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No.261

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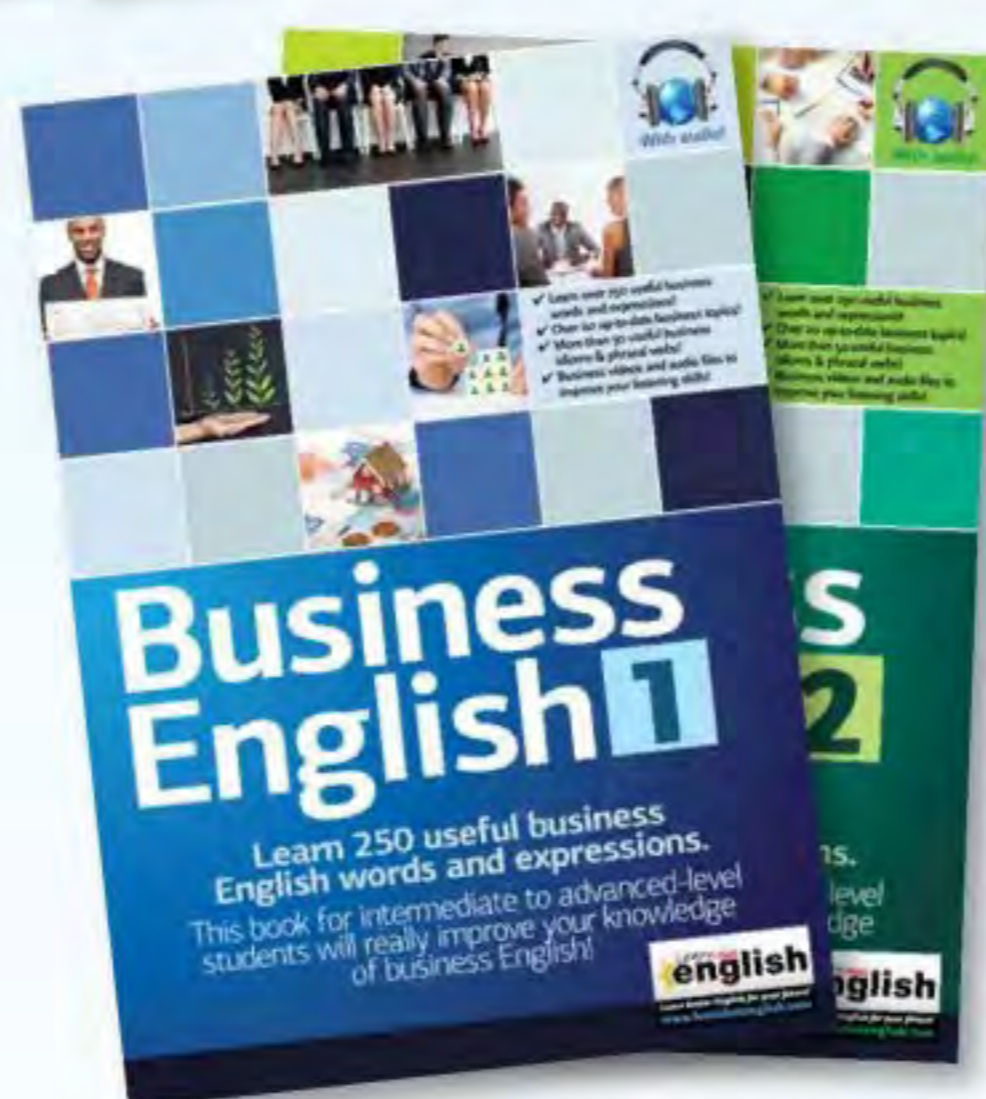
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# EDITOR'S INTRO

## How you learn English with Hot English magazine

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

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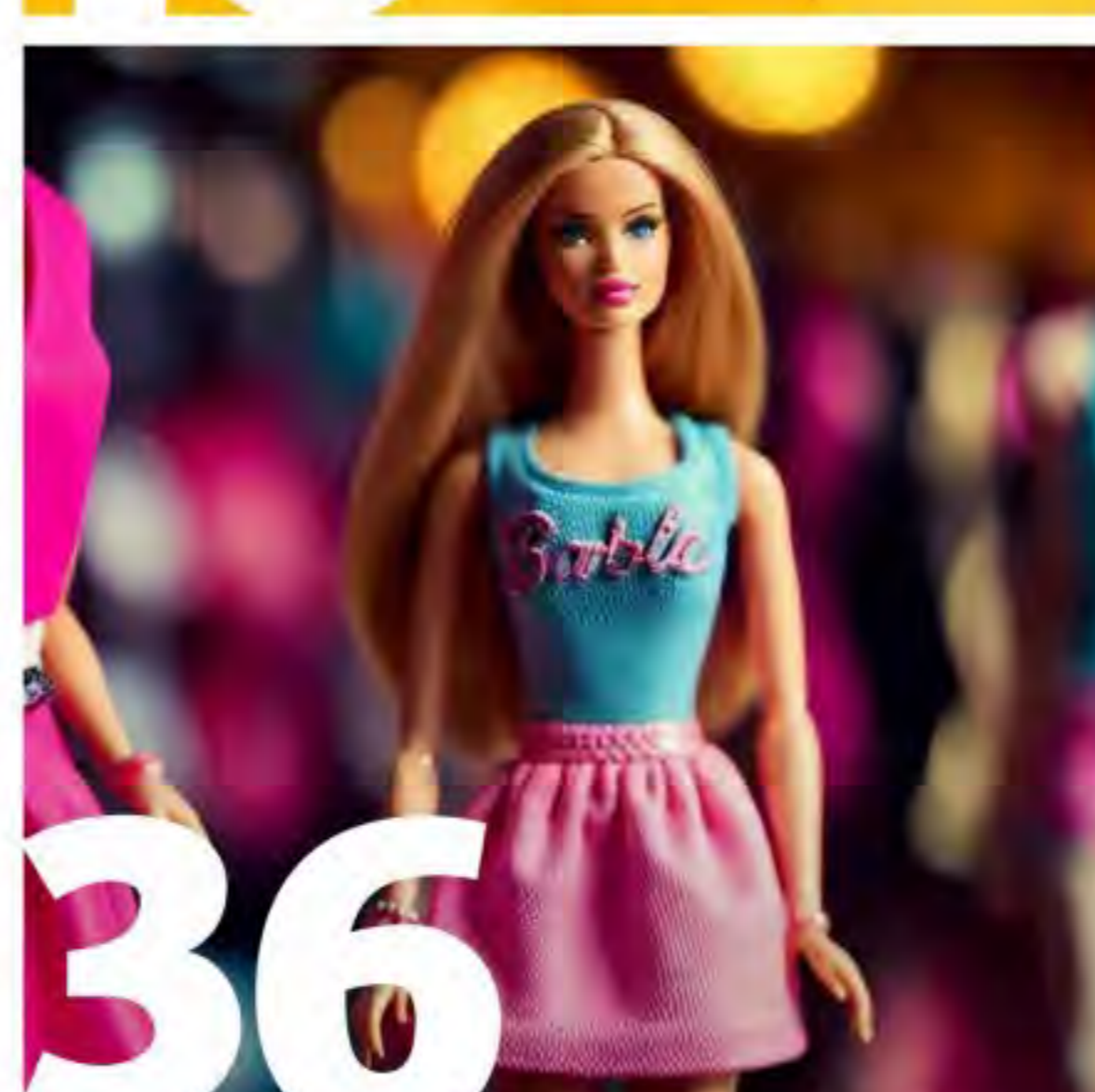


Hi, and welcome to another issue of *Learn Hot English* – the fun magazine for learning English. In this month's issue, we're looking at 15 really useful phrasal verbs to use at work or in life in general. Native English speakers use phrasal verbs all

the time, but do you know what these ones mean? Learning them will really improve your English level... and impress your teacher. But of course, that's not all and we're also looking at the London underground, water trivia, the supermarket, insurance quotes, famous songs, human disasters, the Great Fire of London, the City of London, idioms, slang, vocabulary, and lots, lots more. Well, we hope you enjoy reading and listening to this issue of *Learn Hot English*. Have fun, learn lots of English and see you all next month!

*Andy*

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



Pre-Intermediate (CEF level: A2)	
3	Editorial
4	What do you do in your free time?
6	Catching up
8	What do you think of the London Underground?
10	Word Booster - Acts of Violence
Intermediate (CEF level: B1)	
12	Dr Fingers' Grammar Clinic
14	Trivia - Water Trivia
16	The Supermarket
18	Functional Language - Supermarkets
19	The Supermarket joke!
20	Supermarket Survival Guide
22	Insurance Quotes
24	Sing Along - The Band
26	15 useful phrasal verbs for business! Part 5
28	Phrasal Verbs Exercises
Upper Intermediate (CEF level: B2)	
30	Crossword
32	Wordsearch & Matching
34	Air Idioms
36	Those Damn Yanks – Barbie
38	Films - Silence of the Lambs
40	Man-Made Chemical Disasters
42	Nerds
44	Historical Hysterics - The Great Fire of London
46	Weird World Cartoon
Advanced (CEF level: C1)	
48	Strange BUT True
50	Amazing World - The City Of London
52	Living Abroad - London
54	Book Review - Brideshead Revisited
56	British Bar Chat
57	US Bar Chat
58	Dictionary Of Slang
59	Answers

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AUDIO

**Objective** To improve your listening skills.**Think about it** What sports do you do in your spare time? Have you got any hobbies or pastimes? What are they? What would you do if you had more spare time?**Exams** This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as PET and TOEFL.GAME OF TENNIS,  
ANYONE?**Note!**

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

Answers on page 59

**1 Pre-listening**

In just two minutes, think of as many activities that you can do in your free time as you can.

**2 Listening I**

You're going to listen to five people talking about the things they do in their free time. Listen once. Were any of the hobbies or pastimes you thought of in the Pre-listening activity mentioned?

**3 Listening II**

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

- How often does Speaker I go swimming?
- What does Speaker II like to do at the weekend?
- Where does Speaker III take his son on Saturday morning?
- What sport does Speaker IV do after his tennis lesson?
- What does Speaker V do at the weekend?
- Where does she go every Friday after work?

**Language focus****Modal verbs**

Look at this extract from the audio script of the recording **Fun Time**: "...I might go this year with some friends..." The speaker has used a modal verb ("might"). Read through the audio script and see if you can find any other modal verbs. Why are they being used?

**4 Listening III**

Complete the audio script with the words from below.

- football   cycling   tennis
- photography   cooking
- jogging   video games

# What do you do in your free time?

**Audio script**

We asked a few people what they do in their free time.

**Speaker I**

Well, I do quite a lot of sport actually. I go swimming twice a week – there's a very good (1) \_\_\_\_\_ just around the corner from my office. I swim for an hour and do about 40 lengths. I also cycle to work when I can. Apart from that, I do a lot of reading and (2) \_\_\_\_\_.

**Speaker II**

When I was younger, I did a lot of (3) \_\_\_\_\_. I used to go snowboarding quite often too in the winter, but I haven't been for a long time, although I might go this year with some friends. These days, I go cycling when I can. At the weekends, I like to cook and invite friends round for dinner. I'm a big fan of (4) \_\_\_\_\_ programmes and often try to copy the recipes, but they don't always turn out very well.

**Speaker III**

I don't have a lot of time to myself now that I'm married with two young children. So, a lot of my free time is used taking my kids to their activities. For example, on Saturday morning, I have to take my son to his basketball games and my daughter to (5) \_\_\_\_\_ practice, then I have to ship them off to parties or friends' houses. Two or three times a month, my wife and I go for a meal with friends. And once a month, we go to the (6) \_\_\_\_\_ while my parents look after the kids. There's a great

little cinema that shows independent or foreign films just near where we live.

**Speaker IV**

I have tennis lessons with a group of friends at the weekend. There are eight of us: four mums and dads, and four kids. The idea was that the lessons would give us parents a chance to do something sporty with our children. And it's great. The teacher's really good and we all have a fantastic time, plus we're getting better at tennis. Best of all, after an hour of (7) \_\_\_\_\_, the kids go off to play, and we can have a drink and a chat. Now, that's my idea of playing sport! Apart from that, I also go out bowling once a month, and I do a bit of swimming and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ when I can.

**Speaker V**

I play golf at the weekend. I get up really early on Sunday and play for about five hours with some friends from work. While I'm out, my husband prepares lunch, which is usually ready by the time I get back. I started (9) \_\_\_\_\_ about six months ago but I've done something to my knees, so I've got to take it easy for a bit. Apart from that, I play online (10) \_\_\_\_\_, and read a lot. Also, I go for a drink after work every Friday with my work colleagues. There's a pub nearby and we usually stay there for a couple of hours, which is good fun.

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AUDIO

**Objective** To improve your listening skills.**Think about it** Have you met an old friend recently? Who was it? Where did you meet? What did you talk about?**Exams** This listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as PET and TOEFL.

Answers on page 59

**1 Pre-listening**

Imagine you've just met an old friend in the street. Think of four questions to ask him/her. For example: "Where are you working now?"

**2 Listening I**

You're going to listen to two old friends having a chat. Listen once. Did you hear any of the questions you thought of for the Pre-listening activity?

**3 Listening II**

Listen again. Then, answer yes / no.

1. Were Alex and Danielle at school together?
2. Were they in Ms Jones' class?
3. Was Alex in the school football team?
4. Did Alex go out with Danielle?
5. Is Alex working as a doctor right now?
6. Is Danielle a set designer?
7. Does Danielle tell Alex the name of the TV series she's been working on?

**4 Language focus**  
**Features of conversational English**

Look at this extract from the audio script on this page: "...You look, erm, different..." The speaker has used the sound "erm" to fill a space in the conversation. Read through the audio script and look for any other features of conversational English.

**5 Listening III**

Complete the audio script with the correct prepositions.

**Note!**

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

# Catching up

**Audio script**

**Alex:** Don't I know you from somewhere?

**Danielle:** Er, I don't think so.

**Alex:** It's Danielle, right? We were (1) \_\_\_\_\_ school together.

**Danielle:** Erm...

**Alex:** You know, Alex Simmonds. I was that guy (2) \_\_\_\_\_ the back always cracking jokes... throwing paper aeroplanes... annoying the teachers...

**Danielle:** Mmm...

**Alex:** We were in Ms Jones' class. I was (3) \_\_\_\_\_ the school band.

**Danielle:** Erm...

**Alex:** I went out with your best friend, Jaqueline.

**Danielle:** Oh, Alex. Now I remember. You were expelled (4) \_\_\_\_\_ school before you took your exams, weren't you?

**Alex:** That's me.

**Danielle:** You look, erm, ... different.

**Alex:** It's been a long time. I'm working in a bank, and I'm married (5) \_\_\_\_\_ three kids.

**Danielle:** You really have changed. We always thought

you'd end up in prison!

**Alex:** Thanks. So, what (6) \_\_\_\_\_ you? What have you been up to?

**Danielle:** Well, I work in a film production company.

**Alex:** Sounds interesting.

**Danielle:** Yeah, it's all right. I'm a set designer.

**Alex:** What's that?

**Danielle:** I design the sets (7) \_\_\_\_\_ TV programmes. We've been working on this fantasy TV series that's about to come out.

**Alex:** Sounds interesting. So, what's the series?

**Danielle:** I'm not allowed to talk (8) \_\_\_\_\_ it, but I think it's coming out sometime next month. It'll be on Channel 5 in the evening.

**Alex:** I'll look (9) \_\_\_\_\_ for it. Will your name be in the credits?

**Danielle:** Of course!

**Alex:** Oh, well, let me know when it's on.

**Danielle:** Will do.

**Alex:** Anyway, I'm going to go and mix it up.

**Danielle:** Speak to you later.

**Alex:** Bye.

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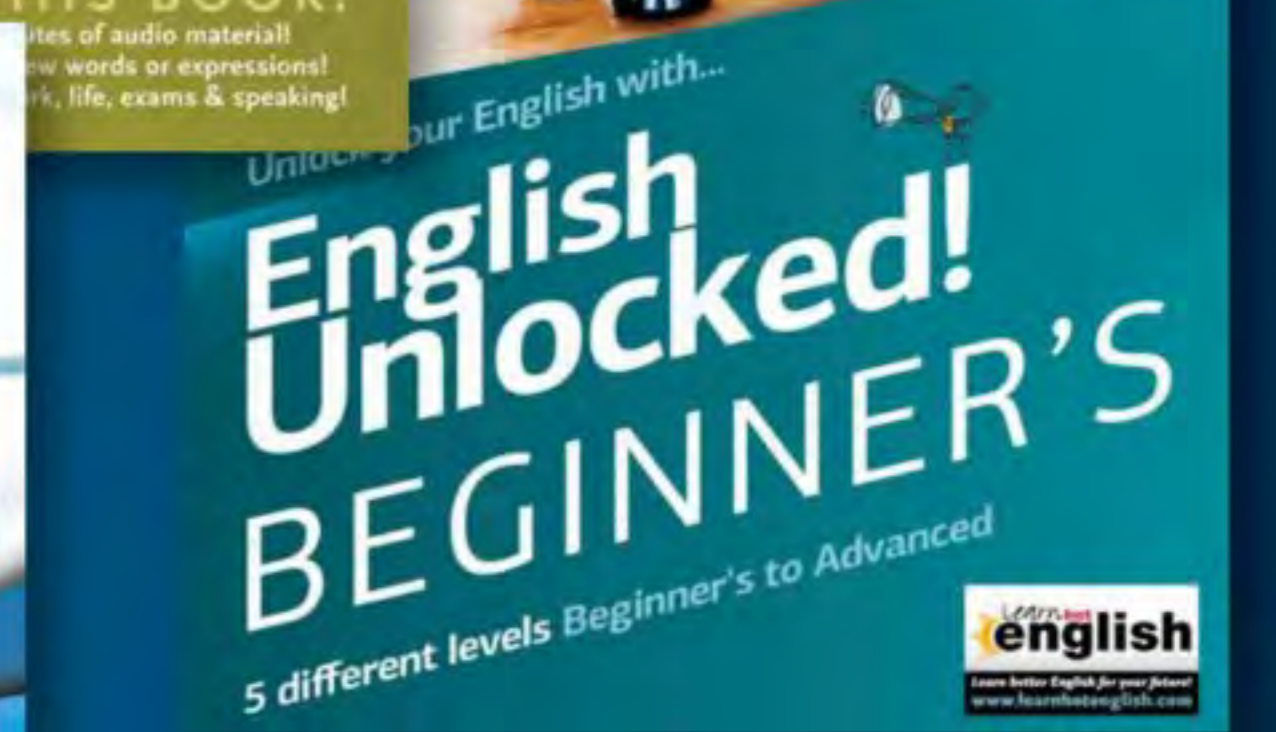
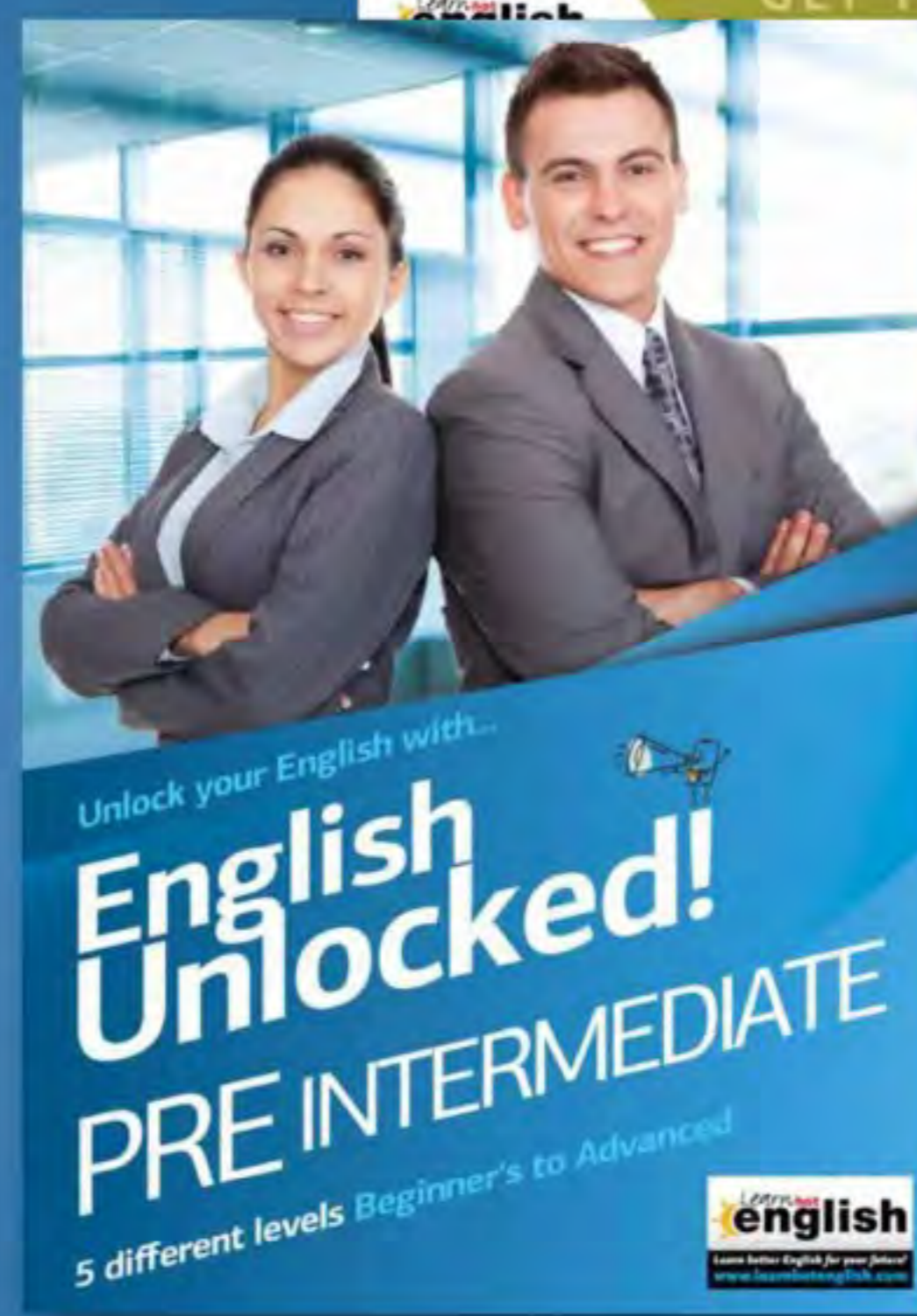
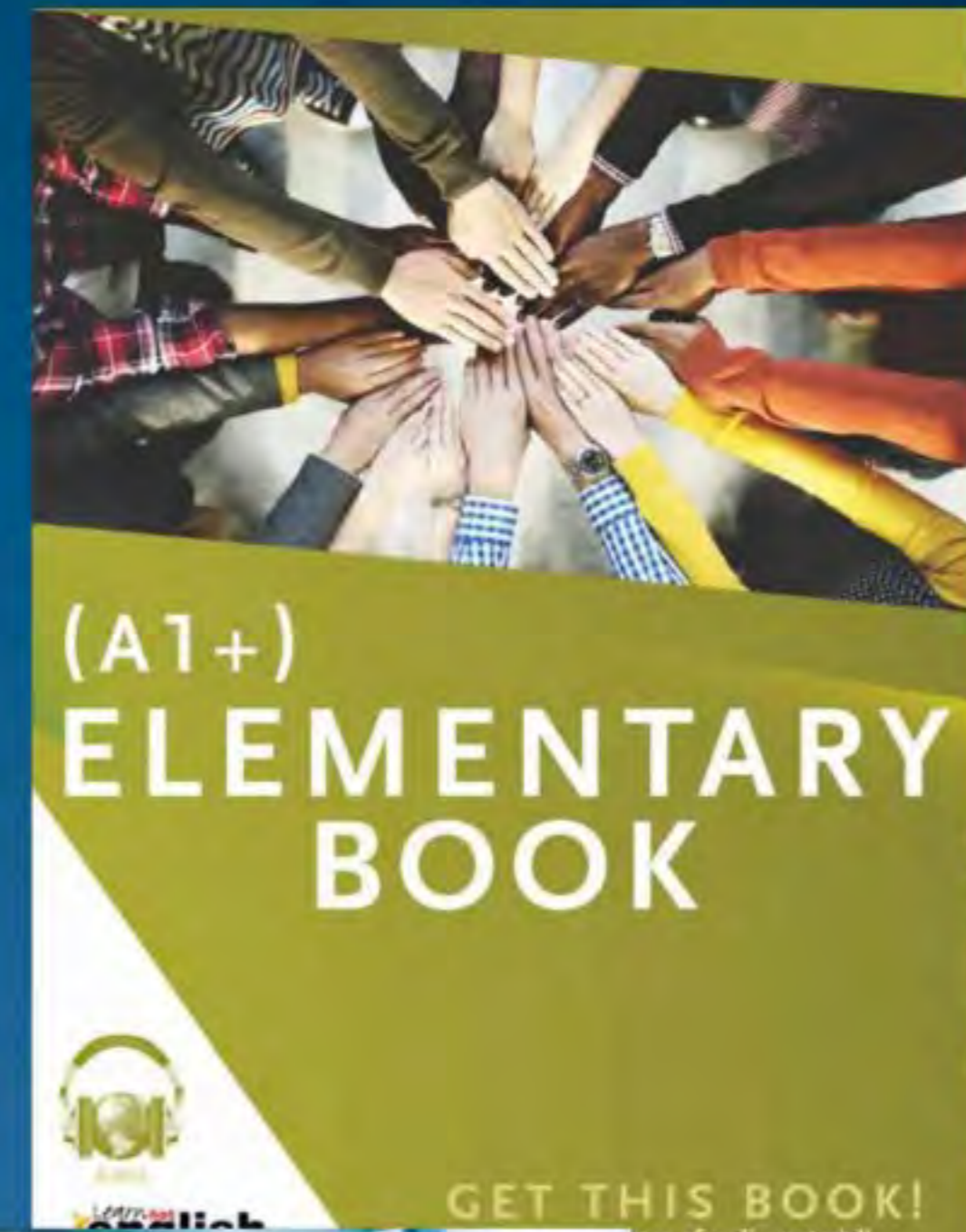
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**Objective** To improve your reading and listening skills.**Think about it** How often do you use the underground? Which underground train systems have you used? Which ones are the best? Why?**Exams** This reading and listening activity will help prepare you for English exams such as KET and TOEFL.

# WHAT DO YOU THINK OF THE LONDON UNDERGROUND?

By Georgina Kiely

The London Underground has just celebrated its 150th anniversary. We asked a few people what they thought of it.

“The Underground is great for doing a bit of **people-watching**. In the morning, you get all the **city types** with their **suits** on. Then, during the day, you get lots of tourists, and at the weekend there are families going to the museums, and people going shopping. At night, the **tube** is full of interesting people going out to the theatre, the cinema or bars and clubs.”  
**Sophie, 26**

“I’m not a big fan of the Underground. OK, it’s really convenient, but it’s just so **crowded** in **rush hour**. Sometimes, you really have to push to get in. And it gets so hot, especially in the summer. There’s no air conditioning and sometimes it’s like being in a sauna. Last July, someone **fainted** in a carriage that I was in!”  
**Amelia, 33**

“I love travelling by tube. I sit there with my eReader and my 45-minute journey goes by in no time. Some days, when I’m tired, I might

**doze off**, but I normally use the time to read a book. The **line** I take is normally quite quiet, especially as I travel first thing in the morning when most people are still getting up. If you don’t **fancy** reading, you can listen to music or watch a film on your iPad.”  
**Jack, 29**

“Getting the underground in the morning or after work is a **nightmare**. It’s just full of people pushing and **shoving** in the **unbearable** heat. These days, I either walk into work or get the bus. As far as I’m concerned, the bus is great, especially if you get a seat at the front and top of a **double-decker**. It’s so much better than being stuck in a dark tunnel with a load of **grumpy** people.”  
**Bob, 34**

“The Underground is definitely the best way to get around the city. It’s fast and **reliable** so you can **time** your journey perfectly. If I went to work by bus or car, it’d take an hour, but on the underground it takes about a third of the time. Apart from that, I really like all the unexpected things down there: the **buskers**, the poems on posters, the mice running along the **tracks**... it’s fascinating.”  
**Sam, 35** ★

## THE LONDON UNDERGROUND



The London Underground (often shortened to the Underground, and also known as the Tube) was first opened in 1863. With 270 stations and 402 kilometres of track, it’s the fourth largest metro system in the world in terms of route kilometres (after the Seoul Metropolitan Subway, the Shanghai Metro and the Beijing Subway), and it’s got the largest number of stations. It’s also the third busiest metro system in Europe after Moscow and Paris. There are plans to introduce air conditioning and Wifi coverage very soon.

## GLOSSARY

**people-watching** *n*  
if you do some “people-watching”, you sit in a bar (for example) and watch people

**city types** *n*  
the type of people who work in the City (the financial district of London): stockbrokers, bankers, etc.

**a suit** *n*  
clothing that consists of a jacket and trousers / skirt of the same material and colour

**the tube** *n*  
an informal name for the underground train system in London

**crowded** *adj*  
if a place is “crowded” there are many people there

**rush hour** *n*  
the time in the morning or evening when people travel to or from work

**to faint** *vb*  
if someone “faints”, they lose consciousness

**to doze off** *phr vb*  
if you “doze off”, you fall asleep

**a line** *n*  
a train route with stations

**to fancy** *vb*  
if you “fancy” doing something, you want to do that thing

**a nightmare** *n*  
a terrible/bad situation

**to shove** *vb*  
if you “shove” someone, you push them

**unbearable** *adj*  
something “unbearable” for you is very bad and you don’t want to accept it

**a double-decker (bus)** *n*  
a bus with two floors: one at the top and one at the bottom

**grumpy** *adj*  
if someone is “grumpy”, they’re a bit angry

**reliable** *adj*  
if something / someone is “reliable”, they always do what they say they’ll do

**to time** *vb*  
if you “time” a journey, you calculate how long it’ll take

**a busker** *n*  
a musician who plays in the street. People give him/her money

**a track** *n*  
the “tracks” are the two metal lines that the trains travel on

Answers on page 59

### 1 Pre-reading

What are the pros and cons of travelling by underground?

### 2 Reading I

Read the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading activity. Did anyone mention the things you thought of?

### 3 Reading II

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

1. He likes reading on the Underground.
2. She likes watching people on the Underground.
3. He likes it because it’s fast and reliable.
4. She thinks it’s too hot in the summer.
5. He prefers to walk or get the bus.



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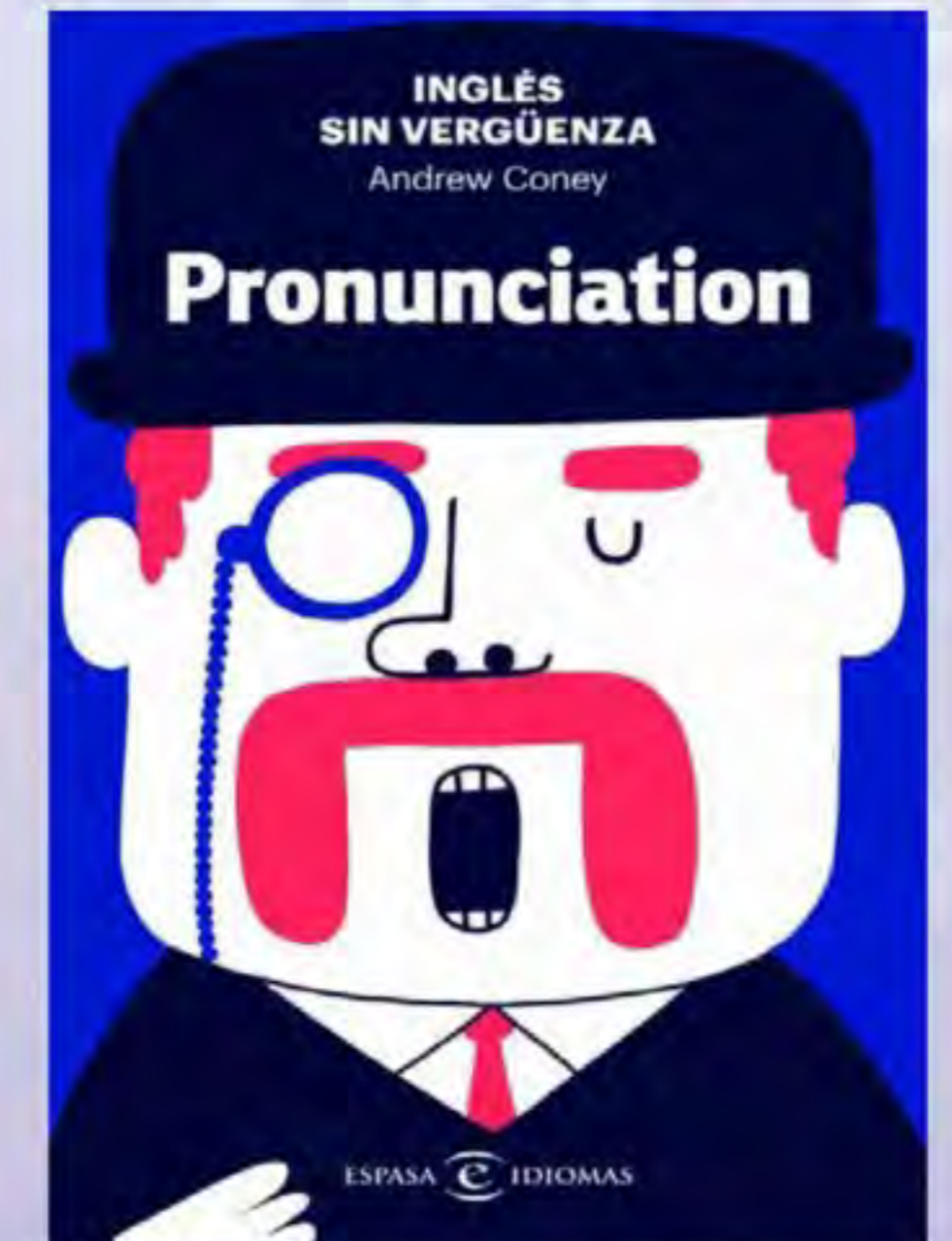
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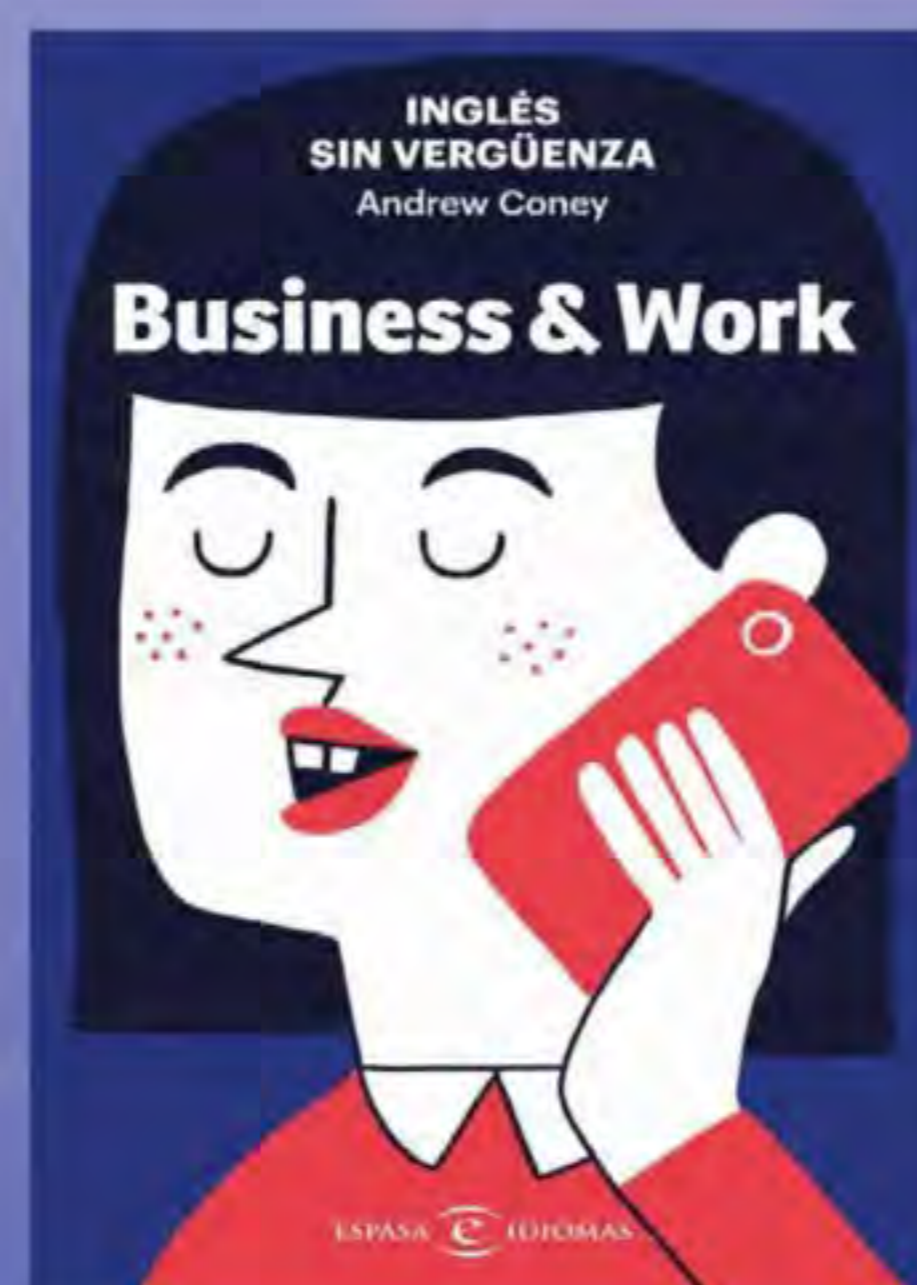
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## WORD BOOSTER ACTS OF VIOLENCE

**Pinch**

If you "pinch" someone, you hold their skin between your thumb and forefinger and squeeze.  
"Ow! Stop pinching me!"

**Hurt (someone)**

If you "hurt" someone, you make them feel pain.  
"She really hurt me when she pulled my hair."

**Hurt (a part of your body)**

If a part of your body hurts, you can feel pain in that part.  
"My back really hurts."

**Bite**

If you "bite" something, you use your teeth to break it.  
"The dog bit me but it didn't hurt much because it was so small."

**Punch**

If A "punches" B, A hits B with his/her fist (a closed hand).  
"The boxer punched her opponent during the fight."

**Kick**

If you "kick" someone, you hit that person with your foot.  
"I kicked him."

**Slap**

If you "slap" someone, you hit them in the face with the palm of your hand (the inside part of your hand).  
"She slapped him."

**Scratch**

If you "scratch" someone, you use your fingers to break their skin.  
"She scratched me with her long fingernails."

**Bleed**

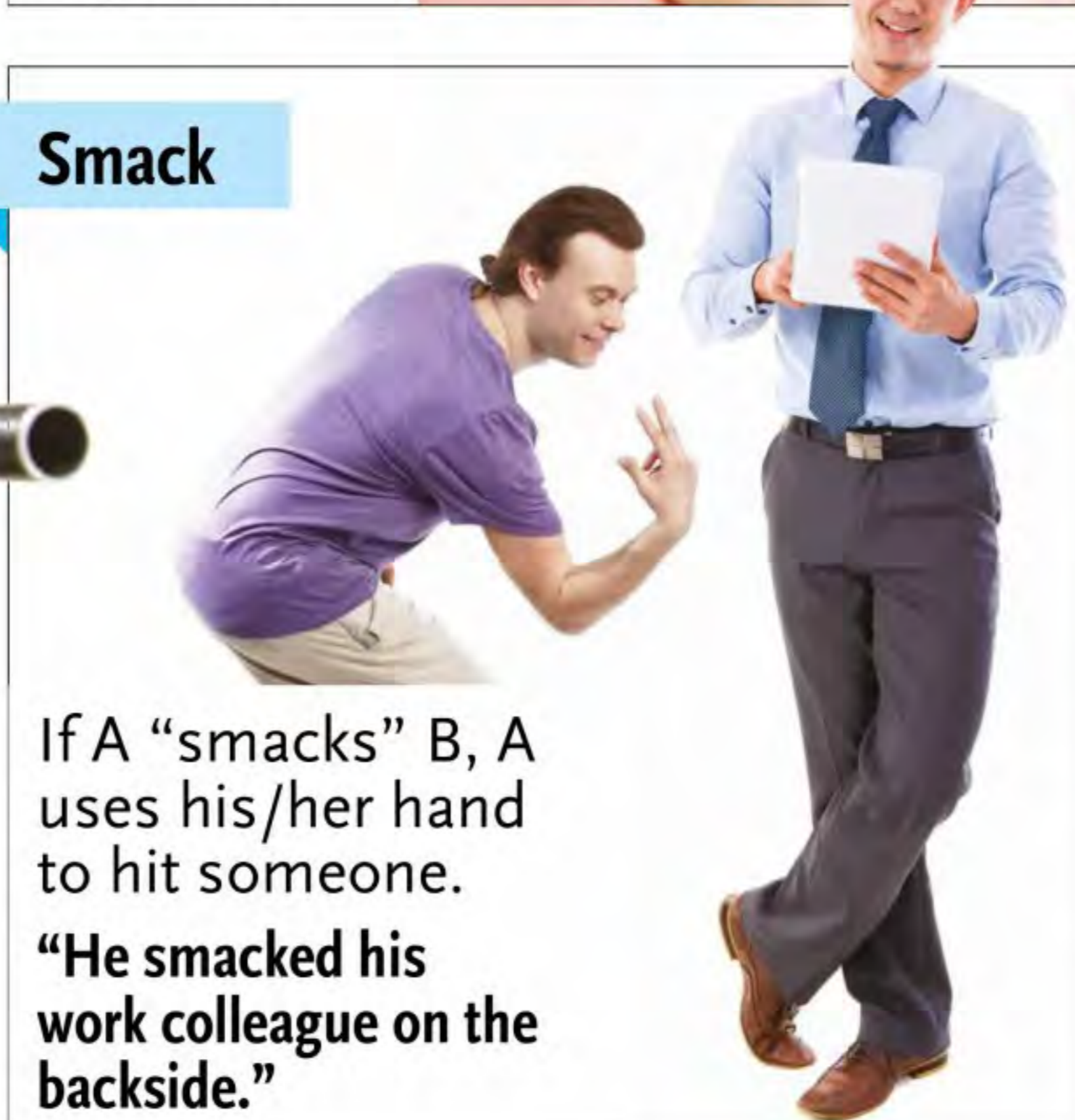
If something makes you "bleed", it causes blood to come out of you.  
"I cut my finger and it wouldn't stop bleeding."

**Shoot**

If A "shoots" B, A fires a gun at B.  
"We went paintballing and James shot me!"

**Smack**

If A "smacks" B, A uses his/her hand to hit someone.  
"He smacked his work colleague on the backside."

**Head butt**

If A "head butts" B, A uses the front part of his/her head to hit B.  
"She head butted him."



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# DR FINGERS' GRAMMAR CLINIC

Dear Dr Fingers,  
I have a question for you.  
What's the difference  
between the following two  
sentences?

"I went **in to** the room."

"I went **into** the room."

It seems like they're the  
same to me, but I'm not  
sure. Also, is it always  
possible to use  
"in to" (two words) or  
"into" (one word), or are there some exceptions? I'm sure  
there are, because in English there are always three hundred  
exceptions for every rule.

Thank you,  
Pietro (by e-mail)



Dear Pietro,

Thank you very much for your letter. I will try to answer your  
question as best I can. As you already mention, the English  
language is full of exceptions. So, as usual, I'll explain the rule to  
you, and then tell you about all the exceptions.

In many cases "in to" and "into" are the same, particularly when  
we are talking about movement into a place:

"He walked **in to** the meeting with no clothes on."

"He walked **into** the meeting with no clothes on."

"The waiter brought the food **in to** the dining room."

"The waiter brought the food **into** the dining room."

"She invited us **in to** her office."

"She invited us **into** her office."

However, you have to be careful as there are many phrasal verbs  
with "in". Sometimes, they may be followed an infinitive with "to"  
and in this case "in + to + verb" cannot form "into + verb".

This is the case with the verb "call in", which means to visit  
someone for a short period of time:

"We just **called in** to see how you were."

And with "rush in", which means to enter a place quickly:

"They **rushed in** to see what was happening."

And with "eat in", which means to "eat at home":

"They decided to **eat in** to save money."

The same thing happens with "on to" and "onto". In many  
cases "on to" and "onto" are the same, particularly when we are  
referring to movement:

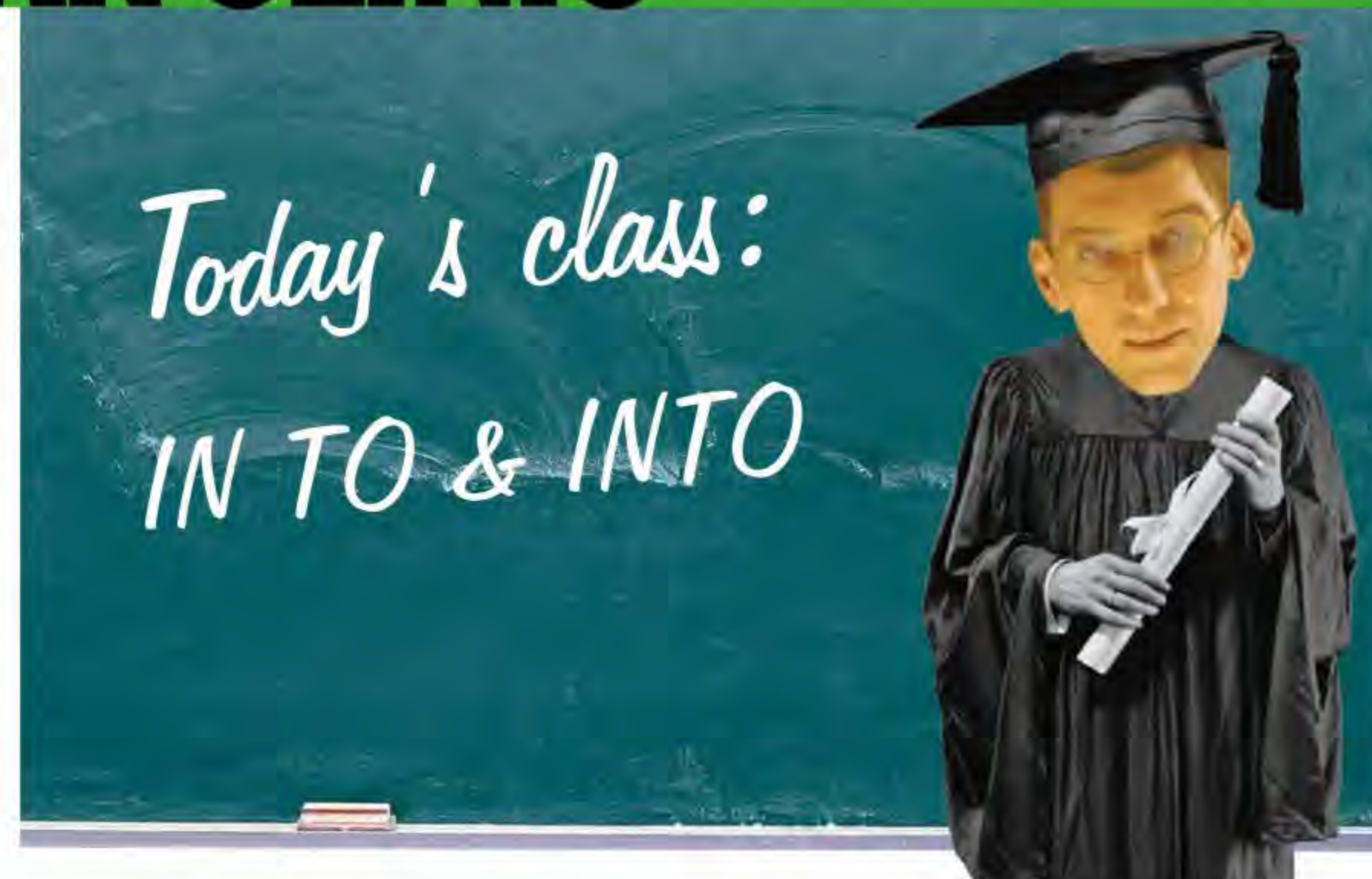
"She pushed me **on to** the floor."

"She pushed me **onto** the floor."

"He threw the dog **on to** the bed."

"He threw the dog **onto** the bed."

However, there are many phrasal verbs with "on" that may be  
followed by an infinitive with "to". In these cases "on + to"



cannot form "onto". This is the case with "put on", which is used  
to describe getting dressed:

"She **put** the jacket **on** to get warm."

You cannot say:

"She put the jacket **onto** get warm".

The best thing to avoid making a mistake is to write the words  
separately (in to, on to, etc).

I hope that has answered your question,

Yours Dr Fingers.

## Grammar Reminder

"I had been driving for 40 years when I fell **asleep** at the wheel  
and had an accident."

In this grammar reminder we'll be looking at the difference  
between "asleep" and "sleep".

"Sleep" can be used as a verb:

"I only slept for three hours last night."

"She slept during the film."

"Sleep" can also be used as a noun:

"I never get enough **sleep**."

"He needs lots of **sleep**."

"Asleep" is a type of adjective and you can use it to say that  
someone is, or was, "sleeping":

"She **is asleep**."

"They **are asleep**."

"We **were asleep** when you called."

It is not usually possible to use "asleep" in front of a noun.

We don't say "the asleep boy". We usually say things like, "the  
sleeping boy".

Also, we don't usually say "very asleep". Instead, we say "sound  
asleep" or "fast asleep".

When someone changes from being awake to being asleep, you say  
that they "go to sleep":

"She **went to sleep** late."

"It's time to **go to sleep**."

When someone goes to sleep suddenly or unexpectedly, you say  
that they "fall asleep":

"He **fell asleep** while I was talking."

"They **fell asleep** in the back of the car."

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AUDIO

Here are some more interesting facts and figures from around the world

# Trivia



# WATER TRIVIA

A serious look at water Some strange, interesting and completely useless facts about water.

## Hot – Very Hot

Water is the commonest liquid on the earth's surface; and without it there would be no life. But water hasn't always **been around**. Many millions of years ago, the earth was a hot ball of rock and the temperature was too high for liquid water. Scientists believe that water came to the earth's surface from meteorites or comets. At first it simply **boiled** and formed massive **clouds** near the surface of the earth. This **blotted out** the sun. When the clouds condensed, it rained, and when this fell it cooled the surface a bit. Eventually the earth reached the temperature where it could sustain liquid water. At this time it rained for millions of years without stopping. So, if it is a bit wet out one day, don't **complain**. The situation in Britain is still as it was many millions of years ago.

## Life

It's thanks to all that water that we're here today. The rain started to form huge seas which dissolved chemicals from the rocks. This formed a kind of warm **soup** and this is where we came from.

## Everest

Most people think that water boils at 100° C. This is true in some cases, but not all. Water boils at exactly 100°C at normal atmospheric pressure - at sea level as they also say. In Spain sea level is the average height of the Mediterranean Sea in Alicante. However, the higher you go, the lower the boiling point.

If you live in Madrid about 600m above sea level, then water will boil at 99°C.

If you live on the top of Ben Nevis in Scotland (the highest mountain in Britain), then your water will boil at 95°C.

If you live on Mont Blanc, it will boil at 85°C.

And if you live on the peak of Everest, it will boil at 71°C, but I imagine at this height it would be hard to light your **stove** in the first place.



## Fish

You may have wondered how a fish can survive when **ponds**, rivers and **lakes freeze over**. Well, the water at the top freezes but heavier water (at 4°C) sinks to the bottom of the river or pond. This water doesn't freeze, and this means that fish and plants can go on living even when the temperature outside is very cold. And that's why fish survive even in frozen lakes!

## Just Do It!

You can make your own water at home. Just add 2 parts of hydrogen to one part of oxygen - the famous H<sub>2</sub>O - and mix them together in a **jar**. Now, put a **lit match** near and you will see how the mixture explodes - great fun. So, how much water would you expect to get from a big gas jar? Actually, not very much - only a few **drops**. Interestingly, car companies like BMW are experimenting with engines powered by mixing hydrogen and oxygen. If this works, the cars will produce water instead of **polluting the environment**.

## The Spice Of Life

Why is sea water salty? Well, basically, when water washes over rocks, the salt in the rocks dissolves in the water. Throughout history there have been ranges of mountains bigger than the Himalayas which have been dissolved by water.

Surprisingly, the saltiness of the sea is more or less the same everywhere. Why is that? Well, the water evaporating every day from the sea is replaced by fresh water from rivers and this dilutes the extra salt from the rocks. So the sea stays more or less at the same level of saltiness.

In the Dead Sea however the water is about 8 times more salty. This is because there are no rivers next to it that bring fresh water in. So, the sea gets saltier and saltier. Eventually it will dry up completely, but until then you can enjoy floating on your back in the water even if you can't swim.



## Killer Water

Water kills, and that's a fact. Probably more people have died as a result of water than for any other reason. So how does it kill? Water carries bacteria which causes thousands of deaths every year. Also, water is the perfect **breeding ground** for mosquitoes. In fact, these **tiny** insects are responsible for more than a million deaths a year. And finally, after any natural disaster such as **earthquakes** or **floods**, epidemics like cholera **break out**, and people get dysentery or diarrhoea, and since there is no fresh water they can die of dehydration.

## Water Fights

In recent times we've had wars over the control of oil and petrol. But in the future we may have wars over water. As we know, water is the source of life, so those who control it have lots of power. In fact, it may even become more valuable than gold. After all a glass of water may save your life, but a bar of gold certainly won't help if you are dying of **thirst**.

## Dr Water

Water's really good for you. Apart from allowing you to live, it also does the following:

It cleans out your **kidneys** and **liver**.

It gets rid of **nasty** toxins.

It helps keep your weight under control.

So next time you have that glass of water, just think of how you're helping your body.

## Water Numbers

Here are some amazing water statistics:

Americans consume more **soft drinks** than they do water.

80% of the earth's surface is water – more than 97% of this water is in the oceans, 20% is locked in the **polar icecaps** and less than 1% is in freshwater lakes, **streams** and **groundwater**.

You need about 100,000 litres of water to make a new car.

About 66% of the human body is water.

About 70% of an elephant is water.

About 75% of a chicken is water.

About 80% of a pineapple is water.

About 95% of a tomato is water.



### to be around *phr vb*

to exist

### to boil *vb*

water boils at 100° Centigrade

### a cloud *n*

a large area of water vapour in the sky

### to blot out *phr vb*

if an object is "blotted out", you cannot see it because there is something in front of it

### to complain *vb*

to talk about how bad something is

### soup *n*

a liquid food that is made of water, vegetables and meat or fish

### a stove *n*

a small object you carry to cook food

### a pond *n*

a small, artificial man-made area of fresh water

### a lake *n*

a large area of fresh water

### to freeze over *phr vb*

to become ice (in reference to the surface of an area of water)

### a jar *n*

a glass container for liquids

### lit *adj*

with fire coming out of it

### a match *n*

a thin, wooden stick for making fire

### a drop *n*

a very small amount of water

### to pollute *vb*

to contaminate

### the environment *n*

the natural area where we live and exist

### a breeding ground *n*

an area where insects can multiply and increase in number

### tiny *adj*

very, very small

### an earthquake *n*

a natural phenomenon when the ground starts to move

### a flood *n*

when it rains very much and there is water on the ground

### to break out *phr vb*

if a disease "breaks out", it starts and many people become infected

### thirst *n*

the desire to drink

### a kidney *n*

an organ in your body for cleaning your blood

### a liver *n*

an organ in your body for cleaning your blood

### nasty *adj*

horrible, very bad

### a soft drink *n*

a drink made of fruit and sugar

### the polar icecaps *n*

the areas in the north and south where there is permanent ice

### a stream *n*

a small river

### groundwater *n*

water under the ground



# THE SUPERMARKET

When it comes to shopping in a supermarket, most people just want to get in and out as fast as possible with as little stress as possible. But it's not always that easy and supermarkets can be places of tension and frustration. Here's the Hot English guide to supermarkets, plus some useful survival tips.

## Trolleys

Are you going to take a **basket** or a **trolley**? If you decide to go for the basket, make sure you choose one with two decent **handles**. And if you go for the trolley, beware of the "wobbly wheel". This is the irritating wheel that seems to have a mind of its own: when you push the trolley to the left, the "wobbly wheel" decides that it would rather go to the right and starts moving in that direction. By the way, you can learn a lot about someone by looking at their basket or trolley. So, if you **fancy** someone in the supermarket, have a look at what they're buying first.

## What To Buy

Now you need to fill your basket or trolley. The organized shopper – the person who writes out a list before leaving home – should have no problem deciding what to buy. Other types of shoppers have more problems, particularly the spontaneous shopper. This is the person who leaves home with a very vague idea that food is required. This person often **ends up with** thirty three packets of chocolate biscuits, 40 litres of coca cola and very little in the way of "real" food.

## Fruit & Vegetables

One very stressful area in the supermarket is the fruit and vegetable section. Usually there are little pictures of the fruit you are looking for on the **weighing machine**. However, other supermarkets use numbers. This means you have to remember which number the fruit was when you put it in the bag. And if you can't remember, you've got to go back to where you found it (another big problem), look at the

number, memorize it and get back to the machine... which is now being used by someone else. This is even more stressful for foreigners who may have to use their limited language skills in order to get what they want.

## Discounts & Offers

With so many tasty products on offer it's always going to be hard to choose what to buy. And just to add to your confusion there are lots of different prices too: 20% off, 40% extra, 20 points for your **store card**, two for the price of one, 10% discount on your next **purchase**. Then there is the problem of quality. Should you buy the cheap product or the expensive one? The cheap one may save you money, but it may also be **crap**. We suggest going for quality... if you can afford it!

## Milk

Where to find your food is a problem for all types of shoppers. Firstly, no two supermarkets are ever the same. Each one has its own idea of logic and organization and put food and products in **all sorts of** places. This is most irritating for the spontaneous shopper who just needs to know where the milk is and is not prepared to walk fifty kilometers around the shop in order to find it. Once you've got everything you need, the hardest part awaits you: choosing a **lane**.

## Lanes

Choosing the right lane is an art in itself. The objective is to wait as little as possible. In order to do this you have to study the types of people and the amount of goods they are carrying with them. One lane may have fewer people, but



their shopping trolleys are fuller. Another may have more people, but their trolleys are practically empty. You also need to look at the cashier and decide how experienced they look. If they are too new, they may take **ages** to **deal with** the customer. A more elderly, experienced cashier may be faster. Our **tip** is to **go in twos**, and both join a different lane. Then one of you can move over to the quicker lane at the appropriate moment.

### Friends & Enemies

While waiting in the **queue**, you are likely to meet two types of irritating people: “basket leavers” and “pusher-ins”. “Basket leavers” are the people who leave their baskets in the queue and go away to finish their shopping. This is really annoying, especially as they keep coming back and leaving more things.

“Pusher-ins” are the people who politely ask if they can go to the front of the queue because they “only have a couple of things”. **Stare** hard at these people until they go away.

### The New Lane

One of the really big dilemmas is what to do when a new lane opens. There are basically two options. Stay where you are, or quickly jump into the new queue. The advantages of jumping into the new lane are that you may get to the front of the queue and get served much more quickly. However, ten other people may have the same idea and you could **end up** in a very undignified fight.

### The Express Lanes

Another source of irritation and confusion is the **express lane**. Most of them say “Ten Products Only”. But what does this mean? Is each individual banana one product? Do those special “two-for-the-price-of-one” offers count as one product or two? Once you are in the queue, there is an enormous temptation to count the number of products in other people’s baskets and try to find the **cheat**. If you do notice someone with more than ten, you will then have to decide what to do. Tell that person to go to another queue? Inform the cashier? Call the manager? Or just hit the shopper? It’s a difficult choice.

### The Cashier

Now you are getting near the end and it’s time to meet the **cashier**. There are certain things you should learn about the cashier. Firstly, remember that they are in a job that they hate. So, if you get angry with them and mention that you will “speak to the manager” in the hope that they will get **sacked**, they will just laugh at you. Secondly, cashiers are **vengeful** people who will do everything in their power to punish you if you make them angry. They may do things like **ringing up** more products than you have chosen, **squeezing** your food as they scan it, not giving you enough bags, rejecting your perfectly good credit card, putting all your eggs and tomatoes under that heavy bag of potatoes or informing you right at the last minute that the lane is actually closed.

So, good luck on your next trip to the local supermarket.



### GLOSSARY

- a basket** *n*  
a small container that you carry in your hand in a supermarket
- a trolley** *n*  
a large metal container that you push for carrying food in a supermarket
- a handle** *n*  
the metal bar on a trolley that you hold with your hands
- wobbly** *adj*  
if something is “wobbly”, it moves around a lot because it is not secure
- to fancy** *vb*  
if you “fancy” someone, you find them sexually attractive
- to end up with** *phr vb*  
if you “end up with” something, you have that thing in the end
- a weighing machine** *n*  
a machine to tell you how many kilos something is
- a store card** *n*  
a card that a supermarket gives you. Every time you buy something you get points
- a purchase** *n*  
something that you buy
- crap** *n* *offens*  
something of poor quality or that is very bad
- all sorts of** *exp*  
all kinds of, all types of
- a lane** *n*  
the place in a supermarket where you pay for the food. There is usually a line of people waiting
- ages** *adv*  
for a long time
- to deal with someone** *exp*  
to serve a customer or client
- a tip** *n*  
information to help you do something better
- to go in twos** *n*  
to go to a place with another person
- a queue** *n*  
a line of people waiting to be served
- to stare** *vb*  
to look at someone or something very intensely
- to end up** *phr vb*  
if you “end up” in a particular place, you finally arrive at that place
- an express lane** *n*  
a place to pay in a supermarket for people with less than ten products
- a cheat** *n*  
a person who doesn’t obey the rules or regulations
- a cashier** *n*  
the person who you pay in a supermarket
- to sack** *n*  
to tell someone to leave their job
- vengeful** *adj*  
with a desire to hurt someone who has hurt you
- to ring up** *phr vb*  
to record the amount you have spent in a supermarket. The cashier does this on a type of computer
- to squeeze** *vb*  
to touch something by pressing it



AUDIO

## FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE



## SUPERMARKETS

Here's a dialogue with lots of useful language to use in the supermarket. In this scene, Pete is waiting in line in a large supermarket. A man comes to ask Pete a question:

**Man:** Alright, **mate**? Look I've only got this **carton** of milk. Do you mind if I **go ahead** of you?

**Pete:** Yes, I most certainly do. Get to the back of the line like everyone else and don't try to **push in**.

**Man:** Alright, alright, **keep your hair on!** (five minutes later Pete arrives at the **cash till**)

**Cashier:** Morning sir.

**Pete:** Good morning. I'm sorry but I have number of complaints. Firstly, this is, if I am not mistaken, the express lane. And in this lane customers should not have more than 10 products. I noticed that the previous gentleman had 12 items in his basket.

**Cashier:** Yes, that's right sir. But he was a **blind** gentleman. How many items do you have, sir?

**Pete:** I have ten. I counted them myself.

**Cashier:** I can count eleven, sir. I'd keep quiet if I were you.

**Pete:** Anyway, moving on to my second complaint, this product (Pete hands her a packet of ham) seems to be past its **sell-by date**.

**Cashier:** Yes, sir. You are right. What do you want me to do about it?

**Pete:** Well, what do you suggest?

**Cashier:** Don't buy it!

**Pete:** Very funny.

(the cashier continues **ringing up the products**)

**Cashier:** Sorry sir, but you haven't **weighed** this fruit.

**Pete:** Oh, I didn't know you had to.

**Cashier:** I'm afraid you'll have to go and weigh it yourself and then go to the back of the queue.

**Pete:** But I'm **in a rush**.

**Cashier:** Well just leave it here then. You can do without bananas for a day, can't you? That's two pounds, thirty six pence, please.

**Pete:** Can I pay by Visa?

**Cashier:** Sorry, sir, no credit cards in this **lane**. As you so kindly reminded me, this is the express lane.

**Pete:** This is the most **appalling** service I have ever received.

I shall never step foot in this establishment again.

Goodbye.

(Pete leaves)

**Cashier:** Excuse me sir. You left your credit card.

**Pete:** Thank you, madam.

**Cashier:** It was a pleasure. Have a nice day. Next!



## US BOYCOTT THE FRENCH

The dispute in 2003 between the US and France over Iraq had some unusual side effects. Angry American consumers **refused** to buy anything from France and French champagne and wine sales fell dramatically. The boycott also affected anything related to France or the French in general, and many expressions that previously had the word "French" in them had to change. "French Fries", those delicious pieces of fried potato ("chips" in British English) became "Freedom Fries".

"French kissing", which for centuries was the accepted way of describing a long, passionate kiss with tongues, became "Freedom kissing", and "French Dressing", that fantastic **condiment** for salad that consists of vinegar, oil and herbs, became "Spanish dressing" in thanks for Spain's support for military action in Iraq. The most difficult decision for authorities was what to do with the Statue of Liberty, which was built in France and later given to the US.

## GLOSSARY

**a mate** *n*

a friend

**a carton** *n*

a plastic or cardboard container for liquids

**to go ahead** *exp*

to go before

**to push in** *phr vb*

to enter a line of people without permission – not to go to the back of the line

**keep your hair on!** *exp* don't get so excited!

**blind** *adj*

if you are "blind", you can't see

**a cash till** *n*

the type of computer in a supermarket where you pay

**a sell-by date** *n*

the date on a product that tells you

when the product must be eaten

**to ring up products** *exp*

to enter information about the product in the cash till

**to weigh** *vb*

to see how many grams or kilograms a product is

**in a rush** *exp*

if you are "in a rush", you need to go somewhere quickly

**a lane** *n*

a line of people at a supermarket where you pay

**appalling** *n*

terrible

**to refuse** *vb*

to say that you will not do something

**a condiment** *n*

something you add to food to improve its flavour

## GLOSSARY FOR CARTOON

**to miss** *vb*

if you "miss" someone, you feel bad because you are not with them

**a lane** *n*

a line where you wait to pay for your products in a supermarket

**to check out** *vb*

to pay for your products at a supermarket

**the checkout** *n*

the area where you pay for your food in a supermarket

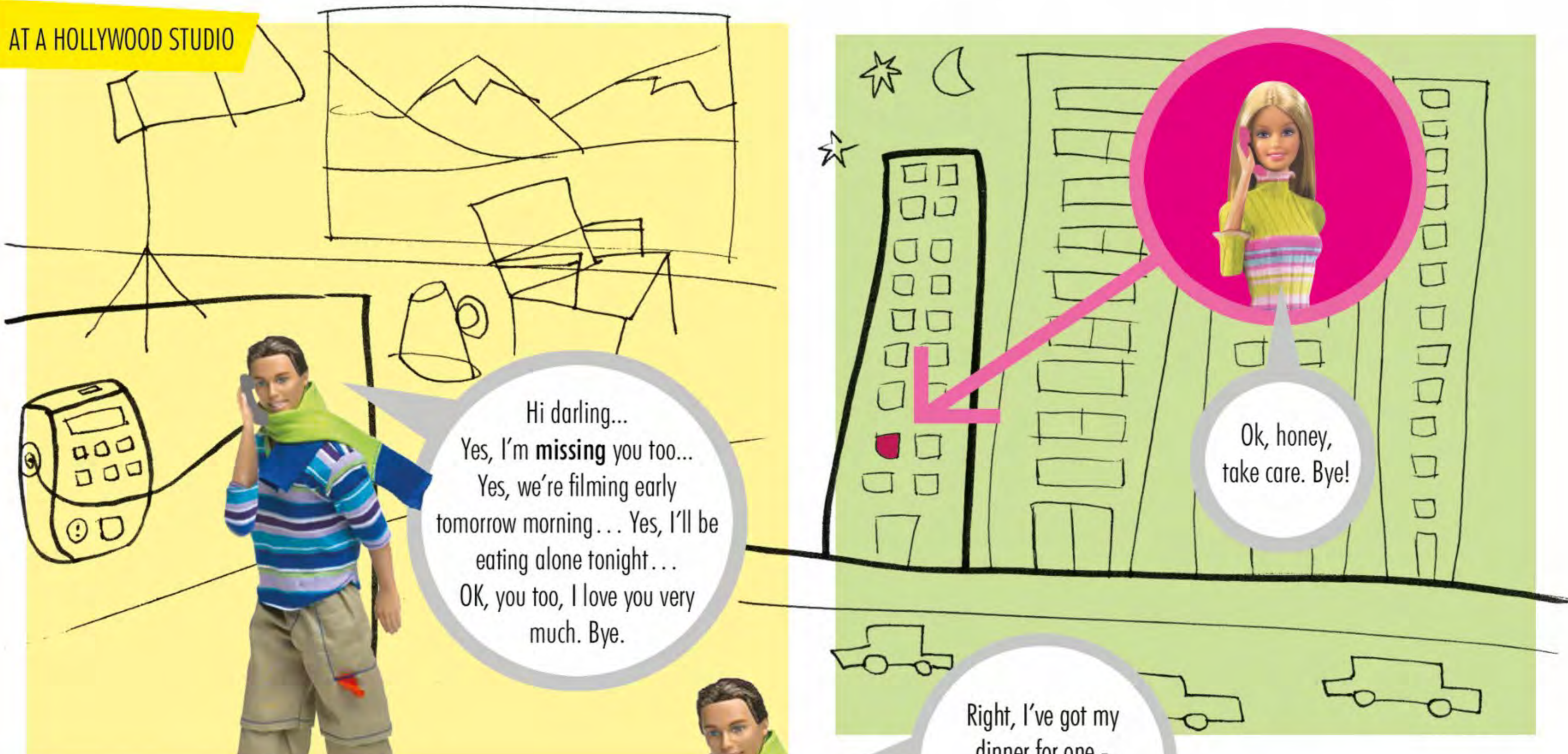
**a loser** *n inform*

a person who is pathetic or not cool

# THE SUPERMARKET JOKE!

We've given you some language for talking about supermarkets. Now you can see that language in action. In this scene, the world-famous actor Brad Stevens is eating at home alone tonight. He needs to get something from the supermarket.

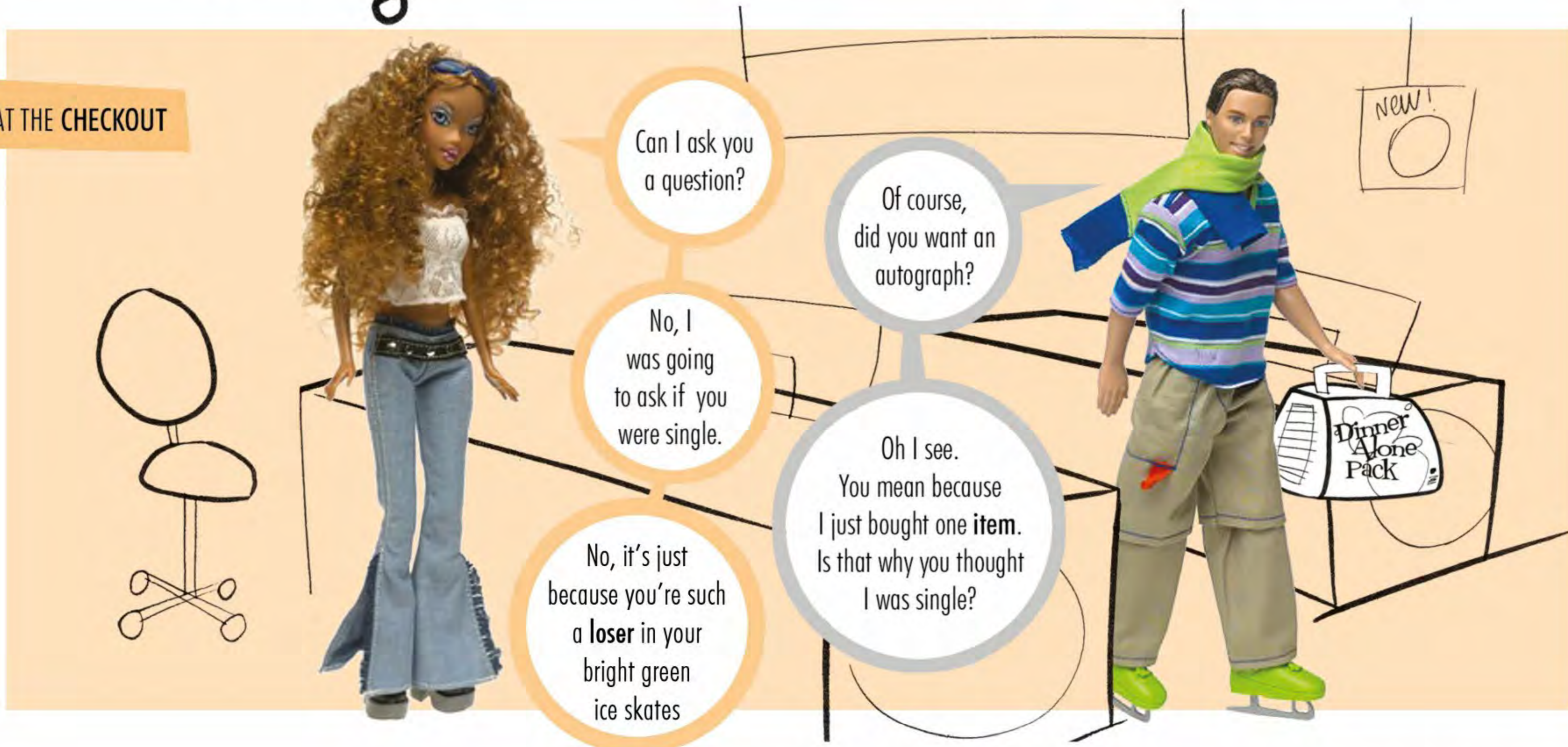
## AT A HOLLYWOOD STUDIO



## AT THE SUPERMARKET



## AT THE CHECKOUT



# THE HOT ENGLISH SUPERMARKET SURVIVAL GUIDE



So what's the best time to shop in a supermarket? And how can you avoid all that stress? Here is the Hot English guide to shopping in supermarkets.

So what's the best time to shop in a supermarket? And how can you avoid all that stress? Here is the Hot English guide to shopping in supermarkets.

## Top Tips

- Shop at non-busy hours - usually between 9 and 9.15 in the morning, and 4 and 4.12 in the afternoon. Avoid shopping at lunchtime, in the evening and on the weekends.
- Do not shop when you are stressed or **in a rush**.
- Never attempt to make polite conversation with the cashier – they may think you are making fun of them.

## Supermarkets & The Laws Of Nature

- Accept the fact that the queue that you are in will always take longer than any other queue.
- **Praying** for the queue to move faster does not work.
- **Swearing** at a slow customer, or staring angrily at them, will not help.
- Abandoning a queue will make your queue move much more quickly
- If you try to use the express lane "illegally", you will get caught and punished.
- You can be sure that the person in front of you will pay by credit card.
- When the person in front of you pays with a large note, the cashier will have to go and get change.
- The person in front is guaranteed to have a product without a **price tag** on it, or one that can't be scanned.

## Supermarket Tricks

There are a number of hidden tricks that supermarkets **get up to** so you buy more. Here are a few of them:

- According to a recent study, every extra minute you are in the supermarket you spend 2 euros more. So, the supermarket is deliberately designed to slow you down as much as possible. And this is why they do things like putting milk at the back where it's really hard to find, or why there are large displays in the middle of the aisles to slow you down.

- Many different **store brands** are made by the same companies who sell much more expensive brand-name products.
- The smell of bread is said to create spending and make supermarkets smell better and cause you to spend more money. That's why they often put a **bakery** at the entrance.
- All those magazines, **batteries** and chocolate are left at the exit for a reason. As you are waiting in the line, you have time to look at the tempting products available and throw a packet of chewing gum in your basket. This section of the store sells **roughly** three times as much **merchandise** per square metre as the rest of the store. These are known as impulse purchases.
- Products at eye level sell much better than other products. And this is why companies pay lots of money to place their products at adult eye level for adult sales, or children's eye level for children's sales. **Brand-name products** and high profit products are often sold this way.

You may think the supermarket is being very nice giving you points for your store card. Actually there are two very good reasons why they do this: firstly, they are creating customer loyalty, which means that you will want to keep coming back so you can win more and more points so you can get one of their tacky gifts; and secondly, the supermarket officials are **tracking** your buying habits, which is very useful for marketing purposes.

### INFO I – SUPERMARKETS & DATING

The Safeway supermarket in San Francisco used to organize **dating evenings** in their supermarkets. Young, single men and women would go there and try to get some food and find a **date**.

### INFO II – MAD DOGS & ENGLISHWOMEN

There's an English woman who lives in Malaga, Spain, and works in a supermarket in Britain. She loves her job in the "ASDA" supermarket so much that she flies back three times a week to work there. Her husband explains:  
"This costs her more than her salary, but she enjoys the social side of the job. So, if she's happy, then I'm happy."

## GLOSSARY

**a tip** *n*  
advice, information to help you

**in a rush** *exp*  
if you are "in a rush", you have very little time

**to pray** *vb*  
to speak to God and ask for help

**to swear** *vb*  
to say a taboo word

**a price tag** *n*  
a piece of paper on a product that tells you how much it costs

**to get up to something** *exp*  
to do something dishonest, or designed to get money from you

**a store brand** *n*  
a product with the name of the shop on it. Also known as "own-label brands".

**a bakery** *n*  
a factory or room where they make bread

or cakes

**a battery** *n*  
a metal object you use to power your walkman

**roughly** *adv*  
more or less

**merchandise** *n*  
goods, things you buy

**a brand name product** *n*  
a famous and popular product

**to track** *vb*  
to monitor and control

**a dating evening** *n*  
an evening where people can find partners for a relationship or sex

**a date** *n*  
a person you want to start a relationship with

# THE COMPLETE



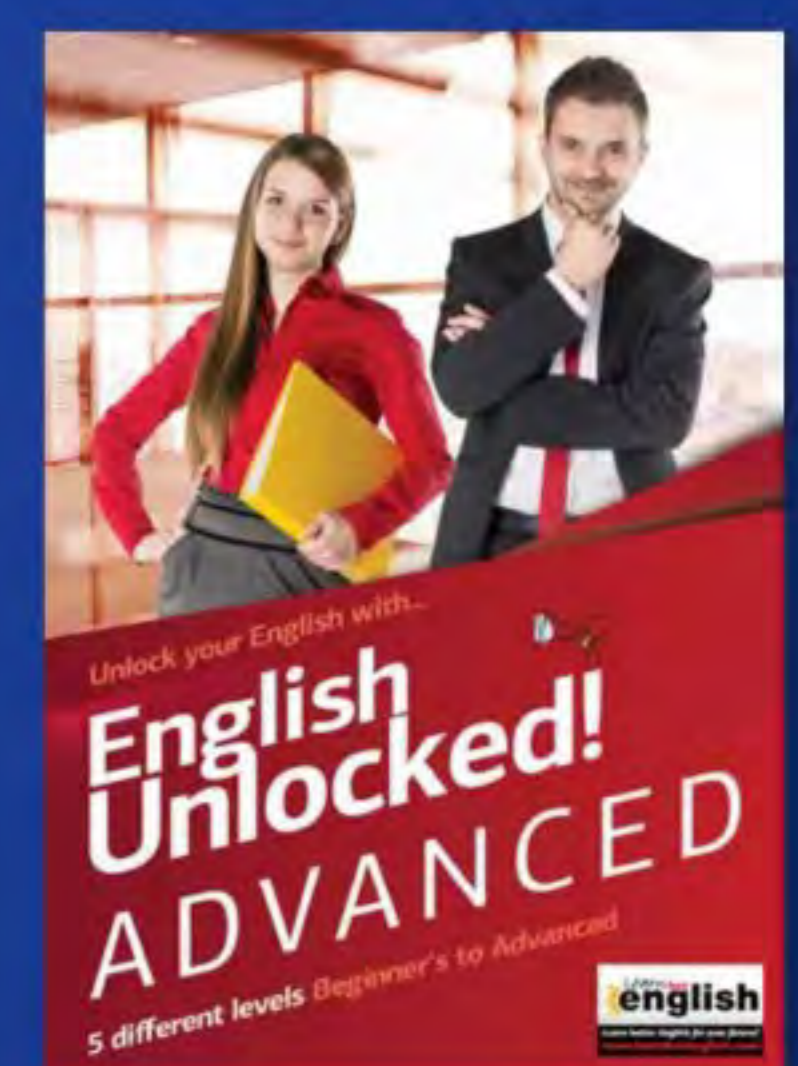
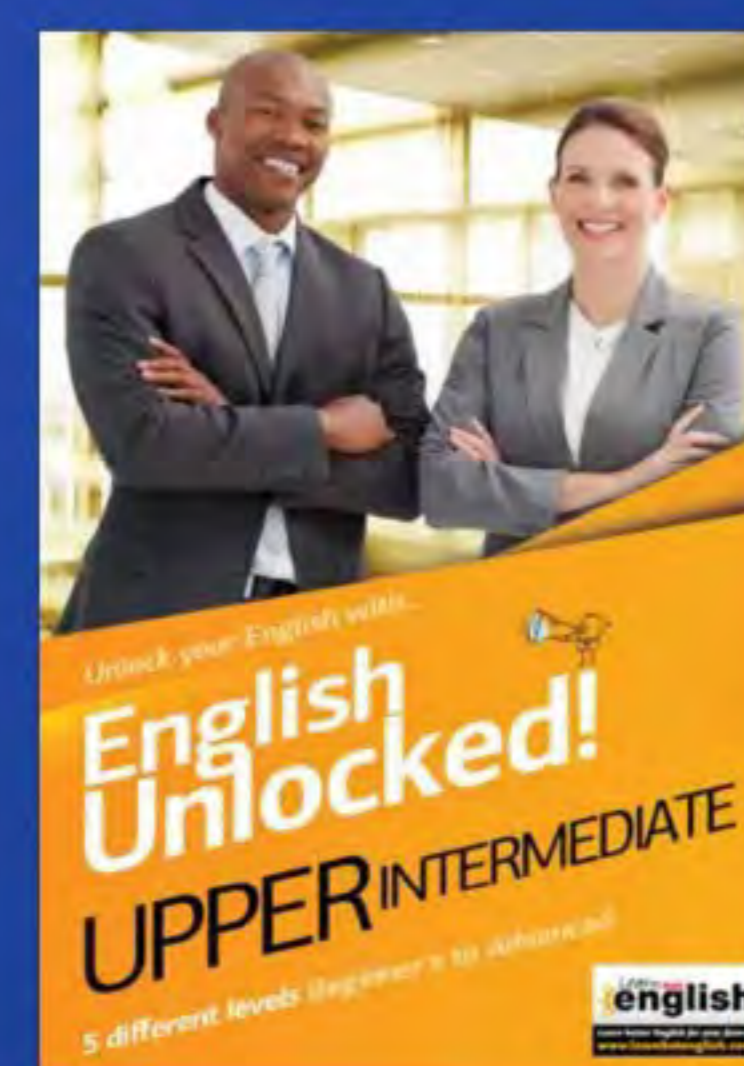
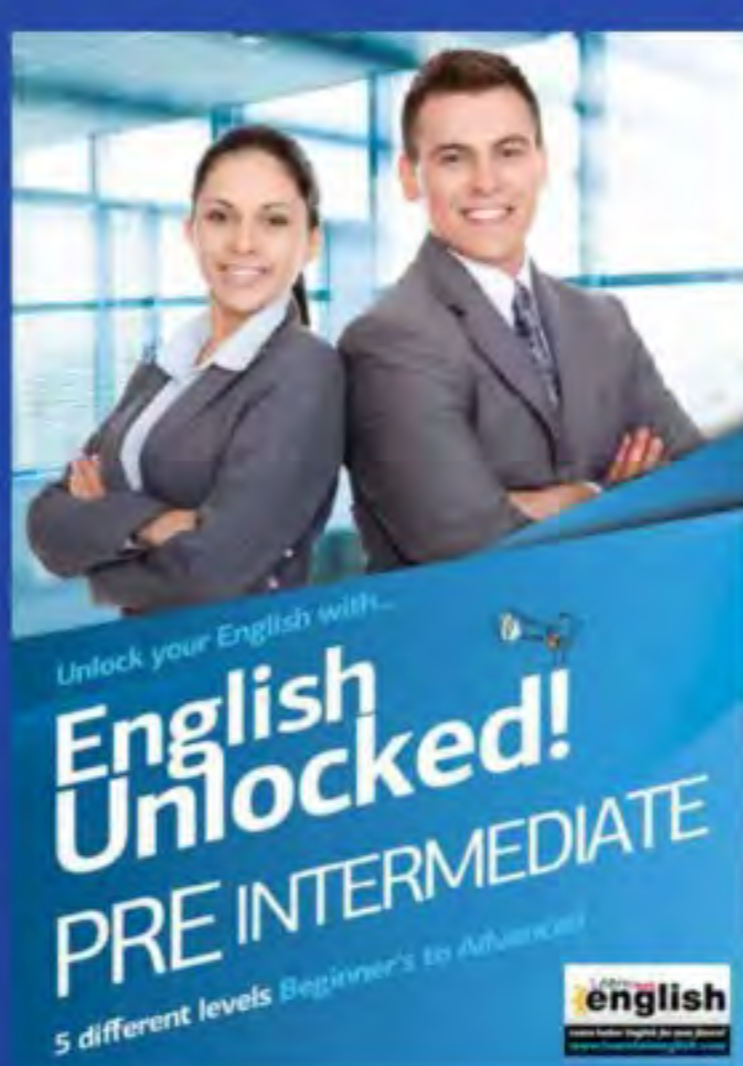
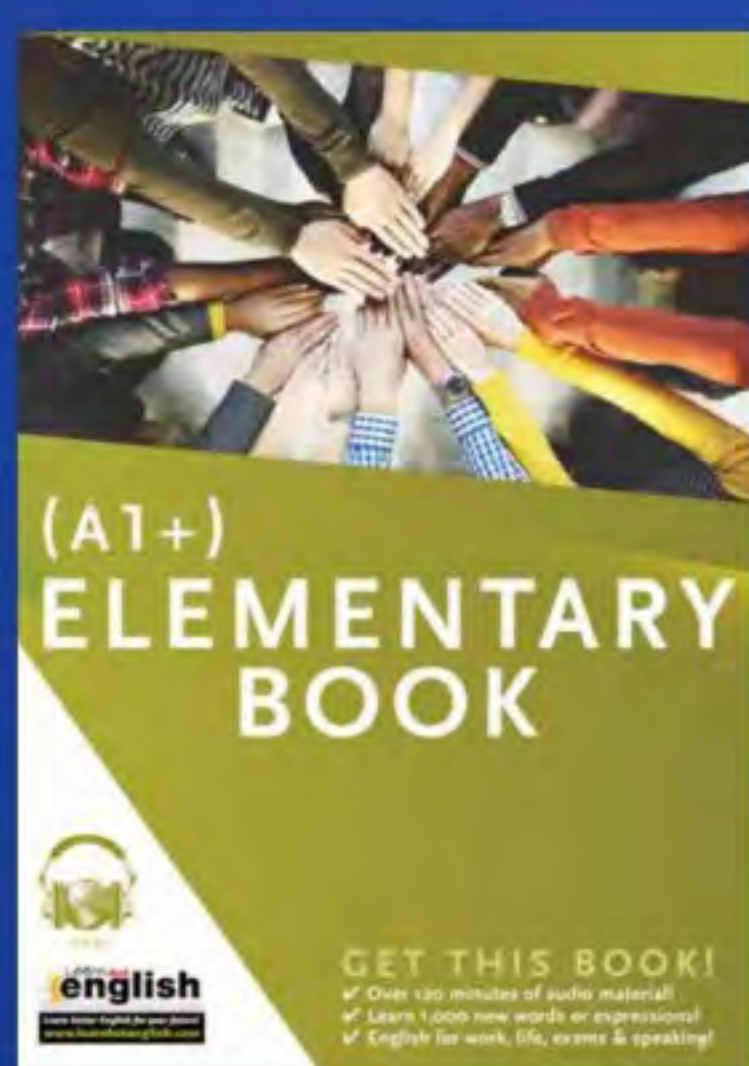
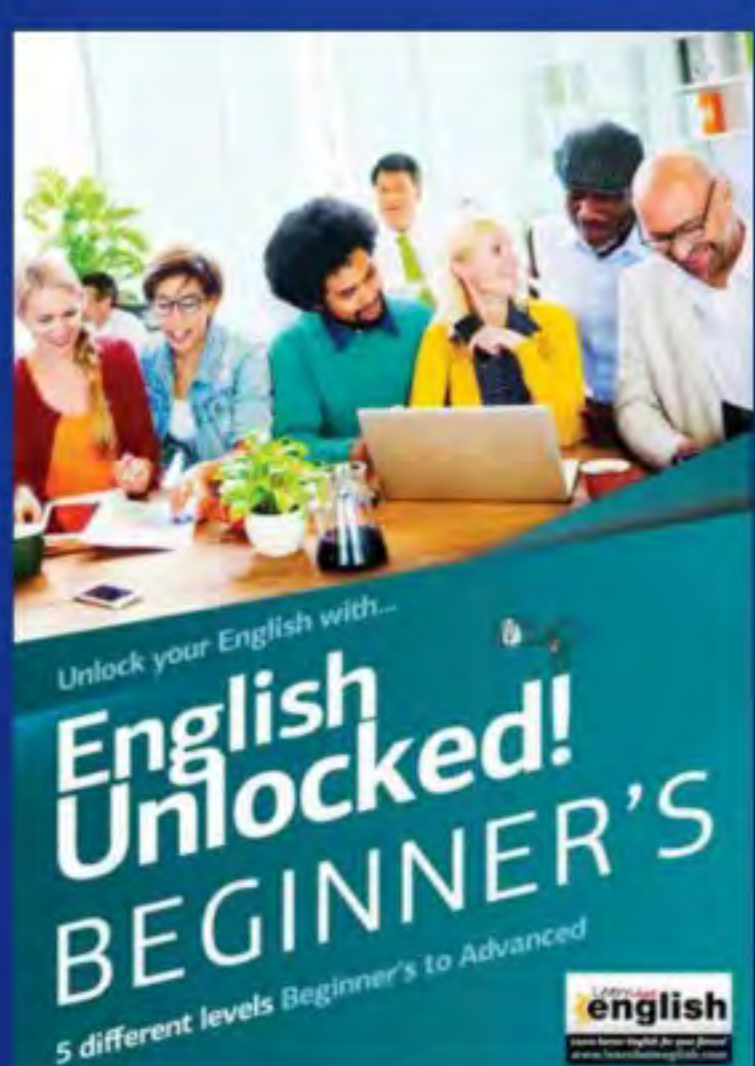
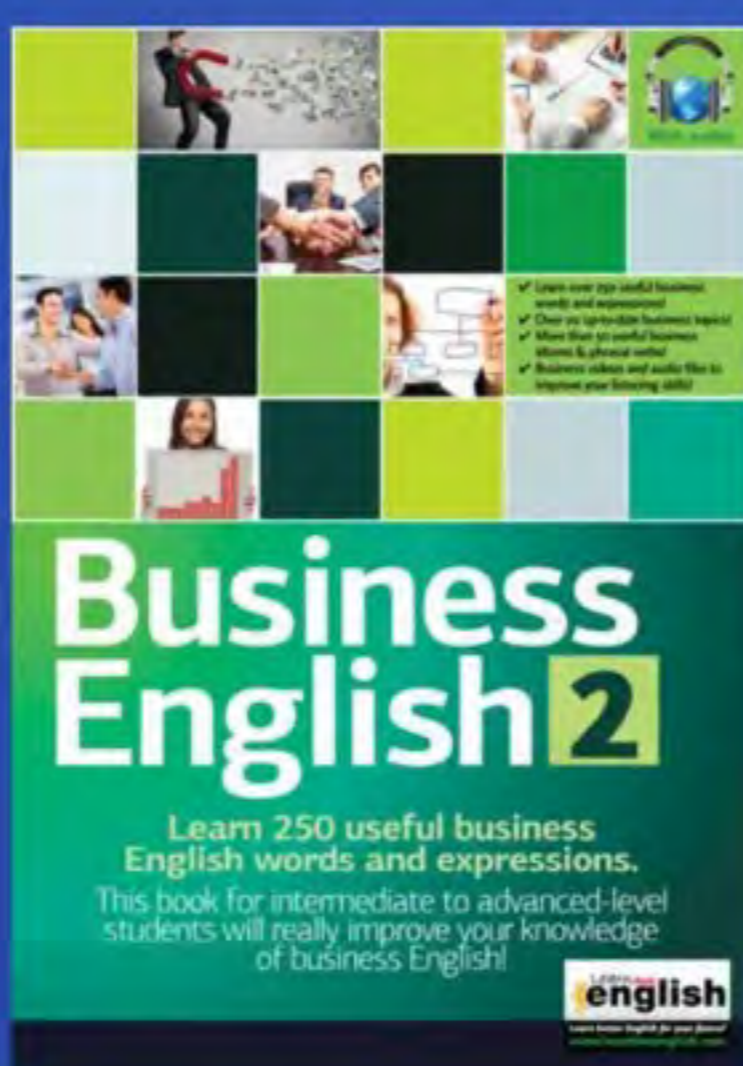
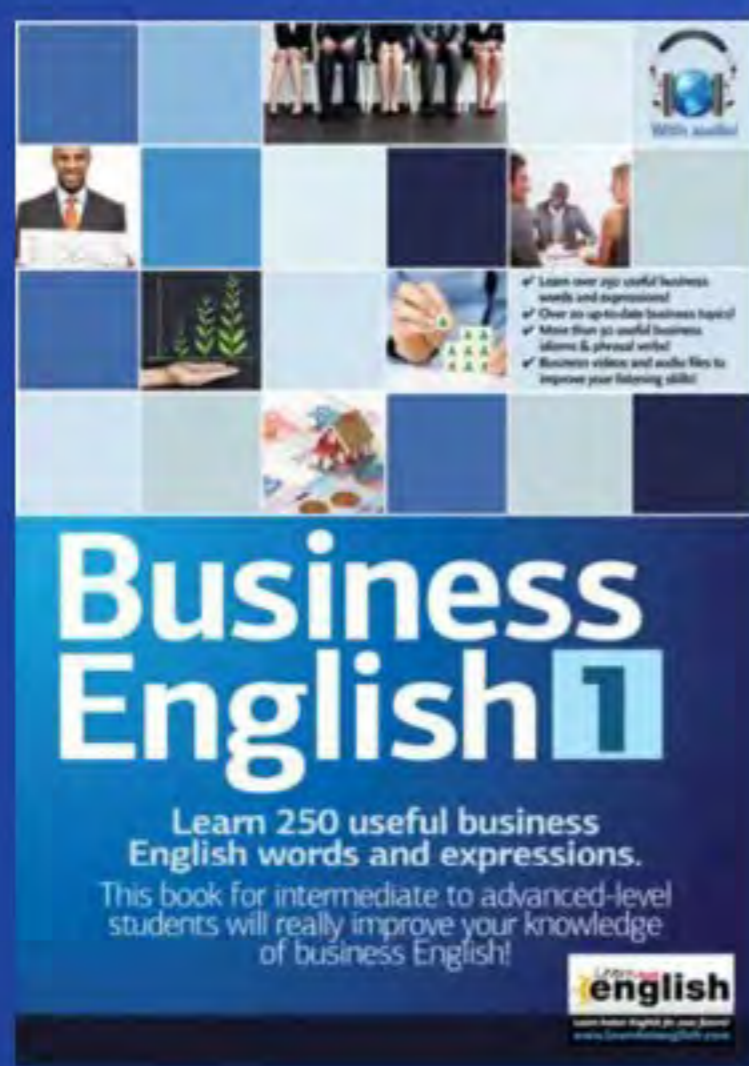
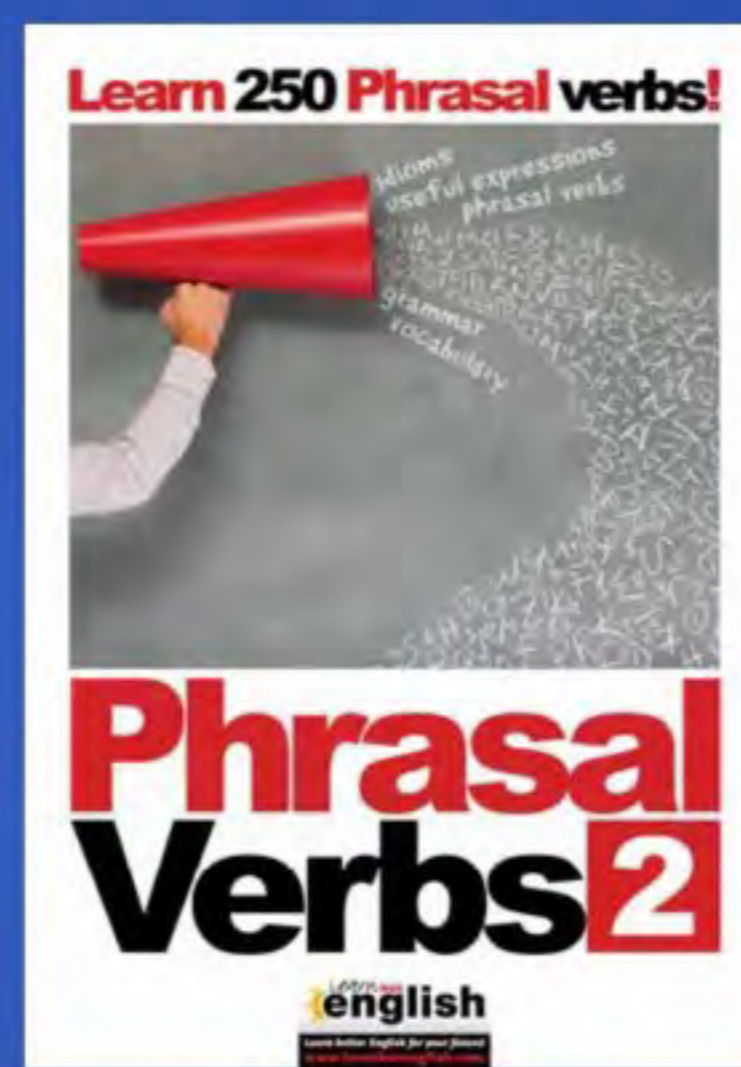
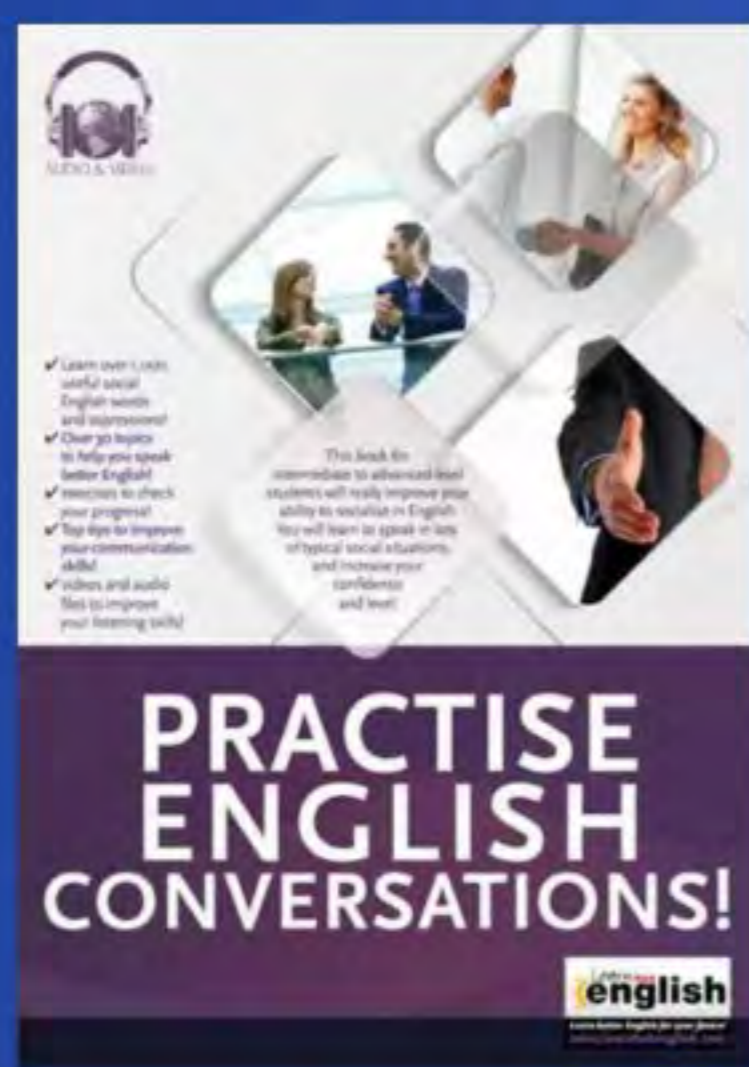
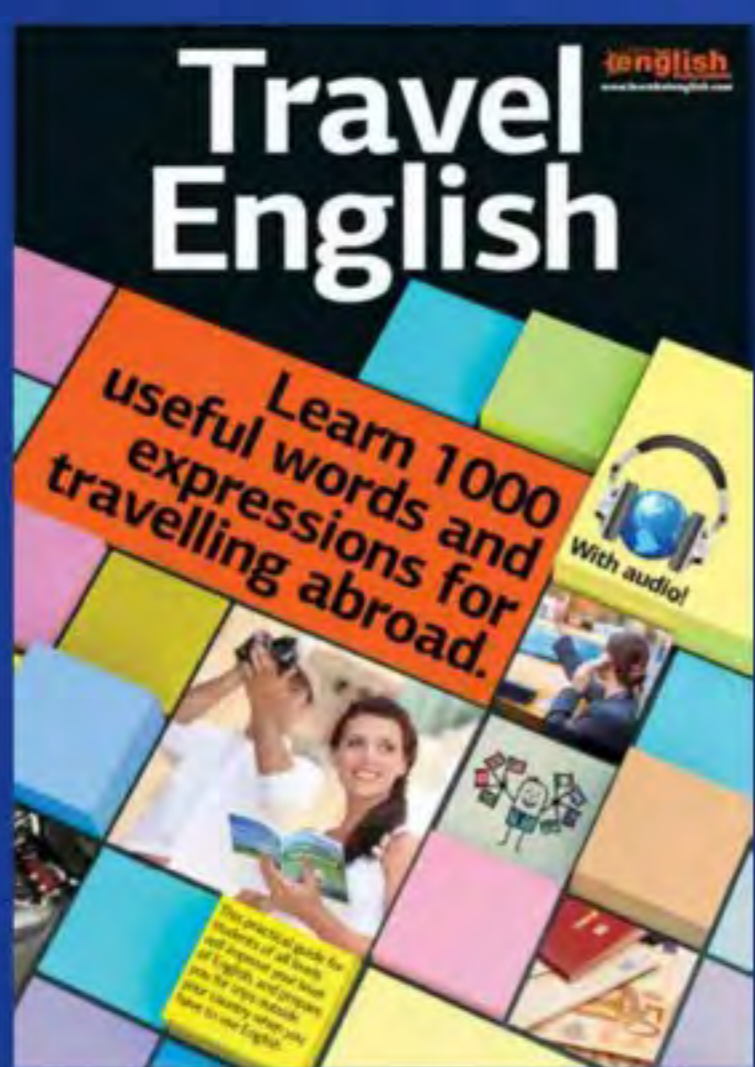
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# INSURANCE QUOTES

## Silly comments made by British drivers

If you drive a car, **the chances are** that you are going to have an accident at some point in your life. When it happens, you might have to **exchange insurance** details with the other person involved. And later, you'll have to write a **report** about the accident explaining what happened. Most people write perfectly normal things, like, "I crashed into the back of a car", or, "it was dark and the other car didn't have its headlights on". However, others invent some completely ridiculous excuses to explain their stupidity on the road. Here is a collection of some comments made by people in their insurance report. They come from a **file** compiled by Norwich Union, a major British insurance company.

Question: Could either driver have done anything to **avoid** the accident?

Answer: Yes, they could have travelled by bus.

One customer claimed to have crashed into a cow. The questions and answers on the claim form were:

Question: What warning was given by you?

Answer: **Horn.**

Question: What warning was given by the other **party**?

Answer: **Moo.**

And here are some more silly comments made by British drivers:

"I started to turn and it was at this point I noticed a camel and an elephant standing on the side of the road."

"This distraction caused me to lose concentration and I hit a tree."  
"On **approaching** the traffic lights the car in front suddenly **braked** so I went into the back of him."

"I was going at about 70 or 80 mph on my motorbike when my boyfriend, who was riding behind me, reached over and started "touching" me so I lost control."

"I didn't think the **speed limit applied** after midnight."

"My dog is very possessive about the car and I had difficulty persuading him to give the **wheel** back to me."

"Windscreen broken. Cause unknown. Probably Voodoo."

"The car in front hit the **pedestrian** but he got up so I hit him again."

"I had been driving for 40 years when I fell asleep **at the wheel** and had an accident."

"I pulled away from the side of the road, glanced at my **mother-in-law** and crashed into the car in front."

"On my way home I drove into the wrong house and **collided** with a tree I don't have."

"The other car collided with mine without giving warning of its intention."



"A pedestrian hit me and went under my car".

"The **guy** was walking across the road and I had to **swerve** a number of times before I hit him."

"In an attempt to kill a fly, I drove into a wall."

"I was at a **roundabout** and I didn't know what to do. There were lots of cars going around it and the cars behind me were **beeping their horns**, so I just closed my eyes and drove forwards."

"To avoid hitting the car in front I **struck** the pedestrian."

"An invisible car came out of nowhere, struck my car and vanished."

"The man I hit was really old and I am sure he would never have **made it** to the other side of the road anyway."

"The pedestrian had no idea which way to run, so I **ran over** him."

"I saw a slow-moving, sad-faced, old gentleman as he **bounced off** the front of my car."

"The indirect cause of the accident was a little guy in a small car with a big mouth."

## GLOSSARY

**the chances are** *exp*  
there is a probability that

**to exchange insurance details** *exp*  
to give information about your insurance company to another person after a car accident

**a report** *n*  
an official document explaining something

**a file** *n*  
a collection of information about a particular person or thing

**to avoid** *vb*  
to take action in order to prevent something from happening

**a warning** *n*  
something you write, say or shout in order to tell someone about a danger

**a horn** *n*  
the thing in a car that makes a loud noise. You use it to "communicate with other drivers"

**a party** *n*  
a person (used in legal texts)

**moo** *n* Cow  
the noise a cow makes

**to approach** *vb*  
to move towards, to come close to

**to brake** *vb*  
to stop a car using the middle pedal and your right foot

**a speed limit** *n*  
the maximum speed that you can travel on the road

**to apply** *vb*  
if a rule or law "applies", it is in effect

**the wheel** *n*  
the round object in a car that you use to change direction. Also known as the "steering wheel"

**a pedestrian** *n*  
a person who is walking in a town or city

**at the wheel** *exp*  
if you are "at the wheel", you are driving

**a mother-in-law** *n*  
your wife/husband's mother

**to collide** *vb*  
to crash into

**a guy** *n* *inform*  
a man

**to swerve** *vb*  
to suddenly change direction

**a roundabout** *n*  
a round object in a road. Cars stop when they reach it and then go around it when there are no cars on it

**to beep your horn** *exp*  
to make a noise with the object in your car in order to "commu-nicate" with other drivers

**to strike** *vb* (past: **struck**)  
to hit

**to make it** *exp*  
if you "make it" somewhere, you arrive at that place, usually after a difficult journey

**to run over** *phr vb*  
to hit a person or thing with your car

**to bounce off** *phr vb*  
to hit something and immediately move off that thing in another direction

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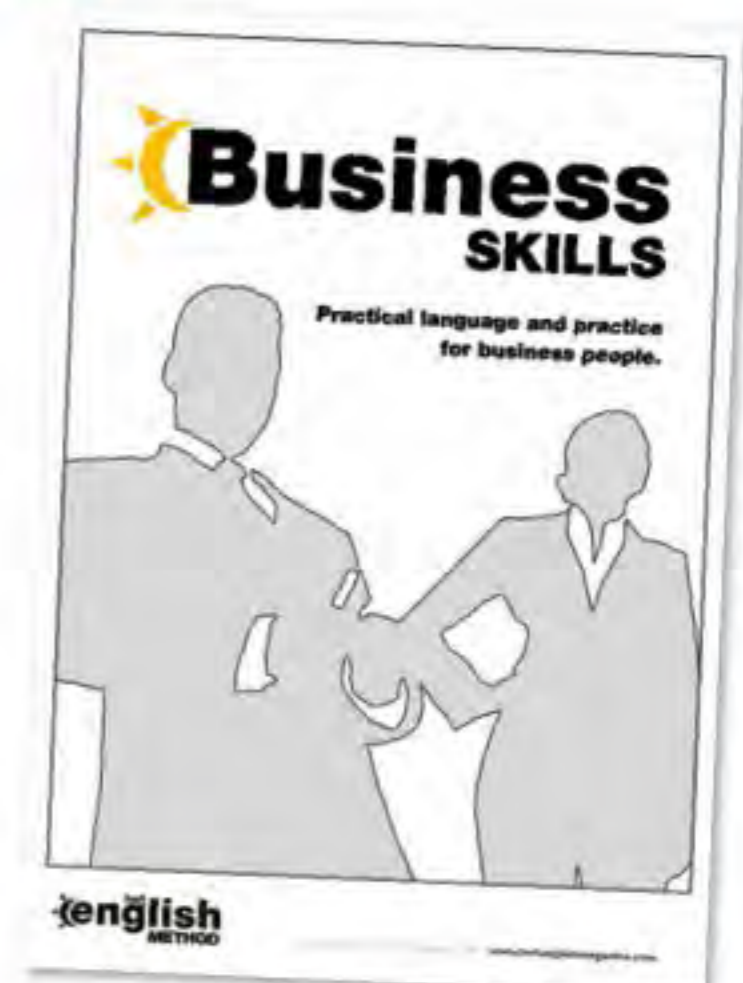
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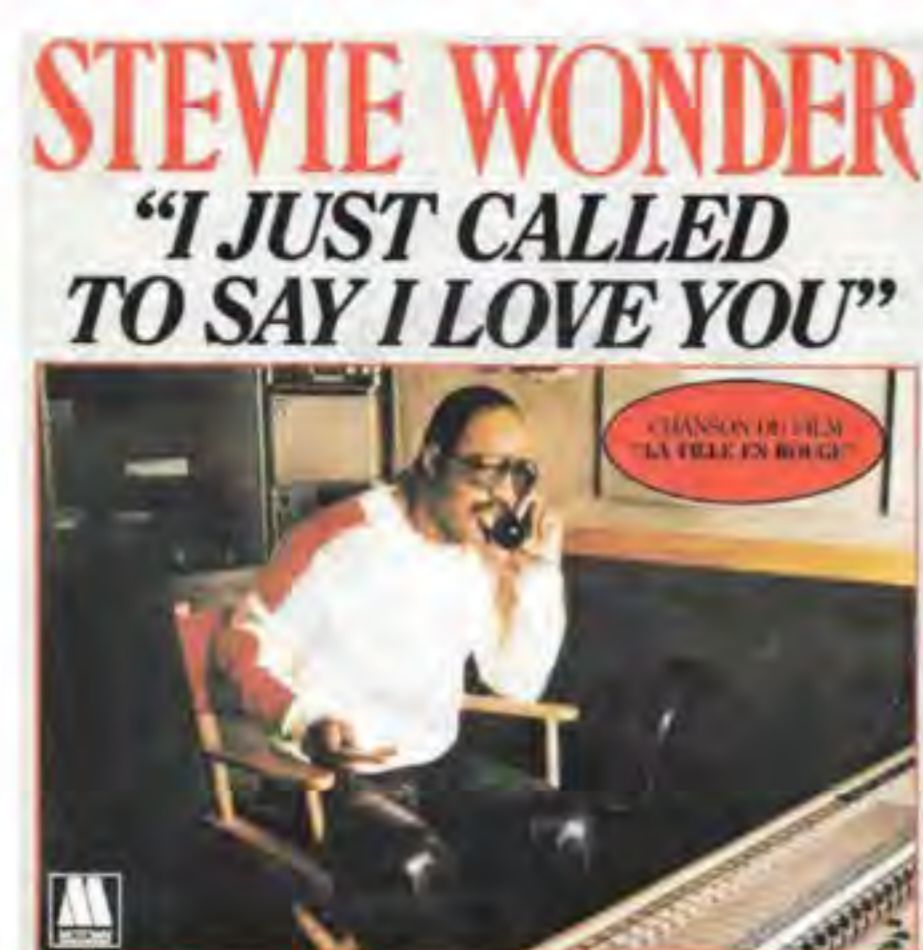


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# SING ALONG

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



## "I Just Called To Say I Love You" -

Stevie Wonder (US singer)

No New Year's Day to celebrate,  
No chocolate covered **candy hearts** to give away,  
No first of spring, no song to sing,  
In fact here's just another ordinary day.

No April rain, no flowers **bloom**,  
No **wedding** Saturday within the month of June,  
But what it is, is something true,  
**Made up of these three words** that I must say to you.  
I just called to say I love you, I just called to say how much I care,  
I just called to say I love you,  
And **I mean it from the bottom of my heart.**



### GLOSSARY

**a candy heart** *n*  
a chocolate in the shape of a heart  
**to give away** *phr vb*  
to give somebody something for free  
**to bloom** *vb*  
if a flower "blooms", it opens and produces flowers  
**a wedding** *n*  
a ceremony during which two people

get married  
**made up of these three words** *exp*  
consisting of these three words I mean it from  
**the bottom of my heart** *exp*  
I really mean it; I mean it sincerely



## "Bat Out Of Hell" -

Meatloaf (US group)

The **sirens** are screaming and the fires are **howling**,  
**Way down** in the **valley** tonight,  
There's a man in the **shadows** with a gun in his eye,  
And a **blade shining oh so bright**,

There's evil in the air and there's **thunder** in the sky,  
And a killer's on the **bloodshot streets**,  
And down in the tunnel where the **deadly** are **rising**,  
Oh I **swear** I saw a young boy,  
Down in the **gutter**,  
He was starting to **foam** in the heat.

Oh Baby you're the only thing in this whole world,  
That's pure and good and right,  
And wherever you are and wherever you go,  
There's always **gonna** be some light,  
But I gotta get out,  
I gotta **break it out** now,  
Before the final **crack of dawn**,  
So we gotta **make the most** of our one night together,  
When it's over you know,  
We'll both be so alone.

### Like a bat out of hell,

I'll be gone when the morning comes,  
When the night is over,  
Like a bat out of hell I'll be gone, gone, gone,  
Like a bat out of hell I'll be gone when the morning comes,  
But when the day is done,  
And the sun **goes down**,  
And the moonlight's shining through,  
Then like a **sinner** before the gates of heaven  
I'll come **crawling** on back to you.

### GLOSSARY

**Meatloaf** *n*  
the name of a singer; also, food that is made of meat and looks like a large piece of bread  
**a siren** *n*  
an object that makes a lot of noise when there is danger  
**to howl** *vb*  
to make a lot of noise  
**way down** *adv*  
far down  
**a valley** *n*  
an area of land between two mountains. There is usually a river in the valley  
**a shadow** *n*  
the dark shape that forms when you stand between a surface and a light  
**a blade** *n*  
a knife  
**to shine** *vb*  
to produce a lot of light  
**oh so bright** *exp*  
very bright  
**thunder** *n*  
the loud noise in the sky during a storm  
**bloodshot streets** *n*  
streets with lots of blood  
**deadly** *adj*  
dangerous  
**to rise** *vb*

to become alive again  
**to swear** *vb*  
to promise  
**a gutter** *n*  
the area next to a road where all the rain water collects  
**to foam** *vb*  
if you "foam", liquid and bubbles come out of your mouth  
**gonna** *abbr*  
going to  
**to break out** *phr vb*  
to escape  
**the crack of dawn** *n*  
very early in the morning  
**to make the most of something** *exp*  
to get the maximum benefit from something  
**like a bat out of hell** *exp*  
very quickly. A "bat" is a type of black bird that likes to drink blood and flies at night  
**to go down** *phr vb*  
when the sun "goes down", it becomes dark  
**a sinner** *n*  
a person who commits a crime against God  
**to crawl** *vb*  
to move forward on your hands and knees





## "Barbie Girl"

Aqua (Swedish group)

- Hi Barbie!
- Hi Ken!
- You wanna go for a ride?
- Sure, Ken!
- Jump in!
- Ha ha ha ha!

I'm a Barbie girl in the Barbie world,  
Life in plastic, it's fantastic,  
You can **brush** my **hair**, **undress** me everywhere,  
Imagination, life is your creation.

Come on, Barbie, **let's go party**.

I'm a Barbie girl in the Barbie world,  
Life in plastic, it's fantastic,  
You can brush my hair, undress me everywhere.  
Imagination, life is your creation.  
I'm a blonde, single girl in the fantasy world,  
**Dress me up**, make it tight, I'm your **dolly**,  
You're my **doll**, rock and roll, feel the glamour and pain,  
Kiss me here, touch me there, **hanky-panky**,  
You can touch, you can play,  
You can say I'm always yours. Oh! Whoa!.



### GLOSSARY

**to brush hair** *exp*  
to order your hair with a brush (an object you use to arrange your hair)

**to undress** *vb*  
to take off clothes

**let's go party** *exp*  
let's go and have fun

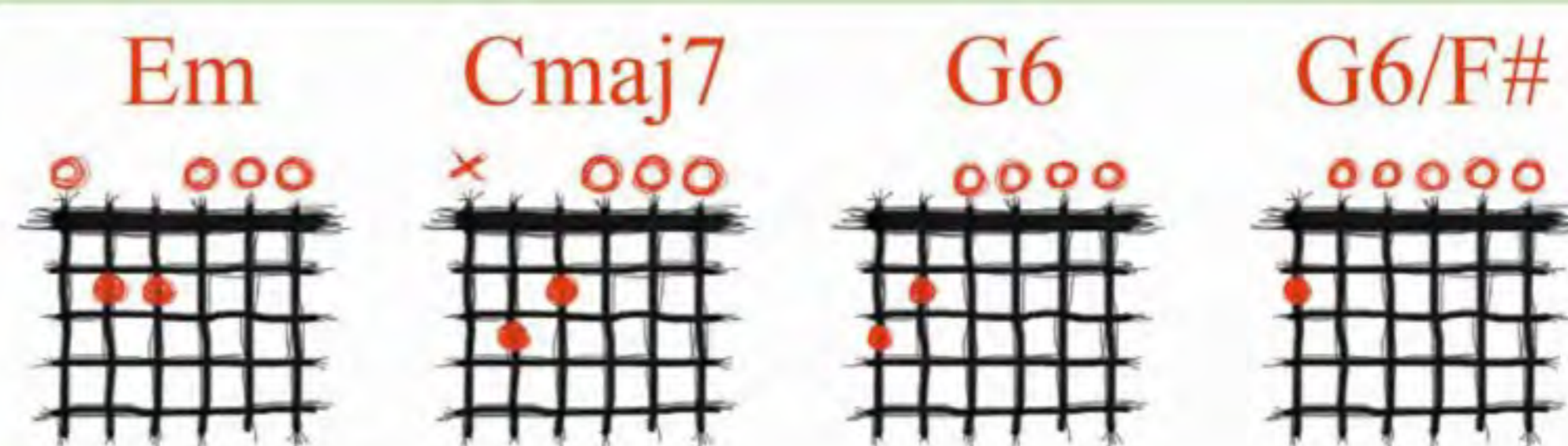
**to dress up** *phr vb*  
to put on clothes in order to make you look nice

**a dolly** *n*  
a toy that looks like a human – just like Barbie

**a doll** *n*  
a toy that looks like a human

**hanky-panky** *n*  
if two people are having "hanky-panky", they are touching one another in a sexual way

This month the most famous cover band in the universe, the "Band", reveals the mystery behind the guitar tabs for the song "Zombie" by the Irish group the Cranberries.



## Zombie

Words and lyrics by Dolores O'Riordan

### Intro

Em Cmaj7 G6 G6/F#  
(play 4 times)

### Verse 1

Em Another Cmaj7 head hangs lowly,  
G6 Child is slowly taken G6/F#.  
Em And the violence Cmaj7 caused such silence,  
G6 Who are we mistaken G6/F#?  
But you see, Em it's not me, it's not my Cmaj7 family,  
In your G6 head, in your head they are fighting G6/F#,  
With their Em tanks and their bombs,  
And their Cmaj7 bombs and their guns.  
In your G6 head, in your head, they are crying G6/F#.

### Chorus

In your Em head, in your Cmaj7 head,  
Zombie, G6 zombie, zombie, G6/F# hey, hey.  
What's in your Em head, in your Cmaj7 head?  
Zombie, zombie, zombie, hey, hey, hey.

### Bridge 1

Oh, Em doo, doo, doo, doo, doo Cmaj7,  
Doo, doo, doo, doo G6,  
Doo, doo, doo, doo G6/F#  
Doo, doo, doo, doo Em Cmaj7 G6 G6/F#

### Verse 2

Em Another Cmaj7 mother's breakin',  
G6 Heart is taking over G6/F#.  
Em When the violence Cmaj7 causes silence,  
G6 We must be mistaken G6/F#.  
It's the same Em old theme since nine – Cmaj7 – teen  
sixteen,  
In your G6 head, in your head they're still fighting G6/F#,  
With their Em tanks and their bombs,  
And their Cmaj7 bombs and their guns.  
In your G6 head, in your head, they are dying G6/F#.

### Chorus 2

(As Chorus 1)

### Bridge 2

Em Oh, oh, oh, oh  
Cmaj7 Oh, oh, oh, oh  
G6 Oh, ya, G6/F# ya.

### Outro

Em Cmaj7 G6 G6/F#  
(play 4 times)



# 15 USEFUL PHRASAL VERBS FOR BUSINESS! PART 5

Native English speakers use phrasal verbs all the time. So, if you want to follow conversations, you need to understand them. In this lesson, you'll learn 15 really useful phrasal verbs to use in business and at work. Learn these phrasal verbs, then use them whenever you can.

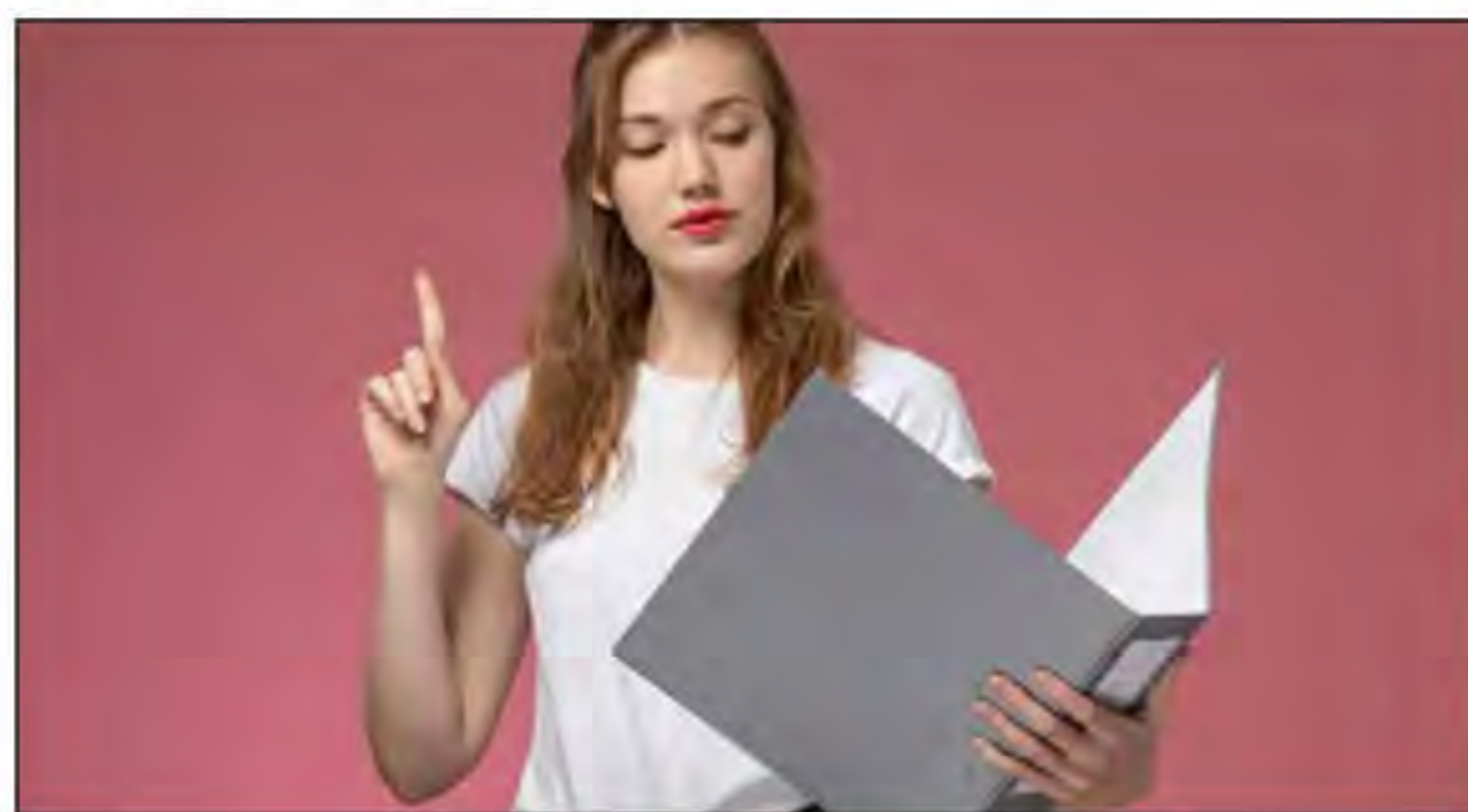
## 1 Fill out / fill in

If you "fill out" a form, you complete it: "She filled out the job application form."



## 2 Point out

If you "point out" something, you mention it to someone, or tell them about it so they notice it: "She pointed out a few **spelling errors** in the report."



## 3 Join in on

If you "join in on" a conversation, activity or meeting, you become involved in it or start taking part in it: "They invited Pete from the sales department to join in on the finance meeting."



## 4 Stock up

If you "stock up" on products or goods, you buy a lot of them, so you have them ready to use or sell when you need them: "We need to stock up on more smart watches before the **sales** start as they're our top seller."



## 5 Close down

If a factory or business "closes down", it stops operating (usually permanently): "They closed down the shoe factory after cheaper imports affected sales."



## 6 Contract out

If you "contract out" work, you give it to someone outside the company so they can do it: "They contracted out the programming work to a company in Poland."



## 7 Pick up

If you "pick up" something, you collect it from one place so you can take it to another place (to your home, for example): "You can pick up the goods from our **warehouse**."



## 8 Drop off

If a messenger company "drops off" a document or package, they take it to your house or business and leave it there: "They dropped off the package yesterday evening at about 7pm."



## 9 Pull out of

If you "pull out of" an agreement, you stop forming part of it: "She pulled out of the agreement as soon as she saw how much work was involved."



**10 Drum up**

If you “drum up” new business, you create more business or get more work for your company. The process of “drumming up” business usually takes place through advertising, marketing or face-to-face meetings: “The e-mail marketing campaign was really successful, and we drummed up a lot of new business from it.”

**11 Pencil in**

If you “pencil in” a time for a meeting, you write the date in a **planner**, with the idea that this date could be changed later (a date written in “pencil” can be altered easily): “I’ll pencil in a time for a meeting for next Friday, but please let me know by Wednesday at the latest whether you can attend or not.”

**12 Run by / run past**

If you “run an idea by” someone (often a boss or superior), you explain it to them first so they can approve it before you work on it or tell other people about it: “We should run the idea by Nicola before offering the client a big discount.”

**13 Rip off**

If a company “rips off” customers, it charges them too much, or sells them a bad product; if customers feel “ripped off”, they feel that they’ve paid too much for a product or service, or that it isn’t as good as they thought it would be: “Many customers felt ripped off after they saw that they could buy the product online for half the price.”

**14 Hone in on**

If you “hone in on” something, you concentrate on it or focus your attention on it so you can deal with it or find a solution to it: “Scientists are honing in on the cause of the disease. / With more and more people working from home, the sports equipment company have honed in on the exercise bike market.” Literally, if a “missile ‘hones in on’ its target, it finds and destroys the target.

**15 Step up**

- If you “step up”, you take responsibility for something, or you offer to be in charge of it: “Abigail will be working in New York for the next 3 months, so someone needs to step up and manage this project. / The marketing manager asked if anyone could take charge of the project and Zoe stepped up.”
- If you “step up” production, you increase it: “We’ll need to step up production if we want to meet the increased demand.”

Note: when a baseball player “steps up to the home plate”

(a metal object on the ground), they walk to the home plate as it’s their turn to bat (hit) the ball that’s pitched (thrown) to them.

**UNDERSTANDING  
PHRASAL VERBS**

A phrasal verb consists of a verb and a particle (usually a preposition). In some cases, the verb can help you understand the meaning of the phrasal verb (the preposition doesn’t really change the meaning much):

- They’re **working away** = They’re **working**.
- They **sold off** many of their assets = They **sold** many of their assets.

Very often, the preposition only changes the meaning a little. For example:

- I **finished** the work.
- I **finished up** the work. [I finished all of it.]

Here are some other verbs and phrasal verbs with very little difference in meaning: *print-print out, call-call up, close-close down, meet-meet up...*

However, in other cases, the **particle** can help you understand the phrasal verb. For example, **up** has the idea of “going to a higher level”:

- Prices have been going **up**. (increasing)
- We went **up** the stairs. (to a higher floor)

**GUESS!**

Of course, there are some phrasal verbs that are quite hard to understand. So, if the verb or preposition can’t help, you should try to guess the meaning of the phrasal verb from the context. For example: “They’ve put off the meeting until next week because the president is sick.” In this case, you could probably imagine that “put off” means to delay.

**GLOSSARY**

**a spelling error** *n*

a word or expression that is written incorrectly

**the sales** *n*

a period (after Christmas, for example) in a shop when everything is cheaper

**to warehouse** *n* a large building where a company keeps its products

**a planner** *n* a type of book with dates in it where you can write important information for each day

# 15 USEFUL PHRASAL VERBS FOR BUSINESS! PART 5

## EXERCISES



Answers on page 59

### 1 Gap-fill exercise

Complete the sentences with the words from below.

step   pointed   stock   drummed   join   pulled  
filled   pencil

- They invited Pete from the sales department to \_\_\_\_\_ in on the finance meeting.
- I'll \_\_\_\_\_ in a time for a meeting for next Friday.
- She \_\_\_\_\_ out a few spelling errors in the report.
- She \_\_\_\_\_ out of the agreement as soon as she saw how much work was involved.
- We need to \_\_\_\_\_ up on more smart watches before the sales start as they're our top seller.
- She \_\_\_\_\_ out the job application form.
- The e-mail marketing campaign \_\_\_\_\_ up a lot of new business for us.
- Someone needs to \_\_\_\_\_ up and manage this project because Abigail will be away.

### 2 Sentence completion

Complete the sentences with the missing letters.

- If you "**pe\_ \_ \_ \_** in" a time for a meeting, you write the date in a planner.
- If you "**ho\_ \_** in on" something, you concentrate on it or focus your attention on it.
- If you "**p\_ \_ \_** out of" an agreement, you stop forming part of it.
- If you "**st\_ \_** up", you take responsibility for something, or you offer to be in charge of it.



- If you "**dr\_ \_** up" new business, you create more business or get more work for your company.
- If a company "**ri\_ \_** off" customers, it charges them too much, or sells them a bad product.
- If a messenger company "**dr\_ \_ \_** off" a document or package, they take it to your house and leave it there.
- If you "**r\_ \_** an idea by" someone (often a boss or superior), you explain it to them first so they can approve it.

### 3 Word choice

Choose the correct prepositions to complete the definitions.

- We'll need to step **up/at** production if we want to meet the increased demand.
- They contracted **in/out** the programming work to a company in Poland.
- The sports equipment company have honed **with/in** on the exercise bike market.
- Many customers felt ripped **about/off** after they saw that they could buy the product online for half the price.
- They closed **down/to** the shoe factory after cheaper imports affected sales.
- They dropped **off/about** the package yesterday evening at about 7pm.
- The marketing manager asked if anyone could take charge of the project and Zoe stepped **with/up**.
- You can pick **up/for** the goods from our warehouse.
- We should run the idea **about/by** Nicola before offering the client a big discount.



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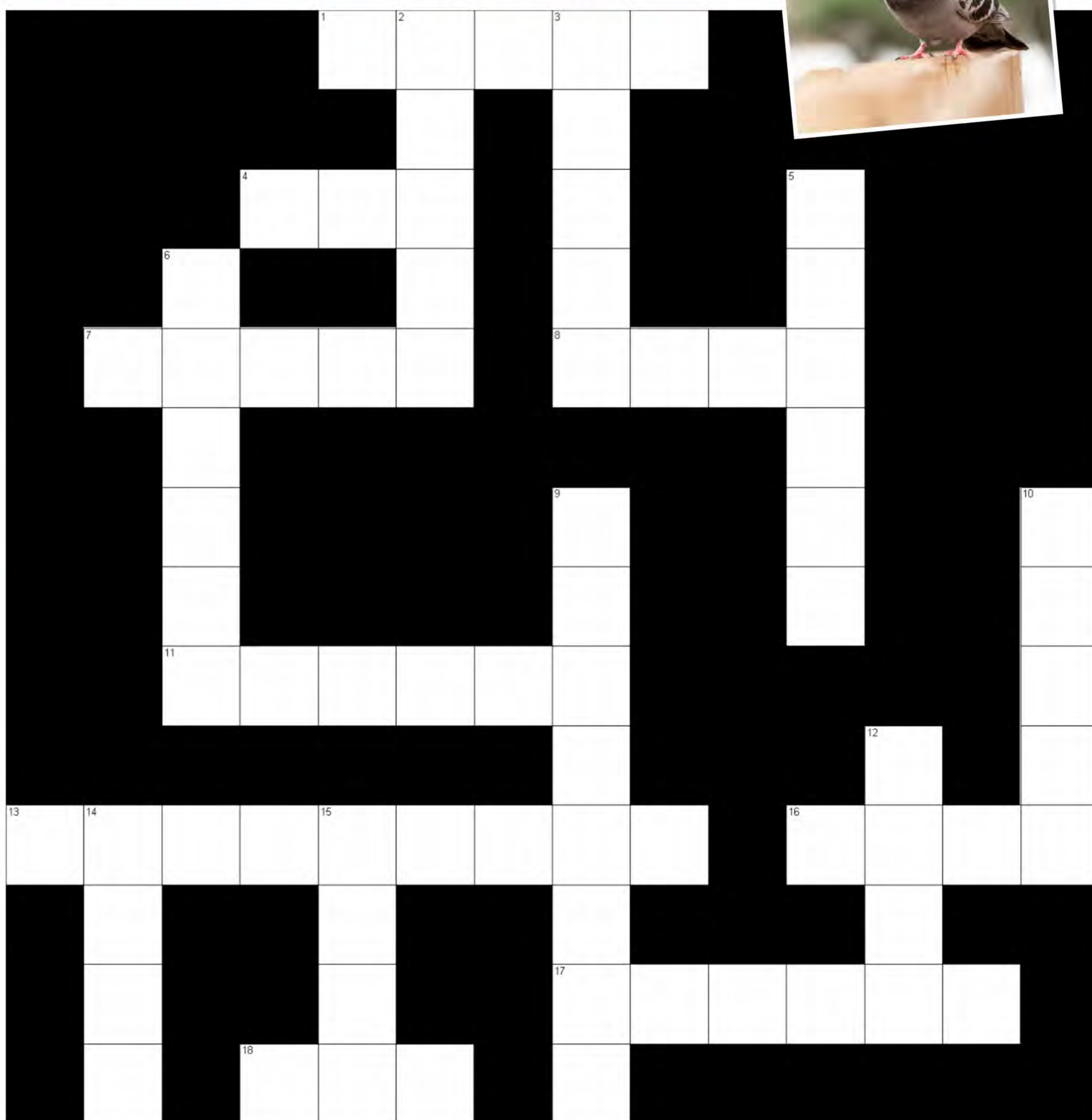
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### Across

1. Intelligent
4. Timid
7. A person who makes bread and cakes
8. To put the phone down and terminate the communication: to \_\_\_\_\_ up
11. Clothing you wear on your legs when it's hot or to play sport
13. Terrible, horrible
16. The computer in a supermarket where you pay is a: \_\_\_\_\_ till
17. The second part of a book or film
18. To burn: to \_\_\_\_\_ alight



### Down

2. The elected leader of a town or city
3. To sleep outside on the ground: to sleep \_\_\_\_\_
5. A fat, grey bird that lives in cities
6. The area of land that is part of a university
9. Something you say to someone when they are irritating you and asking too many questions about your personal life: mind your own \_\_\_\_\_
10. To discover how many kilos or grammes something is
12. The numbers on a food product that tell you when the food may go bad: a sellby \_\_\_\_\_
14. To enter in the middle of a line of people who are waiting to be served: to \_\_\_\_\_ in
15. A line in a supermarket where you wait to be served

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## WORDSEARCH

See if you can identify the word below. Then, try to find these words (here on the right) in the Wordsearch. Good luck! Answers on page 59.



CARTON  
COUNCIL  
ROLE  
STABLE  
FAIL  
HEADMASTER  
SKIP  
BRIGHT  
VILLAIN  
CELL  
BARE  
GORY  
WEAPON  
POND



## MATCHING

See if you can match the two columns. Answers on page 49.

- |                        |   |
|------------------------|---|
| <b>A:</b> A carton     | <b>1.</b> To run and jump repeatedly at the same time |
| <b>B:</b> The council  | <b>2.</b> With lots of blood                          |
| <b>C:</b> A role       | <b>3.</b> A small area of water like a lake           |
| <b>D:</b> A stable     | <b>4.</b> A gun or knife                              |
| <b>E:</b> To fail      | <b>5.</b> The elected leaders of a town or city       |
| <b>F:</b> A headmaster | <b>6.</b> A house for horses or cows                  |
| <b>G:</b> To skip      | <b>7.</b> A container for liquids                     |
| <b>H:</b> Bright       | <b>8.</b> The bad person in a book or film            |
| <b>I:</b> A villain    | <b>9.</b> With nothing in it                          |
| <b>J:</b> A cell       | <b>10.</b> A room where prisoners live in a prison    |
| <b>K:</b> Bare         | <b>11.</b> Not to be successful                       |
| <b>L:</b> Gory         | <b>12.</b> A part in a film                           |
| <b>M:</b> A weapon     | <b>13.</b> Intelligent                                |
| <b>N:</b> A pond       | <b>14.</b> The director of a school                   |



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# AIR IDIOMS

This month we are looking at some idioms related to "air". Illustrations by Jorge Tarruella



## To be in the air

If "spring" (for example) is in the air, it's about to happen: "The birds are singing and it feels a bit warmer - spring is definitely in the air."

## To clear the air

If an argument or discussion "clears the air", it makes all the bad feeling go away as it gives everyone a chance to talk about their problems: "Things had been tense in the office for a long time, but that meeting we had last night really cleared the air."

## To be up in the air

If a question or decision is "up in the air", it is still not sure what is going to happen and no decision has been taken: "They told me I might be sent to work in the US very soon, but at the moment the decision is still up in the air."



## To appear out of thin air

To suddenly or mysteriously appear: "We were looking for my glasses everywhere, then all of a sudden they just appeared out of thin air."



## A breath of fresh air

Something new, exciting and different: "Life in the office had been dull and boring for a long time, but when he arrived everything changed for the better - he was like a breath of fresh air."



## To air your dirty laundry in public (US); to wash your dirty linen in public (British)

To talk to people, usually the press, about personal or private things, particularly things that affect other people: "She has no shame. Just the other day she was telling the press how much money her husband has in the bank. She just loves airing her dirty laundry in public."



## GLOSSARY

- spring** *n*  
the season after winter - it is in the months of March, April and May
- dull** *adj*  
boring
- dirty laundry/linen** *n*  
dirty clothes that you need to wash

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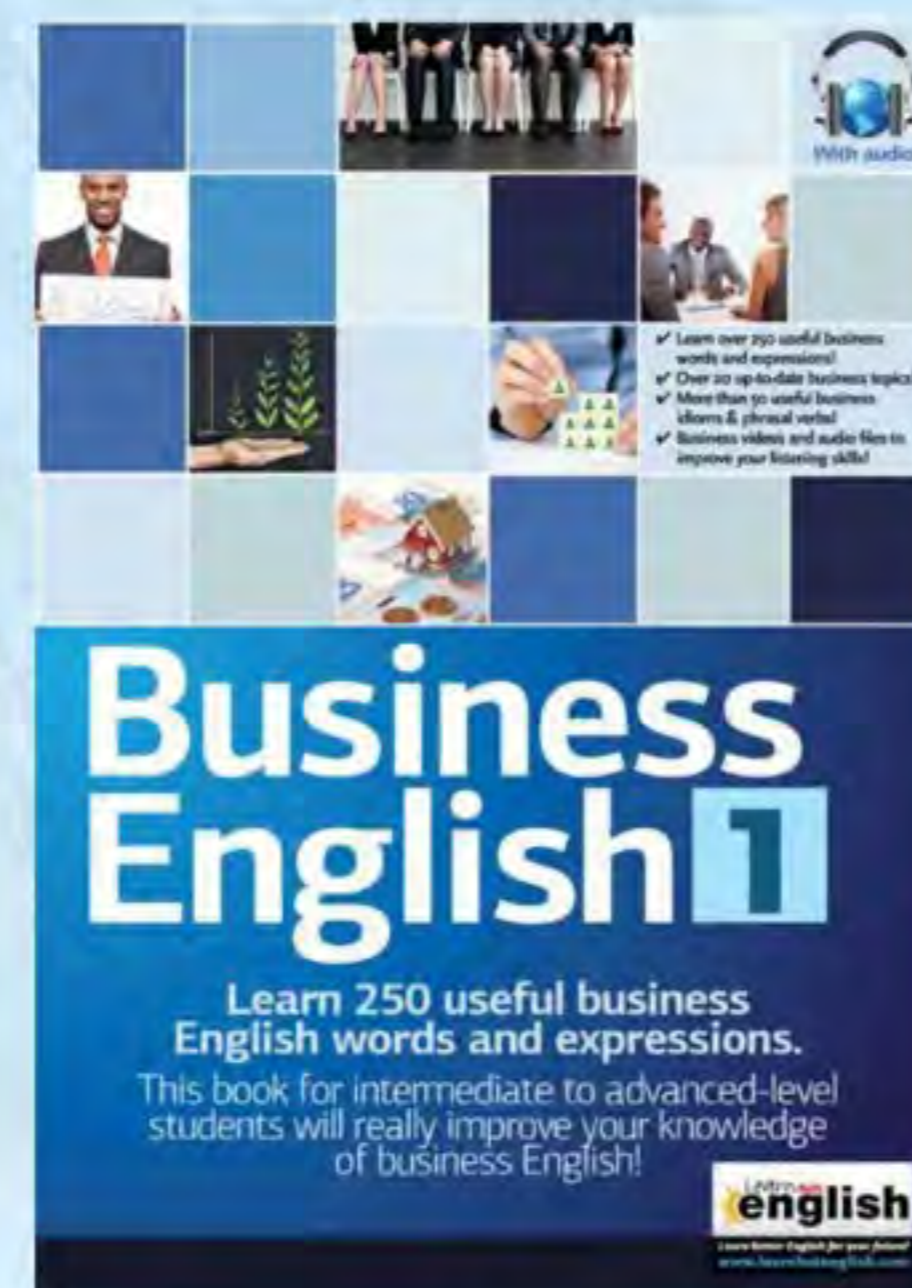
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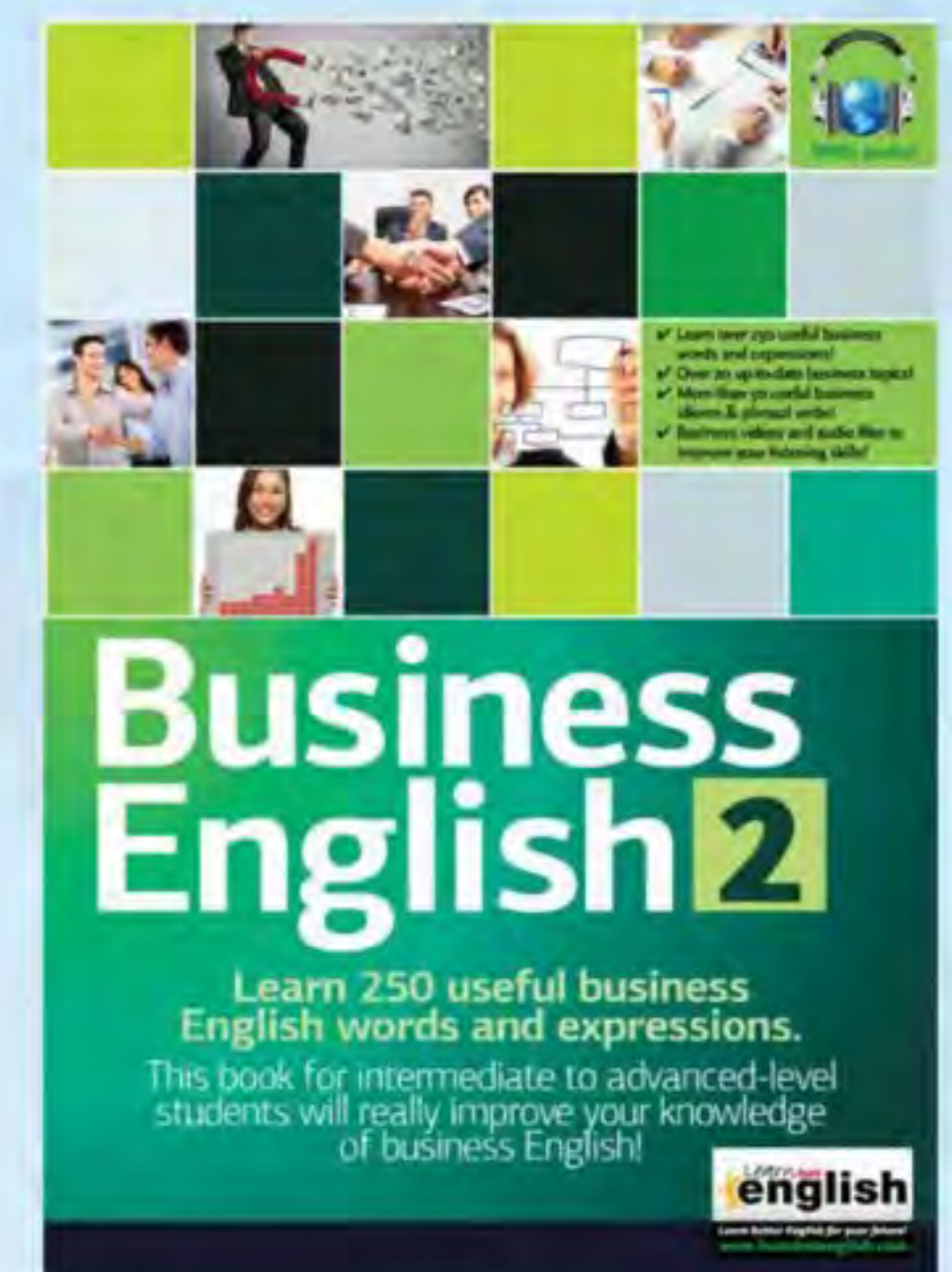
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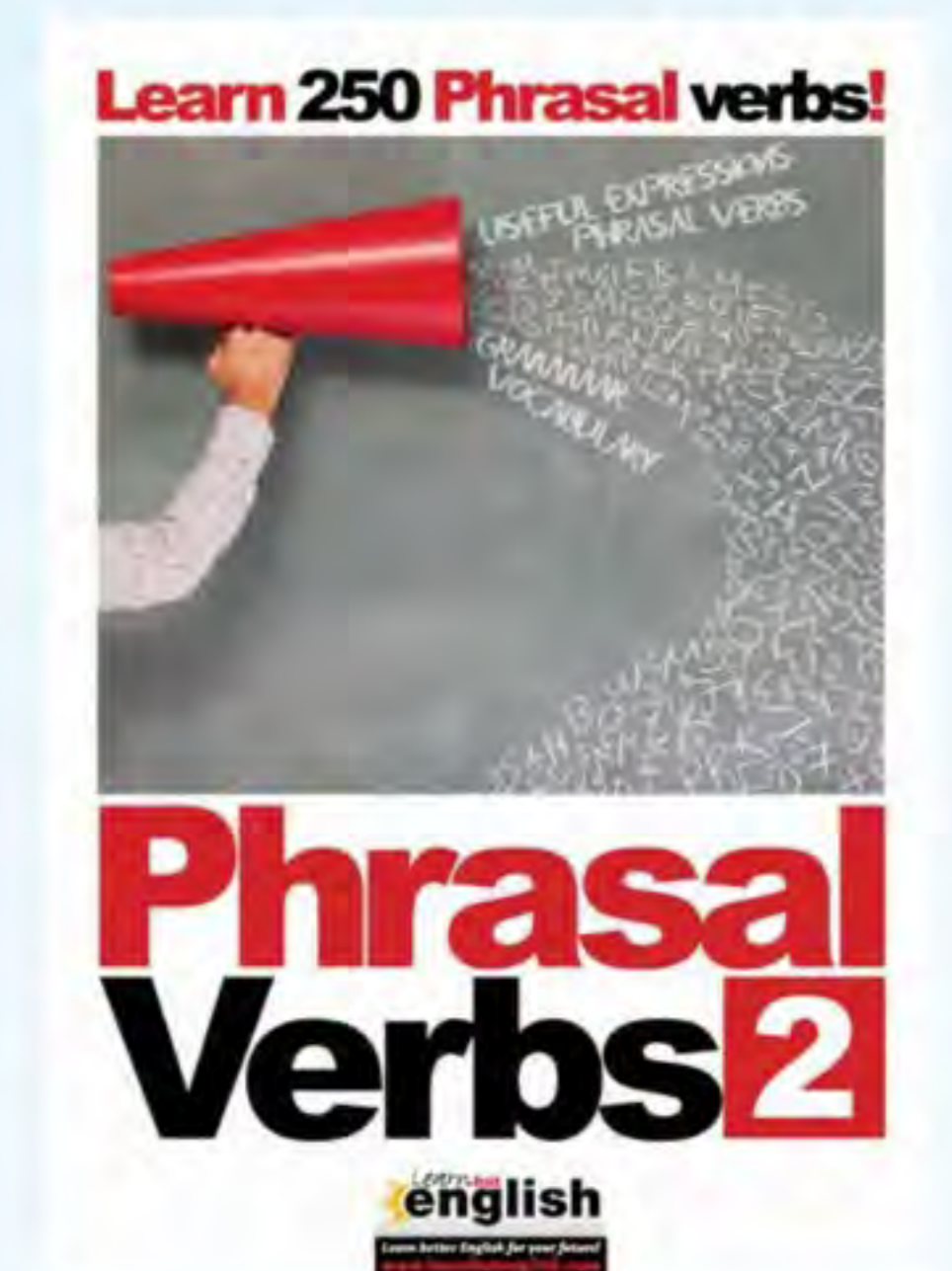
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# Those Damn Yanks



# BARBIE

America's number one lady

One of America's most famous women is **barely** 10 inches (30 centimetres) tall. She's got a collection of expensive cars, she's had hundreds of jobs (including being an astronaut, a McDonald's employee and a US president) and she lives in a pink dream-house. She's Barbie, the **doll** with a perpetual smile, **unblinking** blue eyes and lovely blonde hair. Why is she so popular? And **what's in store for her future?**

### A Star Is Born

In 1959 Ruth Handler "gave birth" to Barbie. Ruth was co-founder of the toy company "Mattel Toys". Ruth liked to watch her daughter play with paper dolls. Why not, thought Ruth, create a life-like doll for girls to imagine their dreams? And so Ruth created the first Barbie doll. The first Barbie wore a black and white **bathing suit** and had a **swirled ponytail**. In the 1960s, Barbie dressed like Jackie Kennedy. In the '70s Barbie could move her **wrists**, **knees** and **waist**. We also saw gymnast-Barbie, horseback-riding-Barbie and ballerina-Barbie. By 1977, she was one of the world's most admired women (next to Indira Gandhi and Charlie's Angels).

### Barbie's Friends

Barbie has lots of friends, including **tomboy** Skipper, Christie and Stacey, her British **chum**. Most important is her boyfriend Ken Carson. He was introduced in 1961 and his most notable features are his synthetic hair and

mysterious lack of genitalia. This confuses many girls who spend most of their play time looking down Ken's **pants**.

### Dogs

Since then we've had lots of different Barbies: Rio de Janeiro Barbie, All-American Barbie, veterinarian Barbie, Ferrari-driver Barbie and doctor Barbie. She has also traveled the world and gone to the moon. Most American toy stores have entire sections dedicated to Barbie dolls and accessories. Her accessories include the "Talking Townhouse", which greets Barbie when she arrives, horses, motor scooters, **SUVs** and new and vintage Volkswagen Beetles to drive round in. You can play with Barbie in a pizza shop, in a school or on a concert stage. However, most girls prefer the simpler pleasures of playing with Barbie alone and cutting off her hair.

### I Want To Be A Barbie

So why are Barbie dolls so popular? Experts say that many little girls love Barbie because they want to be like her. "I'm a fat kid with **braces**," says 9-year-old Hannah of Ohio. "But one day, I'll have a **cute** boyfriend who'll buy me a pink house and support my **dual career** as a fashion model and UN Secretary General." But it isn't just little girls who love Barbie, little boys love her too. They enjoy pulling off her head to traumatize their sisters. In addition, they can **undress** Barbie to see what a naked woman really looks like. However, Barbie dolls are not "anatomically correct."

## The Fans

Many women continue with their Barbie obsessions in later life. There are Barbie collectors who exchange information on websites, buy and sell dolls and are forced to memorize complicated Barbie buyer terminology. For instance Ponytail #1, which refers to the ponytail worn by the 1959 Barbie and Ponytail #5, which was from the 1961 doll.

Collectors go to annual conventions where they compare dolls, dress like Barbie and continue to live completely outside of reality.

The "Barbie Convention" of '99 was fantastic," says Stephen Johnson of Detroit. "I knew I'd find something great. And there she was, "Pajama Party Barbie". I stood looking for what seemed like days. I felt I'd found an old friend." Some Barbies even have designer dresses, like "July Ruby Barbie" who has a **gown** with a genuine diamond.

## Anti-Barbie

On the downside, critics argue that Barbie dolls are helping to create emotionally dependent, **small-minded** women. Barbie also introduces girls to a physical ideal they'll never be able to meet.

Feminists say girls who play with Barbies grow up to believe they must be beautiful, and see Barbie's physical appearance as female perfection. It was discovered that for a real woman to have Barbie's **measurements**, she'd have to be seven feet tall and anorexic. Feminists argue Barbie gives girls low self-esteem.

In response, many Barbie supporters say that the doll is progressive because there are many different versions of her. Some Barbies have less **cleavage** and **make up**. Most importantly, they say, Barbie teaches girls that life offers countless options, and whether they choose to be a mother or an astronaut, they can control their destinies.

## Real-Life Barbies

Human civilization has been blessed by a number of real-life Barbies. Shane and Sia Barbi, the Barbi Twins, were famous in the **mid-1990s**, especially after they appeared on the front cover of "Playboy". Ultimately, the twins admitted that their desperation to look like Barbie gave them **bulimia**. In their book, "Dying to Be Healthy", they regret making girls feel insecure about their bodies.

## Barbie's Future

Meanwhile, the Barbie toy producers plan to keep Barbie alive and watch her grow with the times. In the future, they say, the world's ultimate fashion model will still ignite the hopes, dreams and imagination of a new generation of little girls.



## INFORMATION BOX

Barbie is a 2023 comedy film directed by Greta Gerwig. It stars Margot Robbie as Barbie and Ryan Gosling as Ken. They go on a journey of self-discovery through Barbieland and the real world.



## GLOSSARY

**barely** *adj*

almost

**a doll** *n*

a toy that looks like a human

**unblinking** *adj*

eyes that don't open and close.

To "blink" is to open and close your eyes

**what's in store for her futu-re?** *exp*

what will happen to her in the future

**a bathing suit** *n*

clothing you wear to go swimming

**a swirled ponytail** *n*

a "ponytail" is a long piece of hair at the back of the head

**a wrist** *n*

the joint between your hand and arm

**a knee** *n*

the joint in the middle of your leg

**a waist** *n*

the central area of your body that gets fatter as you get older

**to ban** *vb*

to prohibit

**a tomboy** *n*

a girl who likes to play violent, noisy games

**a chum** *n*

a friend

**pants** *n US*

clothing you wear on your legs. "Trousers" in British English

**an SUV** *abbr US*

Sports Utility Vehicle - a large car for traveling on roads in the mountains

**braces** *n*

metal objects that you wear on your teeth to correct them

**cute** *adj*

nice and attractive

**a dual career** *n*

two jobs

**to undress** *vb*

to take off clothing

**a gown** *n*

a long, elegant dress

**small-minded** *adj*

with fixed opinions

**a measurement** *n*

a size

**cleavage** *n*

a woman's chest

**make up** *n*

paint that you put on your face

**the mid-1990s** *n*

around 1994/1995/1996

**bulimia** *n*

a disease that is a fear of becoming fat

## Films

SILENCE OF THE LAMBS

Illustration by  
Edgardo Carosia

## SILENCE OF THE LAMBS

**A Synopsis**

The film *Silence of the Lambs* centres around Clarice Starling (Jodie Foster), who is an extremely **bright** and talented **trainee FBI agent**. One day, she **gets a call** from agent Jack Crawford. Jack works for a **psychological profiling** unit and he's **hunting** a serial killer known as Buffalo Bill who is killing young women and making a **suit** for himself out of their

**skin**. Jack wants Clarice to interview Dr Hannibal "the Cannibal" Lecter, a former psychiatrist, who might be able to help with the investigation.

**Dr Lecter**

Dr Lecter is a homicidal maniac. He was sent to an asylum after killing and eating some of his patients. He's a quiet, well-educated man whose good manners and artistic sensibilities contrast with his violent, evil nature. He considers himself superior to other people because of his superb intellect, and believes that **he transcends traditional morality**. This aristocratic serial killer has since become one of the best-known **villains** in cinema history.

**Clarice & Lecter**

Clarice visits the notorious psychiatrist in order to interview him. He's **locked up** in a high-security **wing** of the asylum. His **cell** is **bare** and minimal and the front part is made of glass so the guards

can see what Dr Lecter is doing at every moment.

When Clarice first sees the doctor, he's standing with his back to her, reading. He turns and **sniffs** the air, **taking in** Clarice's perfume. Before long, he is playing sadistic **mind games** with her trying to get inside her head. But Clarice is **tough** and eventually they come to an agreement: he will give information that might help catch the serial killer; in return she will talk about herself.

**Kidnapped**

Things start well and it seems that Dr Lecter is going to help. However, it all changes when when the daughter of a senator gets **kidnapped** by Buffalo Bill. Now there's a **race against time** before the girl gets killed. For the rest of the film you are left wondering what Dr Lecter is really **up to**. Is he playing games with Clarice? Or is he genuinely trying to help her?

**Our Opinion**

The best thing about this film is that it's terrifying without actually being too **gory** (unlike the **sequel** *Hannibal*, which was really poor in comparison). And the true terror and suspense in this film comes from our anticipation of what might happen. The ending is really terrifying and afterwards you'll never be able to enter a dark room without a large **weapon** again! Highly recommended.

**Film Facts** Starring: Anthony Hopkins and Jodie Foster Director: Jonathan Demme Rated: R Release Date: February 1991 Genres: horror, Suspense



## Scene 1

In this scene, Jack Crawford, a top FBI agent, has called Carice Starling (Jodie Foster) into his office. He has a special job for her:

**Crawford:** (serious) A job's **come up** and I thought about you. Not really a job, more of an interesting **errand**. Walk me to my car, Starling. We're trying to interview all of the serial killers now in custody, for a **psycho-behavioral profile**. Could be a big help in unsolved cases. Most of them have been happy to talk to us. They have a compulsion to **boast**, these people... Do you **spook** easily, Starling?

**Clarice:** (serious) Not yet.

**Crawford:** (serious) You see, the one we want most refuses to cooperate. I want you to **go after** him again today, in the asylum.

**Clarice:** (serious) Who's the subject?

**Crawford:** (serious) The psychiatrist - Dr Hannibal Lecter.

**Clarice:** (shocked) The cannibal... Yes, well... Okay, right. I'm **glad** for the chance, sir, but why me?

**Crawford:** (serious) You're qualified and **available**. And **frankly**, I **can't spare a real agent right now**. I don't expect him to talk to you, but I have to be able to say we tried... Lecter was a brilliant psychiatrist, and he knows all the **dodges**.

(Clarice goes to prepare herself for the interview with Dr Hannibal Lecter)



## Scene 2

In this scene Clarice is speaking to Dr Lecter, who is behind a glass screen in his prison cell. Dr Lecter is trying to get some personal information on Clarice :

**Dr Lecter:** (serious) After your father's death, you were **orphaned**. What happened next? Clarice looks down) I don't imagine the answer's on those **second-rate** shoes, Clarice.

**Clarice:** (serious) I went to live with my mother's cousin and her husband in Montana. They had a ranch.

**Dr Lecter:** (serious) A **cattle** ranch?

**Clarice:** (serious) Horses and sheep...

**Dr Lecter:** (serious) How long did you live there?

**Clarice:** (serious) Two months.

**Dr Lecter:** (serious) Why so briefly?

**Clarice:** (serious) I **ran away**...

**Dr Lecter:** (serious) Why, Clarice? Did the **rancher fuck** you?

**Clarice:** (angrily) No.

**Dr Lecter:** (serious) Did he try to?

**Clarice:** (impatient) No! **Quid pro quo**, Doctor.

**Dr Lecter:** (giving information quickly) Billy's not a real transsexual, but he thinks he is. He tries to be. He's tried to be a lot of things, I expect.

**Clarice:** (excited) You said I was very close to the way we'd catch him.

**Dr Lecter:** (serious) There are three major centers for transsexual surgery: John Hopkins, the University of Minnesota, and

Columbus Medical Center. I wouldn't be surprised if Billy has applied for sex reassignment at one or all of them, and been rejected.

**Clarice:** (excited) On what basis would they reject him?

## INFORMATION BOX

This film won an Oscar for "Best Picture", "Best Actor" (Anthony Hopkins), "Best Actress" (Jodie Foster), "Best Director" (Jonathan Demme) and "Best Adapted Screenplay". Brooke Smith (who plays the girl kidnapped by Buffalo Bill) gained 25 pounds for the role.

Ted Levine (who plays the part of Buffalo Bill) was very effective, or perhaps even a bit too effective because the only parts he's been given since this role have been variations of the same psychotic character.

## GLOSSARY

**bright** *adj*

intelligent

**a trainee FBI agent** *n*

a person who is training to become an FBI agent

**to get a call** *exp*

to receive a telephone call

**psychological profiling** *n* describing someone's psychology

**to hunt** *vb*

to look for someone

**a suit** *n*

clothing - the trousers and jacket are the same colour and material

**skin** *n*

skin covers our bodies

**he transcends traditional morality** *exp*

he has a different morality to other people because he is "superior"

**a villain** *n*

a bad person in a book or film

**to lock up** *phr vb*

to put someone in a room and close the door with a key

**a wing** *n*

an area of a building

**a cell** *n*

prisoners live in individual or shared cells

**bare** *adj*

with nothing - empty

**to sniff** *vb*

to smell by taking short, rapid breaths

**to take in** *phr vb*

to smell

**a mind game** *n*

an attempt to dominate someone psychologically

**tough** *adj*

hard, strong

**to kidnap** *vb*

to take someone and demand money in return for that person's freedom

**a race against time** *exp*

very little time to complete an objective

**to be up to something** *exp*

to be doing something - usually bad

**gory** *adj*

with lots of blood

**a sequel** *n*

the second part of a book or film

**a weapon** *n*

a gun or knife, etc

**to come up** *phr vb*

to appear

**an errand** *n*

a short journey that you make in order

to do something for someone

**a psycho-behavioral profile** *n*

a report about someone's psychology and way of acting

**to boast** *vb*

to say how wonderful you are and talk about all your abilities

**to spook** *vb*

to get frightened

**to go after** *phr vb*

to find someone and get something from them

**glad** *adj*

happy

**available** *adj*

if something is "available", it is ready

**frankly** *exp*

honestly

I can't spare

**a real agent right now** *exp*

I can't send a real agent because I don't have enough. If you can "spare" something, you can use it or give it to someone because you have many of that thing

**a dodge** *n*

a trick to avoid doing or saying something

**to orphan** *vb*

if a child is "orphaned", the child's parents die

**second-rate** *adj*

of poor quality

**cattle** *n*

cows

**to run away** *phr vb*

to leave a place secretly

**a rancher** *n*

a person who works on a ranch or who possess a ranch

**to fuck** *vb* *offens*

to have sex with

**quid pro quo** *exp* Latin

I do something for you and you do something for me

**a personality inventory** *n* a form with questions about yourself

**to trip up** *phr vb* to catch.

Literally, if you "trip" someone, you use your foot to make them fall

**to yawn** *vb*

to open your mouth and breathe in - you do this when you are tired

**happy hunting!** *exp*

have fun looking for the thing you are looking for!; good luck!



# MAN-MADE CHEMICAL DISASTERS

Last month we looked at man-made disasters involving transport. This month, we'll be looking at man's stupidity when it comes to chemical substances and toxic gases.

## Red Lights

In the past, nuclear power seemed to be a cheap source of energy. But then the accidents started. One of the worst was Chernobyl. At the time (1986), very few people had heard of Chernobyl, which is a small town in the Ukraine. But these days it's become synonymous with nuclear disaster. So how did it happen? Basically, technicians at the Chernobyl nuclear power-plant allowed power in the fourth reactor to fall below safety levels. As a result, the reactor **overheated** and caused the **core to melt**. Two big explosions **blew the roof off** the reactor and **released** deadly radiation into the air for ten days. The toxic clouds were blown to the north and the radiation level was a thousand times greater than Hiroshima. The **hardest hit region** was Belarus. Experts estimated that over 15 million people were affected, and the 600,000 workers that took part in the clean-up operation are now all dead or very ill. And that's what happens when you ignore all those **flashing** red lights in the control-room!



## Fish

What do you think **cyanide**, the Danube River and gold could possibly have in common? Well, in north-western Romania, there's a factory which uses cyanide to separate gold from other minerals. This **smelter** is right next to the river Tisza, which flows into the Danube. In the year 2000 there was an accident at the factory and the deadly poison **spilled** into the Tisza.

The lethal chemical flowed down the Tisza and eventually into the Danube killing every living thing **in its path**. In fact, the poison was so toxic that not even bacteria survived. Never in the history of man-kind had so many fish been killed at one time. Clean-up volunteers in small boats spent weeks **picking out** the fish from the water. Experts think that it will be many years before the Danube recovers – all thanks to man's **greed** and stupidity!





## Sweet!

Our next disaster involves sugar – something that isn't normally associated with tragedies. Imagine your house being flooded by liquid sugar. It may sound funny, highly improbable or even very **tasty**, the kind of story you'd read in a children's book, but that's exactly what happened in 1919 when 9.5 million litres of molasses (liquid sugar) **devastated** the streets of Boston's "North End". A **storage tank** owned by the "Purity Distillery Co" had collapsed and the liquid flowed out, killing 21 people and injuring another 150. To this day The Great Molasses Flood remains a historical oddity that Bostonians are not ready to forget. Not so sweet!

## Bang!

**Fireworks** are great fun: there's lots of light and noise, and they're also a bit dangerous, which adds to the excitement. Most of us buy our own fireworks to play with, or go to organised firework displays. However, one young Dutchman, an ex-kickboxer called Andre de Vries, had a different idea. Instead of buying his own box of selected fireworks, he decided to set fire to a **storage site** with more than 100 tons of fireworks. He did this in the town of Enschede on 13<sup>th</sup> May in the year 2000. The triple-explosion that followed was **huge** and it killed 22 people and injured another 800. It also completely destroyed 400 houses.

Mr De Vries was eventually caught a month later as he was trying to **set fire** to his own car in an **insurance scam**. The court found him guilty and sentenced him to 15 years in prison. But the investigation revealed that others were equally responsible for the scale of the tragedy. Apparently the fireworks were being stored illegally. They were all close to one another and not protected by thick enough walls. Also, the city council didn't even know that the fireworks were there. The site had previously been a paper factory but had been **taken over** two years earlier. Even the city **mayor** admitted that he was unaware of the **takeover**.



## Union Carbide

It's amazing how much damage just one person can cause. In 1984 a **disgruntled** employee at the Union Carbide **pesticide plant** in Bhopal created a national disaster in India when he set fire to the factory. Some say that he was angry about not being promoted, but this was never proved.

The explosion released a highly toxic cloud of methyl isocyanate gas and thousands of people died in the **surrounding villages**. Thousands more were left **disabled**. None of the safety measures were working and the siren that was supposed to warn local residents was turned off. Victims of the tragedy are still trying to **sue** the multi-national company they feel is responsible.



## HOW TO AVOID SOME OF THESE DISASTERS

- 1) Safety should be the number one factor when setting up a factory
- 2) In a nuclear power-plant alarms and emergency signals are there for a reason; and when they go off it is highly recommended to take action rather than just sit there watching the pretty red lights
- 3) Fireworks should not be stored near residential areas
- 4) Factory and chemical plant workers should be tested regularly to detect signs of insanity

## GLOSSARY

<b>to overheat</b> <i>vb</i>	<b>a storage tank</b> <i>n</i>
to become too hot	a container for chemicals
<b>the core</b> <i>n</i>	<b>a firework</b> <i>n</i>
the centre	a small object that contains chemicals and that burns brightly and makes a noise when you light it
<b>to melt</b> <i>vb</i>	<b>a storage site</b> <i>n</i>
when a solid "melts", it becomes a liquid	an area where they keep chemicals or other things
<b>to blow off</b> <i>phr vb</i>	<b>huge</b> <i>adj</i>
if an explosion "blows something off", it forces that thing to come off	very big
<b>a roof</b> <i>n</i>	<b>to set fire</b> <i>exp</i>
the top part of a house or building	to burn
<b>to release</b> <i>vb</i>	<b>an insurance scam</b> <i>n</i>
if a "gas" is released from a container, it comes out of the container	a trick in order to get money from an insurance company
<b>the hardest hit region</b> <i>exp</i>	<b>to take over</b> <i>phr vb</i>
the region that was most affected	if one company "takes over" another, it takes control of the other company
<b>flashing</b> <i>adj</i>	<b>a mayor</b> <i>n</i>
if a light is "flashing", it is going on and off	the elected leader of a town or city
<b>cyanide</b> <i>n</i>	<b>a takeover</b> <i>n</i>
a type of poison	the act of gaining control of a company
<b>a smelter</b> <i>n</i>	<b>disgruntled</b> <i>adj</i>
a factory for metals	not happy, not content
<b>to spill</b> <i>vb</i>	<b>a pesticide plant</b> <i>n</i>
if a liquid "spills", it comes out of a container	a factory that makes chemicals for plants
<b>in its path</b> <i>exp</i>	<b>the surrounding villages</b> <i>n</i>
in its way	the villages around the area you are talking about
<b>to pick out</b> <i>phr vb</i>	<b>disabled</b> <i>adj</i>
to take with your hands	with a physical difficulty
<b>greed</b> <i>n</i>	<b>to sue</b> <i>vb</i>
the desire to have more and more of something	to start a legal process against someone or a company in order to get compensation
<b>tasty</b> <i>adj</i>	
very nice to eat	
<b>devastated</b> <i>adj</i>	
destroyed	



# NERDS

(US English)

The word “nerd” was first used in America in the mid-1960s to describe an intelligent student who was obsessed with technology. Later, the word was used to describe unfashionable, unpopular and **un-cool** college kids who spent all their time playing with computers. Nerds are also known as geeks, dweebs, dorks, losers and computer nerds.

## Clothes & Accessories

Nerd clothing is always out of style; they wear **suspenders**, thick black glasses with **tape** on them, **pocket protectors** and shirts that are usually too formal. They also wear **pants** that are too short for them, just in case there’s a **flood** on the way to the library. They also like to wear **bowling shoes** with **tartan shorts**.

## Aspirations

Most nerds want to be **computer hackers**, Entomology Professors, Bill Gates, or any other profession that requires major **brains** and is considered un-cool.

## Music

Nerds often listen to classical music that they can play along to with their own instruments. Nerds usually play the violin or the tuba, or they listen to music that used to be cool 10 years ago.

## Transportation

Nerds prefer public transport or bicycles. If they do have a car, it’s usually a large one with enough space in the back for all their science fiction novels and Star Trek video tapes.

## Names

Some typical nerd names are: Eugene, Francis, Harvey, Gertrude, Matilda or Francine

## Personality

What personality? Nerds are often introverted, quiet and **shy**. Some like to **show off** about how **smart** they are, and how much cooler it is to be smart. But then if they do this, they usually **get beat up**. Nerds may laugh uncontrollably for hours at silly, dirty jokes that ordinary people would not even find funny.

## Customs & Habits

Nerds like studying, reading, collecting insects, organising their sock **drawers** and starting clubs such as the “Chess Club” or “The Organisation For Hamster Lovers”. You can usually find nerds **hanging around** the library or computer lab talking about the latest **constellation** discovery. They also spend lots of time in **gym lockers** because other students put them there.

## Advice

If you are still confused about what a nerd is, I recommend watching the movie “Revenge of the Nerds”. It’s a funny movie that shows what would happen if nerds took over a college **campus**. Warning: if you are a Star Trek fan, you may be a nerd. Ask for medical advice.

## Famous Nerds

The most famous and richest nerd in the world is the president of Microsoft, Bill Gates.

## Nerds & Jocks

In US colleges there are two distinct groups: nerds and jocks. The jocks are the good-looking, sporty ones who look like Brad Pitt or Denzel Washington. One of the great questions of our time is, “is it better to be a jock or a nerd?” We may have the answer. We’re going to use a classic jock, Michael Jordan, to help us find the

answer to that one. Michael Jordan makes more than \$40 million a year. This means that:

1. While Jordan is sleeping he is **earning** about \$52,000 over a seven hour period.
2. He **makes** \$18,550 when he goes to see a movie.
3. If he decides to boil an egg for five minutes, he'll earn \$618.
4. He'll make \$3,710 while watching each episode of Friends.
5. It would take him just 12 hours to save up enough for a new Porsche.
6. He makes about \$33,390 for a round of golf.

But... Jordan would have to save all his income for 270 years to have the same amount in the bank as Bill Gates, the classic nerd. Nerds win!

## Nerd Jokes

Here are some classic nerd jokes:

### 1 God

Bill Clinton, Bill Gates, and George Bush were in an airplane that crashed. They all go to heaven, where God talks to Bush first: "Georgie, what do you believe in?"

George replies:

"Well, I believe that there are evil terrorists out there and we have to **kick their asses** or we'll die."

God thinks for a second and says, "Okay, **I can live with that**. Come and sit on my left."

God then speaks to Bill Clinton:

"Bill, what do you believe in?"

Bill Clinton replies:

"Well, I believe that a man should be free to express himself as he wishes."

God thinks for a second and says,

"OK, that sounds good. Come and sit on my right."

God then speaks to Bill Gates:

"Mr Gates, what do you believe in?"

And Bill Gates replies:

"I believe you are sitting in my chair."

### 2 Clothes

A nerd was walking on campus one day when his friend, another nerd, rode up on a beautiful new bicycle.

The first nerd was amazed and asked:

"Where did you get such a nice bike?"

And the second nerd replied:

"Well, yesterday I was walking home **minding my own business** when a beautiful woman rode up to me on this bike.

She threw the bike to the ground, took off all her clothes and said, 'take what you want!'."

The other nerd **nodded approvingly** and said:

"Good choice - the clothes probably wouldn't have **fitted** you anyway."



The most famous and richest nerd in the world is the president of Microsoft, Bill Gates.



## GLOSSARY

### cool adj

fashionable. "Un-cool" is not fashionable

### suspenders n US

something you use to hold your trousers up. They go over your shoulders. "Braces" in British English

### tape n

a thin piece of plastic that you use to join two things together

### a pocket protector n

extra material to protect your pockets. The material is usually leather

### pants n

clothing you wear to cover your legs. "Trousers" in British English

### a flood n

water on the ground because it has rained a lot

### bowling shoes n

shoes that you use to bowl. "Bowling" is a sport - you throw large balls and try to hit some objects

### tartan n

a design on material with coloured squares. It is from Scotland

### shorts n

clothing that is like a very short pair of trousers. People wear them in summer or when they do sport

### a computer hacker n

a person who illegally enters a computer system for fun or to steal

### brains n

intelligence

### shy adj

timid

### to show off phr vb

to show how good you are at something

### smart adj

very intelligent

### to get beat up exp

if you "get beat up", someone hits you many times

### a drawer n

part of furniture like a box that you put things in. You pull the drawer out of the furniture

### to hang around phr vb

to stay in one place for a period of time

### a constellation n

a group of stars in the sky

### a gym locker n

a small, thin room where you put your clothes when you do gymnastics or sport

### a campus n

the area where university buildings are

### to earn vb

to get money for doing something

### to make vb

to get money for doing something

### to kick someone's ass exp

offends

to attack and destroy someone

### I can live with that exp

I can accept that

### to mind your own business exp

to do your own things and not to irritate other people

### to nod approvingly exp

to move your head up and down because you agree with something

### to fit vb

if clothes "fit" you, they are the right size

# Historical Hysterics



## THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON

We've all done something silly in our lives, like losing our keys, forgetting to turn off the car lights, or going out without turning off the **oven**. Most times, the consequences are minimal – you have to get another set of keys, your car battery goes flat and your electricity bill is suddenly bigger. But imagine if your one silly mistake actually caused a whole city to **burn to the ground**. This is exactly what happened in London in 1666.

### The Fire

The fire started on the night of 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666 in a house that belonged to Thomas Farynor. He was the king's official **baker**. One night, Thomas finished work and prepared to leave. However, this time he forgot to **put** the fire in his oven **out**. Later that night, the **embers set light** to some wood that was nearby. By one o'clock in the morning, three hours after Thomas had gone to bed, the house and shop were well **alight**.

Thomas woke to find the house full of smoke and escaped with his wife, daughter and a **maid**. They went through an upstairs window, then onto the **roof**, however, the poor maid was too frightened because it was so high and she stayed in the house, becoming the first victim of the fire. As Thomas was leaving the fire was getting worse and worse.

### London 1666

At the time, London was "perfect" for burning. The houses were in **narrow** streets and the buildings were practically on top of one another. Also, **tar** was often used to build the houses and this burned wonderfully. To make matters worse, a strong wind blew that morning and the fire **spread** rapidly. Things got especially bad when the fire reached Thames Street where there were lots of **warehouses** full of flammable materials such as oil, alcohol, **straw** and coal.

### The Fire Burns

The man in charge of dealing with the fire was **Mayor** Budworth. At first he didn't take the fire very seriously, and apparently said

the infamous words:

"A woman might **piss it out!**"

He went back to sleep, but was woken up shortly afterwards to find that the fire was getting serious. And by this time it was all too late. His advisers suggested destroying houses to create **fire breaks**. The Lord Mayor was initially concerned about who would pay for this deliberate **damage**. However, the king thought this was a good idea and ordered gangs of volunteers to **blow up** houses to stop the advancing fires. Unfortunately, the results weren't very effective as the fire **raged** for three more days through the City. Apparently, the stones of St Paul's Cathedral exploded with the heat, and **molten lead** from the roof ran down the streets.

The fire eventually burned out at Temple Church near Holborn Bridge. Then, just when everyone thought it was safe, the fire suddenly **flared up** again. The mayor ordered the destruction of more buildings and the fire was finally brought under control.

### Pepys' View

Our best account of the Fire comes from the diaries of Samuel Pepys. He was an important person at the time (the Secretary of the **Admiralty**) and he watched the destruction from a safe position across the Thames. "It made me **weep** to see it," he said. "The churches, houses, and all on fire and flaming at once, and a horrid noise the flames made, and the **cracking** of houses."

Pepys was worried about his valuable possessions and spent two or three hours **burying** his wine and parmesan cheese in his back garden. Here are some more of his impressions:





Sir Christopher Wren - 1673



An old map of London

“Poor people staying in their houses till the very fire touched them, and then running into boats, or **clambering** from one pair of stairs by the waterside to another. And among other things, the poor **pigeons**. They were **loath** to leave their houses, and **hovered** about the windows and balconies **till** some of them burned their wings and fell down.”

### The Cost

The fire destroyed much of medieval London; and within 5 days the city which Shakespeare had known had ceased to exist. The destruction included 87 churches (including St Paul's Cathedral), 13,200 houses and 6 people (officially). The fire also destroyed goods and possessions worth many millions of pounds. In total, 80% of the city was destroyed. Some people lost everything, and over the following years thousands of people went to prison because they could no longer pay their **bills**.

### The Benefit

However, there was a positive side to all this. The fire also put an end to the **Great Plague**. This disease was carried by rats and most of them were killed in the fire. The number of plague victims dropped rapidly after the fire. London was also rebuilt after the fire, and many of the finest buildings today were constructed during this period. St Paul's Cathedral, which was built by Sir Christopher Wren is one such example.

So perhaps the fire wasn't so bad after all.

### INFORMATION BOX - FIRE SERVICES IN BRITAIN

At the time of the fire there was no official fire service. The Romans had tried to organize something, but when they left, the Brits gave up on the idea. In 1066, King William the Conqueror arrived and he ordered that all fires should be put out at night. This became known as William's law of *couvre-feu* (literally - cover fire) and it later became the modern term **curfew**. Even so, a huge fire destroyed a large part of the city in 1212 and killed about 3,000 people. This fire was known as the "Great Fire of London" - until 2<sup>nd</sup> September 1666 when there was an even bigger fire. After the first "Great Fire" they passed various laws which obliged people to provide **buckets** of water in case of fire; but they were never filled as people stole the water for cleaning or drinking.

### GLOSSARY FOR CARTOON

**to crap** *vb* *offens*  
if an animal "craps" on your head, it goes to the toilet on your head  
**a lad** *n* *inform*  
a man or boy  
**starving** *adj*  
very hungry  
**a scumbag** *n* *offens*  
an idiot  
**beat it** *exp* *inform*  
go away  
**bloody** *adj* *offens*  
a word you use to show you are angry  
**they think they own the place** *exp*  
they think they are the bosses/masters  
**a tasty bun** *n*  
a delicious cake

**bloody well** *exp* *offens*  
this is used to show you are angry  
**to blow up** *phr* *vb*  
to make something explode  
**bugger** *exp* *offens*  
an expression of anger  
**to bury** *vb*  
to put something in a hole in the ground  
**disease-ridden** *adj*  
with many diseases  
**burnt to the ground** *exp*  
completely destroyed by fire  
**barbecued** *adj*  
cooked on a fire (a barbecue)

### INFORMATION BOX - THE MONUMENT

There's a construction commemorating the fire that you can visit. It's called the Monument and it's a 70 metre column. The architect Sir Christopher Wren proposed putting a statue of Charles II on top, but Charles objected as he didn't want to be associated with the disaster. In the end, Sir Christopher Wren put a simple bowl with flames coming out of it. The Monument is open year round and you can climb it to get a wonderful view of



the city. At the base you can read all about the fire.

One final note on the Great Fire: in 1986 the "Baker's Company" issued an **apology** for the fire. It was 320 years late, but as we say, **better late than never**.

### GLOSSARY

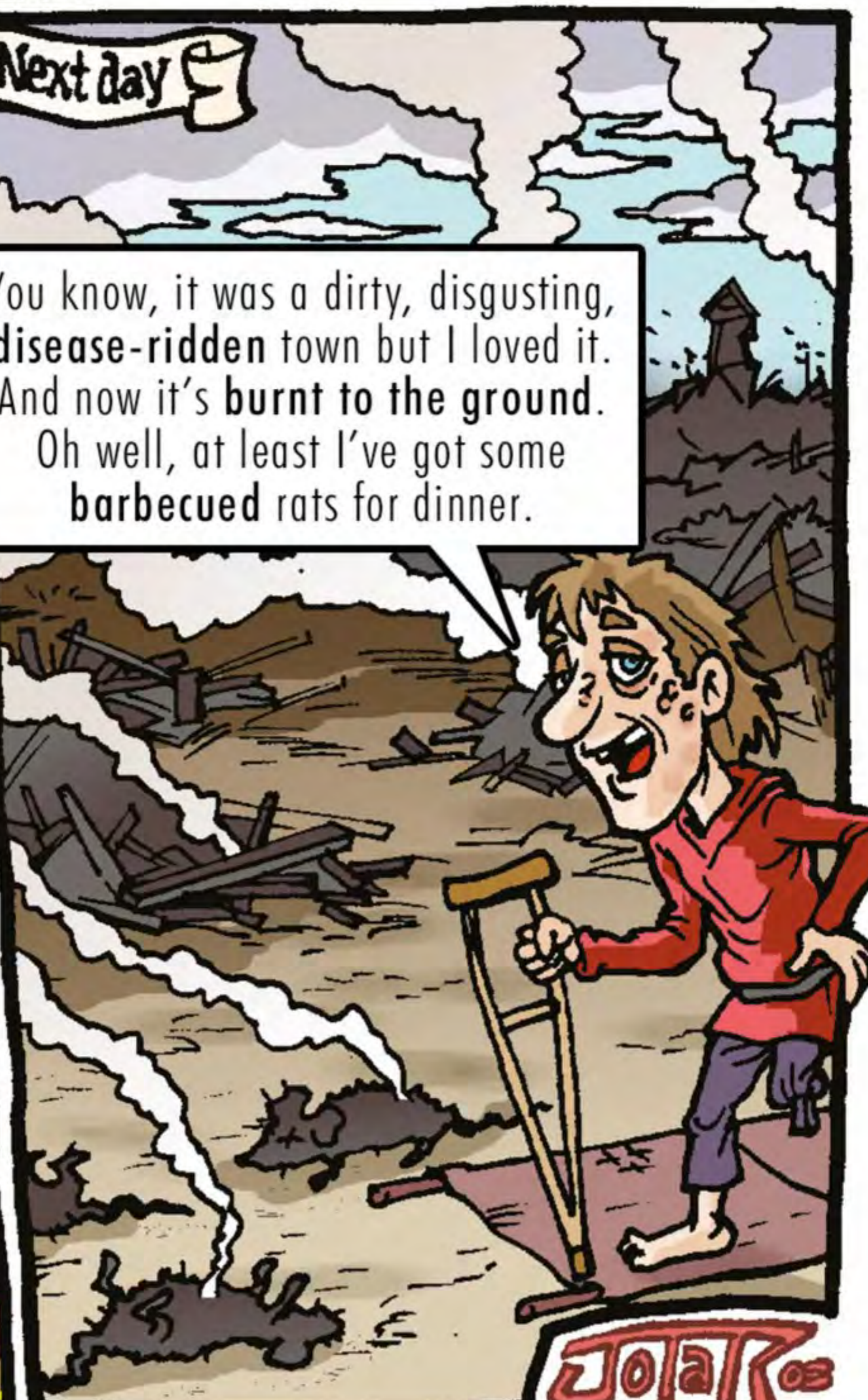
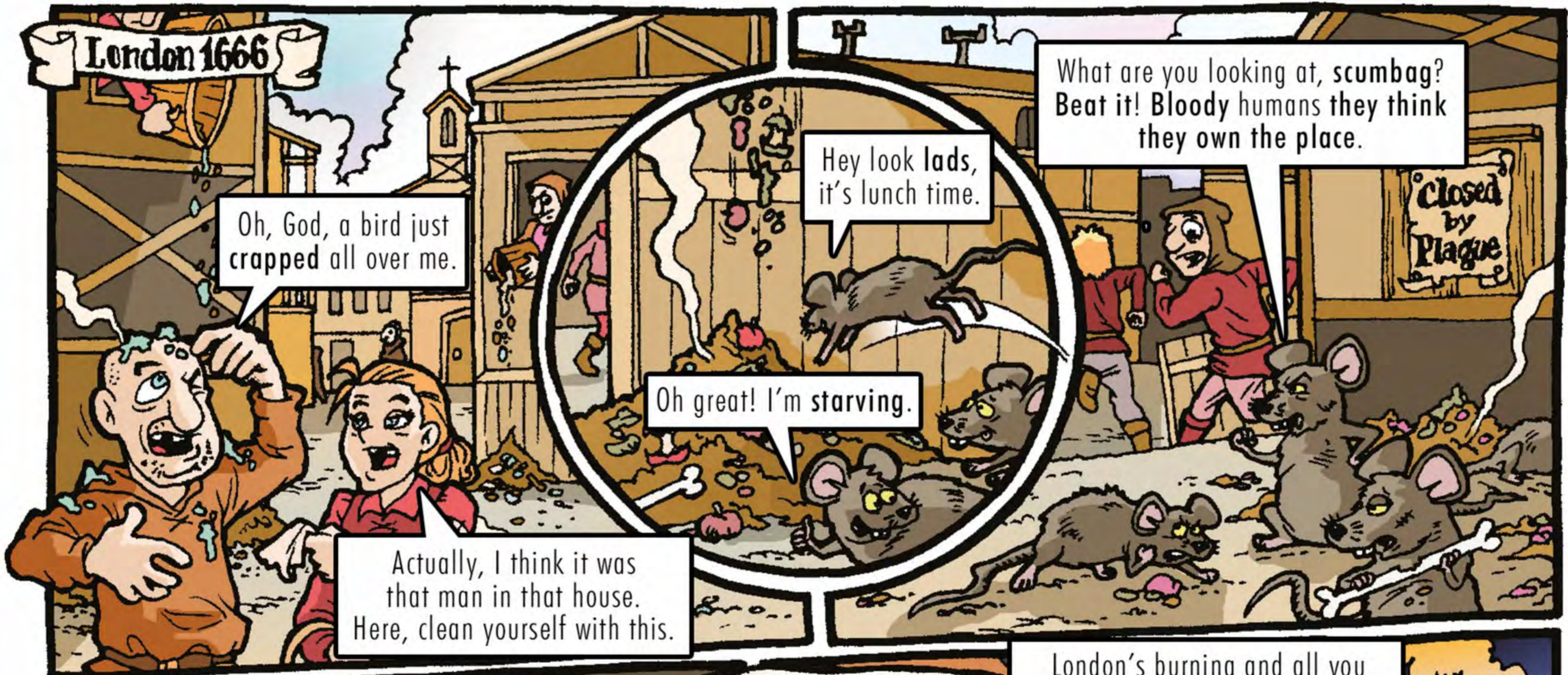
**the oven** *n*  
the hot, little "room" in the kitchen where you put food in order to cook it  
**to burn to the ground** *exp*  
to completely destroy with fire  
**a baker** *n*  
a person who makes bread and cakes  
**to put out** *phr* *vb*  
to extinguish a fire  
**an ember** *n*  
a small piece of material that is burning  
**to set light** *exp*  
to start a fire  
**alight** *adj*  
burning  
**a maid** *n*  
a woman who works in a private house cleaning or cooking  
**a roof** *n*  
the top part of a house  
**narrow** *adj*  
not wide - very close together  
**tar** *n*  
a black substance made from oil. It is often used to make roads  
**to spread** *vb*  
to increase in intensity and go from one place to another  
**a warehouse** *n*  
a large building for putting goods  
**straw** *n*  
a type of dry, yellow grass that horses eat  
**a mayor** *n*  
the elected leader of a town or city  
**to piss out** *phr* *vb* *offens*  
to extinguish a fire by urinating on it  
**a fire break** *n*  
an thin area of land with nothing in it that is used to stop a fire  
**damage** *n*  
destruction  
**to blow up** *phr* *vb*  
to explode  
**to rage** *vb*  
to continue burning intensely  
**molten** *adj*

metal that has become liquid in intense heat is "molten"  
**lead** *n*  
a type of metal (pb)  
**to flare up** *phr* *vb*  
to suddenly start to burn  
**the Admiralty**  
the government department in charge of ships  
**to weep** *vb*  
to cry  
**cracking** *n*  
this is a noise that a building makes as it is falling  
**to bury** *vb*  
to make a hole in the ground and put something in it  
**to clamber** *vb*  
to climb quickly  
**a pigeon** *n*  
a large, grey bird that lives in cities  
**loath** *adj*  
if you are "loath" to do something, you really don't want to do that thing  
**to hover** *vb*  
if a bird "hovers", it stays in the sky without moving  
**till** *adv*  
until  
**a bill** *n*  
a piece of paper that tells you how much money you must pay for something  
**the Great Plague** *n*  
a disease from 17<sup>th</sup> century England that killed many people  
**an apology** *n*  
a formal way of saying that you are sorry about something  
**better late than never** *exp*  
"I'm happy that you have arrived, or that you have done something, even though it is late"  
**curfew** *n*  
a law that says you cannot leave your house after a certain hour  
**a bucket** *n*  
a container for water

# Weird World Cartoon

(glossary on previous page) Illustration by Jorge Tarruella

THE GREAT FIRE OF LONDON



JOTA 03

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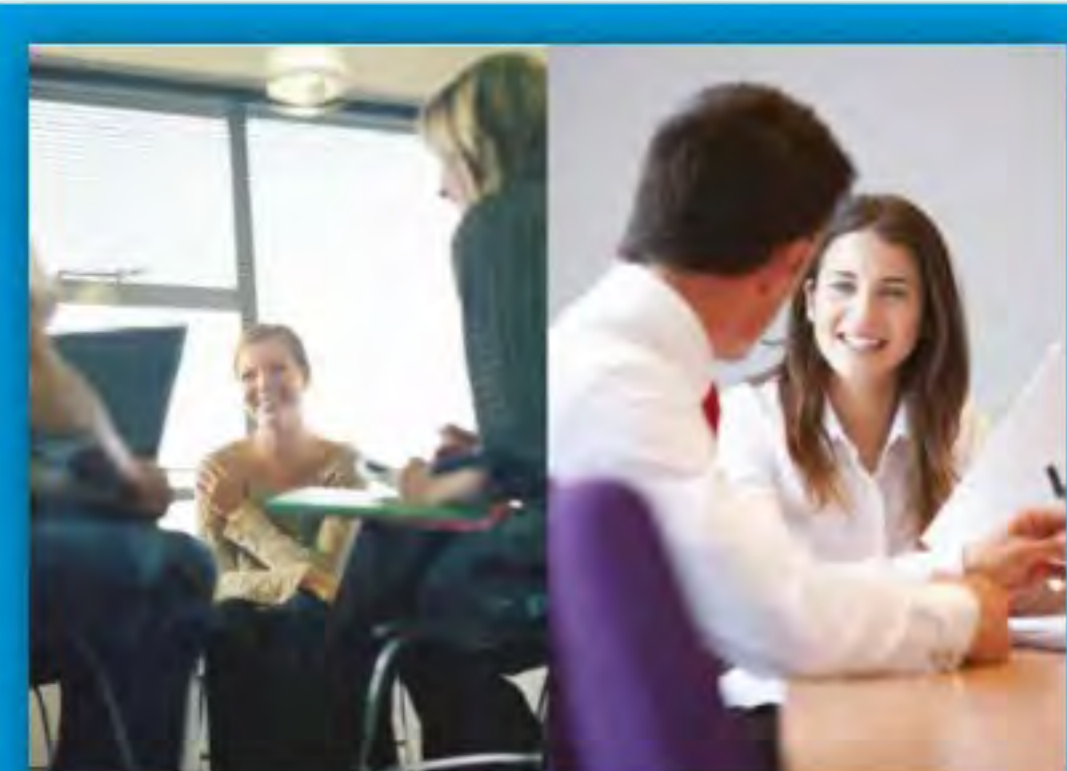
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# Strange BUT True

## Brotherly Love

All about a man, his brother and a prison sentence



How much do you love your family? Would you sell your house to help your sister pay for a surgical operation? Would you leave your job so you could stay at home caring for your father? **How far would you be prepared to go?** One man from Frankfurt, Germany, made a very unusual sacrifice for a member of his family.

### The sentence

Late last year, Mr Kurt Slammer was sentenced to two years in prison.

When Kurt heard the sentence he was **devastated**. He had two young daughters and he loved them very much, and the thought of being so long away from his family made him sad and depressed.

### A Drink

On the night before the sentence was **due** to start Kurt went out for a drink with his brother, Mr Norbert Slammer. The two brothers started out in a bar in the centre and moved around the area, drinking heavily. By the end of the evening they were both very drunk and poor Kurt was getting more and more depressed. Eventually he **broke down** and his brother Norbert had to try to **console** him.

Norbert tried to explain how the time would pass quickly, and that two years in a man's life is nothing, really. But it wouldn't work. Then, at some point during the evening, Norbert had a fantastic idea:

"I'll go to prison instead of you," Norbert declared.

Kurt couldn't believe what he was hearing.

### Twins

"At first it sounded like a ridiculous idea," Norbert later explained.

"But then I started thinking about it. We're **twins** and we look exactly the same. Besides, I had a serious drink problem so two years in prison would be an excellent way of curing my addiction. Also, I love reading, I'm not married and I don't have a family – and of course, I really love my brother and I hate to see him depressed and **upset**."

Eventually, Kurt agreed.

### A New Identity

The next day, Norbert prepared himself for his sentence. He had to

report to the prison by 10am. It was 9am and he was beginning to **have second thoughts**. "What if they asked to see my passport? What if they didn't believe me? These questions were starting to torment me," Norbert explained.

But in the end, it all **passed off** without incident. Norbert **turned up** at the prison and the guards signed him in. They gave him his new clothes, cut his hair and took him to his **cell**. And no one ever noticed that prisoner 46878932 was Norbert Slammer and not Kurt Slammer.

### Prison Life

Within a short time, Norbert had **settled into** his new life at prison very well. "I made lots of new friends, I had no money worries and I had all the time in the world to read."

Meanwhile, Kurt was busy enjoying himself on the outside.

"I felt a bit guilty at first, but my brother made me promise to forget about him and get on with my life – so I did. I had to be careful to keep away from my previous friends and **acquaintances**, but it was easy. I moved to a different town and got a job working in a factory that my uncle **runs** and I just lived happily with my family."

### Unlucky

But then one day the plan **fell to pieces**. It all happened on the day that Norbert was due to be **released**. Norbert explained what happened:

"I was just **signing** my **discharge papers** when I stupidly wrote my own name instead of putting 'Kurt'. One of the prison officials noticed and they took me to the police station.

### Prison

Now poor Kurt is in prison **serving** his original two-year sentence plus an additional ten months. And Norbert has been given a fine of 2,000 euros to pay for his expenses while he was in prison. And **he's back on the booze**, which surely proves that crime doesn't pay.

### GLOSSARY

**how far would you be prepared to go?** *exp*

what would you be prepared to do?

**devastated** *adj*

very sad and depressed

**due** *exp*

if something is "due" to happen on a particular date, it will happen on that particular date

**to break down** *phr vb*

to start crying

**to console** *vb*

to listen and talk to a sad person

**twins** *n*

two children born on the same day and to the same parents

**upset** *adj*

sad and depressed

**to have second thoughts** *exp*

to start thinking that something is a bad idea

**to pass off** *phr vb*

to happen

**to turn up** *phr vb*

to arrive

**a cell** *n*

a room where prisoners live

**to settle into** *phr vb*

to become comfortable in a place

**an acquaintance** *n*

a friend – not a very close one

**to run** *vb*

to direct and control a business or factory

**to fall to pieces** *exp*

to go badly

**to release** *vb*

to permit someone to leave a place

**to sign** *vb*

to put your name on a document

**discharge papers** *n*

a document that says you can leave a prison

**to serve** *vb*

if you "serve" a sentence, you go to prison

**to be back on the booze** *exp*

to start drinking alcohol again.

"Booze" is an informal word for alcohol



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A look at some cool places from around the world.

# Amazing World



# THE CITY OF LONDON

London is a big city and most people only know a small part of it. Most visitors go to the centre near Oxford Street and Trafalgar Square, an area which is known as the West End. This gives you a good idea of London and it's where many of most of the famous sites are. But there's another side to London that's not so **touristy**: the City of London (also known as the City or the Square Mile). This is the financial centre of London and it's where you'll be able to see real British people at work in the city banks and financial institutions. It's a fascinating area full of history and lots of interesting places to visit.

## Pubs & Restaurants

One of the great things about the City is just **wandering about**. There are lots of hidden **alleyways** with **quaint** little pubs and bars where you can enjoy a **pint**. Not many people actually live in the City of London and most people **commute** to work during the **rush hour**. Estimates are that around 300,000 people arrive there to work during the week, but only 5,000 people remain at night and at weekends. As a result, many pubs, clubs and restaurants close at the weekend. So, the best time to go is during the week between nine in the morning and 5 in the evening.

## Banks & Markets

Three **sites** that you should visit in the financial district of the City are the Bank Of England, Leadenhall Market and the Lloyd's Building. The Bank Of England is where Britain stores her vast (we hope) reserves of gold. You can visit the

museum there (Monday to Friday, 10am-5pm; free), which has its entrance on Bartholemew Lane. Unfortunately, you can't take any of the gold away with you.

Leadenhall Market is a beautiful market that **caters for** the City **crowd**. Inside you can see **barrows** full of exotic seafood, champagne, caviar, fine wine and **game**. Be prepared to **dig deep**!

The Lloyd's Building is basically the central offices of Lloyd's insurance company. It's a modern construction designed by Richard Rogers, the same architect who designed the Pompidou Centre in Paris - an amazing building. The Lloyd's Building is a very popular place to visit and you can walk about and see all the City workers.

## A Cathedral

Of course, one of the most famous sites in the City is St Paul's Cathedral. This was built by Sir Christopher Wren in the 17<sup>th</sup> century after the Great Fire of London destroyed the original one. You can see the **dome** from almost anywhere in London as it's enormous. In fact, it's the second largest in the world - St Peter's in Rome is bigger.

The best place to appreciate the cathedral from the inside is just below the dome as this is the most decorated part. The views from the top of the dome, which you reach by walking up a **spiral staircase**, are some of the best in London. However, the most spectacular views of the cathedral are from the café in the new Tate Modern art gallery on the other side of the Thames.

## Acoustics

Another interesting part of the cathedral is the “Whispering Gallery”, which has special acoustic properties. If you **whisper** something to the wall on one side, a friend can clearly hear what you have said whilst facing the opposite wall. There are also lots of tombs of famous people to visit. The most famous tombs are those of Admiral Nelson, and the Duke of Wellington, two soldiers who fought and beat the French in spectacular battles. Hoorah!

## Meat

Just near St Paul’s there is the Smithfield Meat Market. This is open really early in the morning (around 5am), and if you’re feeling particularly active, you might want to go and visit it. You’ll be able to see real Londoners working there, **packing** meat to be **shipped** all over the city. The best thing is that the pubs in the area are all open at this time so you might like to enjoy an early morning pint too.

## Criminals

Another great thing to do in the city is to go to the Old Bailey. This is the Central Criminal **Court** and it’s where all the most serious criminal **cases** take place. The best thing is that you can go and watch from the visitor’s **gallery**. It’s really fascinating to see the British **judges** in their white **wigs** and **robes**, and the **barristers** defending or prosecuting the accused. In the past this was also the place where people came to watch public **hangings**. However, these days things aren’t so macabre, although you do get to see real-life criminals. The gallery is open from Monday to Friday (10.30 – 1pm and 2-4pm). The only bad thing is that you can’t take bags and cameras in, and there is no **cloakroom**. The best thing is to leave your things in a **left-luggage office** at a nearby train station. You can also leave things at the pub across the road from the entrance if you ask nicely, though they expect you to buy a drink when you collect them.

## Newspapers & Dictionaries

One of the most famous streets in the City is Fleet Street. This used to be where all the daily newspapers were published. These days most of the newspapers have moved out to the East End of London. However, there are still lots of interesting pubs and restaurants here.

Just next to Fleet Street is Gough Square. This is where Dr Johnson’s House is. Dr Johnson wrote the first English language dictionary in the 18<sup>th</sup> century. You can visit his home and see where he lived and worked from 1747 to 1759 as he wrote the 41,000 entries for the very first dictionary. You can also see the first two editions of the dictionary.

## Free Concerts

After all this walking around, you might like to relax and listen to some free classical music. The best place for this is the Barbican Arts Centre, which is a large arts complex with various theatres and concert halls. And just nearby is the **brilliant** Museum of London, which tells you all about the development of London and even has a section of the

original Roman city walls. Have fun on your visit to the City of London – it’s a great place for seeing “real” Brits at work, and for finding out more about the history of this fascinating city.



## GREAT PUBS IN THE CITY.....

Here are some great pubs you can visit in the City of London:

**Blackfriar** – 174 Queen Victoria Street. Blackfriars tube. Lovely, original pub with great decoration dating from 1905. Closed on Saturday evening and Sunday.

**Old Bank Of England** – 194 Fleet Street. Temple or Chancery Lane tube. Old Victorian pub. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

**Old Cheshire Cheese** – 145 Fleet Street. Temple or Blackfriars tube. A famous 17th century pub with a real fire.

**The Counting House** – 50 Cornhill. Bank tube. Popular with City bankers. Closed on Saturday and Sunday.

**Jamaica Wine House** – St Michael’s Alley. Bank tube. This delightful pub is hidden down a narrow alleyway. Closed on Saturday and Sunday.

## GLOSSARY

**touristy** *adj*

with a lot of tourists – very popular with tourists

**to wander about** *phr vb*

to walk in a place with no particular objective

**an alleyway** *n*

a very narrow street

**quaint** *adj*

nice, attractive and traditional

**a pint** *n*

a glass of beer. The quantity is about half a litre

**to commute** *vb*

to travel to work

**the rush hour** *n*

the time when everyone is travelling to work (8am and 5pm, more or less)

**a site** *n*

a building or monument that is popular with tourists

**to cater for** *phr vb*

to give someone, or a group of people, all the things they need

**a crowd** *n*

a group of people that always goes to a particular area

**a barrow** *n*

a small cart that you push and which you can carry goods. Also known as a wheelbarrow

**game** *n*

exotic birds that you can eat

**to dig deep** *exp*

to pay a lot of money. Literally, to put your hand “deep” in your pocket to take out lots of money

**a dome** *n*

the round, top part of a building

**a spiral staircase** *n*

you go up a “staircase” to get from one floor of a building to another.

A “spiral” one goes around in little circles

**to whisper** *vb*

to speak very softly and quietly

**to pack** *vb*

to put goods in boxes

**to ship** *vb*

to send goods from one area to another in order to sell them

**a court** *n*

a building where legal processes take place

**a case** *n*

a legal process that is used to decide if someone is innocent or guilty

**a gallery** *n*

an area in a building where the public can sit to watch something

**a judge** *n*

the person who controls a legal process

**a wig** *n*

a piece of false hair

**a robe** *n*

clothing that covers the top part of your body. There is usually just one button at the top

**a barrister** *n*

a lawyer who speaks during a legal process. They may defend or prosecute

**a hanging** *n*

an execution in which a person is killed by putting a rope around their neck

**a cloakroom** *n*

the room in a bar or restaurant where you can leave your coats, etc

**a left-luggage office** *n*

the office in a train station where you can leave bags, etc

**brilliant** *adj*

excellent

A look at some cool places from around the world.

# Living Abroad



# LONDON

Every month we interview someone who has lived or worked in a foreign country. This month we are talking to Lidia, a Spanish girl, about her time in London.

## Lidia, why did you go to London?

I went to London to improve my English, I also wanted to experience something new, meet some new people and live in a different culture.

## What did you expect it to be like?

I didn't really know what to expect; I was very excited about getting there.

## What were your first impressions?

That everything was so different. Also, it was really hard to understand the sort of English they speak there - I thought my English was much better. This meant it was hard to communicate with people and to find a job. I also found London a very **busy** and fast town.

## Where did you stay?

I found a language school through a great website called [www.extudiar.com](http://www.extudiar.com). They also provided me with accommodation for the duration of my tuition. Once the course was finished and I had made up my mind to stay for longer, I **rented** a house outside London.

## What did you do there?

When I first arrived, I worked for a **temping agency** who found me work in different factories. Then I found out that as a foreign student you can get **income support**

and **housing benefit**, which is great because it gives you enough money to survive. I think the English **tax payers** will be very angry if they find out that lots of Italians, Spaniards, Germans and French can go there and live for free!

I couldn't get a full-time job as I was still studying for the First Certificate. Eventually I started working part-time in a shop as a sales assistant. Once I took the exam (and passed) I went full-time in a high-street shop in central London. One year later, as I gained more experience, I was promoted to shop manager. But I soon discovered that my interests were a little different and I was more **into window dressing**, and that's what I've been doing since then.

## How did you get the job?

I just went into one of those temping agencies when I first got there. Foreigners can get all sorts of jobs, depending of their level in English; but obviously most of them work as waiters, cleaners, bartenders and **au pairs**.

## And what were the best things about it?

Meeting new and different people, visiting all the small and beautiful villages in the country and the seaside. When I first arrived, I decided to make the most out of my time. I had a whole range of discount cards to enjoy the city, such as the London Travelcard or the London Pass. I got those in Spain from [www.viajarasuaire.com](http://www.viajarasuaire.com).

And finally, I always loved to have a drink in the typical English pubs and then have some dinner in one of the millions of different restaurants from all over the world that you can find in London.

### Was it easy to meet people?

It was easy to meet foreign students like myself, but it wasn't until I started working in **town** that I met English people.

### How were the people different?

They are just... different. In my country we are more family orientated, but they are much more independent and not as open and friendly as us. And that's just an observation, not a criticism.

### What were the worst things about being there?

The weather and not being close to the family.

### What was the funniest thing that happened to you there?

Well, once we were on a train and there was this really good-looking guy there. We started talking about him in Spanish, saying how handsome he was and wondering when he was going to get off the train. Then, just as we were about to leave he suddenly said, "gracias" (thank you), and he thanked us for all the nice things we had said about him – it **turned out** he was Spanish too!

### Do you have any other stories about your time in London?

In another train journey I was with a friend talking in Spanish. All of a sudden this madman, who **looked like a beggar**, began shouting and **swearing** at us. So, just as we were getting off, we swore back at him and he **got mad** and tried to **chase** us but thankfully the train doors closed before he could get out.

### Did you have any problems with the language?

Yes, I made a lot of mistakes but the most embarrassing one was when I caught the **flu**. I tried to explain to one of my colleagues at work what was wrong and I told him that I was "constipated" (in Spanish the word for flu is "constipada"). You can imagine how much I laughed when I **found out** the true meaning of **constipated**.

### What advice would you give to somebody who is thinking of going to London?

Go for it! It's a brilliant experience that you'll remember for the rest of your life. And don't forget to visit [www.extudiar.com](http://www.extudiar.com). It worked for me!

### Would you go back?

Yeah, I'll definitely go back on holiday, and I'd love to have a house over there; but I don't think I'll ever go back to live or work as I think my future is here in Spain, and I feel much more comfortable having my family around me.

OK, Lidia, thank you very much, that was really interesting.



## GLOSSARY

### busy *adj*

with lots of people going in different directions

### to rent *vb*

to pay money to use a house for a limited period of time

### a temping agency *n*

a company that offers temporary jobs in other companies

### income support *n*

money from the government for people with no job

### housing benefit *n*

money from the government to pay for a house

### a tax payer *n*

a person who pays tax (money to the government for services)

**to be into something** *exp* to enjoy doing something, to like doing something

### window dressing *n*

preparing and decorating shop windows

### an au pair *n*

a person who works for a family looking after the children

### town *n*

notice how the speaker uses "town" to refer to a city. This is quite common

### to turn out *phr vb*

if something "turns out" a particular way, it happens in that particular way in the end

### to look like *exp*

to have the appearance of

### a beggar *n*

a person who lives in the street asking people for money (begging)

**to swear** *vb* (past: **swore**) to say a taboo word – to insult

### to get mad *exp*

to become very, very angry

### to chase *vb*

to try to catch someone – usually by running behind them

### the flu *n*

an illness where you have a high temperature, a headache and you feel cold

### to find out *phr vb*

to discover

### constipated *adj*

an inability to go to the toilet – a "blocked" stomach

# Book Review

BRIDESHEAD REVISITED



# BRIDESHEAD REVISITED

by Evelyn Waugh

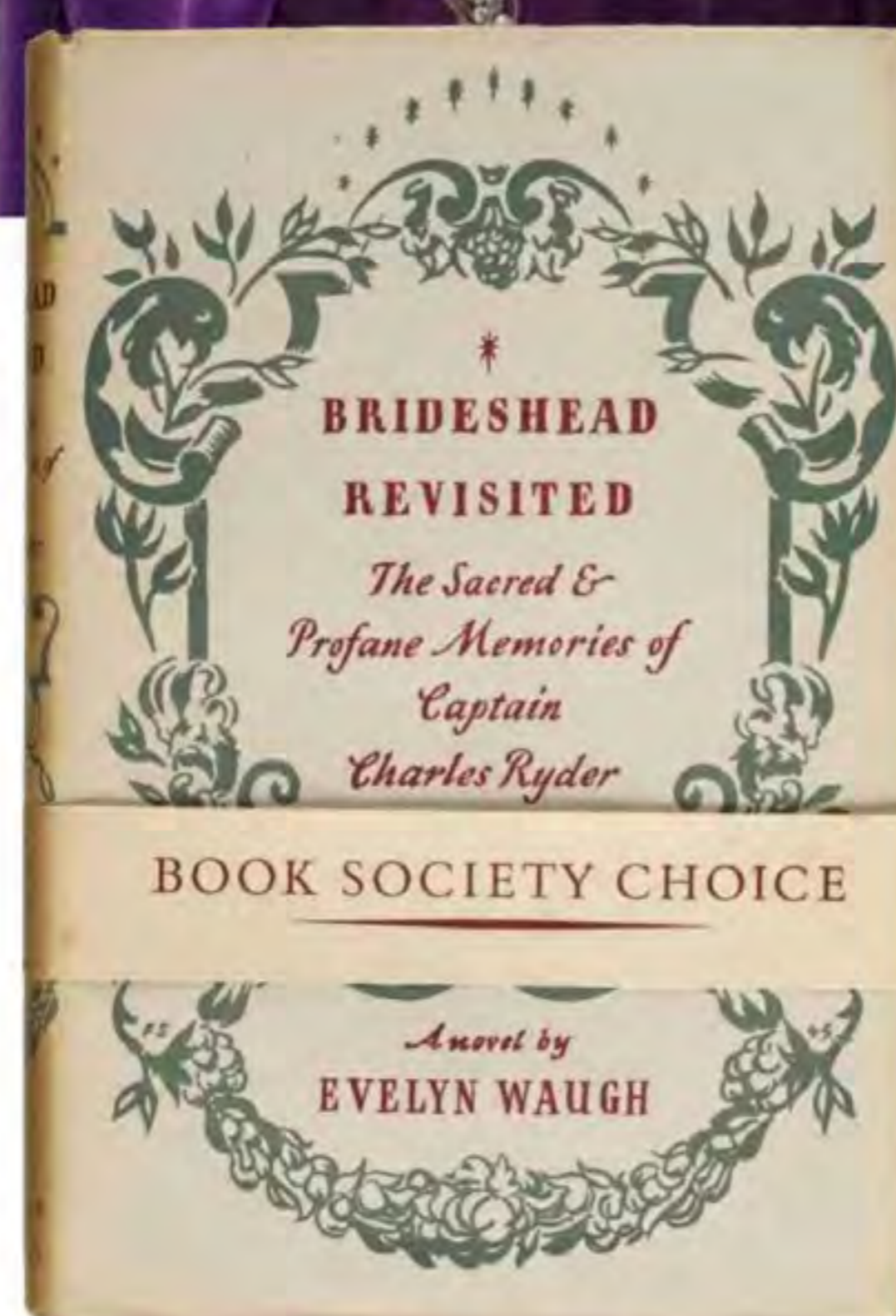
## The one sentence review

A book about the decline of the English aristocracy as shown by a decadent group of upper-class Englishmen during the 1930s and 1940s.

## A Large Teddy Bear

The story centres on Charles Ryder and the people he meets while he's at Oxford University. The story follows their lives after university and we see what happens to them. Oxford University is for the "elite" of England, and most of the students come from **wealthy** backgrounds and private schools. Students spend most of their time drinking and making contacts that will be useful for them in the future. While he's at the university, Charles meets another student called Sebastian, who is different from the other students:

*I knew Sebastian by sight long before I met him. That was unavoidable for, from his first week, he was the most conspicuous man of his year by reason of his beauty, which was **arresting**, and his eccentricities of behaviour, which seemed to **know no bounds**. My first sight of him... I was **struck** less by his looks than by the fact that he was carrying a large **teddy-bear**.*



## Drunk But Happy

Charles and Sebastian soon become friends and for the first time in his life, Charles is happy. At home he has an unusual relationship with his father. They don't speak much and their treatment of one another is polite but cold. But at university Charles comes to life; especially with his new friend, Sebastian. Together they spend most of their time getting drunk:

*Now, that summer term with Sebastian, it seemed as though I was being given a brief **spell** of what I had never known, a happy childhood.*

Charles and Sebastian spend the first term at university without a worry, drinking until late at night.

## Sebastian's Family

At the end of term, Charles gets an invitation from Sebastian to visit his house, Brideshead. Brideshead is an enormous, beautiful house in the country with impressive gardens and lots of servants. But life at Brideshead is far from perfect. Sebastian's father lives in Italy and refuses to speak to the family. As a fellow student explains to Charles:

"He [Sebastian's father] is a volcano of hate. He cannot breathe the same air as she [Sebastian's mother]. He will not **set foot in** England because it is her home; he can scarcely be happy with Sebastian because he is her son.

Julia, Sebastian's sister is beautiful but dissatisfied with life; and Sebastian's mother tries her best to keep them all together.

### Black Coffee

At the start of the next term Charles starts to worry about his drunken lifestyle. He has decided that he needs to study. There are exams at the end of the year and he needs to pass them if he wants to stay at Oxford. So, **he locks himself away in his room** and spends a couple of weeks in intensive study. He sits up late at night with iced black coffee, **cramming himself with the neglected texts**. "I remember no syllable of them now," Charles admits later. He also forbids Sebastian to come to his room.

### A Drunkard

Meanwhile, Sebastian is getting worse and worse. He's drinking more and more and seeming to enjoy it less and less. As Charles admits:

*It was during this term that I began to realize that Sebastian was a **drunkard** in quite a different sense to myself. I got drunk often, but through an excess of high spirits, in the love of the moment, and the wish to prolong and enhance it; Sebastian drank to escape. As we together grew older and more serious I drank less, he more.*

### Drink

Charles eventually realises that Sebastian is in deep trouble. He tries to get Sebastian to stop, but it's practically impossible. On one occasion at Sebastian's house Charles tries to **confiscate** Sebastian's drink:

*On the writing table by the fire was a half-empty **decanter** of whisky. I took it up, thinking he would not see, but he spun round from the mirror and said: "You put that down." "Don't be an ass, Sebastian. You've had enough."*



*"What the devil's it got to do with you? You're only a guest here - my guest. I drink what I want in my own house." He would have fought me for it at that moment.*

*"Very well," I said, putting the decanter back, "only **for God's sake keep out of sight**."*

*"Oh, **mind your own business**. You came here as my friend; now you're spying on me for my mother, I know. Well, you can get out, and tell her from me that I'll choose my friends and she her spies in future."*

*So I left him and went down to dinner.*

*So what's going to happen to Sebastian? You'll have to read the book to find out for yourself.*

### Our Opinion

This book is about the decline of the British aristocracy and the end of the traditional class system. For centuries rich aristocrats had been living a luxurious, **frivolous** existence with their London town houses and their mansions in the country. However, at the start of the 20th century things began to change. **Titles** and wealth became less and less important and the government started introducing higher and higher taxes for people with land.

However, this book has another side to it as it's also about a **dysfunctional family**, and a group of people who are very unhappy with their lives. These are people who were **born into privilege**, but who are also **selfish**, dissatisfied and full of misfortune, anger and self-hatred. Just as Julia (Sebastian's sister) says:

*"I am so beautiful. But **what do I get from it?**"*

The book was made into a successful movie starring the British actress Emma Thompson.

### GLOSSARY

#### wealthy *adj*

rich

#### conspicuous *adj*

if something is "conspicuous", everyone notices it

#### arresting *adj*

amazing, impressive

#### to know no bounds *exp*

to know no limits

#### to strike (past: struck) *vb*

to impress

#### a teddy-bear *n*

a toy that looks like a bear (a large animal that lives in forests and eats honey)

#### a term *n*

the university year is usually divided into three periods of time known as terms

#### a spell *n*

a period of time

#### to refuse *vb*

if you "refuse" to speak to someone, you won't speak to that person

#### to set foot in a place *exp*

to go to a place

#### he locks himself away in his room *exp*

to stay in your room and try to prohibit anyone from coming in

#### cramming himself with the

#### neglected texts *exp*

to study the neglected texts a lot

#### to forbid *vb*

to prohibit

#### a drunkard *n*

a person who is addicted to alcohol

#### to confiscate *vb*

to take away

#### a decanter *n*

a special bottle for whisky

#### to spin round *phr vb*

to turn around very quickly

#### what the devil's it got to do with you? *exp*

"it does not concern you - it is not your problem!" People use the expression "the devil" to show they are angry

#### for God's sake *exp*

this is an expression of anger

#### to keep out of sight *exp*

to go to a place where no one can see you

#### mind your own business *exp*

"stop interfering in my affairs!"

#### a title *n*

Sir, Lord, Lady and Baron are all "titles"

#### a dysfunctional family *n*

a family with lots of mental and psychological problems

#### to be born into privilege *exp*

to be born into an important family

#### selfish *adj*

a "selfish" person only thinks about him/herself

#### what do I get from it? *exp*

"what benefit is there for me?"



# British bar chat



## Self-help books

This month Curt and Greg are talking about **self-help books**. Listen to their conversation and answer these two questions. Remember, you don't have to understand every word. Just listen for the key words (the most important words in each phrase):

### Exercise

1. What is the book about?
2. Why does one of the speakers not like self-help books? (answers on page 59)

**Curt:** Oh I've just read this great book.

**Greg:** Yeah, what was that, what was it about?

**Curt:** Well, it was all about how to make a million by the time you're forty.

**Greg:** How to make a million, **oh come on**.

**Curt:** Yeah, it's great. It's rather easy, and it's, well, the book's quite interesting and it had lots of examples of people who did it, who've done it, and it just basic, basically the idea was, **you know**, you save 15% of your **salary** for the rest of your life...

**Greg:** ... Oh, it's easy to say that, but it's just, it's just a stupid idea.

**Curt:** No, it's, it's logical, you know, you know, think of all the money you spend, if you just saved that from the time you were eighteen **till** the time you're sixty...



**Greg:** No, it's fine if you're earning 100,000 a year, but if **you're** only **on, like**, 15,000, **like everyone else** then it's not going to **get you very far**, is it?

**Curt:** You're just too cynical. Any, anyway these, these sort of books are great. I love reading these sorts of... they, they, they make you feel good these self-help books.

**Greg:** Well, they've got them for everything, haven't they? They're just like, you know, these people who claim to be experts and they're, they're not, you know, it's just, it's just invented.

**Curt:** No, no, no, they got these, they, you know, they, OK, some of the things are invented, they probably invent a few of the stories, the success stories and things like that, but these, these methods of self-motivation and **getting on in life**, they're, you know it's based on psychological theory.

**Greg:** So you really think you're **gonna**, you're gonna change and do things as a result of this?

**Curt:** What? Me? Change? I'm perfect, I am, already, I'm not changing.



### GLOSSARY

**self-help books** *n*

books that help you find solutions to the problems in your life

**oh come on** *exp*

please stop saying silly things

**you know** *exp*

people often say this to check that the other person understands

**a salary** *n*

the money you earn every month for doing a job

**till** *adv*

until

**to be on + (a sum of money)** *exp*

to earn + (a sum of money)

**like** *exp*

people often say this while they are thinking what to say next. It doesn't mean anything

**like everyone else** *exp*

the same as everyone else

**to get you far** *exp*

to permit you to buy many things

**to get on in life** *exp*

to advance in life, to improve in life

**gonna** *abbr*

going to



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# US bar chat



## Men's underwear

This month we are going to listen to two young Americans, Lola and Amy, talking about a man's body. They are also discussing men's **underwear** and **boxers** and **briefs** in particular. Listen to all the conversation and answer these two questions. Remember, you don't have to understand every word in order to answer the questions – you just have to listen for the key words (the most important words in the conversation):

### Exercise

1. Why does one of the speakers hate briefs?
2. What type of underwear is the man wearing? (answers on page 59)

**Lola:** Hey Amy. Check out that **guy's butt**. He is **hot**. **I give him a 10**. **What do you think? Boxers or briefs?**

**Amy:** **Erm**, I don't know. **Jeans way tight**. **I'm gonna go with briefs on that one**. I hate briefs. They're so **corny**. They remind me of ten-year-olds and **granpas**.

**Lola:** **Whatever**, you're **crazy**. It is so **cute**. That butt looks great. Not to mention, well, you know, everything else. The **package and all**. Especially when he has a hot body.

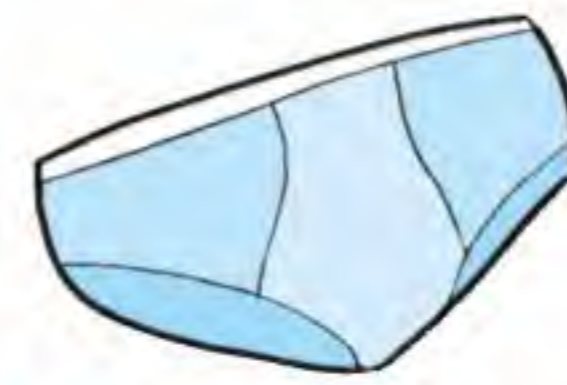
**Amy:** Erm, **negative**. I think boxers are much sexier. Briefs look like **speedos**. And besides, **they restrict breathing room**, ya know. And you know what, you know what they say, er, don't you want kids one day? They say **they lower sperm count**.

**Lola:** **That's a load of bull**. **Not proven**. Boxers just look stupid.

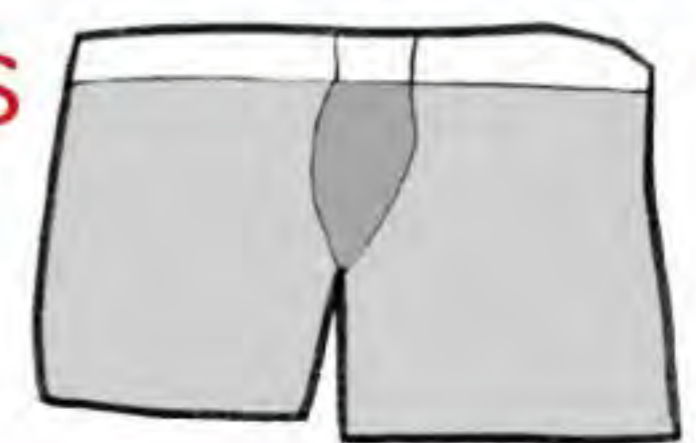
**Amy:** Oh, wait. We might, we might not have to continue this discussion any more. He's **bending over**. Let's see if we can, er, **sneak a peek**.

**Lola:** **Whoah! Put that away! Plumber's crack**. I **guess** our man prefers neither.

### Briefs



### Boxers



### GLOSSARY

**underwear** *n*

clothing that you wear under your trousers or skirt

**boxers** *n*

men's underwear. They are like the shorts that boxers wear

**briefs** *n*

men's underwear. They are very small and usually tight

**a guy** *n*

a man

**a butt** *n*

the part of your body that you sit on

**hot** *adj*

sexy

**I give him a 10** *exp*

I think he is a very attractive person

**what do you think? Boxers or briefs** *exp*

what do you think he is wearing? Boxers or briefs

**erm / er** *exp*

people often make this sound when they are thinking about what to say

**jeans way tight** *exp*

his jeans are too small (there is no space)

**I'm gonna go with briefs on that one** *exp*

I'm going to choose briefs this time; I think that man is wearing briefs

**corny** *adj US*

if you describe something as "corny", you think it is cheap, unattractive, not original, sentimental or of poor quality

**granpas** *abbr*

grandfathers

**whatever** *exp*

you use this word to indicate that you accept what someone has said, or that you don't care about what someone has said

**crazy** *adj*

insane, mad

**cute** *adj*

sexy and attractive

**the package** *n*

in this context "package" is referring to a certain part of a man's body

**and all** *exp*

and everything else

**negative** *exp*

people use this expression to say that they don't agree with something

**speedos** *n*

clothing that men wear to swim. They are very small and tight

**they restrict breathing room** *exp*

they make it difficult to breathe

**they lower the sperm count** *exp*

they make a man have less sperm

**that's a load of bull** *exp US*

that is silly

**not proven** *exp*

that is not proven

**to bend over** *phr vb*

to move your body forwards and down

**to sneak a peek** *exp*

to look quickly and secretly

**whoah** *excl*

an exclamation of surprise or disgust

**put that away** *exp*

stop showing that to me; that is horrible – I don't want to see it anymore

**a plumber's crack** *n US*

This is the part of someone's bottom (the part of your body that you sit on). You can often see this when people sit down or bend over and they are wearing big trousers. It is called "builder's bum" in British English

**to guess** *vb*

to think



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AUDIO

# Dictionary of slang

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



## Situation

Formal



Relaxed



Informal



*You invite someone to ask you questions about something:*

Please begin your interrogation

Go ahead

Fire away! Shoot; I'm all ears

*You have been working a lot:*

I have been engaged in a lot of work recently

I've been working really hard

I've been working my socks off; I've been **flogging** my **guts** out; I've been slaving away; I've been working like a dog

*Someone you know looks exactly like another friend:*

You are similar in appearance to a friend of mine

You look just like a friend of mine

You're the **spitting** image of a friend of mine; you're the double image of a friend of mine; you're the mirror image of a friend of mine

*You can never **rely** on a friend:*

He is so unreliable

He is totally unreliable

It's **hit** or **miss** with him

*A friend asked you to marry:*

She proposed marriage to me

She asked for my hand in marriage

She popped the question

*A friend suggests going to the cinema. You don't want to go:*

I'm afraid I have to decline your kind offer of a trip to the cinema

I think I'd rather not go

I think I'll give it a miss; sorry, I'm washing my hair tonight; I don't think I'll bother; I'll take a rain check (US)

*You are playing tennis and you are tired. You want to stop and go home:*

Please let us cease this activity

That's enough for me

Let's call it a day; I've had it

### GLOSSARY

**to flog** *vb*

to hit someone many times with a whip (a long piece of leather)

**guts** *n*

the tube in your body where food passes

**to spit** *vb*

to force liquid out of your mouth

**to rely on someone** *exp*

to know that someone will do what they

promised to do

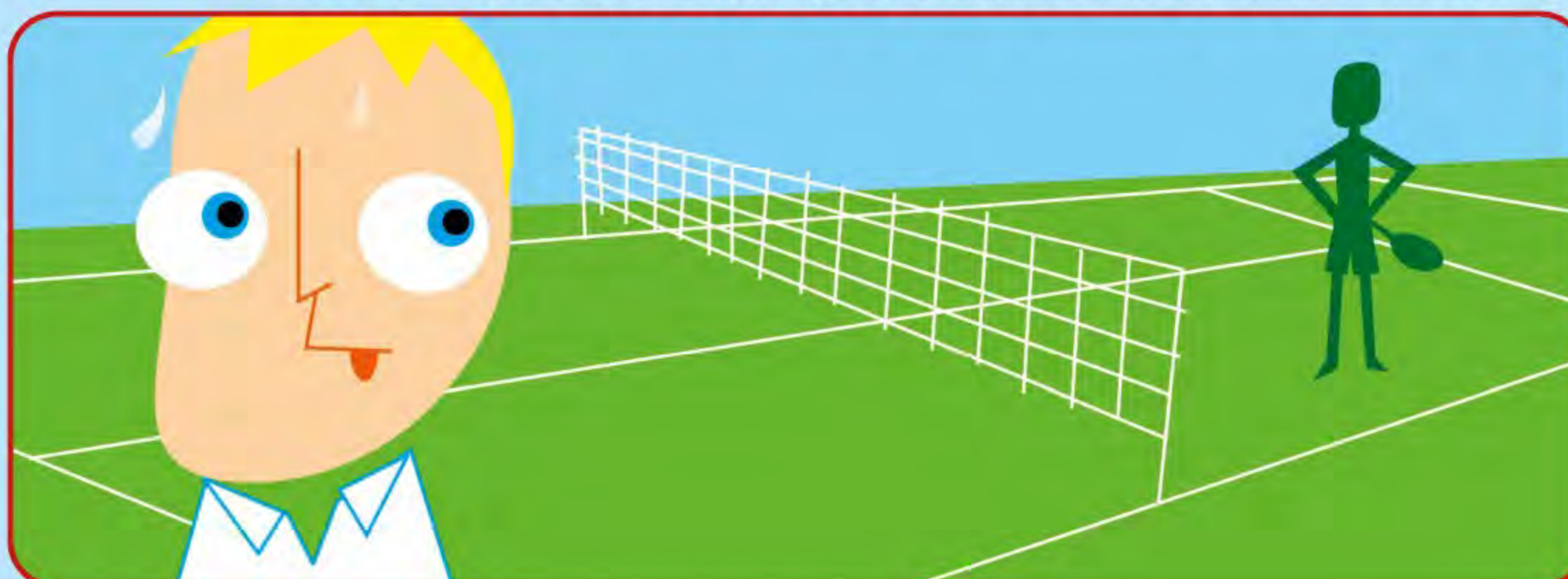
**to hit** *vb*

if you throw an object at something and the object touches that thing, it "hits" it

**to miss** *vb*

if you throw an object at something and the object doesn't touch that thing, it "misses" it

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



## FUN TIME!

## 3 LISTENING II

(wording may vary)

- twice a week;
- cook and invite friends round for dinner;
- to his basketball games;
- he has a drink and a chat with his friends;
- golf;
- to the pub

## 4 LISTENING III

- pool;
- photography;
- surfing;
- cooking;
- football;
- cinema;
- tennis;
- cycling;
- jogging;
- video games

## CATCHING UP

## 3 LISTENING II

- yes; 2. yes; 3. no; 4. no; 5. no; 6. yes; 7. no

## 4 LISTENING III

- at; 2. at; 3. in; 4. from; 5. with; 6. about; 7. for; 8. about; 9. out

## UNDERGROUND

## 3 READING II

- Jack; 2. Sophie; 3. Sam; 4. Amelia; 5. Bob

## WATER TRIVIA

- No – it depends on the height above sea level
- Because the water at the bottom of the pond is warmer
- Because there are no fresh water rivers running into it
- Because water can save your life – gold can't
- It cleans your body and helps control your weight

## 15 USEFUL PHRASAL VERBS FOR BUSINESS!

## 1 GAP-FILL EXERCISE

- join;
- pencil;
- pointed;
- pulled;
- stock;
- filled;
- drummed;
- step

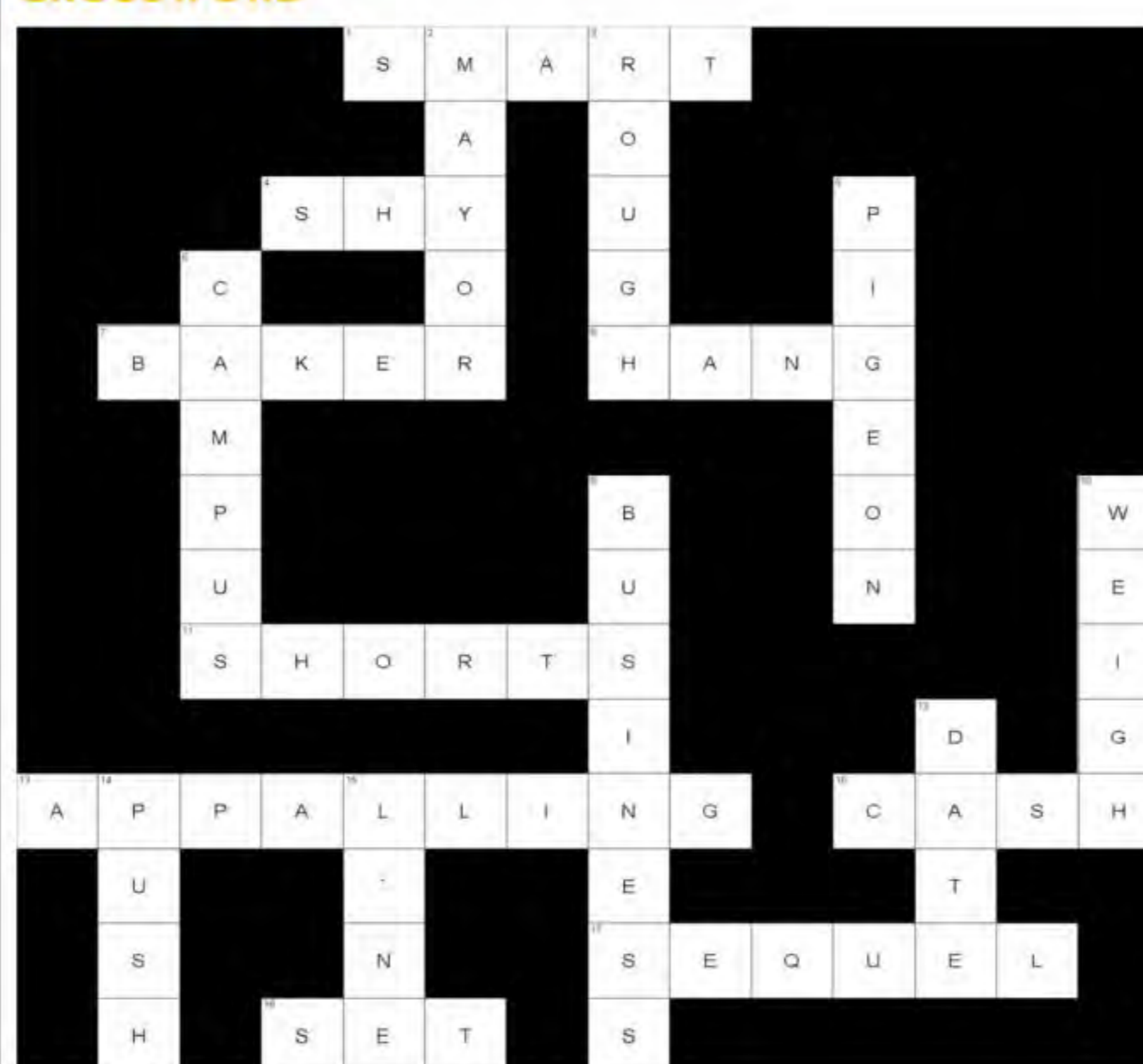
## 2 SENTENCE COMPLETION

- pencil;
- hone;
- pull;
- step;
- drum;
- rips;
- drops;
- run

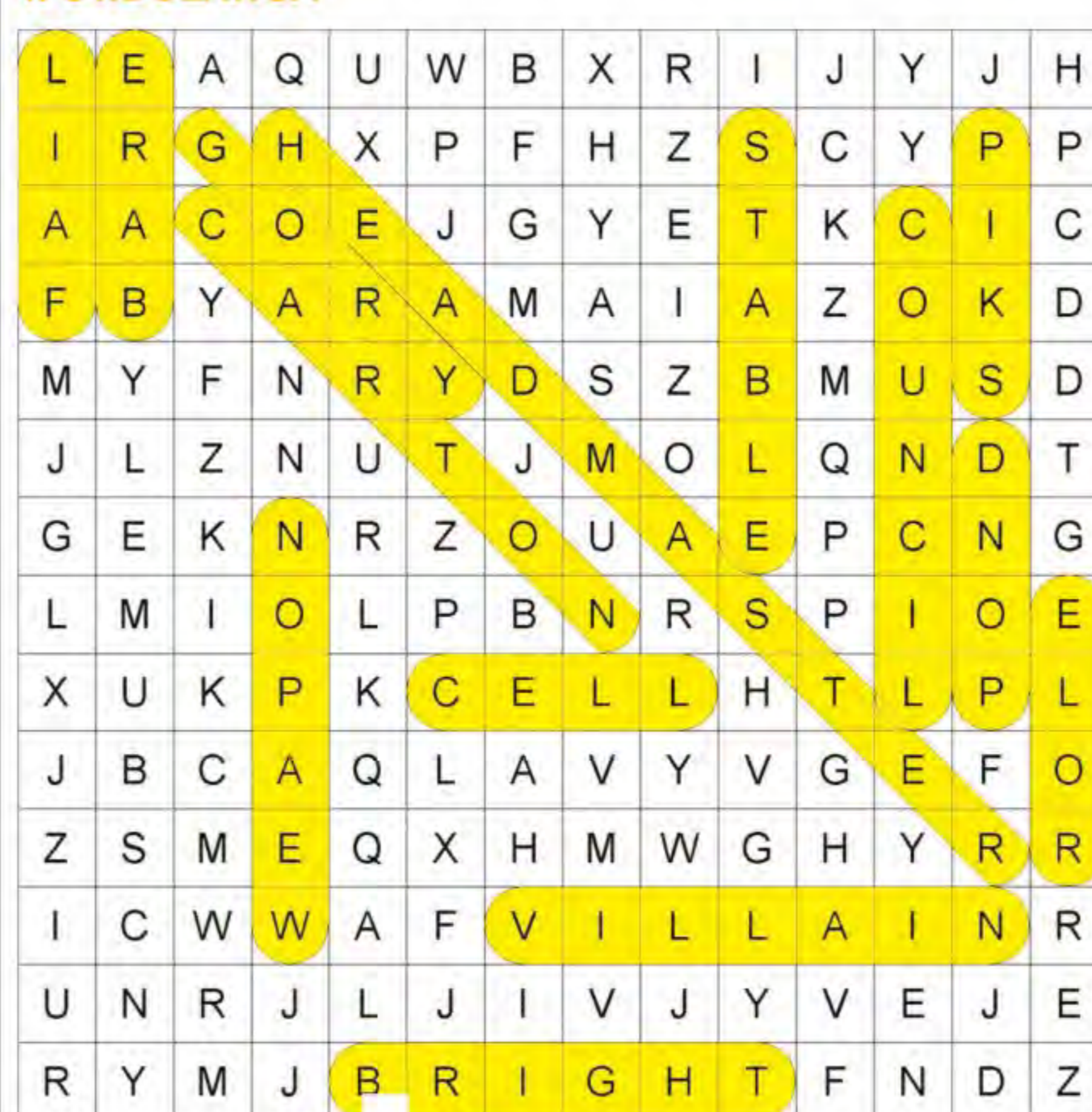
## 2 WORD CHOICE

- up; 2. out; 3. in; 4. off; 5. down; 6. off; 7. up; 8. up; 9. by

## CROSSWORD



## WORDSEARCH



## MATCHING

A7, B5, C12, D6, E11, F14, G1VH13, I8, J10, K9, L2, M4, N3

## BRITISH BAR CHAT

- The book is about how to make a million by the time you're forty.
- One of the speakers doesn't like self-help books because the writers invent stories, and they are written by people who claim to be experts.

## US BAR CHAT

- One of the speakers hates briefs because she says they are corny, they remind her of ten-year-olds and grandpas, they look like speedos, they restrict breathing room and they lower the sperm count.
- The man is not wearing anything.

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