So, Schwammer went with him to a **DIY store** to buy some latex gloves "so he wouldn't leave any **fingerprints**". Schwammer, a mother of three, also acted as **look-out** while her son and two other men **broke in** and stole £25,000 worth of jewellery. The **crooks** were caught after they **set off** a silent alarm connected to the police station.



## Imaginary Cops

"Come quick! They're gonna kill me," a man told the emergency services in Wisconsin, US. The 33 year old, Gordon Stayswim, rang the police to complain that drug squad officers were **chasing** him. Eventually, Stayswim had climbed up a tree, which was where he was when he phoned the police. When the police arrived at the scene, they found Stayswim up the tree, holding onto his mobile phone, but with no sign of any drug squad officers **in the vicinity**. Police soon realised that the man was **hallucinating**. They tried to convince him to come down, but the man **lost his grip** and fell out. He was taken to hospital for minor injuries, and later arrested on a drugs offence. ☹



## GLOSSARY

- a laptop** *n*  
a portable computer
- to keep watch** *n*  
if a criminal is "keeping watch", he/she is watching to see if the police come, etc
- to talk someone out of something** *exp*  
to convince someone not to do something
- to keep an eye on someone** *exp*  
to watch someone because you are suspicious or worried about them
- a DIY store** *n*  
a shop that sells material, tools, etc so you can do repairs in the house. Literally, DIY means "Do It Yourself"
- fingerprints** *n*  
marks left on a surface by the tips of your fingers
- a look-out** *n*  
a person who watches to see if the police come, while another person commits a crime
- to break in** *phr vb*  
to enter a property illegally
- a crook** *n*  
a criminal
- to set off** *phr vb*  
if you "set off" an alarm, you cause it to make a sound
- to chase** *vb*  
to run after someone with the intention of catching them
- in the vicinity** *n*  
near
- to hallucinate** *vb*  
to imagine things and have strange dreams often because you have taken drugs
- to lose your grip** *exp*  
if you "lose your grip", your hands slip and you stop holding something

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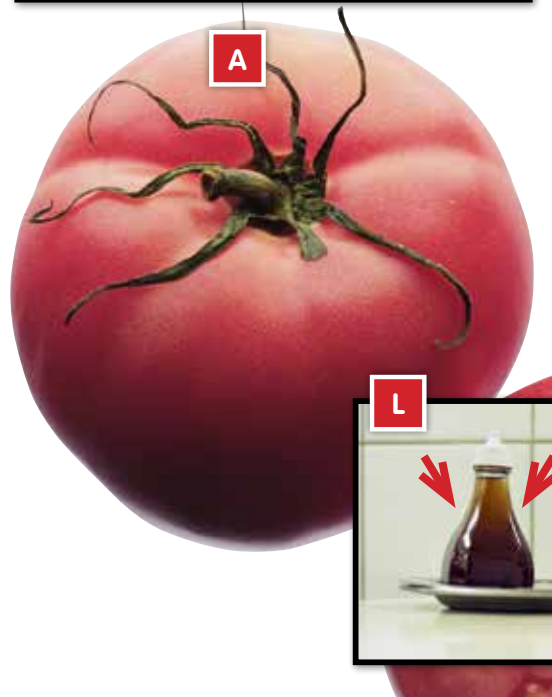
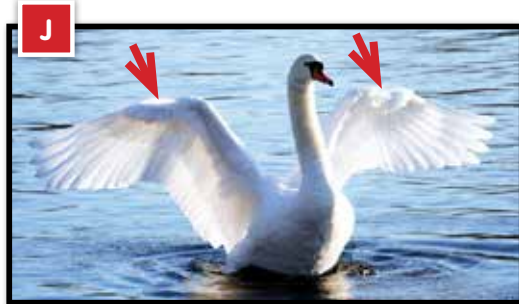
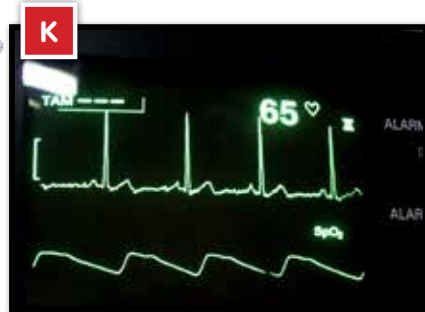
(if we aren't already!)

# Trivia Matching

## Exercise

See if you can do this matching exercise. Look at the list of things (1 to 13), and the photos (A-M). Write a letter next to the name of each thing in the list below. **Answers** on page 22

1. A monkey \_\_\_\_
2. Earth/soil \_\_\_\_
3. A poodle \_\_\_\_
4. A tomato \_\_\_\_
5. A reindeer \_\_\_\_
6. A mosquito \_\_\_\_
7. Pearls \_\_\_\_
8. Vinegar \_\_\_\_
9. A pulse \_\_\_\_
10. Wings \_\_\_\_
11. A punch bowl \_\_\_\_
12. Nutmeg \_\_\_\_
13. A vine \_\_\_\_



# Weird Trivia

This is another part in our mini-series on strange facts. Whoever thought the world was so unusual?

The heaviest land mammal in the world is the African elephant.

Australia was once called New Holland.

Brazil has more species of monkey than any other country.

In the US, there's a **lawsuit** every thirty seconds.

In Europe, **poodles** were once used as **hunting dogs**.

A cat can jump up to seven times its height, which must be useful when hunting birds.

Hawaii is the only state in the US that grows coffee.

In Ghana, the expression "Merry Christmas" is translated as "Afishapa".

The film *Mary Poppins* was **shot** entirely indoors.

Tom Cruise's name at birth was Thomas Cruise Mapother IV.

The world's most popular fruit is the tomato.

Reindeer milk has more fat than the milk from cows.



Ironically, poor **soil** will produce better wines. Apparently, the vines have to "work harder" when the soil is poor, thus producing better wine.

Mosquito **repellents** don't really repel mosquitoes. What they do is "hide" you as the spray blocks the mosquito's **sensors** so they don't know you're there.

**Pearls melt** in vinegar.

The state of Florida is bigger than England.

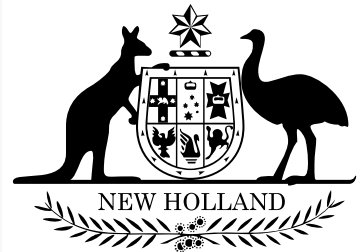


George Washington died while **taking his own pulse**.

Insects don't make noises with their voices. The noise of bees, mosquitoes and other buzzing insects is caused by their **wings** moving rapidly.

The fear of going to school is known as "didaskaleinophobia".

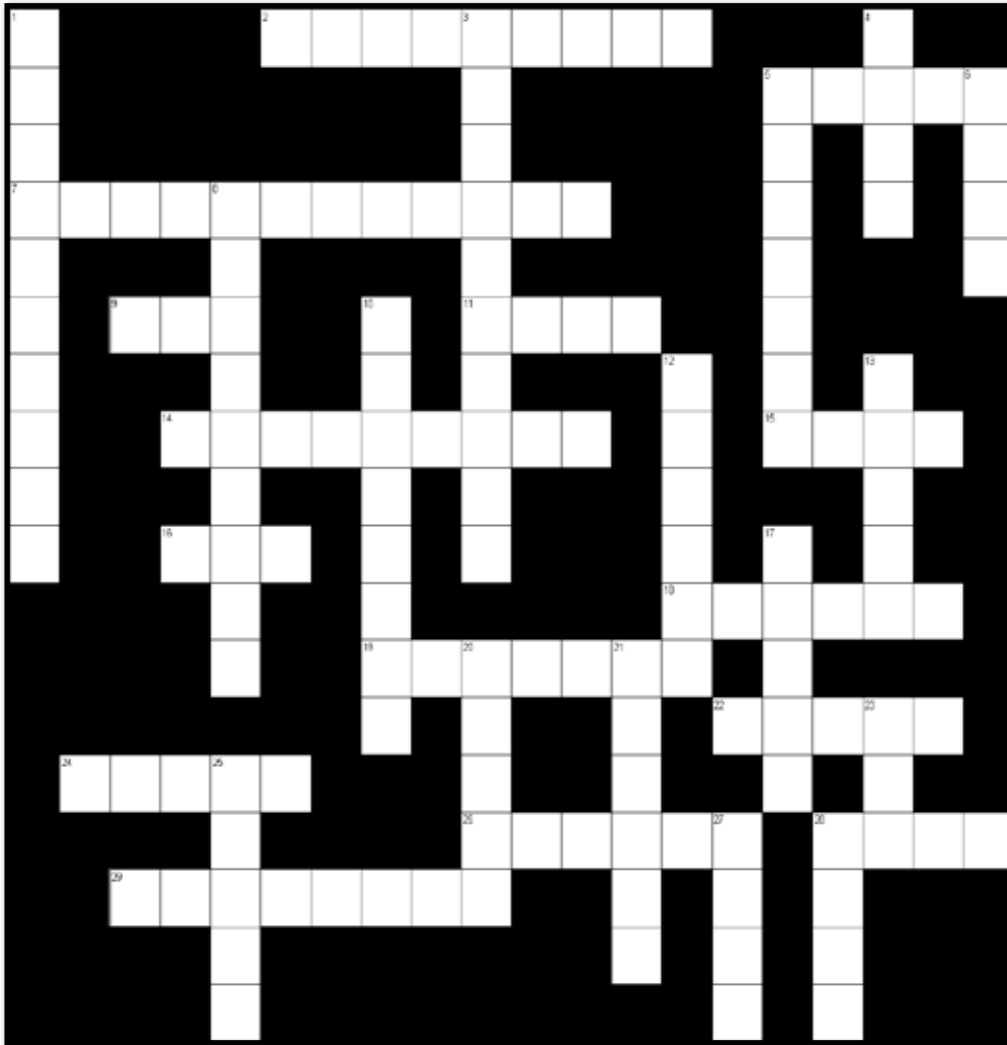
William III of England (who reigned from 1689-1702) had a mini lake in his garden that was used as a giant **punch bowl**. The punch consisted of 560 gallons of brandy, 1,200 pounds of sugar, 25,000 lemons, 20 gallons of lime juice, and five pounds of nutmeg. The bartender **rowed** in a small boat, filling up guests' punch cups. How decadent! ✨



## GLOSSARY

- a lawsuit** *n*  
if you start a "lawsuit" against someone, you start legal proceedings against them in order to get compensation
- a poodle** *n*  
a type of dog with thick, curly hair
- a hunting dog** *n*  
a type of dog used for catching and killing other animals
- to shoot** *vb*  
to film
- soil** *n*  
earth from the ground
- a repellent** *n*  
a spray used to kill insects or make them go away
- a sensor** *n*  
an object used to detect something
- a pearl** *n*  
a beautiful stone formed by oysters (a type of shellfish)
- to melt** *vb*  
if a solid "melts", it becomes liquid
- to take a pulse** *exp*  
to feel your pulse (the movement of your blood) to see how fast it is
- a wing** *n*  
birds use their "wings" to fly
- a punch bowl** *n*  
a container for punch (a drink that is formed by mixing many other drinks, often alcoholic drinks)
- to row** *vb*  
to move oars in a small boat so that the boat moves





## Down

- 1: Happily = chee\_\_\_\_\_.
- 3: To stop a fire = to ext\_\_\_\_\_ a fire.
- 4: A small amount of medicine = a d\_\_\_\_\_ of medicine.
- 5: To reduce the amount of money you must spend = to make sav\_\_\_\_\_.
- 6: An action = a mo\_\_\_\_\_.
- 8: Reducing and controlling the amount of carbon you produce = carbon rat\_\_\_\_\_.
- 10: To go near to = to app\_\_\_\_\_.
- 12: An object that you turn with your hand in order to operate a machine = a han\_\_\_\_\_.
- 13: To use more of something than you really need = to wa\_\_\_\_\_.
- 17: A criminal = a cro\_\_\_\_\_.
- 20: To increase = to bo\_\_\_\_\_.
- 21: A portable computer = a lap\_\_\_\_\_.
- 23: To watch someone carefully because you are worried/suspicious about them = to keep an \_\_\_\_\_ on someone.
- 25: To abandon an idea = to sc\_\_\_\_\_ a plan.
- 27: If you leave a place in this type of mood, you leave the place in a very bad mood = in a h\_\_\_\_\_.
- 28: A person who watches to see if the police come while another person commits a crime = a l\_\_\_\_\_ -out.

## Across

- 2: To talk continuously and without stopping = to talk end\_\_\_\_\_.
- 5: To leave a place suddenly, angrily and dramatically = to st\_\_\_\_\_ out.
- 7: Something that makes you feel timid, shy or ashamed = emb\_\_\_\_\_.
- 9: To do something that causes an alarm to make a sound = to s\_\_\_\_\_ off an alarm.
- 11: If you do this, your hands slip and you fall = to lose your gr\_\_\_\_\_.
- 14: The amount of carbon you produce = your carbon foo\_\_\_\_\_.
- 15: To hit someone on the face with an open hand = to sl\_\_\_\_\_.
- 16: An objective = an a\_\_\_\_\_.
- 18: A small room next to a kitchen for keeping food = a lar\_\_\_\_\_.
- 19: A small room in a toilet where you can sit down = a cub\_\_\_\_\_.
- 22: A sad, pathetic, unsuccessful person = a lo\_\_\_\_\_.
- 24: To become red in the face because you are embarrassed = to bl\_\_\_\_\_.

- 26: To change television channels = to sw\_\_\_\_\_ channels.
- 28: To jump = to le\_\_\_\_\_.
- 29: A prediction = a fore\_\_\_\_\_.



### Trivia Matching

1E 2C 3G 4A 5F 6I 7H 8L 9K 10J 11D  
12B 13M

### Typical Dialogues

- 1. The agent doesn't like any of Seth's books.
- 2. The agent is interested in the biography idea.

### Jokes

1H 2G 3E 4A 5C 6F 7B 8D

### The Whitechapel Trouser Snatcher

#### First listening

The answer is "b"

#### Second listening

- 1. Satisfactorily
- 2. In his Welsh-English dictionary
- 3. Jack the Rip-your-Breeches-off
- 4. You get a good name, you get a conviction.
- 5. The Whitechapel Trouser Snatcher
- 6. Because the victim was found in Whitechapel (an area of London).
- 7. Two
- 8. A name for the villain

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A 19th-century American ghost story.

TRACK 9

# The Bell Witch



Betsy Bell

Are there any famous ghosts from your country? What about witches? One of the most famous ghosts (and witches) from America was the Bell Witch. She first appeared in the 19th century. She was the inspiration for the film *The Blair Witch Project* and *An American Haunting*. She even managed to frighten US President Andrew Jackson. Who was the Bell Witch? And what did she do?

## Strange events

It all started in 1817. A farmer, John Bell saw a strange animal in a cornfield on his property. He described the creature as having the body of a dog and the head of a rabbit. John shot at it and it disappeared. He thought nothing more of it. But then a few days later, he heard some mysterious **banging noises** in his house. One night, his **sheets** were **pulled off** the bed and thrown onto the floor by an invisible force.

A voice started to appear too. It sounded like a woman's voice. Soon afterwards, Betsy Bell, the family's younger daughter and the only daughter still living at home, was violently attacked: her hair was pulled and her face was **slapped**.

## Screaming

Very soon, the Bell house became famous in all the area. Even the future president of America, Andrew Jackson (president from 1829 to 1837), heard about the Bell Witch. And in 1819, he decided to go and investigate it in person. But on **approaching** the Bell property, Jackson and his group noticed an invisible presence that stopped the **wagon**. One of the men in the group claimed to be a **witch tamer**. He said he was going to kill the spirit. However, just after saying that, he began screaming as if in pain. Jackson and his group left the Bell property the following day. Jackson later said, "I'd rather fight the entire British Army than to **deal with** the Bell Witch."

## Not so friendly

At first, it was thought that the ghost was friendly. But she soon became more sinister. The ghost said that she wanted to kill John Bell. And she did. He died on 20th December 1820. A small **vial of poison** was found near his body. When the remaining contents were given to the family cat, it too died. That night, the ghost said, "I gave old John a **big dose** of that last night, and that **fixed** him." Later, at Bell's burial, the spirit laughed and sung loudly and **cheerfully**. But that wasn't the end.

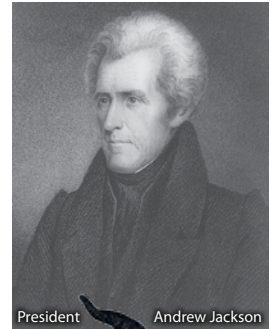
## A return visit

Before the ghost left, it told Lucy Bell that it would return in 1828. And it did. The ghost spent another three weeks at the house, and spoke with John Bell Junior (John Bell's son). During the conversations, the ghost predicted the

American Civil War, the Great Depression and both World Wars. According to legend, the spirit said it would return again in 107 years, in 1935.

## Another visit

In 1935, the ghost appeared in the **former** Bell property; and it has remained there ever since. Even today, people say that the sounds of people talking and children playing can sometimes be heard in the area; and it is very difficult to take a good picture there. So, who was the Bell Witch? Some say it was Kate Batts, an **eccentric** neighbour of John Bell's. She had **sued** John for **cheating** her in a **land deal**. There are documents about a conflict involving John Bell, but they don't appear to have any connection to Kate Batts. Others say that the Bell home had been built on a Native American **burial ground**. Would you like to visit the area? 🗺️



President Andrew Jackson



## GLOSSARY

- a banging noise** *n*  
a noise made by someone hitting something
- a sheet** *n*  
a piece of material (usually white) that you sleep on in a bed
- to pull off** *phr vb*  
to take off / remove by using force
- to slap** *vb*  
to hit someone's face with an open hand
- to approach** *vb*  
to go near to
- a wagon** *n*  
a type of carriage with wheels that is pulled by horses
- a witch tamer** *n*  
a person who can control and dominate witches, supposedly
- to deal with** *phr vb*  
to spend time trying to find a solution to a difficult problem
- a vial of poison** *n*  
a small glass container filled with poison (a liquid that kills if you drink it)
- a dose** *n*  
a small amount (of medicine)
- to fix** *vb*  
in this case: to kill
- cheerfully** *adv*  
happily
- former** *adj*  
previous; what was before
- eccentric** *adj*  
someone who is "eccentric" is strange and different from other people
- to sue** *vb*  
to start a legal process against someone in order to get compensation
- to cheat** *vb*  
to obtain money by tricking someone
- a land deal** *n*  
an agreement between two people or parties to sell land
- a burial ground** *n*  
an area where dead bodies are buried (placed in a hole)





# Car emergencies

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

## What you say

- My car won't start.
- I have a flat **tyre**.
- I'm out of gas.
- I've **run out of** petrol.
- The **battery is dead**.
- The car is **overheating**.
- I've locked the keys inside the car.
- I need to change the tyre.
- I need to change the oil.
- There's something wrong with the **gears**.
- There's a strange sound coming from the engine.
- There's smoke coming out of the **bonnet**.

- I've put diesel in the **petrol tank**.
- I've put petrol in the diesel tank.
- How long will this take?
- How much will it cost?



## What you hear

- This is going to be expensive.
- This is going to take a long time.
- I'll have to phone for some spare parts.

- Have you tried using the **throttle**?
- We'll have to **jump-start** your car.
- You need to put some petrol in the tank.
- It's going to take quite a while.
- I'll let you know how much it's going to cost.
- We'll have to **tow** the car to the garage.
- Your tyre pressure is low. 🚗



## GLOSSARY

- a tyre** *n*  
the round, rubber object that is part of a wheel
- to run out of something** *exp*  
if you "run out of something", you have no more of that thing
- a battery** *n*  
an object used to power the electrics in a car
- dead** *adj*  
if a battery is "dead", it has no more power in it
- to overheat** *vb*  
to become hot
- gears** *n*  
most cars have 6 gears: one reverse gear, and five forward gears
- the bonnet** *n*  
the metal door that covers the engine
- the petrol tank** *n*  
the container in the car for petrol
- the throttle** *n*  
an object you can use to increase the amount of petrol flowing through the car
- to jump-start (a car)** *exp*  
to start a car by connecting it to a battery in another car
- to tow** *vb*  
to pull a car by attaching a rope between this car and another car
- due to** *exp*  
because of
- internal wear** *n*  
if a car suffers from "internal wear", it is broken and old because it has been used so much
- the starter** *n*  
the motor that starts the car



**Part II** Now listen to this social English dialogue. In this conversation, Sally is talking to a car mechanic about the problems she's been having with her car.

- Mechanic: Morning.  
Sally: Good morning.  
Mechanic: What's up, then?  
Sally: I'm having a few problems with the car. I can't seem to start it.  
Mechanic: Let's try. (*She tries to start the engine.*)  
Mmm... I'd say the brakes need replacing. Your oil pressure is also really low, and we'll probably need to replace a few wheels too – and possibly the engine **due to internal wear**.  
Sally: Surely, it's just something to do with the **starter**, isn't it?  
Mechanic: Well, if you know so much, what are you doing talking to me? Have you checked to see if there's any petrol in the tank?  
Sally: Er, no, not yet.  
Mechanic: Look, the tank's empty. You need to fill it up.  
Sally: Oh, OK. And all those other things you mentioned.  
Mechanic: Oh, well, we'll look at that later.  
Sally: Thanks.



# WORDSEARCH

Answers on page 31

## Books and writing

See if you can identify the word. Then, try to find the words in the Wordsearch. Good luck!

(Read the vocabulary page 32/33 before doing this. Answers on page 31)



1. A person who writes material that is sold in the form of books, articles, etc = a \_\_\_\_\_.
2. An inability to write = writer's bl\_\_\_\_\_.
3. A machine for writing text = a typ\_\_\_\_\_.
4. A story about imaginary people or events = a n\_\_\_\_\_.
5. The story of someone's life, written by the person who it is about = an au\_\_\_\_\_.
6. The story of someone's life, written by another person = a bi\_\_\_\_\_.
7. An early, unedited version of a story = a dr\_\_\_\_\_ version.
8. The general story in the book = the sto\_\_\_\_\_.
9. A connected series of events used to create a story = the pl\_\_\_\_\_.
10. A person in a story = a cha\_\_\_\_\_.
11. The main person in the story = the pro\_\_\_\_\_.
12. This represents the emotional changes that happen to a character during a story = the character a\_\_\_\_\_.
13. The sense of excitement created in the story = sus\_\_\_\_\_.
14. Payments made to authors when their work is sold = roy\_\_\_\_\_.
15. To steal other people's ideas and claim that they are your ideas = plagi\_\_\_\_\_.
16. The person who checks and corrects texts before they are published = the p\_\_\_\_\_ - reader.
17. The person who collects pieces of writing by different authors and prepares them for publication in a book or a series of books = the ed\_\_\_\_\_.
18. A company or person who publishes books = a pub\_\_\_\_\_.

### DOG MATTERS BY DANIEL COUTOUNE



# Little Jokes

Match each joke beginning (1 to 8) with its ending (A-H). Then, listen to check your answers. **Answers** on page 22



1. What did one wall say to the other?
2. Which animal always goes to bed with its shoes on?
3. What is the first thing you do every morning?
4. What is an ig?
5. Waiter! Will my hamburger be long?
6. How often do planes of this type crash?
7. Guard, **how long** will the next train be?
8. Why did the clock get sick?



- A:** An Eskimo house without a **loo**.
- B:** About six carriages, sir.
- C:** No. It will be round and flat, sir.
- D:** Because it was **run down**.
- E:** Wake up.
- F:** Only once, sir.
- G:** A horse.
- H:** I'll meet you at the corner.

### GLOSSARY

**how long...** *exp, two meanings:*  
 a) how much time will it take? b) how long is it in metres/kilometres, etc?  
**a loo** *n inform*  
 a toilet. Incidentally, an eskimo house is called an igloo  
**to run down** *adj*  
 two meanings: a) if you are feeling "run down", you feel a bit tired/ill; b) if a clock is "run down", it has stopped and you need to wind it up (turn a key so it starts working)

# GRAFFITI

Here are some more examples of British toilet graffiti.

I DIDN'T KISS YOUR BOYFRIEND. I JUST TOLD HIS LIPS A SECRET.

I NEVER MET A CHOCOLATE I NEVER LIKED.

I WOULD STOP EATING CHOCOLATE, BUT I'M NOT A QUITTER.

DON'T GO TO THE TOILET IN MY POOL, AND I WON'T SWIM IN YOUR TOILET.

### GLOSSARY

**a quitter** *n*  
 someone who gives up; someone who stops an activity because it is too hard/difficult

DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK, AND THEN FORGET TO START AGAIN?

EVERY MONTH THE GRAFFITI COMES BACK AND I HAVE TO CLEAN IT OFF.

A CONCLUSION IS SIMPLY THE PLACE WHERE YOU GOT TIRED OF THINKING.



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# SCIENTOLOGY WAR

What is Scientology? A religion or a cult? Scientology is often in the news, but not always for the right reasons.

## Two faces

For some, including the rich and famous, Scientology is a religion and a way of life. For others, it's a **cult**, and it is associated with the words "mind control" and "**brainwashing**".



In 1984, a judge characterised Scientology as "corrupt, **sinister** and dangerous". Many journalists have found that Scientology has two **faces**: the nice, smiley one for the public; and the sinister, dark one reserved for anyone who tries to investigate the organisation.

For many, the worst thing about the religion are the "disconnects". This is when members of Scientology **cut themselves off from** all family members and friends so they can spend more time with an organisation. As part of this process, Scientology members send out a "disconnect" letter to a member of their family or a friend. This letter informs the person that they have been "disconnected" from the Scientologist member's life.

## Some cases

There are a number of documented cases of "disconnect". Rosemary was an ordinary mum living in England. She had two children and one died. Then, her surviving daughter joined Scientology and her mother saw less and less of her. Two years later, Rosemary received a "disconnect" letter. And after that, Rosemary received no Christmas cards, no birthday cards, no Mother's Day cards and no telephone calls from her daughter. The case of Mike Henderson and his wife Donna Shannon is similar. They spent \$1m over three decades on Scientology's "**path** to superhuman powers". When Mike and Donna left, they were disconnected from other relatives who were still members of Scientology. Even Mike's father (who is also "disconnected" and who is dying), can't speak to five out of his six children because they are still inside Scientology.

## A verbal fight

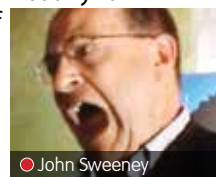
A famous incident took place during

an investigation by BBC reporter John Sweeney. While making the report for the news programme *Panorama*, Sweeney found that he too was being investigated and followed by members of Scientology. In an article published on the BBC website, Sweeney said, "Strangers **called on** my neighbours and my mother-in-law's house, and someone **spied on** my wedding and **fled** the moment he was **challenged**."

In Sweeney's hotel in America, a stranger spent every breakfast listening to him. In all, the BBC crew counted 13 people who were following them. Scientology **denied** sending any private investigators after the BBC.

## Exploding tomatoes

Things **came to a head** during an interview. Sweeney had previously been shown a Scientology exhibition about psychiatry (Scientologists are against any form of psychiatry), which showed images of torture. Then, during an interview with Scientology representative Tommy Davis, Davis accused Sweeney of **being too soft on** a critic of Scientology.



John Sweeney



Tommy Davis

At this point, Sweeney **snapped** and started shouting aggressively at Davis. Meanwhile, another member of Scientology was filming the incident. The clip was later **posted on the internet site** YouTube. Sweeney, later saw the film and apologised for his **outburst**. "I looked like an exploding tomato," he added.

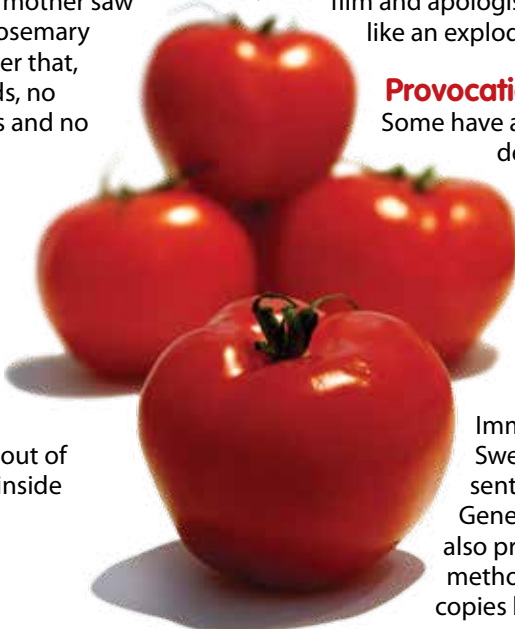


## Provocation?

Some have argued that the BBC were deliberately provoking

Scientologists. The word "cult" was repeatedly used during the interviews – something which is bound to irritate Scientologists – and many from the organisation say that the religion didn't receive the respect it deserved.

Immediately after the verbal attack by Sweeney, copies of the incident were sent to Sweeney's boss, the Director-General of the BBC. Scientologists also prepared a video attacking BBC methods, and there was talk of 100,000 copies being released. ✪





# SCIENTOLOGY FACTS

Scientology was founded in 1954 in California by L. Ron Hubbard (1911-1986).



● L. Ron Hubbard

It has 77,000 members (or millions, according to Scientology figures).

Scientologists believe in **reincarnation**.

Celebrities John Travolta, Lisa Marie Presley, and Tom Cruise are members of Scientology.



● John Travolta

A top officer from the City of London police helped open a new £20 million Scientology centre in central London.

The Charity Commission in Britain does not class Scientology as a religion.

Scientologists believe that a person is an immortal spiritual being (termed a "thetan") who possesses a mind and a body. The thetan has lived through many past lives and will continue to

live beyond the death of the body.

When you have paid as much as £100,000, you get to Operating Thetan Level Three and learn about "The Incident". This is based around the story that 75 million years ago an alien space lord called Xenu kidnapped Thetans, took them to earth, **dumped** them in volcanoes, and blew them up with atomic bombs.

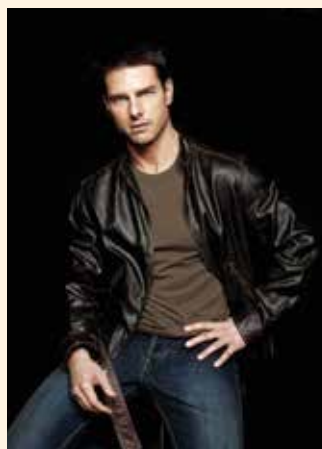
The purpose of Scientology is to gain spiritual freedom. This is done by **getting rid of** "engrams" (forms of negative energy) from your mind. Through the Scientology process of "auditing" you can free oneself of "engrams" and "implants" to reach the state of "clear", and, after that, the state of "Operating Thetan", for a price, of course.

A person is basically good, but becomes "aberrated" by moments of pain and unconsciousness in his or her life.

Narconon is Scientology's drug rehab programme. Treatment includes an intensive programme of running, massive doses of vitamins and very long sauna sessions designed to "run out" drugs and radiation from the body.

Psychiatry and psychology are considered destructive and abusive practices. There is a Scientology exhibition in Los Angeles called "Psychiatry: Industry of Death". It is full of graphic images of patients **undergoing** psychiatric **treatment**, such as electric shocks and brain operations. ☹

## Information Box Tom Cruise



Tom Cruise was born Thomas Cruise Mapother IV (born 3rd July 1962). He's Hollywood's most famous member of the Church of Scientology. He



● Cruise & L. Ron Hubbard

became involved with Scientology through his first wife, Mimi Rogers.

Cruise has publicly said that Scientology helped him overcome his dyslexia. By 2003, Tom Cruise had become an active campaigner for Scientology. He lobbied politicians in France and Germany, where the legal system regards Scientology as a cult and business. In 2005, the Paris city council described Cruise as a militant for Scientology, and prohibited any further dealings with him. There was a controversy in 2005 after he criticised actress



● Brooke Shields

Brooke Shields for using anti-depressant drugs after she suffered postpartum

depression. Brooke Shields responded to the comments by calling them "irresponsible and dangerous". In late August of 2006, Cruise apologised in person to Shields for his comments.



## GLOSSARY

- a cult** *n*  
a secret organisation; a sect
- to brainwash** *vb*  
if you "brainwash" someone, you tell them continuously that something is true until they accept and believe it
- sinister** *adj*  
bad, evil and harmful
- a face** *n*  
one aspect of someone's (or an organisation's) character
- to cut yourself off from** *exp*  
to isolate yourself from
- a path** *n*  
a line/way that takes you to a particular place
- to call on someone** *exp*  
to go to someone's house
- to spy on someone** *exp*  
to watch and observe someone secretly
- to flee (fled)** *vb*  
to run away; to escape
- to challenge someone** *exp*  
to demand to know what someone is doing or who they are
- to deny** *vb*  
to say that something isn't true
- to be soft on someone** *exp*  
not to be too critical of someone; to treat someone kindly/nicely
- to snap** *vb*  
if someone "snaps", they become very angry suddenly
- to post something on an internet site** *exp*  
to put a music, data, text or sound file on a website
- an outburst** *n*  
if there is an "outburst", someone gets very angry suddenly and starts shouting
- reincarnation** *n*  
if you believe in "reincarnation", you believe that you will live again after you have died
- to dump** *vb*  
to place something in a place casually and without care
- to get rid of** *exp*  
to eliminate
- to undergo treatment** *exp*  
to have medical treatment

# VOCABULARY BOOKS AND WRITING

Learn some useful words and expressions to talk about books and writing.

**Writer** – a person who writes material that is sold in the form of books, articles, etc.

**Writer's block** – an inability to write because of stress, pressure, drunkenness, or a lack of ideas.



**Computer** – an essential tool for all modern-day writers, although some still insist on using the typewriter.



**Books** – pages that are **bound together** and that contain stories, poems, etc. There are a number of different types of books:

**Novel** – a story about imaginary people or events.

**Historical novel** – a story that is set in a certain period of history.

**Autobiography** – the story of someone's life, written by the person who it is about.

**Biography** – the story of someone's life, written by another person.

**Draft version** – an early, unedited version of a story.

**Character** – a person in a story.

**Protagonist** – the main person in the story.

**Character arc** – the emotional changes that happen to a character during a story. For example, in the beginning the character is a **selfish** person, but an experience makes him/her less selfish.

**Story arc** – a story that continues over various books or episodes.

**Suspense** – the sense of excitement in the story.



**Royalties** – payments made to authors when their work is sold. Authors usually receive a fixed percentage of the profits from these sales – often about 5%.

**Plagiarising** – stealing other people's ideas and claiming that they are your ideas.



**The proof-reader** – the person who checks and corrects texts before they are published.



**The editor** – the person who collects pieces of writing by different authors and prepares them for publication in a book or a series of books.

**Publisher** – a company or person who publishes books.



**Writing** – the process of creating a story. George Orwell (*Animal Farm, 1984*), the famous British author, developed a list of **tips** for good writing. Here is a summarised version:

1. For every sentence, a good writer should ask him/herself five questions:

- What am I trying to say?
- What words will express it?
- What image or idiom will make it clearer?
- Is this image fresh enough to have an effect?
- Could I put it more concisely?



2. Never use a metaphor, simile, or other **figure of speech**, which you have seen in **print** many times before.

3. Never use a long word where a short one will do.

4. If it is possible to cut a word out, always cut it out.

5. Never use the passive where you can use the active.

6. Never use a foreign phrase, a scientific word, or a jargon word if you can think of an everyday English equivalent.

7. Break any of these rules sooner than say anything **outright barbarous**.

**Storyline** – the general story in the book.

There is a theory that all novels come from just seven basic stories. Here they are:

1. Man/woman versus nature.
2. Man/woman versus man/woman.
3. Man/woman versus the environment.
4. Man/woman versus machines/technology.
5. Man/woman versus the supernatural.
6. Man/woman versus self.
7. Man/woman versus god/religion.

**Plot** – a connected series of events used to create a story. The plot is designed to create dramatic tension and keep the reader interested. Most plots follow this basic structure:

1. The main character has a **goal** or mission.
2. There is an **obstacle**.
3. The protagonist **overcomes** the obstacle.
4. There is another obstacle.
5. The protagonist overcomes it once again.
6. The protagonist faces a catastrophe (possible death, etc).
7. The protagonist resolves the situation and everything is OK.



## GLOSSARY

**a tool** *n*  
an instrument that you use to help you do a job

**a typewriter** *n*  
a machine for writing text on paper

**to bind together** *phr vb*  
if a book is "bound together", the pages are joined to form a book

**selfish** *adj*  
only thinking about yourself

**an e-book** *n*  
a book that you access on the internet

**a pocket-sized book** *n*  
a small book that can fit in your pocket

**leather** *n*  
made from animal skin

**hardback** *adj*  
a book with a hard cover. The book is often large too

**paperback** *adj*  
a book with a soft cover

**a tip** *n*  
a piece of advice

**a figure of speech** *n*  
an expression that is used with a figurative (metaphorical) meaning

**in print** *n*  
published in a book, magazine, etc

**outright barbarous** *exp*  
really bad; insane; ridiculous; a crime against X; very primitive

**a goal** *n*  
an objective

**an obstacle** *n*  
something that prevents you from doing what you want to do

**to overcome** *vb*  
to find a solution to a problem; to deal with a problem successfully



**Publishing house** – a company which publishes books.

**Book format** – the way that the book is presented: a large-format book, an **e-book**, a **pocket-sized book**, etc.

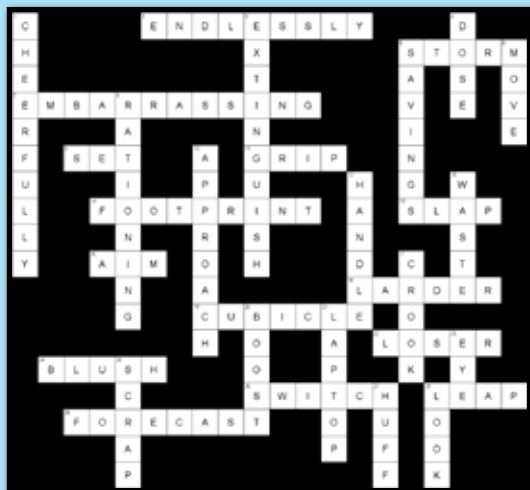
**Dust-jacket** – a loose paper cover which is put on a book to protect it. It often contains information about the book and the author.

**Book binding** – the process of assembling the book from a number of pages. Books can be bound in **leather**, they can be **hardback**, they can be **paperback**, etc. ✪



Wordsearch page 26

1. Writer
2. Block
3. Typewriter
4. Novel
5. Autobiography
6. Biography
7. Draft
8. Storyline
9. Plot
10. Character
11. Protagonist
12. Arc
13. Suspense
14. Royalties
15. Plagiarise
16. Proof
17. Editor
18. Publisher



Crossword page 22

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# TYPICAL DIALOGUES BOOK IDEAS

Listen to this dialogue and learn some useful vocabulary and expressions.

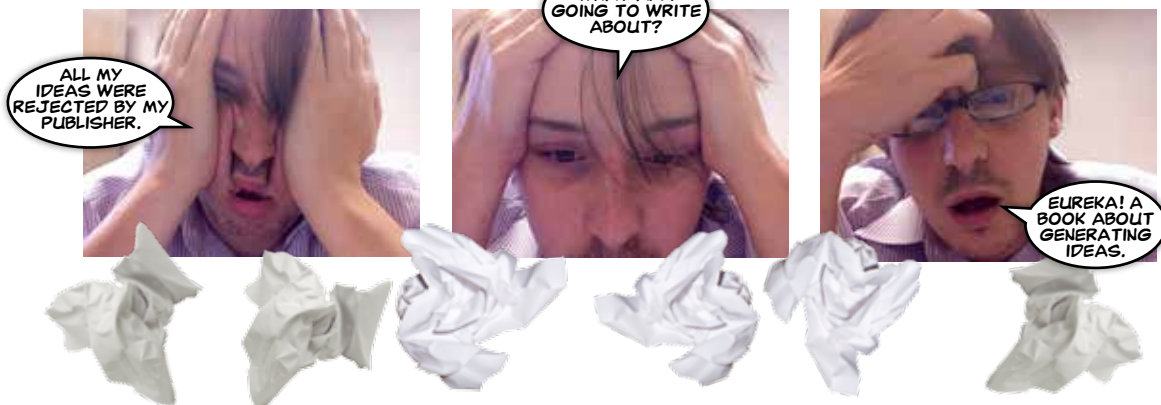
In this conversation Seth is talking to his **literary agent** about some books he's written. Listen to the conversation and answer these two questions.

1. What does the agent think of Seth's books?
2. Which project is the agent interested in?

Answers on page 22

Seth: So, I was just wondering what you were doing about **promoting** my books?  
 Agent: Well, **frankly**, we aren't sure we can represent you any longer.  
 Seth: Why's that? What's wrong?  
 Agent: Well, your latest book, *A History of Stools in Pre-Revolutionary France*, isn't exactly selling well. I mean, who exactly is it **appealing to**?  
 Seth: Well, erm, French... people... erm, historians, who...  
 Agent: Exactly. And what about this autobiography, *Greg Barnes: His Life. His Story*. We've sold precisely 16 copies so far in six months. The remaining 299,984 copies will be **pulped**. Who is Greg Barnes, anyway?  
 Seth: He was the best friend of the husband of that girl who was in Big Brother about four years ago.  
 Agent: It was a **rhetorical question**. Who cares about Greg Barnes?

Seth: Well, his wife probably does.  
 Agent: They're divorced. Now, let's move on to your "children's" book, *Finance and Economics for the Under 5s*. It's not really appropriate for that **age group**.  
 Seth: But there were lots of fun cartoons.  
 Agent: Oh, **come on!** What parent **in their right mind would** buy that for their child?  
 Seth: What about my novel? Surely...  
 Agent: Your novel. Yes, your novel. *Sizzling Pigs*. It started off well, sort of, but there's no **ending**.  
 Seth: Yes, there is.  
 Agent: Having "And then they woke up and it was all a dream" at the end of a novel is not, in my view, a valid ending. No, I'm sorry but our business relationship has come to an end. You've been **publishing** your own books for years now, and we just can't sell them.  
 Seth: Oh, right, so you don't want to see my latest **proposal**, then?  
 Agent: No. Erm, what is it?  
 Seth: It's a biography.  
 Agent: A biography. Erm, whose biography?  
 Seth: It's a biography about you.  
 Agent: Really? Oh. That's nice. That sounds great. Very nice. Let's have a look. (*She looks through the book.*) Yes, yes. We can definitely do something with this. Did you remember to mention the time when I met the queen's uncle back in 2004 when I was... 🍀



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**GLOSSARY**

**a literary agent** *n*  
a person who represents a writer and who negotiates deals with publishers, etc

**to promote** *vb*  
to do things to try to increase the sales of a product

**frankly** *adv*  
honestly

**a stool** *n*  
a chair with just three legs

**to appeal to someone** *exp*  
if something "appeals to" you, you like it

**to pulp (a book)** *vb*  
to destroy a book

**a rhetorical question** *n*  
a question that requires no answer

**an age group** *n*  
people who are born within a particular period of time

**come on** *exp*  
an expression used to show that you don't agree with someone, or if you think someone has said something silly

**(nobody) in their right mind would** *exp*  
nobody would ever...; only a stupid person would...

**an ending** *n*  
the conclusion to a story

**to publish** *vb*  
to print a book and sell it in shops, etc

**a proposal** *n*  
an idea

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# DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC:

# SUCCESS



This month: Success



### Hit the jackpot

To become very successful or very rich.  
"When the second album came out, they hit the **jackpot**."



### Steal the show

To be the most popular or the best person among the rest.  
"All the dancers were good but Kirsty really stole the show."



### Bring the house down

To do something that really pleases the audience in a theatre.  
"The comedian was hilarious and really brought the house down."



### In the bag

If something is "in the bag", it is certain to be successful in the end.  
"That new contract is in the bag."



### Come up trumps; turn up trumps

To complete an activity successfully or to produce a good result, especially when it wasn't expected.  
"We thought we'd never get a flight home but Sam's boyfriend came up **trumps** and found us a cheap one at the last minute."



### Go like a bomb

To be very successful.  
"Judging from the noise they're making in there, that party is going like a bomb."



### By miles

Much better; much superior to other things.  
They were better by miles.



### Have the luck of the devil

To be very lucky.  
"She always goes out with the best looking men. She's got the luck of the devil."

### GLOSSARY

**a jackpot** *n*  
the most valuable prize in a game or lottery  
**trumps** *n*  
in a game of cards, "trumps" is the suit (diamonds, hearts, clubs, spades) which is chosen to have the highest value



# Embarrassing Agony

What's your most **embarrassing** moment? A professor of psychology at the University of East Anglia, Ray Crozier, has researched the psychology of embarrassment and is author of the book *Blushing and the Social Emotions*.

## The eternal flame

Ray Crozier's book is full of interesting examples of embarrassing moments. He tells of the time when German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder was attending a ceremony at Jerusalem's Yad Vashem Holocaust Memorial. Schroeder was invited to turn a **handle to boost** the eternal **flame** commemorating the Holocaust. However, to the embarrassment of everyone present, the chancellor turned the handle the wrong way and **extinguished** the flame.

## Past glory

**Funny Fact:** People are said to go 'beetroot' red when they show embarrassment and their cheeks blush. Beetroot is a root vegetable whose juice can stain the skin red.



Another story involves Star Trek star, Patrick Stewart. Stewart recalls a time when he was watching television alone in a hotel room. He was **switching channels** when he suddenly found an episode of *Next Generation*. "I started watching it and I had forgotten that I'd ordered room service," he explains. "All of a sudden, this man arrives with my food. He looks at the television and looks at me watching myself on television, then shakes his head and gives me a **look of pity**. He must have thought I was a real **loser** watching my **past glories**."

## Losing face

So, why do we get embarrassed in the first place? Crozier argues that the key to embarrassment is our attempt to look competent. "We have this fundamental human need to be respected and not look foolish. And losing self-esteem can feel like the world has ended."



Physical symptoms often include **blushing**. This is a uniquely human response (no animals are known to blush). And no one is really sure why we blush. In evolutionary terms, it could once have been to signal that we had made an accidental mistake, admitting to an error and so **avoiding a confrontation**. Professor Crozier defines embarrassment as a situation in which we accidentally "contradict the identity we want to project".

## Dealing with embarrassment

So, what can be done about it? "The best way to deal with embarrassment is to talk about it," says workplace psychologist Gary Fitzgibbon. "If you walk off, you're left with it. You mustn't let the embarrassment dominate. Once you admit to what's happened and talk about it, everyone will feel much more relaxed and they'll be laughing with you rather than at you." ✨

## Writing Competition

Why not enter our writing competition? Write in with a version of your very own embarrassing moment. Write to [andy@learnhotenglish.com](mailto:andy@learnhotenglish.com)



## GLOSSARY

- embarrassing** *adj*  
something that makes you feel timid, shy or ashamed
- a handle** *n*  
an object you turn with your hand in order to operate a machine
- to boost** *vb*  
to increase
- a flame** *n*  
a hot, bright line of burning gas from a fire
- to extinguish** *vb*  
if you "extinguish" a fire, you stop the fire from burning
- to switch channels** *exp*  
to change channels on a television
- a look of pity** *n*  
if you give someone a "look of pity", you look at them in a way that shows you feel sorry for them
- a loser** *n*  
a pathetic, unsuccessful person
- a past glory** *n*  
something great you did in the past
- to blush** *vb*  
to become red in the face because you are embarrassed
- to avoid a confrontation** *exp*  
to try not to become involved in a fight or argument with someone
- a cubicle** *n*  
a little room with a toilet in it. There are often several cubicles in a toilet
- a gap** *n*  
a space
- to stab** *vb*  
to push a sharp instrument (a knife, for example) into someone's body
- to queue up** *phr vb*  
to form a line as you are waiting for something (often to be served)
- a backside** *n*  
the part of your body that you sit on
- a stitch** *n*  
when a doctor puts "stitches" in you, he/she uses a needle and thread to hold the skin together
- in a huff** *exp*  
angrily
- to storm out** *phr vb*  
to leave a place suddenly, angrily and dramatically
- a larder** *n*  
a little room next to a kitchen where food is kept

## Embarrassing-moment stories

Have you ever had an embarrassing moment? Here are a few of ours.

### Toilet torment

I was once in a public toilet. I wanted to use the **cubicle** but it was occupied. I waited for a couple of minutes, but there was no noise coming from inside. After another minute, I decided to knock on the door. "Is anyone there?" I asked. No answer. I knocked again. There was still no answer. In the end, I decided to have a look under the **gap** at

the bottom of the door. And just as I was doing so, another man walked into the toilet. He saw what I was doing and walked out before I had a chance to explain myself. Jim, Bournemouth.

### Safety first

I accidentally **stabbed** my boss on my first day at work. We were **queuing up** to go into the conference room, and my

boss was standing just in front of me. I had a pair of scissors in my hands and someone pushed me, and the scissors went into my boss' **backside**. He needed **stitches**... and a new pair of trousers. Incidentally, the meeting was supposed to be on safety in the workplace.

### Leaving with dignity

I was at a friend's house with a couple of mates. We

were sitting around the kitchen table when we started arguing about something really stupid. **In a huff, I stormed out**. Unfortunately, my exit wasn't as dramatic as I had intended because I ended up walking into the kitchen **larder**. I had to ask for directions out of the kitchen (there were three doors in total).



# Quirky News

Unusual news stories from around the world.

## Rail Idiot



An Englishman had a lucky escape. Forty-six-year-old Gordon Texford was in a toilet in a train station when he heard his train **pulling out**. So, he ran out, and jumped onto the back of the train. Miraculously, he **clung on** for six minutes before falling off. Texford, even managed to answer a mobile phone call from friends who were inside a **carriage** on the train as it reached speeds of up to 70kph. Texford escaped with minor injuries to his leg, but may face prosecution for his action. Texford, who was on the Manchester to London train, left the train at a station in order to go to the toilet. A spokesman for British Transport police said, "It was a very silly thing to do."

## Famous Bore



"I was sitting around with someone **talking endlessly** about the past, living in it. And I found it rather dull," said Mick Jagger, who had been planning to write his autobiography. In the end, the legendary singer confessed that he **scrapped plans** to write it because he found it all too boring. Jagger, 64, was paid a **huge cash advance** to write his life story but has **ditched** the project. The rock legend, who has **dated** some of the world's most beautiful women, has not yet **ruled out** writing it one day. He said, "I'd love to find another form to do it in. A book form but not a showbiz memoir type."

## Animal Haters



An emu sparked an international incident after it escaped from police. The emu was first **spotted** in Germany. Vets, local zoo staff and officers in patrol cars, all tried to catch it but **failed**. After several hours, the bird **leapt into** neighbouring Switzerland, and German police informed their colleagues over the border. But even with the combined efforts of both German and Swiss police, the emu, which was running at speeds over 50kph, still managed to **avoid capture**. In the end, German police shot the bird when it crossed the border again. A police spokesman said, "We managed to shoot the bird, but we are still trying to find out how it got here in the first place. No bird farms or zoos in the area say they are missing an emu. It is a mystery." Of course, this isn't the first time that animals have been dealt with in such a **callous** manner. Just recently, German hunters shot a bear that appeared in the Alps for the first time in 200 years. And a few months later, there were plans to **put down** a baby polar bear which had lost its parents.

### GLOSSARY

**to pull out** *phr vb*  
if a train is "pulling out", it is leaving the station

**to cling on** *phr vb*  
to hold on desperately

**a carriage** *n*  
trains often have about six to ten carriages with seats for about 100 people in each carriage

**to talk endlessly** *exp*  
to speak without stopping

**to scrap a plan** *exp*  
to abandon an idea

**a huge cash advance** *n*  
a lot of money paid in advance (before the job is completed)

**to ditch** *vb*  
if you "ditch" something, you abandon it and stop doing it

**to date** *vb*  
to go out with someone for the purpose of romance

**to rule out** *phr vb*  
if you "rule something out", you say that it will never happen

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

**to fail** *vb*  
if something "fails", it isn't successful

**to leap into** *phr vb*  
to jump into

**to avoid capture** *exp*  
if an animal "avoids capture", it isn't caught

**callous** *adj*  
mean, cruel, unkind

**to put down** *phr vb*  
to kill for supposedly humane, rational reasons

# British bar chat

## Harry Potter

Mike and Jen are talking about the Harry Potter books.



- Mike:** Hey, Jen, you know, like, er, Harry Potter, next month it's **out**, the last book, I'm really, well, I'm gonna get it as soon as it's in the shops.
- Jen:** Are you going to be one of these people who sleeps outside the bookshops?
- Mike:** Oh, possibly, yeah, possibly. Cos I think, I think it's twelve o'clock at night it goes on sale. I'm not sure but I'm quite excited.
- Jen:** Aren't you a bit old for Harry Potter?
- Mike:** Well, you know, you can only be young once, but you can be **immature** forever. That's what, that's what I say and I stand by it. Harry Potter's great.
- Jen:** I don't know. It's all right, but I, I prefer Roald Dahl as an author.
- Mike:** You just called me immature and you're talking about Roald Dahl and crocodiles and people with **worms** on their heads? That's just silly. I'm talking about advanced **wizardry**.
- Jen:** Well, Roald Dahl wrote about the witches long before JK Rowling ever thought of Harry Potter. Harry Potter's just, I don't know, he's, he's such a boring character.
- Mike:** Boring? He survived Voldemort's attacks on him at least five times and **I bet** you couldn't have done.
- Jen:** Well, I notice she has to give that explanation in every single book.
- Mike:** Yeah, but, like, **come on**, let's **put** Harry Potter **against** Charlie Bucket. Come on, who's more, who's more impressive? Charlie Bucket who eats chocolate. Harry Potter has powers. He's like **Quidditch** champion, whatever.
- Jen:** And he's got...
- Mike:** Charlie Bucket just **got lucky**.
- Jen:** And funny glasses.
- Mike:** Funny glasses, exactly. Anyway, I'm, I'm going to convince you of this. And I think you're just being a bit **stubborn**, basically.
- Jen:** So, shall I go and get you some tickets, then?
- Mike:** Erm, yeah, and I'm going to get you a book and you're gonna love it.
- Jen:** Can't wait. ✪

### GLOSSARY

- out** *n*  
if a book is "out" it is in the shops and you can buy it
- immature** *adj*  
someone who is "immature" acts like a child and not like an adult
- a worm** *n*  
a small animal that lives in the earth. It is similar to a snake
- wizardry** *n*  
the subject of magic and potions. A "wizard" is a man who knows magic
- I bet** *exp*  
I'm sure; I'm certain
- come on** *exp*  
this expression is used to show that you think something is silly or not true
- to put one person (up) against another** *exp*  
to put two people in a situation in which they must compete
- Quidditch** *n*  
a game played by the characters in the Harry Potter books and films
- to get lucky** *exp*  
to obtain something that you want; to get the things that you want
- stubborn** *adj*  
someone who is "stubborn" is determined to get what they want, even if it is not good for them or for anyone else

# US bar chat

## Illegal street parties

Carmen and Christine are talking about illegal street parties ("botellones" in Spanish).



- Carmen:** Cheers.
- Christine:** Cheers.
- Carmen:** Cheers. Congratulations on the new job.
- Christine:** Thank you very much. How are you doing today?
- Carmen:** Well, I'm all right, but to be honest I haven't slept much.
- Christine:** Why not?
- Carmen:** Well, you know the noise. That stupid **botellón**.
- Christine:** The stupid botellón?
- Carmen:** Every night on the weekends, it's just, until 6, 7 in the morning no sleep.
- Christine:** You have to understand. Those people need some place to go.
- Carmen:** Understand? I wake up in the morning, I go outside and there is bottles everywhere, rubbish on the floor. It's just not good.
- Christine:** You're right, they need to solve the problem about your nation. However, erm, they also need to solve the problem about where can all these people go. Everything **has gotten** so expensive.
- Carmen:** Well, you know, there's, what about house parties? That's an option. I mean, you know, to drink just to get drunk.
- Christine:** Well, would you like a house party, in your next door, in your next door neighbour?
- Carmen:** Well, I suppose, but really every single weekend it's the same thing, and those bottles, it's just, they're all out there, **cracked glass**.
- Christine:** Well, where do you think they should go?
- Carmen:** The bars.
- Christine:** But the bars are so expensive. Do you know how much it costs now to have one drink?
- Carmen:** Oh, come on.
- Christine:** Six, seven euros for a drink.
- Carmen:** Well, they can get a good drink and enjoy it. You don't have to drink to get drunk.
- Christine:** I agree. You don't have to drink to get drunk. However, you, but the Spanish mentality, they, they love to be in the streets, the air, the fresh air.
- Carmen:** All right, well, I don't know. I just, I think I'm gonna need another coffee at this point.
- Christine:** How about another drink? I'll invite. But this time in the street.
- Carmen:** **No way.** ✪

### GLOSSARY

- botellón** *n* Spanish  
an illegal party that takes place in a public place: the street, a park, etc.
- has gotten** *exp* US  
has become; has got
- cracked glass** *n*  
broken glass
- no way** *exp*  
never!



## Work-related phrases

Here are some typical work-related phrases and what they really mean.

- Your request is being processed. = It is actually in **the bin**.
- The project co-ordinator **deals with** all **complaints**. = I don't want to listen to you – talk to someone else.
- Your application is currently under consideration. = Who are you?
- The proposal is under active consideration. = We've lost the file.
- A **reliable source** told me. = This guy I just met told me.
- An informed source has told me. = A friend of the guy I just met just told me.
- We'll discuss it later. = Hopefully, you'll forget about it.
- Let's get together on this. = I'm really confused about this so I need a **face-to-face**.
- We'd like to hear what you think. = You can tell us what you think as long as it doesn't interfere with what we've already decided to do.
- I'll put you in the picture. = I'll give you a long, confused and **inaccurate** statement of what's going on.
- We'll advise you in due course. = If we find out what **the hell** is going on, we'll let you know.
- **I'll get back to you**. = I've already deleted your e-mail. ☺



### GLOSSARY

**the bin** *n*  
a container for rubbish (old bits of paper, etc)

**to deal with** *phr vb*  
if you "deal with" something, you try to find a solution to it

**a complaint** *n*  
if someone makes a "complaint", they tell you that they aren't happy with the service

**reliable** *adj*  
if something is "reliable", you can trust it to do what it says it will do

**a source** *n*  
someone who gives you information

**a face-to-face** *n*  
a meeting in person

**inaccurate** *adj*  
not correct; with errors

**the hell** *exp inform*  
an expression used to show that you are angry

**to go on** *phr vb*  
to happen

**to get back to someone** *exp*  
to contact someone who has contacted you



# SONG

**Michelle fell for yellow by Garrett Wall**

by Garrett Wall  
© Garrett Wall 2007

### Chorus

There's a girl that makes me smile,  
Van Gogh's paint **the height of style**,  
And all it takes to say hello,  
And Michelle **fell for yellow**.  
I know this world can be **absurd**,  
Forget the things you might have heard,  
**Put your faith in** what you know,  
That Michelle fell for yellow.

**Sunflowers** say to me,  
There's more to life than we can see,  
Simple things can be so clear,  
Freedom lives to kill our fear.

There's a girl that makes me smile,  
Van Gogh's paint the height of style,  
And all it takes to say hello,  
And Michelle fell for yellow.  
I know this world can be absurd,  
Forget the things you might have heard,  
Put your faith in what you know,  
That Michelle fell for yellow.

**Cardigans** and Renault fours,  
Yellow painted front doors,  
All the things she wants to have,  
I love it when she makes me laugh, she makes me laugh.

There's a girl that makes me smile,  
Van Gogh's paint the height of style,  
And all it takes to say hello,  
And Michelle fell for yellow.  
I know this world can be absurd,  
Forget the things you might have heard,  
Put your faith in what you know,  
That Michelle fell for yellow. ☺

### GLOSSARY

**the height of style** *exp*  
the most stylish/fashionable

**to fall for something** *exp*  
if you "fall for something", you become strongly attracted to it

**absurd** *adj*  
ridiculous; strange

**to put your faith in something** *exp*  
to believe in something

**a sunflower** *n*  
a very tall plant with yellow flowers

**a cardigan** *n*  
warm clothing (similar to a jumper/sweater) worn on the upper part of your body. It has buttons down the front



Here are some more crazy laws from the US. These ones are from Illinois and Indiana. (*US English spelling*)

- ✪ A permit is required for anyone wishing to play baseball at night. (Illinois)
- ✪ It is against the law to use a **slingshot** unless you are a law enforcement officer. (Illinois)



- ✪ A **rooster** must be at least three hundred feet from any **residence** if he wishes to **crow**. (Illinois)
- ✪ Hens that wish to **cackle** must be at least two hundred feet from any residence. (Illinois)
- ✪ Bees are not allowed to fly over the village or through any of Kriland's streets. (Illinois)
- ✪ Ice skating at the riverside **pond** during the months of June and August is prohibited. (Illinois)
- ✪ There is a **ban** on unnecessary repetitive driving on 23rd Avenue. (Illinois)

- ✪ It is against the law to **make faces** at dogs. (Illinois)
- ✪ It is illegal for anyone to give **lighted cigars** to dogs, cats, or any other domesticated animals. (Illinois)
- ✪ A person must get a **referral** from a **licensed physician** if he or she wishes to see a hypnotist unless the desired result is to **quit smoking** or lose weight. (Indiana)
- ✪ Baths may not be taken between the months of October and March. (Indiana)
- ✪ It is illegal to sell cars on Sunday. (Indiana)



- ✪ It is against the law to pass a horse on the street. (Indiana)
- ✪ No one may catch a fish with his bare hands. (Indiana)
- ✪ Drinks **on the house** are illegal. (Indiana)
- ✪ You are required to pour your drink into a glass. (Indiana)
- ✪ **Spiteful gossip** and talking behind a person's back are illegal. (Indiana)
- ✪ **Mustaches** are illegal if the bearer has a tendency to habitually kiss other humans. (Indiana) ✪

**GLOSSARY**

**a slingshot** *n*  
an object used to shoot a stone  
**a rooster** *n*  
a male chicken that makes a sound in the morning  
**a residence** *n*  
a house  
**to crow** *vb*  
if a rooster "crows", it makes a sound in the morning  
**to cackle** *vb*  
when chickens are "cackling", they are making a lot of noise  
**a pond** *n*  
a small area of water that is smaller than a lake  
**a ban** *n*  
a prohibition  
**to make a face** *exp*  
to make an unpleasant or funny expression as a way of showing that you don't like something/someone  
**a lighted cigar** *n*  
a cigar (a large cigarette made of tobacco leaves) that is burning  
**a referral** *n*  
a letter of recommendation  
**a licensed physician** *n*  
a registered doctor  
**to quit smoking** *exp*  
to stop smoking  
**on the house** *exp*  
if the drinks are "on the house" the bar/club/pub pays for them  
**spiteful** *adj*  
designed to cause moral or psychological damage  
**gossip** *n*  
rumours and stories about someone's private life  
**a mustache** *n* *US*  
hair on a man's face above the upper lip. "Moustache" in British English

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# Dictionary of slang

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

 <b>Situation</b>	 <b>Formal</b>	 <b>Relaxed</b>	 <b>Informal</b>
A friend was arrested by the police.	He was apprehended by some officers of the law.	He was arrested.	He was nicked; he had his <b>collar</b> felt.
You suggest going to the beach in order to <b>go sunbathing</b> .	I suggest a short <b>sojourn</b> to the coast in order to lie in the sun.	Let's do some sunbathing.	Let's catch some <b>rays</b> ; let's get some sunshine.
You think that your acquaintance is a little bit stupid.	He is somewhat intellectually-challenged.	He's a bit stupid.	He's a tad thick; he's a bit of an idiot; he's not all there.
A friend has a new BMW.	He has acquired a top of the range German-manufactured automobile.	He's bought a BMW.	He's got a beemer.
A friend of yours, Mary, wants to apply for a job but is afraid she will be rejected. You tell her not to be so frightened.	Do not allow your cowardice to <b>hold you back</b> .	Don't be such a coward.	Don't be such a chicken.
There was a fight in a nightclub. A woman hit a man and caused him to fall.	Her fist came into contact with his face and precipitated a fall.	She punched him and made him fall.	She decked him.



## GLOSSARY

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

**a collar** *n*  
the part of your shirt that goes around your neck

**to go sunbathing** *n*  
to lie in the sun in order to get tanned

**a ray** *n*  
a line of sunlight

**to hold you back** *phr vb*  
if something "holds you back", it stops you from doing another thing



# INSECTIDIOMS

This month we are looking at some “worm” idioms.



### Worm your way out of something

To escape from a problem; not to accept your responsibilities.

“She was supposed to be doing the cleaning today, but she managed to worm her way out of it.”



### Worm your way into something / worm your way to a place

To become part of a place, organisation or company by tricking people, making people trust you, or by using people.

“She managed to worm her way to the top of the company by using all her old connections.”



### Open up a can of worms

To create unnecessary complications or problems; to start discussing something that is better not to discuss.

“When management offered to discuss working hours, they really opened up a can of worms – there were arguments ever day after that.”



### The early bird catches the worm

If you want to be successful, you should do something immediately.

“If you see an apartment advertised in the newspaper, respond to it straightaway. The early bird catches the worm.”



### The worm has turned; the worm turns

People say this in reference to someone who is normally very patient and passive but who unexpectedly changes and does something bold and daring.

“Mary has decided to start an affair with a married man after what Frank did to her. The worm has turned.”



### A worm's eye view

If you have a “worm's eye view of something”, you only know or understand a part of it, usually the worst or least important part.

“The film is all about the New York underworld and gives a worm's eye view of society there.”

# SCAM CITY

## CLEVER, BUT ILLEGAL, WAYS AND MEANS OF GETTING MONEY.

Have you ever been tricked? Ever been the victim of a **scam**? Ever paid for something only to find that it isn't what you wanted? A new report shows that **scamming** is on the increase.

### Nothing new

Scams have **been around** since the day that money was invented. Scams are also known as "confidence tricks" or "swindles"; and the person who does a scam can be referred to as a grafter, a swindler, a scammer, a confidence trickster or a con artist; the victim is called the mark. The objective of all good scams is to make money – it's as simple as that. The first time the term "confidence man" was used was in 1849. It was used by the press during the **trial** of William Thompson. Thompson's scam was simple. He chatted with strangers until they had "become friends". Then, quite simply, he asked them if they would lend him their watches. As soon as they did, he would walk off with the watch and never be seen again. He was eventually caught when a victim recognised him in the street.



### Good faith

So, how do confidence trickster's work? They mainly **rely on the good faith** of the victim. Many people have **fallen prey to** scams including movie actors, athletes, successful business executives and political leaders. Just recently, there was a story in the news of a scam in Japan. Apparently, Japanese dog-lovers had been tricked into paying hundreds of dollars for pet **poodles**, only to discover that they had in fact been sold sheep. The scam was exposed when a Japanese actress appeared on television complaining about her new pet "poodle" and how it refused to eat any dog food and would not **bark**. Maiko Kawakami was **stunned** to discover that her pet poodle was in fact a baby lamb. The newspaper reported that the sheep were **shipped to** Japan from the UK and Australia. They were sold via an internet site and advertised as "poodle puppies". 🐾



### GLOSSARY

- a scam** *n*  
a trick to make money dishonestly/ illegally
- to scam** *vb*  
to trick someone in order to get money dishonestly/illegally
- to be around** *phr vb*  
if something has "been around" for a period of time, it has existed for that time
- a trial** *n*  
a legal process designed to get compensation
- to rely on** *phr vb*  
to depend on
- good faith** *n*  
if there is a situation of "good faith", both sides believe and trust one another
- to fall prey to something** *exp*  
if you "fall prey to" a trick, you become a victim of that trick
- a poodle** *n*  
a type of dog with thick, curly hair
- to bark** *vb*  
when dogs "bark", they make a sound
- stunned** *adj*  
shocked and surprised
- to ship to** *phr vb*  
to send a package to someone (by ship, air, road, etc)
- fur** *n*  
animal skin and hair that is used to make clothes
- a pram** *n*  
a type of baby bed with wheels that is used to take the baby for a walk
- blackmail** *n*  
the action of threatening to reveal a secret or photos unless money is paid
- a compromising position** *n*  
if someone is caught in a "compromising position", they are seen/photographed in a situation that is embarrassing and potentially dangerous for them
- to threaten** *vb*  
to promise to do something bad to someone unless they pay money
- to bump into someone** *exp*  
to crash into someone; to walk into someone
- clumsiness** *n*  
the noun of clumsy (a "clumsy" person drops things easily)
- shabby clothes** *n*  
old, broken, dirty, grubby clothes
- a wallet** *n*  
an object used by men to keep credit cards, money, etc
- collateral** *n*  
money or property that is used as a guarantee
- a classified ad** *n*  
a small piece of publicity in a newspaper offering to buy or sell something
- shipping costs** *n*  
the costs for sending something by air/ship, etc

### The coin collecting scam

The con man offers the victim a valuable collection of coins at a very low price. The victim buys the entire collection thinking they are valuable, but, of course, they aren't.

### The baby in the pram

A mother goes into a **fur** shop with a **pram**. She tries on a really expensive fur coat. All of a sudden, she claims she has to run out because her husband has just arrived with the car. She leaves the pram in the shop with the "baby" inside. Of course, there is no baby in the pram and the woman never returns to the shop.

### The badger game

This is a **blackmail** scheme. It involves taking photos of a married man in a **compromising position** with another person. The man is then **threatened** with public exposure unless money is paid.

### The get-rich-quick scam

The victim is offered a book on how to get rich quick or how to cure something with a miracle drug. The perfect way for the con artist to get rich quick himself.

### The bottle drop scam

The con artist will **bump into** the victim and drop a package containing broken glass (he broke the glass previously). The con artist will then claim that the contents of the package (an expensive bottle of wine, or an ancient vase) were broken by the **clumsiness** of the victim, and demand money to replace them. This con was famous in New York City and was often used against Japanese tourists.



### The deceptive contest scam

The victim enters a writing competition. A few weeks later, the victim receives a letter saying that he/she has won and that the story will be included in a book. The victim is then encouraged to order the book (at a very high price, of course).

### The fiddle game

A pair of con men work together on this scam. One of the con artists (con artist number 1) dresses up as an elderly man in **shabby clothes**. He has a meal at the restaurant. All of a sudden, he claims to have left his **wallet** at home. As **collateral**, he leaves his only possession: a violin. After he leaves, the second con man (con artist number 2) enters. He examines the violin and says that he will pay an outrageously large amount for the violin (for example, \$50,000), leaving his business card for the old man (con artist number 1) to call if he's interested.



Now, the victim (the restaurant owner) thinks that he can make a lot of money. So, when the old man (con artist number 1) comes back to pay for his meal, the restaurant owner offers to buy the violin. Of course, when the restaurant owner then tries to contact the other con artist (con artist number 2) to sell him the violin, the man has disappeared.

### The free pet scam

For this scam, the con artist places a **classified ad** in a newspaper offering a very cheap or free animal (usually an animal that is hard to get or very expensive). If asked, the con artist explains that he is going to move away from the area. The con artist says that all he wants is for the victim to pay for the **shipping costs** (which are very high) in order to send the animal to the victim. The victim does so, but, of course, never actually receives the pet.

# PHRASAL VERB THEMES: DRIVING

From now on we will be looking at phrasal verb themes. This month we are looking at some phrasal verbs related to driving. This is the first of a two-part series.

**GET IN**  
TO ENTER A CAR.



**GET OUT**  
TO LEAVE A CAR.



**PULL OVER**  
IF THE POLICE TELL YOU TO "PULL OVER", THEY TELL YOU TO STOP DRIVING SO THEY CAN TALK TO YOU.



**BREAK DOWN**  
IF YOUR CAR "BREAKS DOWN", IT STOPS WORKING.



**RUN DOWN / RUN OVER**  
IF A CAR "RUNS SOMEONE DOWN", THE CAR HITS THAT PERSON IN THE ROAD.



**SLOW DOWN**  
TO DRIVE MORE SLOWLY.



# GEORGE "DUBYA" BUSHISMS

## THE FUNNY THINGS THE U.S. PRESIDENT SAYS

Here are some more wonderful George W. (Dubya) Bush quotes. For some more Bushisms by the man himself, please visit Dr Fingers' Blog: [www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog/](http://www.hotenglishmagazine.com/blog/)



"And my concern, David, is several." 2007.

"The solution to Iraq – an Iraq that can **govern itself, sustain**

**itself** and defend itself – is more than a military mission. Precisely the reason why I sent more troops into Baghdad." 2007.

"Some call this civil war; others call it emergency; I call it pure evil." 2007.

"It's bad in Iraq. Does that help?" George W. Bush, after being asked by a reporter whether he's **in denial** about Iraq. 2006.



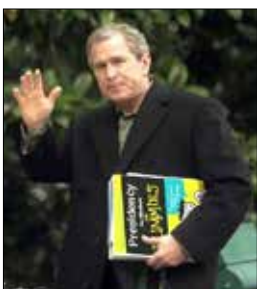
"I will not **withdraw**, even if Laura and Barney [his dog] are the only ones supporting me." 2006.

"I said I was looking for a book to read. Laura said, 'You ought to try Camus.' I also read three Shakespeares. I've got a eckalectic [sic] reading list." 2006.



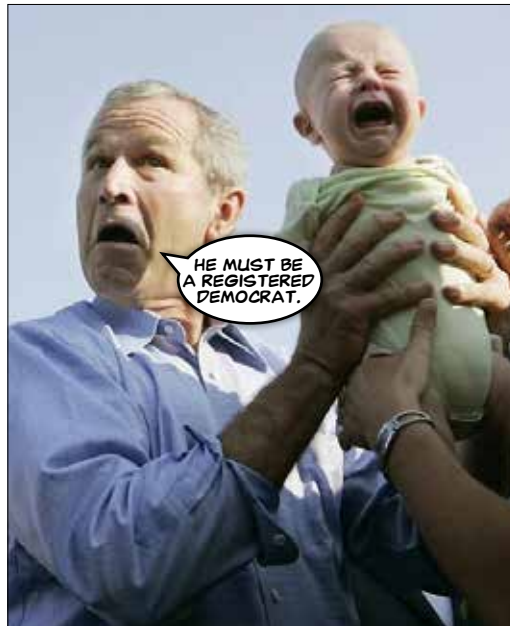
PLEASE DON'T SAY ANYTHING DUMB.

"One thing is clear is that relations between America and Russia are good, and they're important that they be good [sic]." 2006.



"I tell people, let's don't fear [sic] the future, let's shape it." 2006.

"If people want to get to know me better, they've got



HE MUST BE A REGISTERED DEMOCRAT.

to know my parents and the values my parents **instilled** in me, and the fact that I was **raised** in west Texas, in the middle of the desert, a long way away from anywhere, hardly. There's a certain set of values you learn in that experience." 2006.

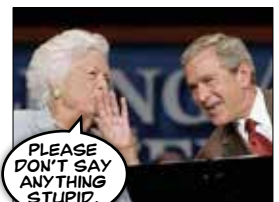


"People don't need to worry about security. This **deal** wouldn't **go forward** if we were concerned about the security for the United States of America." 2006.

"I like my **buddies** from west Texas. I liked them when I was young. I liked them when I was middle-aged. I liked them before I was president, and I like them during president [sic], and I like them after president [sic]." 2006. ☆



DO THESE MAKE ME LOOK SMART?



PLEASE DON'T SAY ANYTHING STUPID.

### GLOSSARY

- to govern itself** *exp*  
if a country can "govern itself", it can manage the country without any help
- to sustain itself** *exp*  
if a country can "sustain itself", it can survive without any help/ imports
- in denial** *exp*  
if you are "in denial", you are trying to ignore something that is affecting you
- to withdraw** *vb*  
if you "withdraw" troops, you take them away
- eclectic** *adj*  
if you have an "eclectic" taste, you have a very varied taste
- to instill** *vb*  
if you "instill" values in someone, you teach someone those values
- to raise** *vb*  
to educate a child and to help him/ her become an adult
- a deal** *n*  
an agreement
- to go forward** *phr vb*  
if something "goes forward", it moves to the next stage of the process
- a buddy** *n inform US*  
a friend

# The Whitechapel Trousers Snatcher

A radio play by Mark Pierro and Ian Coutts.

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

## First listening

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

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

## Second listening

Listen again. Then, answer these questions.

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



## Scene 3 -

### Chief Superintendent Williams' office in Scotland Yard W=Williams F=Forest N=Narrator

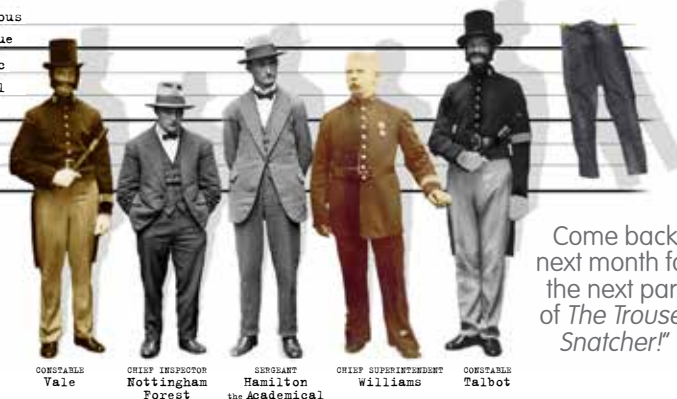
W: Come in. Ah, Forest.  
 F: You wanted to see me Windb... Chief?  
 W: That case you're working on, the one with the gentleman who had his **breaches** torn off in public... solved it now, have we?  
 F: My **enquiries** are progressing **satisfactorily** thank you for asking.  
 W: I'm interested in your use of the word "satisfactorily". In fact, I'm fascinated by your use of the word "satisfactorily". Do you not think that that is a fascinating word?  
 F: Erm, in English or in Welsh?  
 W: Seeing as you want to be a comedian, I'll **look it up** in my fascinating Welsh-English dictionary, shall I?  
 W: Here we are now... "satisfactorily"... meet expectations, be accepted by as adequate, to **fulfil** or to comply with, convince or put an end to... I do not see any of these as having **relevance** to any description whatsoever to our investigations.  
 F: I am pleased to say that the team of Nottingham Forest have been making some fascinating enquiries and we expect shortly to have a satisfactory conclusion to this most fascinating of cases.  
 W: Well, I'm pleased to hear it because a less **astute** man than myself could easily be led to believe that this **villain** was going to **get off scot-free**, whilst the war-hero inspector has **got nowhere**. What have you come up with, **Boyo**?  
 F: We've got a **witness** to...  
 W: (*interrupting*) No, no, not a witness.  
 F: Well, we've got a **suspect** that we're going to inter...  
 W: (*interrupting*) No, no, no, not that useless **pack of liars**... I mean the name man, you know for the villain. What have you come up with?  
 F: Well, er, the name, erm, well we thought perhaps erm... How about "Jack the Rip-your-breeches-off"?  
 W: **Poppycock!** Call that a name?  
 F: My mother **came up with** it.  
 W: Well, it's not good enough. I've had the press **on my back** and they want to reassure the **God-fearing** public with something to **scare the wind out of them**.  
 F: It would have to be pretty scary to get the wind out of you.  
 W: This Jack the-rip-your-breeches-off **bloke** wouldn't scare my mother, and she has a beard.  
 F: We based it on your Grandmother.  
 W: I've got a name.  
 F: (*muttering*) Windbag.

W: You get a good name, you get a **conviction**, that's my **motto**. What do you think of "The Whitechapel Trousers Snatcher"? The victim was found in Whitechapel you see.  
 F: But this villain has only committed one crime, he may never **strike** again. In any case the book says under paragraph 2 subsection A that no name to scare the living daylights out of the God-fearing public is to be allocated until the said **perpetrator** has committed two proven **linked misdemeanours** against the Crown.  
 W: I don't care what that useless piece of toilet paper of a book has to say. This has **come down from on top**. It's official.  
 F: From the top, by whom?  
 W: Never you mind about all that. Just find a name before the **culprit** strikes again. We'd look foolish if we had dozens of dead bodies on the streets without a name for the culprit. Now get on with it before he does it again. And the next time I see you, you'd better have a name.  
 F: Who is the Trousers Snatcher? Can Inspector Forest catch this villain? Can Hamilton the Academical beat a false confession out of an innocent poor person to a professional standard? Tune in to next month's edition of Hot English magazine, for the answer to these questions and much more.

## GLOSSARY

- breaches** *n* Old trousers
- enquiries** *n* if the police make "enquiries", they investigate the crime
- satisfactorily** *adv* if something is done "satisfactorily", it is done to an acceptable standard
- to look up** *phr vb* to find the meaning of a word
- to fulfil** *vb* if you "fulfil" a task or job, you do it properly and completely
- relevance** *n* something's "relevance" is its importance, significance or meaning
- astute** *adj* clever, intelligent
- a villain** *n* a bad person who has committed a crime
- to get off scot-free** *exp* if a criminal "gets off scot-free", he/she escapes without going to prison, etc.
- to get nowhere** *exp* if an investigation is "getting nowhere", it isn't progressing
- Boyo** *exp in form* a term of address for a boy or man
- a witness** *n* someone who saw a crime
- a suspect** *n* someone who the police think committed a crime
- a pack of liars** *exp* a group of dishonest people who don't tell the truth
- poppycock** *exp* Old an expression used to say that you think something is stupid, silly, not true, etc.
- to come up with** *phr vb* to think of
- on my back** *exp* if someone is "on your back", they're annoying you and they keep asking you questions, etc.
- God-fearing** *adj* "God-fearing" people are very religious
- to scare the wind out of someone** *exp* to frighten someone a lot
- a bloke** *n* a man
- a conviction** *n* if someone has a "conviction", they've been formally accused of a crime in a court of law.
- a motto** *n* a short sentence or phrase that is like a rule or a piece of advice
- to strike** *vb* to attack or kill
- a perpetrator** *n* someone who has committed a violent crime
- linked** *adj* connected
- a misdemeanour** *n* a crime, but not a very serious one
- to come from on top** *exp* if an order "comes from on top", it comes from the people in authority: the managers, the president, etc.
- the culprit** *n* the person who committed a crime

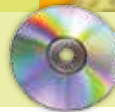
Disastrous  
 Grotesque  
 Pathetic  
 Dreadful  
 Rubbish  
 Cheap  
 Awful  
 Pp



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

The new type of environmentally-friendly person: the cragger.

# ZERO POLLUTERS



CD track 29 US woman & Englishwoman

Worried about the environment? Want to do something to help? Maybe you should become a cragger.

## Craggers

Many people in Britain have decided to do something about the environment. They have signed up to voluntary groups. These groups want to reduce their **carbon footprint** (to reduce the amount of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) they **release** into the **atmosphere**).

These groups are known as Carbon Rationing Action Groups (Crag), and members of these groups are referred to as "craggers".

The main **aim** is to find ways of cutting your personal energy use. "It's only when you stop and start looking that you realise that you do **waste** a lot of energy," said one cragger. "There are things you can do in your life that don't stop you having a really nice time, and you can still **make** really substantial **savings**." So, what exactly can you do?



## Cragging ideas

Some ways of reducing your carbon footprint are really simple. One trick is to use the light from **streetlamps** in the morning. "If it's dark in the morning, just open the curtain a bit and you've got some free light," a cragger explained. Other things include **turning down** the heating in winter, wearing

## Ways to cut your carbon footprint

- Use a bicycle instead of the car.
- Open the curtain in the morning and use the light from streetlamps.
- Watch less television.
- Turn off appliances at the wall and stop using standby switches.
- Insulate your walls.
- Use a biodiesel car.
- In winter, turn down the heat and wear more clothing.
- Fly less. Take your holidays closer to home.



more clothes when it's cold, turning off the heat altogether from April to October, using less light, turning off electronic equipment at the wall (the **standby switches** use up a lot of

## Info Box – Crag

Crag (Carbon Rationing Action Groups) are ecological groups who want to reduce the amount of carbon they produce. There are at least 23 crags in Britain. Most individual targets are set at 4.5 metric tons of carbon per person per year. In some crags there is a financial penalty for those who exceed the limit. The objective is to reduce your personal footprint by about 10% a year. The ultimate objective is a 90% cut by 2030.

only allow DVDs on the weekend and even turn the **brightness control** down on the television. Welcome to the world of **carbon rationing**.

## Climate change

So, just how popular are these measures? A recent **poll** suggests that only 28% of Britons thought the idea of setting limits on individuals' carbon emissions was acceptable. However, most people do feel that lifestyle changes are needed to reduce the impact of climate change.

Although not everyone is prepared to go to the extremes of the craggers, there are things that most people would find acceptable. This includes buying a car that runs on a biodiesel mix, flying less often, using a bicycle for small journeys, and **insulating** walls. Would you like to become a cragger? ☺

## Mick Jagger CO<sub>2</sub>

Sir Mick Jagger recently admitted that the band's carbon footprint was "rather enormous" because of their extensive touring. However, he added that they were taking measures to reduce it.



## GLOSSARY

- a carbon footprint** *n*  
the amount of carbon dioxide you produce. Literally, a "footprint" is the mark you leave on the ground when you walk somewhere
- to release** *vb*  
if a gas is "released", it leaves its container and enters the atmosphere
- the atmosphere** *n*  
the air and gases around the earth
- an aim** *n*  
an objective
- to waste** *vb*  
to use more of something than you really need
- to make savings** *exp*  
to reduce the amount of money you spend
- a streetlamp** *n*  
a tall post in the street with a light on top of it
- to turn down** *phr vb*  
to reduce the level/intensity of something
- a standby switch** *n*  
a part of a plug or appliance that remains on, even when you switch off the appliance. This allows you to turn on the appliance with a remote control device
- to ban** *vb*  
to prohibit
- a jug** *n*  
a ceramic container for water
- the brightness control** *n*  
the button on the television that controls the amount of light visible on the screen
- carbon rationing** *n*  
limiting the amount of carbon dioxide you create
- a poll** *n*  
a series of questions asked in order to understand people's opinions
- to insulate** *vb*  
to put material in the spaces between walls in order to prevent the building from losing heat

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# COMPUTER SECURITY JARGON

How much do you know about computer technology? You probably know what a virus is, but what about a whitehat, a blackhat and a botnet? Here are some of the most up-to-date computer terms that you should be familiar with. (US spelling)

## Adware

An unwanted programme that **bombards** users with adverts after they visit an infected site. Once installed in your computer, it can be very hard to remove.

## A blackhat

A hacker who uses his/her skills for criminal purposes.

## A botnet

A large number of computers which are being controlled by someone via the net (often in order to send out spam mail). The biggest botnets can have tens of thousands of **hijacked** computers in them. Each individual computer in a botnet is called a bot or a zombie.

## Bullet-proof hosting

A company that guarantees that it will not **shut down** its servers, even when the **request** comes from a government or **law-enforcement agency**. These hosting companies are often located off-shore or in countries where computer crime laws are **lax**.

## A carder

Someone who steals credit card numbers and their associated information.

## A dead-drop

A PC or server that is used to store stolen personal data stolen. Criminal hackers prefer to keep any data at a distance as possession of the information is **incriminating**.

## DDoS (Distributed Denial of Service)

This is an attack in which thousands of separate computers bombard a website in order to **knock it off** the net. DDoS attacks have been used by **extortionists** who threaten to knock a site offline unless a **ransom** is paid.

## Drive-by download

A malicious program that automatically installs when someone visits a **booby-trapped** website.

## A honeypot

An individual computer (or a network of machines) that appears to be a poorly-protected system, but which, in reality, records every attempt to attack it. This information is then used to **track down** the hacker.

## IP address

The numbers that identify every machine that is using the internet. IP stands for Internet Protocol.

## Keylogger

A programme installed on a victim's machine that records



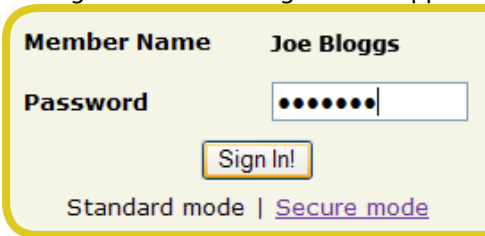
every **keystroke** that a user makes. This information can be used for stealing login and password details.

## Malware

A term for all **malicious** software. Derived from the words "malicious" and "software".

## Phishing

The practice of sending out e-mail messages which appear to be from a financial institution. The objective is to trick people into giving confidential information such as bank codes and passwords.



## Spyware

A malicious programme that steals personal and confidential information.

## Trojan

A type of programme or message that appears to be safe but which really **conceals** a malicious programme. Many of the **attachments** on virus-carrying e-mail messages have trojans.

## Virus

A malicious program that requires action to successfully infect a victim. For instance, opening an e-mail attachment.



## Whitehat

A hacker who uses his or her skills for positive ends.

## Worm

A malicious programme that **scours** the web looking for new victims. Worms can infect and take over computers without any help from a victim. 🌟

### GLOSSARY

- to bombard** *vb*  
to attack continuously
- to hijack** *vb*  
to take control of something illegally or by force
- to shut down** *phr vb*  
to close permanently
- a request** *n*  
if you make a "request", you ask for something politely
- a law-enforcement agency** *n*  
the police, the FBI, the drug squad, etc
- lax** *adj*  
not strict
- incriminating** *adj*  
"incriminating" evidence is evidence that suggests you are involved in a crime
- to knock off** *phr vb*  
if a website is "knocked off" the internet, it is forced to stop being on the internet
- an extortionist** *n*  
a criminal who gets money by force or threats (promises to do something bad)
- a ransom** *n*  
money that criminals demand in order to free someone, or to stop doing something bad against you
- booby-trapped** *adj*  
a harmful, damaging thing that is hidden or made to appear safe
- to track down** *phr vb*  
to find and catch
- a keystroke** *n*  
each time you press a key (a number or letter) on the computer keyboard
- malicious** *adj*  
evil and harmful
- to conceal** *vb*  
to hide
- an attachment** *n*  
a document or file that is attached to an e-mail message
- to scour** *vb*  
to search an area very thoroughly

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# FINANCE



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This month we are looking at some typical words, expressions, collocations and forms related to the word "finance". Listen and repeat the following expressions.

**Finance**

1. Who is going to finance the project?
2. She's a financial adviser for a multi-national.
3. The company is financially-sound.
4. Where are we going to find the financing for a project of this scale?
5. They managed to get some financial backing.
6. This product is a financial liability.
7. The financial markets responded positively to the move.
8. Financial forecasts were in line with our predictions as to where the market was going.
9. They have good financial standing.
10. We aren't prepared to take any more financial risks.
11. They were hoping for

- a bit more financial support.
12. There may be up to 12,000 job losses in the coming financial year ("fiscal year" in US English).
  13. The company is in financial difficulties.
  14. The fund was used to finance the building of a prison.
  15. The Minister of Finance recommended raising the base tax rate.

**Business Dialogue**

**Now listen to this business English telephone dialogue.**

**Stan:** Stan Bakers. Who's calling?  
**Nigel:** Hi Stan, Nigel here.  
**Stan:** Oh, hi, Nigel. We got a copy of your business plan. Looks very interesting.  
**Nigel:** Yeah, we just need the financing now.  
**Stan:** Who have you got in line to finance it?  
**Nigel:** There are a number of financial institutions who are very interested. They're just carrying out a risk assessment at

the moment. They just need to be sure that we're financially-sound.

**Stan:** Yeah. There aren't many people who are prepared to take any financial risks with dot-com start-ups any more. So, what will you use the finance for, if you get it?  
**Nigel:** It'll mostly go into developing the site.  
**Stan:** Oh, excuse me, I've got another call coming in. Speak later.  
**Nigel:** OK, cheers.  
**Stan:** Bye. ☘

**GLOSSARY**

**financially-sound** *adj*  
 if a business is "financially-sound", it is earning more money than it spends

**scale** *n*  
 size

**financial backing** *n*  
 money to start a business; investment money

**a financial liability** *n*  
 something which is costing more than it is making

**a move** *n*  
 an action

**a forecast** *n*  
 a prediction

**to be in line with** *exp*  
 to be the same as

**financial standing** *n*  
 the financial condition of a company and how much money it has

**a risk assessment** *n*  
 an investigation into a company to see how safe it is for investing in

**a start-up** *n*  
 a new company that is about to start

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Salón Internacional de la Educación de Tercer Ciclo  
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Recursos para la educación  
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