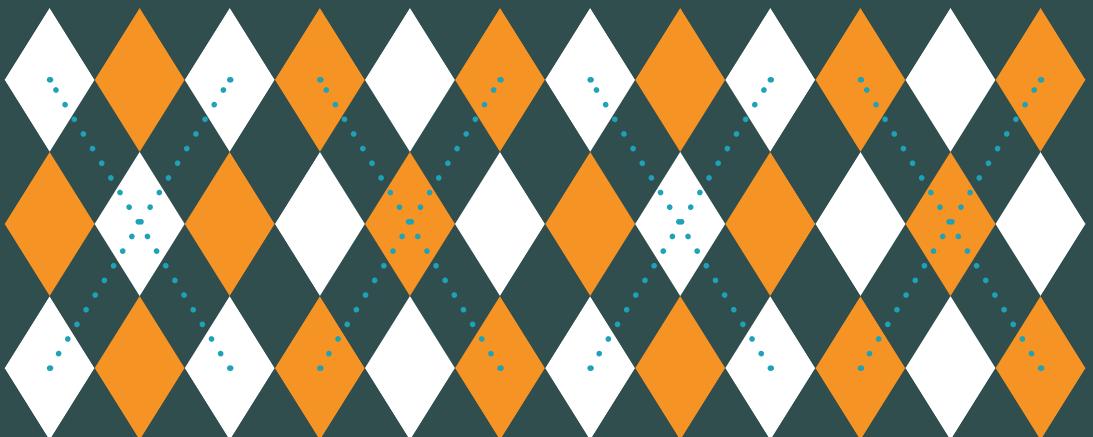


Easy English!
By Adrian Wallwork

Word Games, Riddles and Logic Tests



*Tax Your Brain
and Boost Your English*



Easy English!

Series Editor

Adrian Wallwork
English for Academics SAS
Pisa, Italy

Easy English is a series of books intended for students and teachers of English as a foreign language.

More information about this series at <http://www.springer.com/series/15586>

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Introduction to the Student

What Is *Easy English*?

Easy English is a series of books to help you learn and revise your English with minimal effort.

There are two main strands of the series. Readers who wish to improve their English by

- reading texts in English that you might well normally read in your own language e.g. word and logic games (this book) personality tests, jokes, word searches.
- doing short exercises to improve specific areas grammar and vocabulary, i.e. the areas that tend to lead to the most mistakes - the aim is just to focus on what you really need rather than overwhelming you with a mass of rules, many of which may have no practical daily value.

Who Is the Book for?

Anyone, whether a native or non-native speaker of English, who is interested in the English language, word games and logic games.

Which Is the Best Format to Buy this Book in?

Paper, without any doubt. The exercises involve you writing or underlining directly onto the page. With an e-reader this would be much more difficult. However, an e-book provides a dictionary which will occasionally be useful for you.

What Level of English Do I Need In Order to Benefit from this Book?

The level of vocabulary required to understand this book is the highest of all the books in the series. This means that you may come across words that you may not be familiar with. This is because the vocabulary is authentic English - you are reading the real thing! In any case, the difficulty of some of the vocabulary is compensated for by the shortness of the texts and the simplicity in understanding the point of the exercises.

If your level is intermediate and above, then you should be able to do most of the exercises, though not necessarily all the questions within an exercise.

If you need a dictionary to check the meanings of some words, two good online dictionaries are:

- Word Reference
- The Cambridge Online Learners Dictionary

Alternatively, if you are using an e-reader, you can use the dictionary provided by the e-reader.

What Kind of Exercises this Book Contain?

This book contains various exercises connected with some of the more unusual aspects of the English language. There is also has a series of mathematical/logic and lateral thinking games.

The book contains an incredible variety of exercises on areas of the English language that are not normally found for non-native speakers. Thus in many cases you will be exposed to games that typically a native English speaker would do. I have merely tried to adapt these games into a manageable format, but the actual vocabulary contained has not been changed. This is authentic English!

Where Are the Keys to the Exercises?

The keys to the exercises from one chapter are all grouped together at the end of that chapter. The keys all have a light grey background.

For ease of comprehension, keys often contain the full text of the exercise. The idea is that also you will thus be able to re-read the exercise along with its answer, and this should help you to revise and remember the vocabulary contained in the exercise.

How Do the Exercises Work?

Below is an explanation how each of exercise type in Chapters 2-12 works. For full details see Chapter 1.

Ambiguous Headlines

You will read a series of headlines from newspapers. These headlines are ambiguous which means they have more than one meaning.

Task: Understand the ambiguity

Anagrams

In this exercise you will see a word or set of words in one column, and another set of words in the other column.

The words in the second column are anagrams of the words in the first column. The words in the second column also act as a (humorous) description, explanation or comment on the the first words.

Example: astronomer - moon starer

Moon starer uses the same letters as *astronomer*, but also describes the work of an astronomer who is someone who stares (in this case, looks at through a telescope) at the moon.

Task: To find a connection between the first column and the second column.

Funny Book Titles

You will be presented with five books titles and five authors. The authors' names need to be spoken aloud in a rapid manner for you to be able to understand their meaning.

Task: Match the titles with authors.

Limericks

Task. Practise reading them aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

Logic/Mathematical

Task: Solve the problem.

Riddles

There are several types of exercises using riddles.

- 1) You will be presented with ten riddles. Each riddle consists of a question and an answer.

Task: Match the questions with the answers.

- 2) You will be given a riddle with three possible answers.

Task: Choose the best/right answer. You may not always agree with the answers given in the key.

- 3) You will be presented with a riddle and its answer. However, some words have been removed either from the riddle or from the answer. These words are contained in the box under the riddles.

Task: Insert the words from the box into the correct spaces.

Tongue Twisters

Task: Practise reading the tongue twister aloud. Then see if you can memorize and say it quickly without getting your tongue tied!

Word Combinations

You will be presented with two columns of words.

Task: Combine a word from the first column with a word from the second column. Note that the word in the first column is not necessarily the first word in the combination and there may appear to be more than one possible combination.

Introduction to the Teacher

How Can I Use this Book?

The exercises in this book can be used as:

- warm up exercises at the beginning of the lessons
- fillers if you've used up all the content you had planned for a lesson
- simply for fun at any point during the lesson
- a means for improving students knowledge of areas of English typically not taught in course books - these areas include idiomatic expressions, proverbs, word combinations
- a means for introducing your students to areas of English that are part of the culture of the language - riddles, limericks, tongue twisters, palindromes etc

What Are the Other Books in this Series? Which One Should I Read Next?

Currently there are six books in the series.

Word games, riddles and logic tests - *tax your brain and boost your English*

Test your personality - *have fun and learn useful phrases*

Wordsearches - *widen your vocabulary in English*

Jokes - *have a laugh and improve your English*

Top 50 grammar mistakes in English - *how to avoid them*

Top 50 vocabulary mistakes in English - *how to avoid them*

What Other Similar Books Might I Find Useful?

If you teach children and young teenagers, they you might be interested in my book of word games called *Mindtwisters* (published by Scholastic).

Various games and discussion exercises (including various quizzes/personality tests) for older teenagers and adults can be found in *Discussions AZ* (two volumes: intermediate and advanced, published by Cambridge University Press).

There is also a series of discussion, warm up exercises, fillers etc published by SEFL (sefl.co.uk).

Ideas for Other Books for this Series

If you have any ideas for other books that could be part of the *Easy English* series then please email me.

The Author

Since 1984 Adrian Wallwork has been teaching English as a foreign language - from General English to Business English to Scientific English. Although he lives and works in Pisa (Italy), through his university work he has taught students of all nationalities. Adrian is the author of over 30 textbooks for Springer Science+Business Media, Cambridge University Press, Oxford University Press, the BBC, and many other publishers. He can be contacted at: adrian.wallwork@gmail.com

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EasyDefine definitions are taken from

<https://wordnet.princeton.edu/wordnet/citing-wordnet/>

Some of the anagrams were created at:

[Quickworksheets.net](http://quickworksheets.net)

Some of the riddles were taken from:

<https://savagelegend.com/misc-resources/classic-riddles-1-100/>

Most of the funny book titles were taken from:

<http://allowe.com/laughs/book/Funny%20Book%20Titles.htm>

Some palindromes and anagrams were taken from:

http://www.fun-with-words.com/palin_word_palindromes.html

<http://www.anagrammy.com/anagrams/faq2.html>

I also consulted the following books:

Good Word Guide: The fast way to correct English - spelling, punctuation, grammar and usage, Martin Manser, A&C Black; 2007

More Puzzles and Curious Problems, Henry Ernest Dudeney, Fontana, 1970

Palindromes and Anagrams, Howard W. Bergerson, Pan American, 1973

- Puzzles & Brainteasers* Gyles Brandreth, Hennerwood Publications, 1982
- Radio Times Puzzle Book* Clive Doig, Penguin, 1984
- Radio Times Brainbox Puzzle Book Vol. 3*, Clive Doig, BBC, 1993
- Solve it!* James F Fixx, Frederick Muller, 1978
- The Pan Pocket Puzzler*, Michael Holt, Pan, 1985
- The World's Most Challenging Puzzles*, Charles Barry Townsend, Sterling Publishing, 1988
- What's the Name of this Book?* Raymond Smullyan, Pelican, 1981

Finally, thanks to Edward de Bono whose books have inspired three generations of lateral thinkers.

The chapter titles come from the following authors and we would like to acknowledge their contribution for their wonderful chapters.

- 2) We do not stop playing because we grow old, we grow old because we stop playing! (Benjamin Franklin)
- 3) The scientist should treasure the riddles he can't solve. (Roberto Unger)
- 4) Play up! play up! And play the game. (Sir Henry Newbolt)
- 5) Thanks to words, we have been able to rise above the brute. (Aldous Huxley)
- 6) Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind. (Rudyard Kipling)
- 7) Words are illusions. (Bodhidharma)
- 8) Language exists as songs, riddles, or epics that are chanted. (F. Sionil Jose)
- 9) Life is more fun if you play games. (Roald Dahl)
- 10) Words outlive people, institutions, civilizations. (Inga Muscio)
- 11) Have fun and play as many word games as possible. (Sophie Winkleman)

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Chapter 1

Introduction to the games, riddles and verses used in this book

This chapter explains the origin of the games, how they work, and/or the people who invented and collected them.

Acronyms

An acronym is a word formed from the initial letters of other words, e.g. *pdf* stands for *portable document format*, *ASAP* stands for *as soon as possible*. Some acronyms have become so much part of the language that most people don't even realise that they are acronyms. For example, *radar* is formed from *radio detection and ranging* and *laser* derives from *light amplification by the stimulated emission of radiation*. There are now so many acronyms in the language that there are specialised dictionaries on the subject. Chat rooms have spawned hundreds of acronyms, e.g. IMHO = in my humble opinion.

Ambiguous Headlines

A sentence or phrase is ambiguous or vague when it has more than one interpretation or its interpretation is not obvious. Newspapers are notorious for producing ambiguous headlines. For example:

Police found drunk in shop window.

Magistrates act to keep theaters open.

The key words in the two cases above are *drunk* and *act*. The real meaning of the first one is that the police found a drunk (i.e. a drunk man) lying in a shop window. The other, humorous, interpretation, is that a police officer was found drunk (i.e. the officer had been drinking). The intended meaning in the second headline is that the magistrates acted (i.e. took legal measures) to ensure that theaters would not be closed. The humorous meaning is that the magistrates acted (i.e. were actors and actresses) in theater productions designed to raise money to keep the theaters open (i.e. not shut down).

Some famous ambiguous headlines include:

- 1) Girl with a detective in her boot.
- 2) Kids make nutritious snacks.
- 3) Milk drinkers are turning to powder.
- 4) Drunk gets nine months in violin case.

Below are the explanations.

- 1) Intended meaning (IM): A female was being investigated. While she was driving, there was a detective in the boot of her car. Humorous meaning (HM): A girl has a detective in her shoe (boot).
- 2) IM: Children have been cooking snacks that contain beneficial ingredients. HM: If you want a snack, try eating a child.
- 3) IM: Consumers who use milk have started to use powdered milk. HM: Milk consumers are being transformed into powder.
- 4) IM: A drunk man who is involved in a criminal case that regards a violin has been sentenced by a court to nine months in prison. HM: A drunk man is to spend nine months enclosed in a violin case (i.e. a case for carrying a violin).

Anagrams

What do *cheating* and a *teaching* have in common?

They are anagrams of each other: the letters in *cheating* can be rearranged to form a new word, in this case *teaching*. Anagrams can be of individual words, or even of phrases or the names of people. The basic rule is that the letters of the first words or phrase must be used once and only once in the anagrammed word or phrase.

According to some historians, the first anagram was created by the Greek poet Lycophron in 260 B.C. A collection of anagrams in English published in 1925 and entitled *Anagrammasia* contained around 5,000 anagrams.

The most inventive anagrams are meaningful and relate in some way to the original subject. Below are some examples:

admirer = married

an alcoholic beverage = gal, can I have cool beer?

American = the main race

angered = enraged

the answer = wasn't here

contemplation = on mental topic

Over the centuries anagrams have been:

- believed to have mystical or prophetic meanings
- created around religious texts
- adopted by famous people to anagram their own name
- used to record the results of scientists
- used in cryptic crosswords and puzzles journals

Before the advent of radio and the TV, educated people would pass their evenings creating anagrams. Anagrams then fell out of fashion, but have been revived by IT experts who have created anagram-creating software enabling us to create anagrams of the most bizarre words and names.

If you like anagrams then try www.anagrammy.com which contains anagrams such as the following, which have all been created (by humans not software!) since 2000.

A carton of cigarettes = I got a taste for cancer.

A crisis on Wall Street = Will start a recession.

Adult novels = Love and lust!

Archaeologists = Goal is to search.

Italian crime boss = A Sicilian mobster.

Metamorphosis = Promises a moth.

Military weapon = Employ it in a war.

New Year's Resolution = Notions we rarely use.

The National Rifle Association = Fanatical loonies are into this.

The Pope's view on contraception = It is one concept he won't approve.

The President of the United States of America = Incompetent, hated head of state
terrifies us.

Funny Book Titles

Funny book titles work by having a plausible title with an author's name that in some way relates to the title. Here are some examples:

Danger by Luke Out

Blood on the Coffin by Horace Tory

Good Works by Ben Evolent

Often when we want to alert someone that there is an imminent danger we say 'Look out'. *Luke* (a male first name) and *look* are pronounced very similarly, so the author's name (Luke Out) fits nicely with the name of the book. A coffin is where a dead person is placed before being buried. *Blood on the Coffin* gives the idea that the book will be a horror story (try saying Horace Tory quickly!). The word *benevolent* (Ben Evolent) refers to someone who wishes to do good things for other people.

In all cases the author's name is designed to look realistic. Then, when it is read quickly its other meaning becomes apparent.

Here are a few more with the explanation of the author in brackets.

Artificial Clothing by Polly Ester (polyester)

At the Eleventh Hour by Justin Time (just in time)

French Overpopulation by Francis Crowded (France is crowded)

If I Invited Him... by Woody Kum (would he come?)

Mensa Man by Gene Yuss (genius)

Stop Arguing by Xavier Breath (save your breath)

The Excitement of Bird Watching by I. M. Board (I am bored)

Lewis Carroll

Lewis Carroll is often considered as some slightly eccentric character who wrote children's stories set in a wonderful make believe land that appealed both to kids and adults alike.

His real name was the Reverend Charles Dodgson and he was far more than a writer. He was born in 1832 and spent much of his childhood doing magic shows for his brothers and sisters. He then went away to school at Rugby before getting his degree at Oxford University.

His most famous books are *Alice in Wonderland*, written in 1865, and *Through a Looking Glass* which he wrote seven years later. Alice was based on the daughter of the Dean of Christ Church, which was the college at Oxford where Carroll later became Professor of Mathematics. He was in fact a terribly boring professor, so bad in fact that his students asked for him to be replaced.

Besides writing children's stories and mathematical treatises, he also wrote an incredible number of letters. In fact from the age of 29 to his death in 1898, he wrote no less than 98,271 letters. Many of these letters were written in mirror language, or back to front, so that they had to be read from the end to the beginning, and most contained some kinds of puzzles.

In *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Alice is a little girl who dreams that she pursues a White Rabbit down a rabbit-hole and there meets with strange adventures and odd characters: the Cheshire Cat, the Mad Hatter and the March Hare amongst others.

Carroll enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time. For example, he transformed *hate* into *love* in just two links:

H A T E
h a v e
h o v e
L O V E

And *fish* into *bird* in four links:

F I S H
f i s t
g i s t
g i r t
g i r d
B I R D

In *Through the Looking Glass* 1872, Alice walks in a dream through the looking glass into Looking-Glass House, where she finds that the people from the chess-board, particularly the red and white queens, are alive. She also meets with Tweedledum and Tweedledee and Humpty Dumpty etc.

There are various logic games in his two Alice books. Here is one:

Someone had stolen the salt. It was found that the culprit was either the Caterpillar, Bill the Lizard, or the Cheshire Cat. The three were tried and made the following statements in court:

Caterpillar: Bill the Lizard ate the salt.

Bill the Lizard: That is true!

Cheshire Cat: I didn't eat it!

As it happened, at least one of them lied and at least one told the truth. Who ate the salt?

For the solution to this game and the one below, see the KEY at the end of this section.

Carroll also had a habit of seeking out young girls and challenging them with a mental exercise. He apparently met 'a nice girl of about fifteen' on her train, got her address and later sent her this puzzle:

Make sense of this sentence:

It was and I said not all.

When he wasn't writing, inventing puzzles or listening to his musical box being played backwards Carroll invented all kinds of things including a prototype travelling chess set, double-sided sticky tape, and a new Proportional Representation scheme for electing members of parliament. In Carroll's system each candidate could give the votes given to him to another candidate. He might well have been the first person to make a self-photographing device and he later became one of the leading portrait takers of his time - notably of young girls like Alice.

KEY

If the Cheshire Cat ate the salt, then all three are lying. If Bill ate it, then all three are telling the truth. So the Caterpillar must have eaten it.

It was 'and' I said, not 'all'.

Limericks

A limerick is a humorous five-line poem. It normally follows this rhyme scheme *aabba*, which means that the first two lines rhyme with each other and with the last line. The original limericks were written over 200 years ago, and were often quite vulgar for the time:

While Titian was mixing rose madder,
His model reclined on a ladder.
Her position to Titian
Suggested coition,
So he leapt up the ladder and had 'er.

Because of this supposed vulgarity, such limericks were whispered rather than recounted aloud!

The Encyclopedia Britannica tells us that the origin of this very popular type of nonsense-verse is lost in obscurity. The first collector of limericks was Langford Reed who compiled a book entitled "The Complete Limerick" (published in 1924) after sifting through a staggering sixteen thousand limericks, before settling on the few hundred that he felt were worthy of his book.

Limerick is actually the name of a town in Ireland and Langford Reed suggests that:
this peculiar form of verse was brought direct to Limerick by the returned veterans of the Irish brigade, who were attached to French army for a period of nearly 100 years from 1691.

The brigade was organized in Limerick, and when disbanded was no doubt responsible for giving currency to many rude barrack-room songs.

Limericks have been translated into many languages.

Palindromes

What do you notice about this word: *redivider*? Well it reads the same backwards and forwards. It is a palindromic word.

Palindromes have been around for centuries, and the Greeks and Romans often inscribed them on monuments and fountains. The inventor of the palindromic verse was apparently Sotades of Maroneia (in Thrace, Greece) who invented a palindrome to publicly criticize the king of Egypt. The king subsequently had Sotades sealed in a lead box and thrown into the sea.

A 17th century English poet, John Taylor, is credited with creating the first English palindromic sentence:

Lewd did I live, evil I did dwel.

Taylor's palindrome basically means that he lived an improper life in improper surroundings.

The most-quoted palindromes in English are probably:

Madam, I'm Adam.

A man, a plan, a canal: Panama.

Able was I ere I saw Elba.

The first supposedly reports Adam's first words to Eve in Genesis. The second is a comment on the origin of the Panama Canal which was opened in 1914. And the last was supposedly Napoleon's (the French emperor) response (in English!) on being asked whether he had the power to continue fighting.

Another form of palindromes is with whole words rather than letters. Here are some examples

Blessed are they that believe they are blessed.

King, are you glad you are king?

Please me by standing by me please.

Says Mom, "What do you do? – You do what Mom says".

You can cage a swallow, can't you, but you can't swallow a cage, can you?

Proverbs and Idioms

Proverbs are words of wisdom or advice that have been passed down from one generation to the next. Some come from the Bible, for example:

All that glisters is not gold.

The love of money is the root of all evil.

The above proverb is actually very often misquoted as simply ‘Money is the root of all evil’.

Several English proverbs have a literary origin, for example those made famous by Shakespeare:

All’s well that ends well.

Hoist by his own petard.

The true course of love never did run smooth.

Too much of a good thing.

But most are simply derived from folk wisdom, i.e. the experience of our ancestors encapsulated into a short expression:

Variety is the spice of life.

Prevention is better than cure.

It takes all sorts to make a world.

You can’t tell a book by its cover.

Familiarity breeds contempt.

Two heads are better than one.

Some proverbs contradict each other, so we have:

Many hands make light work. vs Too many cooks spoil the broth.

Absence makes the heart grow fonder vs Out of sight, out of mind.

More haste, less speed. vs He who hesitates is lost.

Nothing venture, nothing gain. vs Better safe than sorry.

Riddles

Riddles are common to all cultures. Probably the most famous riddle in Europe from a historical point of view is the one derived from a Greek legend in which the Sphinx (a mythical creature with the head of a human and the body of a lion) would devour all travellers who could not answer it.

This riddle has come down to us in many forms, the most common English form being:

What goes on four feet in the morning, two feet at noon, and three feet in the evening?

According to the legend, the hero, Oedipus, gave the right answer: Man. So angry was the Sphinx that she killed herself - according to some by throwing herself off a cliff, and according to others by devouring herself.

Another famous riddle is:

A man looking at a portrait says: “Brothers and sisters have I none, but that man’s father is my father’s son.”

The related question is “Who is the subject of the portrait”? The answer is the son of the speaker.

The above riddle highlights two aspects of the traditional format of riddles in English. First they rhyme (*none* rhymes with *son*). Second, they often contain archaic grammar forms: Today no one would say or write *brothers and sisters have I none*, but rather *I don’t have any brothers or sisters*.

Most of the riddles in the chapters of this book are related to the double meaning of a word.

Here are some explanations for various riddles to give you an idea of how they work.

Why are the pages of a book like the days of men?

Because they are numbered.

The key word is *numbered*. In terms of books, each page has a number. In terms of men (i.e. humans in general), we all have a limited number of days (years) in our life - *numbered* in this case means finite rather than infinite.

Why is a room packed with married people like an empty room?

Because there is not a single person in it.

The key word is *single person*, which means both *no one* (empty room) and *unmarried*.

Why is a mirror like a resolution?

Because it is so easily broken.

The key word here is *broken*, but in this case it is not a double meaning but simply in the case of a mirror the word *broken* is used in a real concrete sense, whereas in relation to a resolution *broken* has a metaphorical sense. If for example you say "I will stop eating chocolate" you have made a resolution, if then after a couple of weeks you start eating chocolate again, then you have 'broken' your resolution.

Which is the strongest day of the week?

Sunday, because all the rest are weak days.

What's black and white and red all over?

A newspaper.

The above two cases rely on homophones, i.e. words that have the same pronunciation but a different spelling and meaning. You need to remember that riddles are basically part of an oral tradition - so the listener hears the words without knowing how they are spelled. The key words in the above cases are *week* (and its homophone *weak*), and *red* (and its homophone *read*). A *weak day* in the case of this riddle is any one of the days from Monday to Saturday. Sunday is thus not a *weak day*, nor is it a *weak day* (it is 'stronger' than the others). In the case of the newspaper, the color is of the paper is white with black print. It is *read* all over in the sense that the reader reads every page.

In some cases in the sections on riddles I have put the key words in italics, so that you can then focus on working out what the double meaning is.

Rhyming Forms

Did you ever have a walkie talkie as a child and did you play ping pong? *walkie talkie* and *ping pong* are examples of what is known as ‘reduplication’.

Rhyming word combinations like these have been around since the 14th century. Some examples that would seem to have been of recent coinage have actually been around for centuries. For example *hip hop* and *flip flop* appeared at the end of the 17th century, though obviously with different meanings from today’s meanings of a type of music and a type of beach sandal.

Rhyme and alliteration are frequently used by newspapers in English-speaking countries. In the tabloid press they may be used to describe someone’s sexual orientation:

gender bender (person who seeks to define gender expression outside of the binary terms of man and woman)

toy boy (a male partner who is significantly younger than his partner)

randy andy (a man who doesn’t waste opportunities for having sex)

hanky panky (typically sexual behavior that is humorously considered as being improper)

Similes

A simile is a figure of speech that compares two supposedly similar objects or describes a similar property that two different objects each possess. Some reflect the observations of our ancestors and thus represent actions that are no longer commonly made. For example we say:

As clean as a whistle.

As clear as a bell.

As dry as a bone.

As stiff as a poker.

Such expressions, although clear in meaning, don’t actually make much sense in the modern age.

The origin of some is obscure:

As cool as a cucumber.

This common expression means: Extremely calm, relaxed and in control of your emotions. Why a cucumber? Perhaps because of the sound. Or maybe, as Bloomsbury International tells us:

This phrase may have originated from the fact that even in hot weather, the inside of cucumbers are approximately 20 degrees cooler than the outside air.

Others have been made famous by particular books or authors. For example, to describes something as being completely crazy you can say:

As mad as a hatter.

or

As mad as a March hare.

which are both found in Lewis Carroll's Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. For more on Lewis Carroll see the earlier section.

Not all similes follow the *as ... as* formula. Some similes also begin with *like*:

Like a bat out of hell.

Like a bull in a china shop.

Like ships that pass in the night.

Like nothing on earth.

Like a lamb to the slaughter.

Like a ton of bricks.

Like a rolling stone.

Others use *like* plus a verb.

It's like talking to a brick wall.

It's like watching paint dry.

It's like trying to scratch your ear with your elbow.

And others are found with *look like*. Below are some expressions to describe what someone looked like on a particular occasion:

Like a drowned rat.

Like something the cat brought in.

Like a million bucks.

Like death warmed up.

Tongue Twisters

A tongue twister is a phrase or short verse that is designed to be difficult to say. On other hand, it is relatively easy to read.

A tongue twister can be a very short, but difficult to articulate, phrase such as:

Red lorry, yellow lorry.
The Leith police dismisseth us.
The sixth sick sheik's sixth sheep's sick

Alternatively it can be a verse:

Peter Piper picked a peck of pickled peppers.
Did Peter Piper pick a peck of pickled peppers?
If Peter Piper Picked a peck of pickled peppers,
Where's the peck of pickled peppers Peter Piper picked?

How much wood would a woodchuck chuck
If a woodchuck could chuck wood?
He would chuck, he would, as much as he could,
And chuck as much as a woodchuck would
If a woodchuck could chuck wood.

Betty Botter bought a bit of butter.
The butter Betty Botter bought was a bit bitter
And made her batter bitter.
But a bit of better butter makes better batter.
So Betty Botter bought a bit of better butter
Making Betty Botter's bitter batter better.

Some tongue twisters when mispronounced can produce humorous (and often vulgar) results. Here is an example:

I'm not a pheasant plucker, I'm a pheasant plucker's son,
I'm only plucking pheasants till the pheasant plucker comes.

In the above case the humor or vulgarity arises from inadvertently reversing the initial sounds of *pheasant* and *plucker*.

Chapter 2

**We do not stop playing because we grow old,
we grow old because we stop playing!**

Riddles 1

Match the questions (1-10) with the answers (a-j).

1. What is at the end of a rainbow?
 2. What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment and never in one thousand years?
 3. What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?
 4. What is the longest word in the dictionary?
 5. We see it once in a year, twice in a week, and never in a day. What is it?
 6. What is the center of gravity?
 7. What starts with the letter “t”, is filled with “t” and ends in “t”?
 8. Take away my first letter, and I still sound the same. Take away my last letter, I still sound the same. Even take away my letter in the middle, I will still sound the same. I am a five letter word. What am I?
 9. What has 4 eyes but can’t see?
 10. What starts with “P” and ends with “E” and has more than 1000 letters?
- a) A post office!
 - b) A teapot!
 - c) EMPTY
 - d) Mississippi
 - e) Short
 - f) Smiles, because there is a mile between each ‘s’
 - g) The letter E
 - h) The letter M
 - i) The letter V
 - j) The letter W

Anagrams

Can you work out the connection between the two columns?

Eskimos	some ski
Families	life's aim
Incompetents	inept men cost
Pirates	sea trip
Schoolmaster	the classroom
Shop lifter	has to pilfer

Vocabulary: inept = no skill at all, pilfer = steal

Funny Book Titles

Match the titles with the authors.

TITLES	AUTHORS
I Didn't Do It!	Alec Tricity
The Great Escape	Freida Convict
Under Arrest	Ivan Alibi
Unsolved Mysteries	N. Igma
It's a Shocker	Watts E Dunn

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

There was an old man of Madrid Who ate sixty eggs - yes, he did! When they asked 'Are you faint?' He replied 'No, I ain't But I don't feel as well as I did.'	There was a young man from Japan Whose limericks never would scan. When asked why that was, He replied 'It's because I always try to cram as many words into the last line as I possibly can'.
---	---

Proverbs

Insert the words from the box into the spaces. The sentences in brackets are a brief explanation of the meaning of the proverb.

1. Don't _____ off your nose to spite your face. (don't overreact to a situation)
2. Don't _____ your dirty linen in public. (keep your private affairs private)
3. It's no use _____ over spilt milk. (what is done is done)
4. There's no point _____ a dead horse. (don't continue because the outcome has already been decided.)
5. Necessity _____ the mother of invention. (if you need something you will find a way)
6. Once _____ twice shy. (when you are scared to do something because you had a negative experience the first time you did it)
7. A rolling stone _____ no moss. (constantly changing thus never becoming attached to anything)
8. Some people can't _____ the wood for the trees. (unable to see the overall point)
9. A watched pot never _____. (a process appears to take longer if we only focus on that and do not engage in other activities)
10. You can't have your cake and _____. (you can't have the best of both worlds)

bitten, boils, crying, cut, eat, flogging, gathers, is, see, wash

Logic 1

Three boxes contain two coins each. One contains two nickels, one contains two dimes, and one contains a dime and a nickel. All three boxes are mislabeled.

If you are permitted to take out only one coin at a time, how many must you take out in order to be able to label all three boxes correctly?

Logic 2

Two barmen in London were looking at a barrel, which was partly filled with beer. One barman said to the other: "Look, it's more than half full." To which the other barman replied: "You're wrong, it's actually less than half full." How could they find out, without using any measuring devices or any equipment of any kind, if it was more or less than exactly half?

Word Combinations 1

Combine a word from the first column with a word from the second column.

arm	bag
back	brow
ear	chair
eye	lace
finger	line
hair	nail
hand	ring
head	stick
lip	style
neck	wards

Word Combinations 2

Combine a word from the first column with a word from the second column. The first part of the word combination may be in the second column.

back	brush
face	cap
hand	end
head	first
knee	flash
leg	in
spine	less
tooth	lift
voice	some
wrist	watch

Tense Challenge 1

Underline the correct form of the verbs in italics.

The Queen of Sheba was desperate - her best friend, Rowenna, *was captured/had been captured* by the terrible Bingoid tribe, and she *needed/had needed* someone to rescue her. She had three faithful knights, all of whom were equally courageous. But she *needed/had needed* to find a way of discovering which of these three knights was the most intelligent and could rescue Rowenna.

So she *decided/had decided* to set the knights a test. She blindfolded each man and put a cap on each of their heads.

“Knights listen to your queen,” she said, “each of you is now wearing a red or a blue cap. When I take off your blindfolds, you are to raise your hand as soon as you see a black cap. But as soon as you know what color cap you yourself are wearing, put your hand down.”

She took off their blindfolds and straightaway all the knights put up their hands, because in fact the Queen *put/had put* a black cap on all of them. After a few minutes, one of the knights, Sir Galawas, *dropped/had dropped* his hand and proclaimed: “My cap is black”.

Question: How did Sir Galawas know that his cap *was/had been* black?

Ambiguous Headlines

Try to understand what makes the headlines ambiguous.

Panda mating fails; vet takes over

Miners refuse to work after death

Juvenile court to try shooting defendant

Killer sentenced to die for second time in 10 years

Red tape holds up new bridge

Astronaut takes blame for gas in spacecraft

Plane too close to the ground, crash probe told

Local high school dropouts cut in half

Sex education delayed, teachers request training

Riddles 2

Insert the words in the box into the blank spaces.

1. If you were in a _____ and passed the person in second place, what place would you be in?

Second place!

2. What goes up, but never comes down?

Your _____ !

3. What gets bigger and bigger the more you _____ away from it?

A hole!

4. How many _____ have 28 days?

All of them!

5. Which weighs more, a ton of _____ or a ton of bricks?

Neither, they both weigh a ton!

6. What is full of _____ but can still hold water?

A sponge!

7. What has two hands, a _____ face, always runs, but stays in place?

A clock!

8. Where does _____ come before work?

In the dictionary!

9. If a man is born in Turkey, grows up in Italy, comes to England and dies in Manchester what is he?

_____ .

10. What is it that no one wishes to have, yet no one wishes to _____ ?

A bald head.

age, dead, feathers , holes , lose, months, race, round, success, take

Tongue Twisters

Practise reading the tongue twister aloud. Then see if you can memorize and say it quickly without getting your tongue tied!

A tutor who tooted the flute
 Tried to tutor two tooters to toot.
 Said the two to their tutor:
 “Is it harder to toot,
 Or to tutor two tooters to toot?”

Logic 3

An Englishman was up in Edinburgh on business. One night he decided to go into the local pub for a pint of beer. The publican, a canny old man, said that if the Englishman could drink four pints of the local beer, he would give him another pint free. Otherwise, the Englishman would have to buy all the people in the pub a free round. The Englishman's eyes lit up and he agreed. The publican then produced a full eight pint jug of beer and two smaller empty ones - one five pint and one three pint. He then told the Englishman that if he wanted to get his free pint he would have to measure out exactly four pints using the three different jugs.

How did the Englishman win his fifth pint and avoid buying a round for the rest of the pub?

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters of the words in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
cures		profane or obscene expression usually of surprise or anger
diary		a farm where milk products are produced
deals		electric wires, cables
early		single thickness of usually some homogeneous substance
earth		the most important human organ
there		the number after two
field		archived
gates		section or portion of a journey or course
grown		based on or acting or judging in error
sweat		any materials unused and rejected as worthless or unwanted

Tense Challenge 2

An American scientist wanted to prove that the Loch Ness monster exists so he *decided/was decided* to prove it. All his photographic equipment *sent/was sent* from the USA to Loch Ness in Scotland where the scientist and his team *put/was put* it on a large boat. The scientist then *spent/was spent* a week on the Loch waiting for the monster to appear. Suddenly one night there was a terrible crash and the scientist *found/was found* himself face to face with the monster under the water . His boat *smashed/was smashed* to pieces by the monster, and the oil, which powered the boat, leaked onto the Loch. Every day the oil slick *doubled/was doubled* in size and Scottish environmental groups *became/were become* very worried. After 13 days half the Loch *covered/was covered* by the oil slick.

How many more days did it take to cover the entire Loch?

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time. For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert BREAD into WHEAT. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

BREAD

_____ (have/raise young animals)

_____ (someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric)

CHEEP (sound a small bird makes)

_____ (not expensive)

_____ (copy during an exam)

WHEAT

Keys to Chapter 2

Riddles

What is at the end of a rainbow? The letter W!

What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment and never in one thousand years? The letter M

What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it? Short

What is the longest word in the dictionary? Smiles, because there is a mile between each ‘s’

We see it once in a year, twice in a week, and never in a day. What is it? The letter “E”

What is the center of Gravity? The letter V.

What starts with the letter “t”, is filled with “t” and ends in “t”? A teapot!

Take away my first letter, and I still sound the same. Take away my last letter, I still sound the same. Even take away my letter in the middle, I will still sound the same. I am a five letter word. What am I? EMPTY

What has 4 eyes but can’t see? Mississippi

What starts with “P” and ends with “E” and has more than 1000 letters? A post office!

Funny Book Titles

I Didn’t Do It! by Ivan Alibi = I have an alibi

The Great Escape by Freida Convict = freed a convict (i.e. a convict was freed)

Under Arrest by Watts E Dunn = What has he done?

Unsolved Mysteries by N. Igma = Enigma (mystery)

It’s a Shock by Alec Tricity = Electricity

Logic 1

Only one. Take it from the box labeled “Dime and Nickel”. Since you know all three boxes are mislabeled, the box contains two coins of the denomination you withdrew. Put the proper label on that box. Then simply switch the two remaining labels.

Logic 2

All they need to do is tilt the barrel at 45 degrees. If the edge of the surface of the beer touches the lip of the barrel at the same time as it touches the bottom of the barrel, then it must be half full/empty.

Proverbs

1. Don’t *cut* off your nose to spite your face.
2. Don’t *wash* your dirty linen in public.
3. It’s no use *crying* over spilt milk.
4. There’s no point *flogging* a dead horse.
5. Necessity *is* the mother of invention.
6. Once *bitten* twice shy.
7. A rolling stone *gathers* no moss.
8. Some people can’t *see* the wood for the trees.
9. A watched pot never *boils*.
10. You can’t have your cake and *eat* it.

Word Combinations 1

armchair, backwards, earring, fingernail, hairstyle, headline, lipstick, necklace

Word Combinations 2

flashback, facelift, handsome, headfirst, kneecap, legend, spineless, toothbrush, voiceless/invoice, wristwatch

Tense Challenge 1 (Simple Past vs Past Perfect)

The Queen of Sheba was desperate - her best friend, Rowenna, *had been captured* by the terrible Bingooid tribe, and she *needed* someone to rescue her. She had three faithful knights, all of whom were equally courageous. But she *needed* to find a way of discovering which of these three knights was intelligent enough to rescue Rowenna.

So she *decided* to set the knights a test. She blindfolded each man and put a cap on each of their heads.

“Knights listen to your queen,” she said, “each of you is now wearing a red or a blue cap. When I take off your blindfolds, you are to raise your hand as soon as you see a black cap. But as soon as you know what color cap you yourself are wearing, put your hand down.”

She took off their blindfolds and straightaway all the knights put up their hands, because the Queen *had in fact put* a black cap on all of them. After a few minutes, one of the knights, Sir Galawas, *dropped* his hand and proclaimed: “My cap is black”.

How did Sir Galawas know that his cap *was* black?

If Sir Galawas’s cap had been white, either one of his rivals would have known that his own was black, for the remaining man’s raised hand showed that he saw a black cap, and that couldn’t be Sir Galawas’s if his were white. Neither of the other two knights put their hands down to show they knew the color of their own cap, so Sir Galawas’s couldn’t have been white.

Ambiguous Headlines

Panda mating fails; vet takes over = It seems like the vet decided to mate with the panda.

Miners refuse to work after death = The ‘death’ in reality refers to a fellow miner. But here it seems like the miners have voted not to work after they have died.

Juvenile court to try shooting defendant = The ‘shooting defendant’ is someone who has been accused of shooting someone. To ‘try’ means to decide if someone is guilty or innocent. But here it seems that the members of the court are going to attempt to shoot the defendant.

Killer sentenced to die for second time in 10 years. = It seems like this is the second time the killer is going to die.

Red tape holds up new bridge = ‘red tape’ is a metaphor for bureaucracy. The real meaning is that bureaucracy is delaying the construction or opening or a bridge. But it seems that the new bridge is being held together by red tape (i.e. a narrow strip of material).

Astronaut takes blame for gas in spacecraft = *Gas* also means the gas produced by the human body.

Plane too close to the ground, crash probe told = This is not really ambiguous but simply ridiculous: if it crashed, it was obviously too close to the ground.

Local high school dropouts cut in half = A ‘dropout’ is someone who drops out of school, i.e. stops going to school. The real meaning is that the number of dropouts has fallen by 50%, but it seems that the poor students have had the top half of their body removed from the bottom half.

Sex education delayed, teachers request training = The training should refer to the teacher’s skills in teaching sex education, but it seems like the teachers want to learn how to have sex themselves.

Riddles 2

1. race
2. age
3. take
4. months
5. feathers
6. holes
7. round
8. success
9. dead
10. lose

Logic 3

A = the 8-pint jug, B = 5, C = 3

The English starts with the following situation:

A B C

8 0 0

He then continues as follows

A B C

3 5 0 (5 from A to B)

3 2 3 (3 from B to C)

6 2 0 (3 from C to A)

6 0 2 (2 from B to C)

1 5 2 (5 from A to B)

1 4 3 (1 from B to C)

4 4 0 (3 from C to A)

Anagrams 2

curse

dairy

leads

layer

heart

three

filed

stage

wrong

waste

Tense Challenge 2 (Active vs Passive)

An American scientist wanted to prove that the Loch Ness monster exists so he *decided* to prove it. All his photographic equipment *was sent* from the USA to Loch Ness in Scotland where the scientist *put* it on a large boat. The scientist then *spent* a week on the Loch waiting for the monster to appear. Suddenly one night there was a terrible crash and the scientist *found* himself face to face with the monster under the water. His boat *was smashed* to pieces by the monster, and the oil, which powered the boat, leaked onto the Loch. Every day the oil slick *doubled* in size and Scottish environmental groups *became/were become* very worried. After 13 days half the Loch *was covered* by the oil slick.

Answer: One more day.

Word Ladder

BREAD

BREED (have/raise young animals)

CREEP (someone unpleasantly strange or eccentric)

CHEEP (sound a small bird makes)

CHEAP (not expensive)

CHEAT (copy during an exam)

WHEAT

Chapter 3

The scientist should treasure the riddles he can't solve

Rhyming Forms

The words below may look very strange but they are actually used in every day conversation. Can you match the word (1-10) with its meaning (a-j)?

1. hotch potch
2. humdrum
3. itsy bitsy
4. jet set
5. knick knack
6. mumbo jumbo
7. namby pamby
8. okey dokey
9. pooper scooper
10. prime time

- a) device for collecting dog excrement
- b) insipid character
- c) meaningless mystical nonsense
- d) mixture
- e) monotonous routine
- f) OK
- g) period when TV audience viewing is at its highest
- h) rich elite
- i) useless device
- j) very small

Tongue Twister

Practise reading the tongue twister aloud. Then see if you can memorize and say it quickly without getting your tongue tied!

She sells seashells by the seashore.
The shells she sells are surely seashells.
So if she sells shells on the seashore,
I'm sure she sells seashore shells.

Riddles

Match the questions (1-10) with the answers (a -j).

1. What's the best thing about Switzerland?
 2. What is the color of the wind?
 3. Who earns a living by driving his/her customers away?
 4. What breaks when you say it?
 5. What instrument can you hear but never see?
 6. What do you call a fish with no eyes?
 7. What comes down but never goes up?
 8. A lawyer, a plumber and a hat maker were walking down the street. Who had the biggest hat?
 9. If two's company and three's a crowd, what are four and five?
 10. Can you name the two days starting with T besides Tuesday and Thursday?
-
- a) A fsh.
 - b) A taxi driver.
 - c) Blew.
 - d) I don't know, but the flag is a big plus.
 - e) Nine!
 - f) Rain
 - g) Silence!
 - h) The one with the biggest head.
 - i) Today and tomorrow.
 - j) Your voice!

Cryptic Meaning

What does the following mean? Hint: Try to read it aloud. YY = two Ys

YY UR

YY UB

I C U R

YY 4 ME

Funny Book Titles

Try to understand why the author of the book is appropriate to the title/topic of the book.

I Lived in Detroit by Helen Earth

I Love Mathematics by Adam Up

I Was a Cloakroom Attendant by Mahatma Coate

I Win! by U. Lose

I Say So! by Frank O. Pinion

Animal Idioms

A famous English idiom is ‘It’s raining cats and dogs’, but where does it come from? It goes back to Norse mythology and to sailors who associated cats with heavy rain and dogs with storms and the wind.

See if you can match the idiom with its meaning.

1. a dark horse	a) have an obsession about something
2. a little bird told me	b) something expensive and worthless
3. a night owl	c) do something very badly
4. a white elephant	d) avoids saying directly how you heard news
5. donkey’s years	e) very little space
6. not enough room to swing a cat	f) going back a long time into the past
7. till the cows come home	g) for an indefinitely long time into the future
8. to have a bee in one’s bonnet	h) someone who stays up late
9. to make a pig’s ear of something	i) person whose true value is unknown
10. to smell a rat/something fishy	j) suspect that something is wrong

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters of the words in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
lakes		loss of water
steal		stories
smart		means of transport in a town
warms		a group of bees altogether
miles		something on your face that shows that you are happy
items		x as in $5 \times 5 = 20$
means		something that is given to use by our parents
melon		a citrus fruit
needs		thick
newer		make new again

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

There was an old dame of Dunbar, Who took the 4.4 to Forfar; But went on to Dundee, So she travelled, you see Too far by 4.4. from Forfar.	A canner exceedingly canny, One morning remarked to his granny: “A canner can can Anything that he can But a canner can’t can a can, can he?”
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Mathematical 1

Arrange the figures 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 0, in a way that the total comes to 100. Each figure can only be written once.

Mathematical 2

Three friends to a restaurant and have a really good meal. The bill comes to £30, so they each pay £10. But because they are regular customers, the manager gives them a discount of £5. They decide to leave the waiter a £2 tip and then they divide the rest equally between them. Thus they have only spent £9 each = £27 + £2 tip = £29. So where has the other £1 gone?

Mathematical 3

A little girl is getting dressed to go out to a birthday party. Her mother has bought her a new dress and she looks very pretty indeed. She is just about to take her socks out of the drawer when there's a blackout and she's left completely in the dark. In the drawer there are only white and black socks. How many socks will she have to pull out before getting a pair of the same color?

Pseudodromes

Pseudodrome are palindromes in which words, rather than individual letters, read the same backwards or forwards.

Bores are people what say people are bores.

Women understand men, few men understand women.

Dollars make men covetous, then covetous men make dollars.

Girl, bathing on Bikini, eyeing boy, finds boy eyeing bikini on bathing girl.

Tense Challenge

Underline the correct form of the verbs in italics.

In Medieval times jesters were very much a part of the royal courts of Europe. One particular court jester made a fortune traveling from country to country playing the following trick on unsuspecting monarchs.

On seeing the king, queen or whoever he would say: “I *bet/will bet* that if I *tell/will tell* you a really big lie, you *give/will give* me a pot of gold.”

One day he decided to go to England and arriving at His Majesty’s palace he demanded to see the king, he then announced his challenge and added:

“If you *agree/will agree* to my proposal, you *end/will end* up giving me a pot of gold. I *am/will be* the best liar in the world you know!”

“OK then,” replied the king wearily, “if you *tell/will tell* me a really big lie, I *will give* you a pot of gold”.

The jester smiled and continued:

“You *owe/will owe* my father a pot full of gold. You lost it to him 25 years ago at poker and you never paid him back.”

“But I’ve never even met your father,” protested the king, “that’s the biggest lie I’ve ever heard.”

The king then realised that he had been fooled and that he would have to pay the jester. Why?

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time. For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert MICE into RATS. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

MICE

_____ (staple diet of much of the world)

_____ (competition)

_____ (assign a rank or rating to)

RATS

Keys to Chapter 3

Rhyming Forms

hotch potch - mixture

humdrum - monotonous routine

itsy bitsy - very small

jet set - rich elite

knick knack - useless device

mumbo jumbo - meaningless mystical nonsense

namby pamby - insipid character

okey dokey - OK

pooper scooper - device for collecting dog excrement

prime time - period when TV audience viewing is at its highest

Riddles 1

What's the best thing about Switzerland? I don't know, but the flag is a big plus.

What is the color of the wind? Blew.

Who earns a living by driving his customers away? A taxi driver.

What breaks when you say it? Silence!

What instrument can you hear but never see? Your voice! You can sing with your voice like an instrument and hear it, but no one can see it!

What do you call a fish with no eyes? A fsh.

What comes down but never goes up? Rain

A lawyer, a plumber and a hat maker were walking down the street. Who had the biggest hat? The one with the biggest head.

If two's company and three's a crowd, what are four and five? Nine!

Can you name the two days starting with T besides Tuesday and Thursday? Today and tomorrow.

Cryptic Meaning

YY UR - too wise you are
YY UB - two wise you be
I C U R - I see you are
YY 4 ME - too wise for me

Funny Book Titles

I Lived in Detroit by Helen Earth = Hell on earth (i.e. a horrible place)
I Love Mathematics by Adam Up = Add them (i.e. numbers) up
I Was a Cloakroom Attendant by Mahatma Coate = My hat, my coat
I Win! by U. Lose = You lose
I Say So! by Frank O. Pinion = frank (sincere) opinion

Animal Idioms

a dark horse - person whose true value is unknown
a little bird told me - avoids saying directly how you heard news
a night owl - someone who stays up late
a white elephant - something expensive and worthless
donkey's years - going back a long time into the past
not enough room to swing a cat - very little space
till the cows come home - for an indefinitely long time into the future
to have a bee in one's bonnet - have an obsession about something
to make a pig's ear of something - do something very badly
to smell a rat` something fishy - suspect that something is wrong

Anagrams 2

leaks
tales
trams
swarm
smile
times
names
lemon
dense
renew

Mathematical 1

$$\# 57+23=80+1+4+6+9 = 100$$

Mathematical 2

#

Mathematical 3

3

Tense Challenge - Present Simple vs Will

In Medieval times jesters were very much a part of the royal courts of Europe. One particular court jester made a fortune traveling from country to country playing the following trick on unsuspecting monarchs.

On seeing the king, queen or whoever he would say: “I *bet* that if I *tell* you a really big lie, you *will give* me a pot of gold.”

One day he decided to go to England and arriving at His Majesty’s palace he demanded to see the king, he then announced his challenge and added:

“If you *agree* to my proposal, you *will end* up giving me a pot of gold. I *am* the best liar in the world you know!

“OK then,” replied the king wearily, “if you *tell* me a really big lie, I *will give* you a pot of gold”.

The jester smiled and continued:

“You *owe* my father a pot full of gold. You lost it to him 25 years ago at poker and you never paid him back.”

“But I’ve never even met your father,” protested the king, “that’s the biggest lie I’ve ever heard.”

The king then realised that he had been fooled and that he would have to pay the jester. Why?

#If the king admits that it was a lie, he will have to pay the jester a pot of gold (this was part of the challenge). But if it’s not a lie, then he really does owe the jester’s father a pot of gold and so he will have to pay the jester anyway.

Word Ladder

MICE

RICE (staple diet of much of the world)

RACE (competition)

RATE (assign a rank or rating to)

RATS

Chapter 4

Play up! play up! and play the game

Numbers

Numbers occur quite frequently in the abbreviations used in the social media. Due to the bizarre spelling system of English, numbers can be used in many different ways:

1) /won/, 2) /tu/, 3) /thri/ or /fri/, 4) /for/, 8) /eit/

Match the ‘numbers’ in the first column with the meanings in the second column.

1ce	anyone
every1	before
ne1	everyone
sum1	face to face
2day	I'm too good for you
f2f	once
im2gud4u	please forgive me
lk2ul8r	see you later
wan2	someone
b4	talk to you later
plz 4gv me	today
cul8er	waiting for you
w8in4u	want to

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time. For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert FIRE into HEAT. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

FIRE

_____ (engage for work)

HERE (not there)

_____ (a group of cattle or sheep or other domestic mammals)

HEAT

Proverbs

Match the proverbs (1-10) with their explanations (a-j).

1. A bad workman always blames his tools
2. A bird in hand is worth two in the bush
3. A change is as good as a rest
4. A leopard can't change his spots
5. A miss is as good as a mile
6. A stitch in time saves nine
7. Absence makes the heart grow fonder
8. Actions speak louder than words
9. All good things must come to an end
10. Beauty is only skin deep

- a) Rather than recognizing that we have done something badly, we attribute the responsibility to the tools we are working with.
- b) It's better not to lose something that you already have by trying to get something extra that you cannot be certain of.
- c) If you start doing something different, then this is equivalent to having a period of rest.
- d) You cannot change human nature.
- e) It doesn't matter by how far you have missed your target.
- f) If you fix something or solve a problem straight away you will save time later.
- g) When you are away from your loved one, you fall even more in love.
- h) What you do is more important than what you say.
- i) Enjoyable experiences don't last forever.
- j) What is important is someone's character not their appearance.

Tongue Twisters

Practise reading the tongue twisters aloud. Then see if you can memorize and say them quickly without getting your tongue tied!

Which wristwatches are Swiss wristwatches?

Unique New York.

Many an anemone sees an enemy anemone.

Freshly-fried flying fish.

Riddles

Can you answer the questions of the following riddles?

1. In a one-storey pink house, there was a pink person, a pink cat, a pink fish, a pink computer, a pink chair, a pink table, a pink telephone, a pink shower—everything was pink! What color were the stairs?
2. If you were forced to go through one of the following doors, which door do you go through with 100 % certainty you'd stay alive: a door with a man with a gun behind it, a door with a tiger who hasn't eaten in 7 years behind it, or a door with an electric chair behind it?
3. Jack rode into town on Friday and rode out 2 days later on Friday. How can that be possible?
4. A man was cleaning the windows of a 25 storey building. He slipped and fell off the ladder, but wasn't hurt. How did he do it?
5. Two fathers and two sons go on a fishing trip. They each catch a fish and bring it home. Why do they only bring three fish home?
6. A monkey, a squirrel, and a bird are racing to the top of a coconut tree. Who will get the banana first, the monkey, the squirrel, or the bird?
7. Mr. Blue lives in the blue house, Mr. Pink lives in the pink house, and Mr. Brown lives in the brown house. Who lives in the white house?
8. If a blue house is made out of blue bricks, a yellow house is made out of yellow bricks and a pink house is made out of pink bricks, what is a green house made of?
9. How many months have 28 days?
10. You walk into a room with a match, a kerosene lamp, a candle, and a fireplace. Which do you light first?
11. What is as light as a feather, but even the world's strongest man couldn't hold it for more than a minute?
12. Mary's father has 5 daughters – Nana, Nene, Nini, Nono. What is the fifth daughter's name?

Funny Book Titles

Match the titles with the authors.

TITLES	AUTHORS
Cry Wolf	Al Armist
It's Unfair!	Al Dente
Surprised!	Oliver Sudden
Without Warning	Omar Gosh
Cooking Spaghetti	Y. Me

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

There was a faith-healer of Deal
Who said “Although pain isn’t real,
If I sit on a pin
And it punctures my skin
I dislike what I fancy I feel.

There was a young man from Bengal
Who went to a fancy dress ball.
He went just for fun
Dressed up as a bun
And a dog ate him up in the hall.

Preposition Challenge

Choose the correct preposition - *in* or *to*.

There is a night watchman who works *in/to* a small factory *in/to* Pisa *in/to* Italy. His job is to make sure that there are no intruders *in/to* the factory during the night time.

One night he had a dream about his boss. The next morning he went to see his boss and said *in/to* him: “Last night I had a dream. I dreamt that the plane crashed that you are taking *in/to* London today”. The boss got very angry and told him to go away.

There was terrible traffic and the boss arrived too late *in/to* the airport to catch his plane. So he caught the next one instead. When he arrived *in / to* London he bought the evening newspaper and read: “Pisa - London plane crashes - all dead!” A week later he flew back *in/to* his factory *in/to* Pisa. He immediately called in the night watchman and told him that he was sacked.

Why did the boss sack his night watchman?

On a Mat up Here

What do the following words have in common?

moo, buzz, neigh, quack

burp, clang, click crash, hiss, pop, squelch, jingle, snap, thud

Anagrams

Can you work out the connection between the two columns?

a telephone girl	repeating hello
Clint Eastwood	old west action
French revolution	violence run forth
Madame Curie	radium came
police protection	let cop cope in riot
silver and gold	grand old evils
the countryside	no city dust here
the nudist colony	no untidy clothes
William Shakespeare	we all make his praise

Vocabulary notes: Clint Eastwood was a famous film star in westerns; run forth = flow, cop = police officer, cope = manage, evil = opposite of good, untidy = not in order, praise = say good things about

Mathematical 1

A farmer had two and a half haystacks in one corner of a field and three and a half haystacks in another corner of the same field. If he put them together how many haystacks would he have?

Mathematical 2

A train which is 1 km long is moving at 100 km an hour. It goes into a 1 km long tunnel. How long will it take to pass through the tunnel completely?

Mathematical 3

A woman worked on her farm where she had a lot of chickens. She went to the market to sell the chickens' eggs. The first person bought half her eggs and half an egg more. The second and third people did exactly the same thing. When she had given them all their eggs, she had none left and hadn't had to break a single egg all day. How many eggs did she have at the beginning?

Rhyming Words

These pairs of words look as if they should rhyme, but not many of them do. Which ones do rhyme?

aid	said
arm	farm
eat	heat
even	seven
his	this
hole	whole
laughter	slaughter
lose	close
now	know
on	son

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
break		a professional bread maker
stale		the opposite of the most
thing		the opposite of day
orals		related to the sun
ought		hard
swore		the opposite of better
outer		the path followed to get from A to B
parts		the part of the bag that you put over your shoulder
peach		not expensive
paler		precious object found in a shell

Logical Ladies?

Below are four cases (1-4) all involving women. There are eight possible solutions (a-h) to the cases. Match the most appropriate solution to each case.

1. Laura had not been seen for 24 hours. The police sent out a search party. They discovered her in a couple of hours covered in blood in an abandoned building. A few hours later, it was confirmed that she had been shot twice. Even though the police had no other physical evidence, they arrested the murderer. How did the police know the identity of the murderer?
2. Martha decides to buy a new mobile phone and to sell her old one to a stranger. The stranger wants to pay in cash. Teresa accepts but says that the stranger must give her the money in front of a bank clerk in a bank. Why?
3. Mrs Jones, who lives alone with her daughter Kate, suspects that Kate's boyfriend has been staying in their house. But her daughter says that she has spent the day by herself and that her boyfriend was out with his friends. In reality, the boyfriend has spent the day in the house, so Kate has made sure that he has not left anything behind. But Mrs Jones soon finds evidence that Kate's boyfriend really has spent the day with Kate in the house. What evidence did Mrs Smith find?
4. Patricia wakes up in the middle of the night and smells smoke. She knows she is in danger from the fire. She makes no attempt to leave the room where she is sleeping. Why?

- a) She was not alone.
- b) She lives next door to the bank.
- c) She is in a prison cell.
- d) She can smell perfume.
- e) She is blind.
- f) She wasn't dead when she was found. So she was able to reveal the identity of her killers.
- g) She sees that the toilet seat is up.
- h) She is a fire officer.

Ambiguous Headlines

Try to understand what makes the headlines ambiguous.

- Two sisters reunited after 18 years at checkout counter
- Dealers will hear car talk at noon
- Enraged cow injures farmer with axe
- Include your children when baking cookies
- Lawyers from Mexico barbecue guests.

Keys to Chapter 4

Numbers

1ce = *once*,

every1 = *everyone*,

ne1 = *anyone*

sum1 = *someone*,

2day = *today*

f2f = *face to face*

im2gud4u = *I'm too good for you*

lk2ul8r = *talk to you later*

wan2 = *want*

b4 = *before*

plz 4gv me = *please forgive me*

cul8er = *see you later*

w8in4u = *waiting for you*

Word Ladder

FIRE

HIRE (engage for work)

HERE (not there)

HERD (a group of cattle or sheep or other domestic mammals)

HEAD

HEAT

Proverbs

A bad workman always blames his tools - Rather than recognizing that we have done something badly, we attribute the responsibility to the tools we are working with.

A bird in hand is worth two in the bush - It's better not to lose something that you already have by trying to get something extra that you cannot be certain.

A change is as good as a rest - If you start doing something different then this is equivalent to having a period of rest.

A leopard can't change his spots - You cannot change human nature.

A miss is as good as a mile - It doesn't matter by how far you have missed your target.

A stitch in time saves nine - if you fix something or solve a problem straight away you will save time later.

Absence makes the heart grow fonder - When you are away from your loved one, you fall even more in love.

Actions speak louder than words - What you do is more important than what you say.

All good things must come to an end - Enjoyable experiences don't last forever

Beauty is only skin deep - What is important is someone's character not their appearance.

Riddles

1. There weren't any stairs, it was a one storey house!
2. The one with the tiger behind it, because if it hasn't eaten in 7 years it's dead.
3. Friday is his horse's name!
4. He fell off the 2nd step.
5. The fishing trip consists of a grandfather, a father and a son.
6. None of them, because you can't get a banana from a coconut tree!
7. The president!
8. Glass
9. All 12 months!
10. The match.
11. His breath!
12. If you answered Nunu, you are wrong. It's Mary!

Funny Book Titles

Cry Wolf by Al Armist - to *cry wolf* means to claim that something bad has happened when in reality it hasn't. The author's name is *alarmist*.

It's Unfair! by Y. Me - why me?

Surprised! by Omar Gosh - oh my gosh (a typical exclamation. *gosh* is used instead of *god*)

Without Warning by Oliver Sudden - all of a sudden (an idiom meaning 'suddenly')

Cooking Spaghetti by Al Dente - *al dente* is an Italian expression indicating the correct hardness of cooked pasta (literally 'to the tooth')

Preposition Challenge

There is a night watchman who works *in* a small factory *in* Pisa *in* Italy. His job is to make sure that there are no intruders *in* the factory during the night time.

One night he had a dream about his boss. The next morning he went to see his boss and said *to* him: "Last night I had a dream. I dreamt that the plane crashed that you are taking *to* London today". The boss got very angry and told him to go away.

There was terrible traffic and the boss arrived too late *to* the airport to catch his plane. So he caught the next one instead. When he arrived *in* London he bought the evening newspaper and read: "Pisa - London plane crashes - all dead!" A week later he flew back *to* his factory *in* Pisa. He immediately called in the night watchman and told him that he was sacked.

Why did the boss sack his night watchman? *Because he was sleeping (dreaming) on the job when he should have been checking that there were no intruders.*

On a Mat up Here

The words are all onomatopoeic, i.e. they imitate the sound that they are supposed to represent. The first set are all animal noises (cow, bee, horse, duck). The others are all just sounds made by humans, animals or objects - you may have seen them in comics.

Mathematical 1

1

Mathematical 2

2 minutes

Mathematical 3

The total is seven: first person four eggs (three and a half plus a half), the second 2 (there were three left at this stage, so the second person had one and a half plus a half), and the third person had one egg (half plus a half).

Rhyming Words

The following pairs rhyme: arm/farm, eat/heat, hole/whole

Anagrams 2

baker

least

night

solar

tough

worse

route

strap

cheap

pearl

Logical Ladies?

- 1) f
- 2) 2
- 3) g
- 4) c

Ambiguous Headlines

Two sisters reunited after 18 years at checkout counter - It seems like they had both spent 18 years at the checkout counter, whereas in fact the counter was the place where they were reunited.

Dealers will hear car talk at noon - Dealers, in this case, are car salespeople. The ambiguous word is *talk* which in reality means a presentation/speech (i.e. a presentation on cars), but seems like it is a car that can speak.

Enraged cow injures farmer with axe - The farmer has the axe not the angry cow.

Include your children when baking cookies - The idea is that parents should get their children to participate when cooking, but instead it sounds the children are part of the ingredients.

Lawyers from Mexico barbecue guests. The guests are the lawyers, but it seems like the lawyers are cooking the guests.

Chapter 5

Thanks to words, we have been able to rise above the brute

Acronyms

A quick way of writing is to use acronyms, where each letter stands for a word. Match the acronyms with their meanings.

aka	end of message
asap	for your information
atb	as soon as possible
bbn	all the best
bf	bye bye now
bfm	boy friend
btdt	bye for now
btw	also known as
eom	been there done that
fyi	by the way

Rhyming Words

These pairs of words look as if they should rhyme, but not many of them do. Which ones do rhyme?

are	care
ear	wear
ever	fever
hall	shall
nose	chose
how	show
ill	kill
new	knew
raw	draw
word	sword

Limericks

Practise reading the limerick aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

There was a young fellow of Perth
Who was born on the day of his birth;
He married, they say,
On his wife's wedding day,
And he died when he quitted the earth.

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time.

For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert SLEEP into DREAM. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

SLEEP

_____ (a short high tone produced as a signal or warning)

_____ (lose blood)

_____ (have/raise young animals)

DREED (not a recognized word)

_____ (causing fear or terror)

DREAM

Riddles

Choose the correct answer. In some cases more than one answer may be correct.

1. The more it dries, the wetter it becomes. What is it?
a) a towel b) a cloud c) a sponge
2. What can you catch but not throw?
a) a train b) a star c) a cold
3. What loses its head in the morning but gets it back at night?
a) a mad man b) a tortoise c) a pillow
4. What gets broken without being held?
a) a mirror b) a promise c) silence
5. What is always coming but never arrives?
a) the next bus b) tomorrow c) true love
6. What goes through towns and over hills but never moves?
a) electricity b) the earth c) a road
7. What has 88 keys but can't open a single door?
a) a prison guard b) a piano c) a computer

8. What has a neck but no head?
a) a bottle b) a dead chicken c) a cabbage
9. What has one eye but cannot see?
a) a needle b) a bat c) a mole
10. What has hands but can not clap?
a) a six-month old baby b) clock c) a murderer
11. What has 50 heads but can't think?
a) a centipede b) a box of matches c) Cerberus, the mythical creature

Ambiguous Headlines

Try to understand what makes the headlines ambiguous.

- Stolen painting found by tree.
- Safety experts say school bus passengers should be belted.
- A quarter of a million Chinese live on water.
- Old school pillars are replaced by alumni.

Palindromes

The five sentences below are all palindromes, i.e. sentences that can be read letter-by-letter either starting at the beginning or starting from the end. The only problem is that in each case an extra word has been inserted. Can you find the extra word? (e.g. *Madam I'm not Adam* = in this case *not* is the extra word)

- No lemons and no melon.
- Ten animals I now slam in a net.
- Some men interpret the nine memos.
- Evil is a not name of a foreman, as I live.
- Marge lets Norah to see Sharon's telegram.

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
meals		not females
pears		extra
slept		alternative spelling of <i>spelled</i>
prose		cord used to tie things
prods		lets something fall
quite		not noisy
ports		examples of this are football, tennis, skiing
stare		liquid that comes out of your eyes
worth		propel something through the air
hears		give a portion of something to other people

Colorful Idioms

Match the color idiom with its definition.

1. be in someone's black books
 2. have the blues
 3. be not as green as one's cabbage looking
 4. a grey area
 5. a golden handshake
 6. red tape
 7. see red
 8. as white as a sheet
 9. be yellow
-
- a) something which seems unidentifiable
 - b) not as inexperienced as one looks
 - c) a substantial sum of money given to someone leaving a company
 - d) feel depressed or sad
 - e) when a person is angry with you
 - f) very pale, in a state of shock
 - g) bureaucratic formalities
 - h) act in a cowardly way
 - i) be rather ill
 - j) be extremely angry

Mathematical 1

You have ten stacks of ten silver dollars in each. They are identical, except that one stack consists entirely of counterfeit dollars. You know the weight of an authentic dollar, and you also know that a counterfeit dollar weighs one gram less. How many weighings are needed to reveal which stack is counterfeit?

Mathematical 2

You have the same amount of money in your wallet as your friend. How much do you need to give her so that she has 10 euros more than you?

Mathematical 3

An art dealer bought a painting for \$7000, then sold it for \$8000. She then bought back the same painting for \$9000, and sold it again for \$10,000. How much profit did she make?

QWERTY or CWAZY?

What do the following strange sentences all have in common?

A large fawn jumped quickly over white zinc boxes.

Jack amazed a few girls by dropping the antique onyx vase

Playing jazz vibe chords quickly excites my wife.

The five boxing wizards jump quickly.

Turgid saxophones blew over Mick's jazzy quaff.

Grammar Challenge

Underline the correct form of the words in italics.

Some time *the/Ø* last year in *a/the* small town on *a/the* east coast of *an/the* island somewhere in *the/Ø* Pacific Ocean, *a/the* kidnapping took place. It all went exactly to plan. *The/Ø* kidnappers drew up to Mr X, *an/the/Ø* important judge, just as he was leaving court, bundled him into *a/the* stolen car, blindfolded him and took him out to *a/the* hiding place in *a/the/Ø* country. *A/The* ransom note, made from newspaper cuttings, was sent to *the/Ø* police. However after three days of waiting, *the/Ø* police had made no contact and there was no money to be seen.

After *a/the* week, *the/Ø* terrorists, tired and disappointed, condemned Mr X to death. But *a/the* terrorist leader was not completely cold-hearted and left *a/the/Ø* choice of death to Mr X.

Mr X, despite *a/the* week of tension, had not lost his sense of humor and in *a/the* bid for time asked *a/the/Ø* terrorist leader: "What deaths have you got in stock?"

"Anything from *the/Ø* electric chair to *the/Ø* arsenic," replied *a/the* leader.

Mr X refused all the leader's suggestions - electrocution was too "shocking", being starved "rather tasteless", hanging was out of the question as he hated being "kept in suspense", poisoning made his "stomach turn" and drowning just left him "cold".

He had virtually decided on *the/Ø* quickest solution, being shot, when he had *a/the/Ø* brain-wave. He got up, told the leader of his choice of death and walked away *a/the* free man.

Question: What death did he choose?

Similes

Insert the words in the box into the correct spaces

as quick as _____
 as quiet as a _____
 as safe as _____
 as sharp as a _____
 as sly as a _____
 as steady as a _____
 as sweet as _____
 as thick as a _____
 as ugly as _____
 as white as a _____

brick, fox, honey, houses, lightning, mouse, needle, rock, sheet, sin

Smileys

Match the smileys (i.e. a group of keyboard characters that taken on a facial expression) with their meanings.

:<>	Drunk
:-ll	Big Kiss
((H)))	Can't believe it
:-X	Cursing
:-C	Confused
:-S	Disappointed
:'-(Disgusted
:-@!	Drinking every night
:-e	Crying
:-l	Big Hug
:*)	Angry
:#)	Amazed

Proverbs

Match the proverbs (1-10) with their explanations (a-j).

1. Beggars can't be choosers
 2. Better the devil you know than the devil you don't
 3. Blood is thicker than water
 4. Do as I say, not as I do
 5. Don't count your chickens before they hatch
 6. Don't look a gift horse in the mouth
 7. Don't put all your eggs in one basket
 8. Every cloud has a silver lining
 9. Fools rush in where angels fear to tread
 10. Give someone an inch and they will take a mile
-
- a) Do not automatically assume that something will turn out right before it actually happens.
 - b) Don't be critical of something that you are going to get for free.
 - c) Don't criticize a present that you receive.
 - d) Family ties are stronger than other relationships.
 - e) Follow my advice rather than looking at my actions.
 - f) If you give a little to someone they will then ask for more.
 - g) Spread your options.
 - h) The current situation, however bad, may be better than a change for some thing that may be worse.
 - i) The inexperienced often become involved in difficult situations that more intelligent people would avoid.
 - j) There is always something positive in every apparently bad event.

Keys to Chapter 5

Acronyms

aka = *also known as*

asap = *as soon as possible*

atb = *all the best*

bbn = *bye bye now*

bf = *boy friend*

bfm = *bye for now*

btdt = *been there done that*

btw = *by the way*

eom = *end of message*

fyi = *for your information*

Rhyming Words

The following pairs rhyme: nose/chose, ill/kill, new/knew, raw/draw

Word Ladder

SLEEP

BLEEP (a short high tone produced as a signal or warning)

BLEED (lose blood)

BREED (have/raise young animals)

DREED (*not a recognized word*)

DREAD (causing fear or terror)

DREAM

Riddles

The more it dries, the wetter it becomes. What is it? A towel.

What can you catch but not throw? A cold.

What loses its head in the morning but gets it back at night? A pillow.

What gets broken without being held? A promise. Silence

What is always coming but never arrives? Tomorrow.

What goes through towns and over hills but never moves? A road.

What has 88 keys but can't open a single door? A piano.

What has a neck but no head? A bottle

What has one eye but cannot see? A needle.

What has hands but can not clap? A clock.

What has 50 heads but can't think? A box of matches.

Ambiguous Headlines

Stolen painting found by tree. It sounds like the tree found the painting.

Safety experts say school bus passengers should be belted. The ambiguous word here is belted which means i) 'with their safety belts on', ii) hit with a belt as a form of corporal punishment.

A quarter of a million Chinese live on water. In reality these Chinese have constructed housing on the water, but 'live on water' sounds like they survive simply by consuming water and nothing else.

Old school pillars are replaced by alumni. The alumni have removed the old pillars and put new pillars in their place. But it sounds like the alumni are now being used as pillars.

Palindromes

The extra words are in italics.
No lemons *and* no melon.
Ten animals I *now* slam in a net.
Some men interpret *the* nine memos.
Evil is a *not* name of a foeman, as I live.
Marge lets Norah *to* see Sharon's telegram.

Anagrams 2

males
spare
spelt
ropes
drops
quiet
sport
tears
throw
share

Colorful Idioms

be in someone's black books - when a person is angry with you
have the blues - feel depressed or sad
be not as green as one's cabbage looking - not as inexperienced as one looks
a grey area - something which seems unidentifiable
a golden handshake - a substantial sum of money paid to someone leaving a company
red tape - bureaucratic formalities
see red - be extremely angry
as white as a sheet - very pale in a state of shock or very ill
be yellow - act in a cowardly way

Mathematical 1

Only one. Weigh one coin from the first stack, two from the second, and so forth. The number of grams by which the total is light will correspond to the number of the counterfeit stack.

Mathematical 2

5 euros. Imagine you initially both have 10 euros. If you give her 5 you will now only have 5 yourself and she will have 15, giving the 10 euros difference that you require.

Mathematical 3

\$2000. The total amount of money she spends is £7000 + \$9000 = \$16,000. The money she receives is \$8000 and \$10,000 = \$18,000. The difference between them is \$2000.

QWERTY or CWAZY?

Each sentence contains every letter of the alphabet. The sentences are grammatically correct, but have little real meaning.

Grammar Challenge: Articles

Some time \emptyset last year in *a* small town on *the* east coast of *an* island somewhere in *the* Pacific Ocean, *a* kidnapping took place. It all went exactly to plan. *The* kidnappers drew up to Mr X, *an* important judge, just as he was leaving court, bundled him into *a* stolen car, blindfolded him and took him out to *a* hiding place in *the* country. A ransom note, made from newspaper cuttings, was sent to *the* police. However after three days of waiting, *the* police had made no contact and there was no money to be seen.

After *a* week, *the* terrorists, tired and disappointed, condemned Mr X to death. But *the* terrorist leader was not completely cold-hearted and left *the* choice of death to Mr X.

Mr X, despite *a* week of tension, had not lost his sense of humor and in *a* bid for time asked *the* terrorist leader: “What deaths have you got in stock?”

“Anything from *the electric chair* to *Ø arsenic*,” replied *the leader*.

Mr X refused all the leader’s suggestions - electrocution was too “shocking”, being starved “rather tasteless”, hanging was out of the question as he hated being “kept in suspense”, poisoning made his “stomach turn” and drowning just left him “cold”.

He had virtually decided on *the* quickest solution, being shot, when he had *a* brain-wave. He got up, told the leader of his choice of death and walked away *a* free man.

What death did he choose?

Answer: Old age.

Similes

as quick as lightning
as quiet as a mouse
as safe as houses
as sharp as a needle
as sly as a fox
as steady as a rock
as sweet as honey
as thick as a brick
as ugly as sin
as white as a sheet

Smileys

:<>	Amazed
:-ll	Angry
((H))	Big Hug
:-X	Big Kiss
:-C	Can't believe it
:-S	Confused
:'-(Crying
:-@!	Cursing
:-e	Disappointed
:-l	Disgusted
:(*)	Drinking every night
:#)	Drunk

Proverbs

Beggars can't be choosers Don't be critical of something that you are going to get for free.

Better the devil you know than the devil you don't The current situation, however bad, may be better than a change for something that may be worse.

Blood is thicker than water Family ties are stronger than other relationships.

Do as I say, not as I do Follow my advice rather than looking at my actions.

Don't count your chickens before they hatch Do not automatically assume that something will turn out right before it actually happens.

Don't look a gift horse in the mouth Don't criticize a present that you receive.

Don't put all your eggs in one basket Spread your options.

Every cloud has a silver lining There is always something positive in every apparently bad event.

Fools rush in where angels fear to tread The inexperienced often become involved in difficult situations that more intelligent people would avoid.

Give someone an inch and they will take a mile If you give a little to someone they will then ask for more (an *inch* is a very small measurement, a *mile* is very big)

Chapter 6

Words are, of course, the most powerful drug used by mankind

Symbols

Can you work out why the words in the second column are an explanation of the letters and symbols in the first column?

cu@	<i>see you at</i>
l&n	<i>landing</i>
pl&	<i>planned</i>
po\$bl	<i>possible</i>
s^	<i>what's up?</i>
th@	<i>that</i>
ura*	<i>you are a star</i>
x	<i>kiss</i>
xoxox	<i>hugs and kisses</i>

Contractions

Match the contractions in the first column with their full forms in the second column.

ain't	<i>a cup of (tea)</i>
betchu	<i>could have</i>
betta	<i>give me</i>
coulda	<i>has not, am not</i>
cuppa	<i>have you got ..?</i>
dunno	<i>hi there</i>
gimme	<i>I am going to</i>
gonna	<i>I bet you</i>
gotta ...?	<i>I don't know</i>
gotta	<i>I had better</i>
hiya	<i>is he</i>
izzy	<i>kind of</i>
kinda	<i>I have got to</i>

Riddles

Choose the correct answer. In some cases more than one answer may be correct.

I'm the part of the bird that's not in the sky. I can swim in the ocean and yet remain dry. What am I?

- a) a shadow b) a nest c) the water

I went into the woods and got it. I sat down to seek it. I brought it home with me because I couldn't find it. What am I?

- a) a ring b) a fairy c) a splinter

I am weightless, but you can see me. Put me in a bucket, and I'll make it lighter. What am I?

- a) hydrogen b) a hole c) the man on the moon

I'm as light as a feather, yet the strongest man can't hold me for much more than a minute. What am I?

- a) breath b) fire c) life

I'm where yesterday follows today, and tomorrow's in the middle. What am I?

- a) a time machine b) a dictionary c) the future

The man who needs me doesn't know it. What am I?

- a) a woman b) religion c) a coffin

I run over fields and woods all day. Under the bed at night I sit not alone. My tongue hangs out, up and to the rear, awaiting to be filled in the morning. What am I?

- a) shoe b) grass c) a politician.

Throw me off the highest building, and I'll not break. But put me in the ocean, and I will. What am I?

- a) an egg b) a regret c) a tissue

Lighter than what I'm made of, more of me is hidden than is seen. What am I?

- a) an iceberg b) an ice cream c) a nice dream

I fly, yet I have no wings. I cry, yet I have no eyes. Darkness follows me; lower light I never see. What am I?

- a) a magician b) a short story c) a cloud

Forward I'm heavy, backwards I'm not. What am I?

- a) a ton b) a gram c) a kilo

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time.

For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert BLACK into WHITE. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

BLACK

_____ (with nothing written on it)

_____ (rapid movement with eyes)

LINK (short light metallic sound)

CHINK (a narrow opening)

CHINE (cut of meat or fish)

_____ (noise made by animal or child when unhappy)

WHITE

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters of the words in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
shout		Opposite of north.
edits		Movement of the seas.
tales		Synonym of ‘rob’.
slope		These are found at the extreme north and south of the earth.
spare		A kind of fruit.
spark		Public green areas.
fiber		Short.
canoe		The Pacific and Atlantic are examples of this.
react		Find by investigation.
swing		What birds use to fly with.

Rhyming Words

These pairs of words look as if they should rhyme, but not many of them do. Which ones do rhyme?

age	cage
and	wand
ash	wash
aunt	haunt
eased	ceased
eight	weight
host	ghost
limb	climb
loud	cloud
one	bone

Proverbs

Match the proverbs (1-10) with their explanations (a-j).

1. God helps those who help themselves
2. His/her bark is worse than his/her bite
3. If at first you don't succeed try, try again
4. It takes two to tango
5. Let bygones be bygones
6. Let sleeping dogs lie
7. Look after number one
8. Love is blind
9. Make hay while the sun shines
10. Many hands make light work

- a) A job is done more quickly if a lot of people share in the work.
- b) Avoid making trouble if you do not need to.
- c) Don't rely on other people.
- d) Forget about unpleasant things or problems that happened in the past.
- e) He or she may not be as bad-tempered as they appear.
- f) If you are patient and persevere you will eventually achieve your goal.
- g) Some things you can't do just by yourself.
- h) Sometimes it pays to put yourself in first position.
- i) Take advantage of opportunities and good conditions while you can.
- j) Your positive emotions towards someone are not always rationale.

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

There was an old man of Madrid
 Who ate sixty eggs - yes, he did!
 When they asked 'Are you faint?'
 He replied 'No, I ain't
 But I don't feel as well as I did.'

There was a young man from Japan
 Whose limericks never would scan.
 When asked why that was,
 He replied 'It's because
 I always try to cram as many words into
 the last line as I possibly can'.

Rhyming Forms

The words below may look very strange but they are actually used in every day conversation. Can you match the word (1-10) with its meaning (a-j)?

1. back pack
 2. big wig
 3. boob tube
 4. brain drain
 5. chit chat
 6. clap trap
 7. fat cat
 8. fuddy duddy
 9. higgledy piggledy
 10. hot shot
-
- a) bag worn on the back
 - b) boring person who is stuck in their ways
 - c) important person
 - d) item of clothing worn by woman over her chest
 - e) light conversation
 - f) nonsense
 - g) not straight
 - h) rich, successful person
 - i) someone destined for success
 - j) tendency for highly qualified people (typically scientists) to leave their country

Special Words

What is special about this word?

NOON

Tense Challenge

A basketball manager needed 30 million dollars *rebuilding/to rebuild* his club's stadium. Hoping *finding/to find* the finances he needed, the manager went to a rich business man, Mr Dollar, whose whole life had been dedicated to *making/make* money. Mr Dollar, *spotting* an opportunity to make a good return on this investment, agreed *lending/to lend* the manager the money.

It took six months *rebuilding/to rebuild* the stadium. But on the first day of the new basketball season, some rival fans burnt down part of the stadium.

Mr Dollar, *worrying/to worry* about this situation, immediately telephoned the manager *asking/to ask* him for the 20 million dollars. But the manager said he didn't have the money. So Mr Dollar told the manager *meeting/to meet* him at his office car park and *coming/to come* with his best player, Micky Jordan.

The three men met at the car park and Mr Dollar said to the manager: "If you give me your best player, I will cancel your debt."

Looking/To look at Mr Dollar right in the eye, the manager replied. "If I give you Micky Jordan, no one will come to watch my team play".

"OK" said Mr Dollar. "Look at these stones on the ground. They are all black and white. I will pick up two stones, a black one and a white one and put them into this little bag. If Micky picks out a black stone from this bag, then you will have to give him to me. But if he picks out the white one, then he will be free and I will cancel your debt." Not *being/to be* in a position to argue, the manager reluctantly agreed.

Mr Dollar picked up two stones and put them in his bag, but Micky noticed that Mr Dollar had put two black stones in his bag. How did Micky find a way *resolving/to resolve* the situation?

Riddles

Match the questions (1-10) with the answers (a-j).

1. What is at the end of a rainbow?
 2. What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment and never in one thousand years?
 3. What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it?
 4. What is the longest word in the dictionary?
 5. We see it once in a year, twice in a week, and never in a day. What is it?
 6. What is the center of gravity?
 7. What starts with the letter “t”, is filled with “t” and ends in “t”?
 8. Take away my first letter, and I still sound the same. Take away my last letter, I still sound the same. Even take away my letter in the middle, I will still sound the same. I am a five letter word. What am I?
 9. What has 4 eyes but can’t see?
 10. What starts with “P” and ends with “E” and has more than 1000 letters?
- a) A post office
 b) A teapot
 c) EMPTY
 d) Mississippi
 e) Short
 f) Smiles, because there is a mile between each ‘s’
 g) The letter “E”
 h) The letter M
 i) The letter V.
 j) The letter W!

Mathematical 1

Bob the chauffeur always arrives at the train station at exactly five o’clock to pick up his boss and drive her home. One day Bob’s boss arrives an hour early, starts walking home some of the way home before Bob picks her up. She arrives at home twenty minutes earlier than usual. How long had she walked before she met Bob the chauffeur?

Mathematical 2

It was a windy day and ten people wearing hats were walking towards a supermarket. Suddenly the wind blew all their hats off. A young girl, who was passing by, picked up all the hats and without asking who the hats belonged to, gave each person a hat. What are the chances of exactly nine people getting their own hat back?

Mathematical 3

Where do you often see the fraction 24/31?

Similes

Match the simile with the definitions below.

1. like a beached whale
 2. like a bolt out of the blue
 3. like a book
 4. like a broken record
 5. like a cat on hot bricks
 6. like a deer in (the) headlights
 7. like a dog's dinner
 8. like a fish out of water
 9. like a flash
 10. like a headless chicken
-
- a) Completely stuck and unable to move or escape from the situation.
 - b) Suddenly and unexpectedly
 - c) Very easy to understand
 - d) To repeat and repeat ad nauseam.
 - e) To be nervous and unable to keep still
 - f) To be so frightened or surprised that you cannot move or think
 - g) Very messy and/or disorganized.
 - h) Appearing to be completely out of place.
 - i) Very quickly.
 - j) You do it very quickly and without thinking carefully about what you are doing

Riddles

Choose the best answer.

What do hippos have that no other animals have?

- a) enormous jaws b) baby hippopotamuses c) three stomachs

What does a hen do when she stands on one foot?

- a) meditates b) lifts up the other one c) goes to sleep

What has four legs and flies?

- a) a lightning bird b) a low cost airline plane c) a dead horse

What is the best way to keep a fish from smelling?

- a) keep it on ice b) cut off its nose c) spray it with an organic deodorant

Why does a hen cross the road?

- a) to get to the other side b) whenever she wants c) when she is henpecked

Anagrams

Can you work out the connection between the words (e.g. *conversation*) and the explanations (e.g. *voices rant on*)?

Conversation - voices rant on

Declaration - an oral edict

Desperation - a rope ends it

Saintliness - Least in sins

Suggestion - It eggs us on

Nostalgia - Lost again

Marriage - a grim era

Misfortune - oft ruins me

Prosperity - Is property

Punishment - Nine thumps

Revolution - I love to run

Palindromes

The five sentences below are all palindromes, i.e. sentences that can be read letter-by-letter either starting at the beginning or starting from the end. The only problem is that in each case an extra word has been inserted. Can you find the extra word? (e.g. *Madam I'm not Adam* = in this case *not* is the extra word)

Draw a pupil's lip upward.

Do nine men interpret it? Nine men, I nod.

Rise to vote, you sir.

Now, Ned, I am a maiden nun; Ned nod, I am a maiden won.

Are we not drawn onward, oh we few, drawn onward to new era?

Keys to Chapter 6

Symbols

In the first column & stands for and, and @ for at, even in the middle of words. * is known as an asterisk or the ‘star’ symbol. An x has been used for decades at the end of a letter to signify a kiss, and and o means a hug (embrace).

cu@	see you at
l&n	landing
pl&	planned
po\$bl	possible
s^	what's up?
th@	that
ura*	you are a star
x	kiss
xoxox	hugs and kisses

Contractions

ain't	<i>has not, am not</i>
betchu	<i>I bet you</i>
betta	<i>I had better</i>
coulda	<i>could have</i>
cuppa	<i>a cup of (tea)</i>
dunno	<i>I don't know</i>
gimme	<i>give me</i>
gonna	<i>I am going to</i>
gotta	<i>have you got</i>
...?	<i>...?</i>
gotta	<i>I have got to</i>
hiya	<i>hi there</i>
izzy	<i>is he</i>
kinda	<i>kind of</i>

Riddles

I'm the part of the bird that's not in the sky. I can swim in the ocean and yet remain dry. *A shadow.*

I went into the woods and got it. I sat down to seek it. I brought it home with me because I couldn't find it. *A splinter.*

I am weightless, but you can see me. Put me in a bucket, and I'll make it lighter. *A hole.*

I'm light as a feather, yet the strongest man can't hold me for much more than a minute. *Breath.*

I'm where yesterday follows today, and tomorrow's in the middle. *A dictionary.*

The man who needs me doesn't know it. *A coffin.*

I run over fields and woods all day. Under the bed at night I sit not alone. My tongue hangs out, up and to the rear, awaiting to be filled in the morning. *A shoe.*

Throw it off the highest building, and I'll not break. But put me in the ocean, and I will. *A tissue.*

Lighter than what I'm made of, More of me is hidden than is seen. *An iceberg.*

I fly, yet I have no wings. I cry, yet I have no eyes. Darkness follows me; lower light I never see. *A cloud.*

Forward I'm heavy, backwards I'm not. *A ton (the letters of not reversed).*

Word Ladder

BLACK

BLANK (with nothing written on it)

BLINK (rapid movement with eyes)

CLINK (short light metallic sound)

CHINK (a narrow opening)

CHINE (cut of meat or fish)

WHINE (noise made by animal or child when unhappy)

WHITE

Anagrams

south
tides
steal
poles
pears
parks
brief
ocean
trace
wings

Rhyming Words

age/cage, eight/weight, host/ghost, loud/cloud

Proverbs

God helps those who help themselves Don't rely on other people.

His/her bark is worse than his/her bite He or she may not be as bad-tempered as they appear

If at first you don't succeed try, try again If you are patient and persevere you will eventually achieve your goal.

It takes two to tango Some things you can't do just by yourself.

Let bygones be bygones Forget about unpleasant things or problems that happened in the past.

Let sleeping dogs lie Avoid making trouble if you do not need to.

Look after number one Sometimes it pays to put yourself in first position.

Love is blind Your positive emotions towards someone are not always rationale.

Make hay while the sun shines Take advantage of opportunities and good conditions while you can

any hands make light work A job is done more quickly if a lot of people share in the work.

Rhyming Forms

back pack - bag worn on the back
big wig - important person
boob tube - item of clothing worn by woman over her chest
brain drain - tendency for highly qualified people (typically scientists) to leave their country
chit chat - light conversation
clap trap – nonsense
fat cat - rich, successful person
fuddy duddy - boring person who is stuck in their ways
higgledy piggledy - not straight
hot shot - someone destined for success

Special Words

You can read NOON backwards and forwards and even upside down and it still looks the same.

Tense Challenge (-inf Form vs Infinitive)

A basketball manager needed 30 million dollars *to rebuild* his club's stadium. Hoping *to find* the finances he needed, the manager went to a rich business man, Mr Dollar, whose whole life had been dedicated to *making* money. Mr Dollar, *spotting* an opportunity to make a good return on this investment, agreed *to lend* the manager the money.

It took six months *to rebuild* the stadium. But on the first day of the new basketball season, some rival fans burnt down part of the stadium.

Mr Dollar, *worrying* about this situation, immediately telephoned the manager *to ask* him for the 20 million dollars. But the manager said he didn't have the money. So Mr Dollar told the manager *to meet* him at his office car park and *to come* with his best player, Micky Jordan.

The three men met at the car park and Mr Dollar said to the manager: "If you give me your best player, I will cancel your debt."

Looking at Mr Dollar right in the eye, the manager replied. "If I give you Micky Jordan, no one will come to watch my team play".

“OK” said Mr Dollar. “Look at these stones on the ground. They are all black and white. I will pick up two stones, a black one and a white one and put them into this little bag. If Micky picks out a black stone from this bag, then you will have to give him to me. But if he picks out the white one, then he will be free and I will cancel your debt.” Not *being* in a position to argue, the manager reluctantly agreed.

Mr Dollar picked up two stones and put them in his bag, but Micky noticed that Mr Dollar had put two black stones in his bag. How did Micky find a way to *resolve* the situation?

Micky said nothing. He then put his hand in the bag, picked out a stone, and dropped it onto the ground amongst all the other stones, so that it was impossible to identify which stone he had dropped. He then said: “Oh dear, I’ve dropped the stone. But no worries. Let’s see what the other stone is, and if it’s black, then the stone I dropped must have been white”.

Riddles

What is at the end of a rainbow? *The letter W*

What occurs once in a minute, twice in a moment and never in one thousand years? *The letter M*

What word becomes shorter when you add two letters to it? *Short*

What is the longest word in the dictionary? *Smiles, because there is a mile between each ‘s’*

We see it once in a year, twice in a week, and never in a day. What is it? *The letter E*

What is the center of gravity? *The letter V*.

What starts with the letter “t”, is filled with “t” and ends in “t”? *A teapot*

Take away my first letter, and I still sound the same. Take away my last letter, I still sound the same. Even take away my letter in the middle, I will still sound the same. I am a five letter word. What am I? *EMPTY*

What has 4 eyes but can’t see? *Mississippi*

What starts with “P” and ends with “E” and has more than 1000 letters? *A post office*

Mathematical 1

50 minutes. The boss saved Bob the chauffeur ten minutes of travelling time each way and thus was picked up at 4.50 PM rather than the usual time.

Mathematical 2

The chances are 0. If nine people get their hat back, then the tenth person must too.

Mathematical 3

On a calendar where these two days are sometimes squeezed together on certain months.

Similes

like a beached whale - Completely stuck and unable to move or escape from the situation.

like a bolt out of the blue - Suddenly and unexpectedly

like a book - Very easy to understand

like a broken record - To repeat and repeat ad nauseam.

like a cat on hot bricks - To be nervous and unable to keep still

like a deer in (the) headlights - To be so frightened or surprised that you cannot move or think

like a dog's dinner - Very messy and/or disorganized.

like a fish out of water - Appearing to be completely out of place.

like a flash - Very quickly.

like a headless chicken - You do it very quickly and without thinking carefully about what you are doing

Riddles

What do hippos have that no other animals have? *baby hippopotamuses*

What does a hen do when she stands on one foot? *lifts up the other one*

What has four legs and flies? *a dead horse*

What is the best way to keep a fish from smelling? *cut off its nose*

Why does a hen cross the road? *to get to the other side*

Anagrams

Conversation - voices rant on (rant - speak at length in an angry impassioned way)

Declaration - an oral edict (edict - official proclamation)

Desperation - a rope ends it (a rope is often used when someone hangs themselves)

Saintliness - Least in sins (sin - bad things done)

Suggestion - It eggs us on (egg on - encourage)

Nostalgia - Lost again (lost in thoughts about the past)

Marriage - a grim era (grim era - an unhappy period)

Misfortune - oft ruins me (oft - often)

Prosperity - Is property

Punishment - Nine thumps (to thump - to hit someone, a thump is a blow)

Revolution - I love to run

Palindromes

The extra words are in italics.

Draw *a* pupil's lip upward.

Do nine men interpret *it*? Nine men, I nod.

Rise to vote, *you* sir.

Now, Ned, I am a maiden nun; Ned *nod*, I am a maiden won.

Are we not drawn onward, *oh* we few, drawn onward to new era?

Chapter 7

Words are illusions

Funny Book Titles

Match the titles with the authors.

TITLES	AUTHORS
Sea Birds	N. Tranced
Hypnotism	Hugo First
Philosophy for Beginners	Anne Droid
Parachuting	Al Batross
Robots	Ivan I Dear

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time.

For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert TEA into HOT. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

TEA

SOT (a chronic drinker)

HOT

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm. Note: *thunk* is not a real word but looks like it could be the past of the verb *to think*.

There was an old man in a trunk,
Who inquired of his wife, ‘Am I
drunk?’
She replied, with remorse,
“Yes darling, of course,”
And he answered, “That’s just as I
thunk”.

There was an old man of Vancouver
Whose wife got sucked into the hoover.
He said, “There’s some doubt
If she’s more in than out
But whichever it is, I can’t move her.”

Ambiguous Headlines

Try to understand what makes the headlines ambiguous.

The bride wore a long white lace dress which fell to the floor.

For those of you who have small children and don’t know it we are now serving ice cream.

When properly stewed, I really enjoy apricots.

I plan to mow the lawn with my husband.

You should never crumble your bread or roll in your soup.

Proverbs

Match the proverbs (1-10) with their explanations (a-j).

1. Money doesn't grow on trees
 2. Necessity is the mother of invention
 3. Never speak ill of the dead
 4. Once bitten, twice shy
 5. One man's meat is another man's poison
 6. Practice what you preach
 7. The proof of the pudding is in the eating
 8. Put your money where your mouth is
 9. Talk of the devil
 10. The grass is always greener (on the other side of the fence)
- a) Actively do what you said you would do.
- b) Another place or scenario always seems better than your current situation.
- c) If something goes wrong, then you will think twice before doing the same thing again.
- d) If you really need something you will be motivated to get it.
- e) Said when a person appears just when you are talking about them
- f) The real value of something can be judged only by practical experience and not from appearance.
- g) What may be good for you may be unsuitable for someone else.
- h) When someone is no longer alive, they deserve some respect.
- i) You have to work in order to earn.
- j) You should act in accordance with the advice that you give to others

Rhyming Words

These pairs of words look as if they should rhyme, but some don't. Which ones do not rhyme?

ate	hate
car	scar
come	home
here	there
high	thigh
law	flaw
mile	smile
mind	wind

Contractions

Match the contractions in the first column with their full forms in the second column.

lemme	<i>a lot of</i>
lotta	<i>it sounds like a</i>
mighta	<i>let me</i>
outta	<i>might have</i>
shaddup/	<i>out of</i>
shadap	
shoulda	<i>should have</i>
sorta	<i>shut up</i>
soundsa	<i>sort of</i>
sup, wazzup	<i>want to</i>
wanna	<i>what are you, what do you</i>
watcha, wotcha	<i>what's up</i>
wouldna	<i>would not</i>

Riddles

See if you can understand these riddles.

1. What bone will a dog never eat? A trombone.
2. What can you hold without ever touching it? A conversation.
3. What did one magnet say to the other? I find you very attractive.
4. What did the carpet say to the floor? Don't move, I've got you covered.
5. What do you call a calf after it's six months old? Seven months old.
6. What do you call a song sung in an automobile? A cartoon.
7. What do you call a country where everyone has to drive a red car? A red carnation.
8. What would the country be called if everyone in it lived in their cars? An incarnation.
9. What's round and bad-tempered? A vicious circle.
10. Where do fortune tellers dance? At the crystal ball.

Anagrams

Match the phrases with their anagrams.

The eyes	Built to stay free
The centenarians	Claim "Heck, I sent it (heh)"
The check is in the mail	Here come dots
The countryside	I can hear ten "tens"
The earthquakes	No city dust here
The meaning of life	That queer shake
The Morse code	The fine game of nil
Statue of Liberty	They see

Logical Thinking

In medieval France the beautiful daughter of an extremely rich baron was in love with the handsome son of a poor peasant family. Unfortunately, the baron wanted his daughter to marry someone from an aristocratic background. So he stopped his daughter from seeing the peasant boy.

However the daughter was as intelligent as she was beautiful. She told her father that she wanted to marry the richest of her suitors. In order to discover which of these suitors was the richest, she suggested that her father should give a large present to each man. This would enable her father to judge how rich the man was by seeing how much difference the gift made to his way of life.

In order to test whether the method worked well, the present (a substantial quantity of gold) would be given to each of the suitors, including the poor peasant boy. All the suitors - and the boy - received the gold.

What did the daughter do next?

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters of the words in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
loves		find a solution
sonic		you can pay for inexpensive things with these
tired		attempted
tread		classified
tutor		a kind of fish
waits		important to know the size of this when you are buying trousers or skirts
crude		
zoned		successfully treated medically
laxer		another word for twelve
		what you should do at the weekends

Buzz-phrase Generator

A buzz phrase is that sounds important and technical, but through overuse often loses its original power. Often organizations, academics, or anyone who wants to sound perhaps more intelligent than they are, or to show off their vast knowledge, or simply just to hide something negative behind a string of positive words, will use a buzz phrase.

The Canadian Defense Department devised a buzz-phrase generator to provide ‘instant expertise’ on defense matters and to impart ‘that proper ring of decisive, progressive, knowledgeable authority’.

To use the generator:

- choose any three digit number, e.g. 235
- take one word from each column corresponding to the numbers you have chosen
- this should give you an ‘authoritative’ phrase e.g. in the case of 235: *overall monitored programming*

	COLUMN A	COLUMN B	COLUMN C
1	integrated	management	options
2	<i>overall</i>	organisational	flexibility
3	systematised	<i>monitored</i>	capability
4	parallel	reciprocal	mobility
5	functional	digital	<i>programming</i>
6	responsive	logistical	concept
7	optimal	transitional	time-phase
8	synchronised	incremental	projection
9	compatible	third generation	hardware

Mathematical 1

There are two clocks: one loses an hour a day; the other has stopped altogether. Which one is more accurate?

Mathematical 2

An important horse race was about to start. The five jockeys were at the line up and a journalist asked them to make two predictions each about the outcome of the race.

Archie Arslie: Dodging Dastardly will win. I'll be second.

Bernie Barsteward: Dodging Dastardly will be second. I'll come fourth.

Crafty Charlie: I'll be third. Eddie Egghead will be last.

Dodging Dastardly: Crafty Charlie will win. I'll come in last.

Eddie Egghead: I'll be second and Dodging Dastardly will be third.

The race was held and it turned out that each jockey had made only one true prediction. None of them had got both their predictions right. So, in what order did the jockeys come in the race?

Mathematical 3

A train leaves Villetown at 12.00 at a steady 120 km an hour. One hour later, at 13.00, another train leaves Newcity at 80 km an hour. The distance between Villetown and Newcity is 1200 km. How far apart are the trains one hour before they pass each other?

Animal Farm

Combine a word from the first column with a word from the second column. Note that the word in the first column is not necessarily the first word in the combination.

ant	book
bull	boy
cock	doze
cow	heat
hen	inform
toad	skin
sheep	stool
worm	tail

Grammar Challenge 1

A very very superstitious man is driving his car in the middle of town. There are *a few/few/a little/little* people on the road because it is a public holiday. After *a few/few/a little/little* time, a black cat suddenly crosses the road *a few/few/a little/little* meters in front of him. The man drives on, he doesn't go left or right up a side street. Why?

Grammar Challenge 2

I have five letters and five addressed envelopes. If I *place/will place* the letters in the envelopes at random, what are the chances that only four letters *are/will be* in their correct envelopes?

Grammar Challenge 3

What number *gives/will give* the same result when it *is/will be* added to five as when it *is/will be* multiplied by five?

Grammar Challenge 4

Seven men arrive at a meeting, and *each/every* of them shakes hands once with *each/every* of the others. How many handshakes does that make?

Grammar Challenge 5

If you put a coin in an empty bottle and insert a cork into the neck of the bottle, how could you remove the coin without *taking/to take* the cork out or *breaking/to break* the bottle?

Idioms

Match the expression in column 1 with the related word(s) in column 2. The relationship between the two columns is not necessarily straightforward.

A near thing ...	Almost
How are things going?	Discuss
Poor thing.	Exact
She knows a thing or two about...	Experienced
She's got a thing about...	Life
That's quite another thing.	Obsessed
The thing is ...	Point
The very thing.	Sorry
We've got to talk things over.	Surprise
Well, of all things!	Totally different

Keys to Chapter 7

Funny Book Titles

Sea Birds by Al Batross (an albatross is a very large seabird)

Hypnotism by N. Tranced (entranced = when someone has cast a spell on you, when you are filled with wonder)

Philosophy for Beginners by Ivan I Dear (I have an idea)

Parachuting by Hugo First (you go first)

Robots by Anne Droid (android)

Word Ladder

TEA

SEA

SET

SOT (a chronic drinker)

HOT

Ambiguous Headlines

The bride wore a long white lace dress which fell to the floor. (it seems like the dress came off the bride, so that was left without the dress)

For those of you who have small children and don't know it we are now serving ice cream. (*don't know it* sounds like there are people who don't know that they have children)

When properly stewed, I really enjoy apricots. (*stewed* is a cooking term but also means completely drunk)

I plan to mow the lawn with my husband. (The wife and husband are planning to mow the lawn together, but it sounds like the wife is going to use her husband as a grass cutter)

You should never crumble your bread or roll in your soup. (*roll* refers to a type of bread, but it is also a verb meaning to turn oneself over and over)

Proverbs

Money doesn't grow on trees - You have to work in order to earn.

Necessity is the mother of invention - If you really need something you will be motivated to get it.

Never speak ill of the dead - When someone is no longer alive, they deserve some respect.

Once bitten, twice shy - If something goes wrong one time then you will think twice before doing the same thing again.

One man's meat is another man's poison - What may be good for you may be unsuitable for someone else.

Practice what you preach - You should act in accordance with the advice that you give to others

Proof of the pudding is in the eating - The real value of something can be judged only by practical experience and not from appearance.

Put your money where your mouth is - Actively do what you said you would do.

Talk of the devil - Said when a person appears just when you are talking about them

The grass is always greener (on the other side of the fence) - Another place or scenario always seems better than your current situation.

Rhyming Words

These words do not rhyme: come/home, here/there, mind/wind (i.e. windy, however the irregular verb to *wind* - *wound* - *wound* is pronounced the same as *mind*)

Contractions

lemme	<i>let me</i>
lotta	<i>a lot of</i>
mighta	<i>might have</i>
outta	<i>out of</i>
shaddup/	<i>shut up</i>
shadap	
shoulda	<i>should have</i>
sorta	<i>sort of</i>
soundsa	<i>it sounds like a</i>
sup, wazzup	<i>what's up</i>
wanna	<i>want to</i>
watcha,	<i>what are you, what do</i>
wotcha	<i>you</i>
wouldna	<i>would not</i>

Riddles

What bone will a dog never eat? A trombone. (A trombone is a musical instrument, not a type of bone)

What can you hold without ever touching it? A conversation. (The associated verb with ‘conversation’ is *hold*)

What did one magnet say to the other? I find you very attractive. (Magnets are designed to attract opposites)

What did the carpet say to the floor? Don’t move, I’ve got you covered. (*to have something covered* also means to have something within the target of a gun)

What do you call a calf after it’s six months old? Seven months old.

What do you call a song sung in an automobile? A cartoon. (a car tune)

What do you call a country where everyone has to drive a red car? A red carnation. (a red-car nation)

What would the country be called if everyone in it lived in their cars? An incarnation (an in-car nation).

What’s round and bad-tempered? A vicious circle. (*vicious* also means angry)

Where do fortune tellers dance? At the crystal ball. (a *ball* is a formal dance event, a *crystal ball* is what fortune tellers look in to in order to be able to predict the future)

Anagrams

The eyes = They see
The centenarians = I can hear ten “tens”
The check is in the mail = Claim “Heck, I sent it (heh)”
The countryside = No city dust here
The earthquakes = That queer shake
The meaning of life = The fine game of nil
The Morse code = Here come dots
Statue of Liberty = Built to stay free

Logical Thinking

The daughter ran away with the now enriched peasant boy. (Based on a story told in *The Mechanism of Mind* by Edward de Bono, published by J Cape)

Anagrams

solve
coins
tried
rated
trout
waist
cured
dozen
relax

Mathematical 1

The clock which has stopped is more accurate as it will tell the correct time twice a day, whereas the other one will only be right every 12 days.

Mathematical 2

Crafty Charlie, Archie Arslic, Dodging Dastardly, Bernie Barsteward, Eddie Egghead

Mathematical 3

The trains approach each other at their combined speeds ($120 + 80 = 200$ km an hour). So, one hour before they pass they are 200 km apart.

Animal Farm

informant, bulldoze, cocktail, cowboy, heathen, toadstool, sheepskin, bookworm

Grammar Challenge 1

A very very superstitious man is driving his car in the middle of town. There are *few* people on the road because it is a public holiday. After *a little* time black cat suddenly crosses the road *a few* meters in front of him. The man drives on, he doesn't go left or right up a side street. Why?

He didn't see the cat.

Grammar Challenge 2

I have five letters and five addressed envelopes. If I *placet* the letters in the envelopes at random, what are the chances that only four letters *will be* in their correct envelopes?

Nil. If four are correct, all five must be.

Grammar Challenge 3

What number *gives* the same result when it *is* added to five as when it *is* multiplied by five?

One and a quarter.

Grammar Challenge 4

Seven men arrive at a meeting, and *each* of them shakes hands once with *each* of the others. How many handshakes does that make?

21.

Grammar Challenge 5

If you put a coin in an empty bottle and insert a cork into the neck of the bottle, how could you remove the coin without *taking* the cork out or *breaking* the bottle?

Push the cork into the bottle and shake the coin out.

Idioms

A near thing ... Almost (It was a near thing ... we almost had an accident)

How are things going? Life (How is life treating you at the moment?)

Poor thing. Sorry (Poor thing - he failed his driving test for the third time, I feel sorry for him)

She knows a thing or two about... Experienced (She is very experienced in this area)

She's got a thing about... Obsessed (She has got a thing about tidiness)

That's quite another thing. Totally different (Seeing is quite a different thing from believing)

The thing is ... Point (The thing is it's more difficult than you think - My point is that it is ...)

The very thing. Exact (That's the very thing I was looking for = That's exactly what I was ...)

We've got to talk things over. Discuss

Well, of all things! Surprise (She's won the lottery again! Well, of all things!)

Chapter 8

Language exists as songs, riddles, or epics that are chanted

Riddles

Match the questions (1-10) with the answers (a-j)

1. The more you take away from it the larger it becomes, the more you add to it the smaller it becomes? What is it?
 2. What is put on a table, cut, but never eaten?
 3. What holds water yet is full of holes?
 4. What word is spelled wrong in every dictionary?
 5. What goes up and down the stairs without moving?
 6. What is that you want, but when you have it you don't know that you have it?
 7. What was the largest island before Australia was discovered?
 8. What goes through all the house without touching a thing?
 9. What turns everything round but never moves?
 10. What is very light but can never be lifted?
-
- a) A bubble
 - b) A hole
 - c) A loud voice
 - d) A mirror
 - e) A pack of cards
 - f) A rug
 - g) A sponge
 - h) Australia
 - i) Sleep
 - j) Wrong

Short Forms

Do you know what the full form of the following words is? e.g. ad = advert = advertisement, brill = brilliant

convo	info	sec
cred	min	tel
def	mos def	typo
fav	prob	uni

Acronyms

A quick way of writing is to use acronyms, where each letter stands for a word. Match the acronyms with their meanings.

hth	just kidding
hwru	hope this helps
imho	sense of humor failure
jk	with regard to/with respect to
lol	laughing out loud
sohf	how are you?
tafn	in my humble opinion
tgif	thank god it's Friday
wrt	what you see is what you get
wysiwyg	that's all for now

Grammar Challenge

Underline the correct form.

A man *drove/was driving* his car when one of the tires *punctured/was puncturing*. He *got/was getting* out of his car and while he *changed/was changing* one of the wheels, all five of the nuts *fell/were falling* down a drain. He *sat/was sitting* there thinking about what he was going to do when his young niece *arrived/was arriving* on her bicycle. She *stopped/was stopping* and asked him why he *sat/was sitting* at the side of the road doing nothing. He *explained/was explaining* to her what had happened. She said: “I am not really sure what the problem is. Just take one nut from each of the other three wheels, and put them on the wheel that *had/was having* the puncture. That should be enough to get you to the next garage”.

Rhyming Pairs

These pairs of words look as if they should rhyme, but not many of them do. Which ones do rhyme?

head	read
beard	heard
bone	done
foot	boot
nose	lose
face	pace
throat	goat
voice	choice
hair	chair
tooth	smooth

Funny Book Titles

Try to understand why the author of the book is appropriate to the title/topic of the book.

- The Housing Problem by Rufus Quick
- House Construction by Bill Jerome Holme
- I Need Insurance by Justin Case
- Teach Me! by I. Wanda No
- More for Your Money by Max Amize

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters of the words in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
grease		to be of the same opinion
ideals		_____ and gentlemen
nailed		negating the probably true facts
wander		made aware of a danger
teaser		consumers of food
assume		has fun
buries		comparative of 'busy'
caress		frightens
cashed		quickly following someone
direct		the opposite of debit

Mathematical 1

A tramp makes his own cigarettes by collecting cigarette ends. He needs seven cigarette ends to make one cigarette. How many cigarettes can he make from 49 ends?

Mathematical 2

On her first birthday she turned eight. How could this be?

Mathematical 3

A cat and a half eat a rat and a half in an hour and a half. How long will it take ten cats to eat 10 rats?

Mathematical 4

Adam and Bill are farmers. Adam says to Bill: “If you give me 100 of your sheep, I’ll have twice as many sheep as you.” Bill says: “No, give me 100 of your sheep, then we’ll have the same amount.” Explain.

Mathematical 5

Superman always goes around with a load of chewing gum in his pockets. The other day he said to Superwoman: “If I take a piece of gum from my left trouser pocket and put it in the right one, I’ll have the same number of pieces in each. But if I take a piece from the right pocket and put it in the left, I’ll have twice as many pieces in the left pocket as in the right”. How many pieces of gum must Superman have in (a) his left pocket, and (b) in his right pocket?

Mathematical 6

A bar of chocolate is three pieces wide by eight pieces long. If you are not allowed to double up pieces, what is the minimum number of breaks you will have to make to separate them all.

Palindromes

The five sentences below are all palindromes, i.e. sentences that can be read letter-by-letter either starting at the beginning or starting from the end. The only problem is that in each case one or more extra words have been inserted. Can you find the extra word(s)? (e.g. *Madam I'm not Adam* = in this case *not* is the extra word)

Sums are not set as a test on Erasmus.

Was it Eliot’s toilet I saw?

Was it a car or *it* a cat that I saw?

Yawn a more Roman way.

Ten animals I slam in a net.

Proverbs

Match the proverbs (1-10) with their explanations (a-j).

1. There are plenty of other fish in the sea
 2. There's a time and a place for everything
 3. There's no smoke without fire
 4. There's no time like the present
 5. There's no use crying over spilled/spilt milk
 6. Third time lucky
 7. (This is) just what the doctor ordered
 8. Time is a great healer
 9. Time is money
 10. To kill two birds with one stone
-
- a) If there are rumors of something then there is probably a reason for the rumors.
 - b) Now is the best time to do something.
 - c) Pain or sorrow will be felt less strongly as time passes.
 - d) Said when someone is **behaving** in a way that you do not **think** is **suitable** for the **situation** they are in.
 - e) Something that is good for someone to have or to do.
 - f) The third time that you try something you will be successful.
 - g) There are many potential substitutes in the world.
 - h) There is no point in worrying or complaining about something that you cannot change.
 - i) Time is valuable and wasting time is like wasting money.
 - j) To accomplish two goals with one action.

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

Said Queen Isabella of Spain,
 “I like it just now and again;
 But I wish to explain
 That by ‘Now and again’
 I mean *now* and *again* and *again*.

There was an old man at the Cape
 Who made himself garments of crape;
 When asked “Will they tear?
 He replied “Here and there
 But they keep such a beautiful shape”.

There was a young girl of Majorca
 Whose aunt was a very fast walker;
 She walked sixty miles
 And leaped fifteen stiles
 Which astonished that girl of Majorca.

Anagrams

Match a word from the first column with its anagram in the second column.

adverts	cleared
close-up	couples
declared	despair
stained	eastern
hardest	elapsed
pleased	instead
praised	premise
dignity	starved
nearest	tidying
empires	trashed

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time. For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert LIVE into DEAD. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

LIVE

LIND (not a recognized word, but used by Carroll in any case)

DEAD

Keys to Chapter 8

Riddles

1. The more you take away from it the larger it becomes, the more you add to it the smaller it becomes? What is it? *A hole.*
2. What is put on a table, cut, but never eaten? *A pack of cards*
3. What holds water yet is full of holes? *A sponge*
4. What word is spelled wrong in every dictionary? *Wrong*
5. What goes up and down the stairs without moving? *A rug*
6. What is that you want, but when you have it you don't know that you have it? *Sleep.*
7. What was the largest island before Australia was discovered? *Australia.*
8. What goes through all the house without touching a thing? *A loud voice.*
9. What turns everything round but never moves? *A mirror.*
10. What is very light but can never be lifted? *A bubble.*

Short Forms

convo = *conversation*, cred = *credibility*, def = *definitely*, fav = *favorite*, info = *information*, min = *minute*, mos def = *most definitely*, prob = *problem*, sec = *second*, tel = *telephone*, typo = *typography mistake*, uni = *university*

Acronyms

hth = *hope this helps*

hwru = *how are you?*

imho = *in my humble opinion*

jk = *just kidding*

lol = *laughing out loud*

sohf = *sense of humor failure*

tafn = *that's all for now*

tgif = *thank god it's Friday*

wrt = *with regard to/with respect to*

wysiwyg = *what you see is what you get*

Grammar Challenge

A man *was driving* his car when one of the tires *punctured*. He *got* out of his car and while he *was changing* one of the wheels, all five of the nuts *fell* down a drain. He *sat/was sitting* there thinking about what he was going to do when his young niece *arrived* on her bicycle. She *stopped* and asked him why he *was sitting* at the side of the road doing nothing. He *explained* to her what had happened. She said: “I am not really sure what the problem is. Just take one nut from each of the other three wheels, and put them on the wheel that *had* the puncture. That should be enough to get you to the next garage.”

Rhyming Pairs

head rhymes with *read* when *read* is the past tense of *to read*

Other pairs that rhyme are: face/pace, throat/goat, voice/choice, hair/chair

Funny Book Titles

The Housing Problem by Rufus Quick (roof house quick)

House Construction by Bill Jerome Holme (build your own home)

I Need Insurance by Justin Case (just in case)

Teach Me! by I. Wanda No (I want to know)

More for Your Money by Max Amize (maximize)

Anagrams

agrees

ladies

denial

warned

eaters

amuses

busier

scares

chased

credit

Mathematical 1

Eight. He makes seven to start with, smokes them, and then makes the eighth from their ends.

Mathematical 2

She was born on February 29, 1896. Since only centuries divisible by 400 are leap years, the year 1900 was not a leap year. Thus, the next February 29th was in 1904, when she turned eight.

Mathematical 3

An hour and a half.

Mathematical 4

$$a + 100 = 2(b - 100)$$

$$b + 100 = a - 100$$

$$a = b + 200$$

$$b + 200 + 100 = 2b - 200$$

$$b = 500$$

$$500 + 100 = a - 100$$

$$a = 700$$

Mathematical 5

7, 5

Mathematical 6

Palindromes

Sums are not *ever* set as a test on Erasmus.

Was it *Thomas* Eliot's toilet I saw?

Was it a car or *was it* a cat that I saw?

Yawn a *much* more Roman way.

Ten animals *did* I slam in a net.

Proverbs

There are plenty of other fish in the sea There are many potential substitutes in the world.

There's a time and a place for everything Said when someone is **behaving** in a way that you do not **think** is **suitable** for the **situation** they are in

There's no smoke without fire If there are rumors or signs of something then there is probably a reason for the rumors

There's no time like the present Now is the best time to do something

There's no use crying over spilled/spilt milk There is no point in worrying or complaining about something that you cannot change

Third time lucky The third time that you try something you will be successful

(This is) just what the doctor ordered Something that is good for someone to have or to do

Time is a great healer Pain or sorrow will be less strongly felt as time passes

Time is money Time is valuable and wasting time is like wasting money

To kill two birds with one stone To accomplish two goals with one action

Anagrams

adverts/starved
close-up/couples
declared/cleared
stained/instead
hardest/trashed
pleased/elapsed
praised/despair
dignity/tidying
nearest/eastern
empires/premise

Word Ladder

LIVE

LINE

LIND (not a recognized word, but used by Carroll in any case)

LEND

LEAD

DEAD

Chapter 9

Life is more fun if you play games

Irregular Verbs

How many irregular verbs can you get out of these letters?

R F T

A W S

E I L

Each letter can be used more than once in the same verb.

Score 14: genius

10-13: Excellent

6-9: Intermediate

1-5: low

Anagrams 1

Can you work out the connection between the first phrase/word and the second phrase/word?

- A divorce suit - I advise court
- The eyes - they see
- Ignorant - no rating
- Lionesses - noiseless
- Our destiny - It's your end
- This ear - it hears
- Violet - love it

Unusual Paragraph

This is a most unusual paragraph. How quickly can you find out what is so unusual about it? It looks so ordinary you'd think nothing was wrong with it – and in fact, nothing is wrong with it. It is unusual though. Why? Study it, think about it, and you may find out. Try to do it without coaching. If you work at it for a bit it will dawn on you. So jump to it and try your skill at figuring it out. Good luck – don't blow your cool!

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time.

For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert MINE into COAL. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

MINE

MIST (a thin fog with condensation near the ground)

MOAT (ditch dug as a fortification and usually filled with water)

COAL

Riddles

Match the questions (1-10) with the answers (a-j).

1. It walks on four legs in the morning, two legs at noon and three legs in the evening. What is it?
 2. I am the beginning of the end, and the end of time and space. I am essential to creation, and I surround every place. What am I?
 3. What always runs but never walks, often murmurs, never talks, has a bed but never sleeps, has a mouth but never eats?
 4. I never was. I am always to be. No one ever saw me, nor ever will. What am I?
 5. At night they come without being fetched. By day they are lost without being stolen. What are they?
 6. What is in seasons, seconds, centuries and minutes but not in decades, years or days?
 7. The one who makes it, sells it. The one who buys it, never uses it. The one that uses it never knows that he's using it. What is it?
 8. The more you have of it, the less you see. What is it?
 9. Three women went walking under one umbrella, but none of them got wet. Why?
 10. What can you hear but not touch or see?
- a) A coffin
b) A river.
c) Darkness
d) It wasn't raining.
e) Man
f) The letter 'n'.
g) The letter e. End, timE, spacE, Every placE
h) The stars.
i) Tomorrow or the future.
j) Your voice.

Tongue Twisters

Practise reading the tongue twister aloud. Then see if you can memorize and say it quickly without getting your tongue tied!

truly rural
 red lorry, yellow lorry
 strange strategic statistics
 the minx mixed a medical mixture
 the city sweep shook his sooty sheet in the city street

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters of the words in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
ageism		pictures
sexist		is
longed		made of gold
height		a measurement of altitude
iceman		where you go to watch a movie
nicest		a small but very visible form of animal life
slight		at night without them you can't see much
marine		not go away
seldom		the top ones get paid a lot of money
neural		not reflecting reality

Proverbs

Insert the words from the box into these proverbs.

A bird in hand is _____ two in the bush.

It's better to be born _____ than to be born rich.

The end justifies the _____ .

Every man is his own worst _____ .

Forbidden _____ is sweetest.

A leopard cannot _____ its spots.

A little learning is a dangerous _____ .

Sticks and stones may break my _____ , but words will never hurt me.

There's no pleasure without _____ .

Tomorrow is another _____ .

bones, change, day, enemy, fruit, lucky, means, pain, thing, worth

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

There was a young lady of Jarrow
Whose mouth was exceedingly
narrow,
Though times without number
She chewed a cucumber
She never could manage a marrow.

There was a young man from Peru,
Who dreamt he was eating his shoe,
He woke in the night
In a terrible fright
And found it was perfectly true.

Mathematical 1

A man went to the hardware store to buy items for his house.

1 would cost \$.25

12 would cost \$.50

122 would cost \$.75

When he left the store he had spent \$.75, what did he buy?

Mathematical 2

Three men are blindfolded and a red or blue cross chalked on the forehead of each. As soon as the blindfold is removed, any of the three who sees a red cross on the forehead of one of the others must raise his right hand. From that, it is possible for each man to declare the color of his own cross. How?

Mathematical 3

When the Brooklyn Breakdancers do a routine in which they perform in threes, one member has to sit and watch. When they dance in fours, two watch; in fives, three watch; and in sixes, four watch. How many members of the team are there?

Mathematical 4

Richard Smith had three sons and each of these three sons had three sons too. How many men were there altogether? How many pairs of grandfathers and grandsons? How many pairs of brothers?

Mathematical 5

Mark is three times as old as Adrian. But in four years' time, he'll only be twice as old. How old is Mark now?

Txt mssg

Match the forms in the first column with their meanings in the second column.

- | | |
|-------------|--------------------------|
| 1. 2nite | a) angry |
| 2. im2gud4u | b) be back soon |
| 3. bbs | c) because |
| 4. fyi | d) definitely |
| 5. gf | e) football |
| 6. cya | f) for your information |
| 7. gonna | g) girlfriend |
| 8. wotcha | h) going to |
| 9. footie | i) I'm too good for you, |
| 10. def | j) love |
| 11. luv | k) please |
| 12. pls | l) sad |
| 13. cuz | m) see you, |
| 14. :-ll | n) tonight |
| 15. :-(| o) what are you |

Grammar Challenges

Underline the correct form.

1. An archeologist claims *he found/to have found/to find* some gold coins dated 46 B.C. Do you believe him?
2. Divide 30 *by/for* 1/2 and add 10. What is the answer?
3. How can you take 1 *by/from* 19 and leave 20?
4. An assistant in a butcher's shop is *1.80 m tall/is tall 1.80 m*. What does he weigh?
5. How much soil is there in a hole in the ground that's *two meters wide/wide two meters, three meters long/long three meters*, and *four meters deep/deep four meters*?

Play Your Cards Right ...

Match the words in the first column with the explanation in the second column.

a pack/deck/stack	a suit which wins over others irrespective of how high those other cards are
a pair	the highest card of a suit normally wins one of these
a run	often the highest card of a suit, the two being the lowest
a trick	the king, the queen and the jack (also known as the knave)
a trump	a full one of these has 52 cards
ace	two cards of the same number
court cards	a numerical series of cards, e.g. eight, nine, ten, jack, queen
dealer	the person who gives out the cards
hand	a wild card which can generally substitute any other card
joker	to play a card of the same suit as the previous player
suits	to mix the cards together before dealing
to bid	to split the pack into two stacks before dealing
to cut	spades, hearts, diamonds, clubs
to deal	to play the first card
to follow suit	the cards you hold
to lead	to declare how many tricks you think you will win
to shuffle	to give the cards to each player at the beginning of the game

Keys to Chapter 9

Irregular Verbs

arise (arose, arisen)

eat (ate, eaten)

fall (fell, fallen)

feel (felt, felt)

lie (lay, lay)

rise (rose, risen)

see (saw, see)

sell (sold, sold)

sew (sewed, sewn)

sit (sat, sat)

steal (stole, stolen)

tear (tore, torn)

wear (wore, worn)

write (wrote, written)

Anagrams

A divorce suit - I advise court (a divorce suit is between a married couple who no longer wish to be married, so to become unmarried they need to go to court)

The eyes - they see

Ignorant - no rating (*no rating* means *no classification* because the person knows nothing)

Lionesses - noiseless (lions make no noise when catching their prey)

Our destiny - It's your end (*end* in this case means the point/meaning of the course you follow in life; *end* also means 'termination')

This ear - it hears

Violet - love it (a violet is a beautiful flower)

Unusual Paragraph

The most common letter in the English language, the letter e, is not found in this paragraph.

Word Ladder

MINE

MINT

MIST (a thin fog with condensation near the ground)

MOST

MOAT (ditch dug as a fortification and usually filled with water)

COAT

COAL

Riddles

It walks on four legs in the morning, two legs at noon and three legs in the evening. What is it? *Man*

I am the beginning of the end, and the end of time and space. I am essential to creation, and I surround every place. What am I? *The letter e. End, time, space, Every place*

What always runs but never walks, often murmurs, never talks, has a bed but never sleeps, has a mouth but never eats? *A river*.

I never was. I am always to be. No one ever saw me, nor ever will. *Tomorrow or the future*.

At night they come without being fetched. By day they are lost without being stolen. What are they? *The stars*.

What is in seasons, seconds, centuries and minutes but not in decades, years or days? *The letter 'n'*.

The one who makes it, sells it. The one who buys it, never uses it. The one that uses it never knows that he's using it. What is it? *A coffin*

The more you have of it, the less you see. What is it? *Darkness*

Three women went walking under one umbrella, but none of them got wet. Why? *It wasn't raining*.

What can you hear but not touch or see? *Your voice*.

Anagrams

images
exists
golden
eighth
cinema
insect
lights
remain
models
unreal

Proverbs

A bird in hand is *worth* two in the bush.
It's better to be born *lucky* than to be born rich.
The end justifies the *means*.
Every man is his own worst *enemy*.
Forbidden *fruit* is sweetest.
A leopard cannot *change* its spots.
A little learning is a dangerous *thing*.
Sticks and stones may break my *bones*, but words will never hurt me.
There's no pleasure without *pain*.
Tomorrow is another *day*.

Mathematical 1

House numbers

Mathematical 2

A man must raise his hand ONLY if he sees a RED cross chalked on the forehead of ONE of the other two. So, if no hands are raised, a man can tell whether he is red or blue by observing the markings of the other two. Supposing A and B raise their hands but not C. This means that A and B see red on ONE of the others, and as they see that C is blue, A and B know themselves to be red. C doesn't raise his hand because he can see red on BOTH A and B, and as they have raised their hands C know he must be blue. (This solution works for any combination of colors).

Mathematical 3

58

Mathematical 4

13, 9, 12

Mathematical 5

2

Txt mssg

1) tonight, 2) I'm too good for you, 3) be back soon, 4) for your information [also commonly used in a more formal context], 5) girlfriend, 6) see you, 7) going to 8) what are you 9) football 10) definitely 11) love 12) please [also commonly used in a more formal context], 13) because, 14) angry, 15) sad

[A variation of this exercise appeared in Chapter 13 of English for Interacting on Campus, Springer]

Smileys

:")	Embarrassed
:-)	Happy
:0	Hungry
:-*	Kiss
:-D	Laughing
:-S	Makes no sense
8-O	Oh my god!
:(-	Sad
:-D	Side splitting laughter
:-O	Surprised/shocked
:-\	Undecided
;:-)	Winking

Grammar Challenges

1. An archeologist claims *he found/to have found* some gold coins dated 46 B.C. Do you believe him?
In 46 B.C., they wouldn't have known how many years before Christ it was.
2. Divide 30 by 1/2 and add 10. What is the answer?
70. (30 divided by 2 is 15, but 30 divided by 1/2 is 60.)
3. How can you take 1 from 19 and leave 20?
When the numbers are expressed in Roman numerals, this works out: If you take I from XIX, you are left with XX.
4. An assistant in a butcher's shop is *1.80 m tall*. What does he weigh?
Meat.
5. How much soil is there in a hole in the ground that's *two meters wide three meters long/long three meters*, and *four meters deep*?
None.

Play your cards right ...

a pack/deck/stack	a full one of these has 52 cards
a pair	two cards of the same number
a run	a numerical series of cards, e.g. eight, nine, ten, jack, queen
a trick	the highest card of a suit normally wins one of these
a trump	a suit which wins over others irrespective of how high those other cards are
ace	often the highest card of a suit, the two being the lowest
court cards	the king, the queen and the jack (also known as the knave)
dealer	the person who gives out the cards
hand	the cards you hold
joker	a wild card which can generally substitute any other card
suits	spades, hearts, diamonds, clubs
to bid	to declare how many tricks you think you will win
to cut	to split the pack into two stacks before dealing
to deal	to give the cards to each player at the beginning of the game
to follow suit	to play a card of the same suit as the previous player
to lead	to play the first card
to shuffle	to mix the cards together before dealing

Chapter 10

Words outlive people, institutions, civilizations

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time.

For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert FOUR into FIVE. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

FOUR

_____ (an act that violates of the rules of a sport)

_____ (an idiot)

_____ (a fortified defensive structure)

FORE (in a forward position)

FIVE

Smileys

Match the smileys (i.e. a group of keyboard characters that taken on a facial expression) with their meanings.

:")	Sad
:-)	Hungry
:0	Embarrassed
:-*	Happy
:-D	Side splitting laughter
:-S	Kiss
:-()	Laughing
:-D	Makes no sense
:-O	Winking
:-\	Surprised/shocked
;-)	Undecided

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

There was a young man from Bagdad
 An inquisitive sort of a lad
 Who said “I will see
 If a sting has a bee”
 And very soon found that it had.

There was an old man of
 Blackheath,
 Who sat on his set of false teeth,
 Said he with a start
 “Oh Lord bless my heart,
 I’ve bitten myself underneath”.

Grammar Challenge

Underline the correct form in these riddles.

1. What *stays/does stay* at the bottom of the sea and shakes? A nervous wreck.
2. Who *owns/does own* all the dairy cows in the Middle East? The Milk Sheik.
3. Why *elephants have/do elephants have* grey trunks? They all belong to the same swimming club.
4. How *an Inuit builds/does an Inuit build* his house? Igloos it together.
5. What *goes/does go* round the house and in the house but never touches the house? The sun.
6. What *it is/is it* that you can keep after giving it to someone else? Your word
7. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What *they are/are they*? Footsteps.
8. Who *spends/does spend* the day at the window, goes to the table for meals and hides at night? A fly.
9. It's been around for millions of years, but it's no more than a month old. What *it is/is it*? The moon.
10. What *belongs/does belong* to you but others use it more than you do? Your name.

Word Combinations

Combine a word from the first column with a word from the second column.

air	ball
country	bow
earth	fall
light	house
rain	port
sea	quake
sky	rise
snow	scraper
sun	sick
water	side

Proverbs

Insert the words from the box into spaces in these proverbs,

All is fair in _____ and war.

All that glitters is not _____ .

A _____ workman always blames his tools.

The exception that proves the _____ .

God helps _____ who help themselves.

Let sleeping _____ die.

There's no place like _____ .

There's no _____ without fire.

When the _____ is away the mice will play.

Why keep a _____ and bark yourself?

bad, cat, dog, dogs, gold, home, love, rule, smoke, those

Illogical?

Can you explain why the following are nonsense?

He murdered his parents and then pleaded for mercy because he was an orphan.

Her feet are so big that she has to put her skirt on over her head.

She hasn't had any children and she's going to make sure her mother doesn't either.

She's still writing books. Autobiographical mainly.

We saw an iceberg that had completely melted.

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters of the words in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
arches		What Google does
arrest		The most uncommon
course		Origin
danger		Where flowers and plants grow
debits		A very small flat
design		With a signature
erects		What you shouldn't tell anyone else
iciest		Bigger than towns
rested		A place where there is a lot of sand and very little water
sailed		____ and gentlemen

Logical 1

Jack gave John the following challenge: “If you sit down in that chair, I bet I can make you get out of it before I run around the chair three times,” he said.

“That’s not fair,” John said. “You’ll just prick me with a pin or something.”

“No,” Jack said. “I won’t touch you, either directly or with any object. If you get out of the chair, it’ll be by your own choice.”

John thought and accepted the challenge but Jack won the bet. How did he do it?

Logical 2

A rapper and his sister were out one morning shopping. The rapper suddenly pointed across the road to a boy and said: “That boy is my nephew”.

To which his sister replied: “Well, he isn’t my nephew.”

Well , who was he?

Logical 3

To get into a top secret arm training camp, you have to say the password to the guard. There is a certain system that you must always follow:

If the guard says 1, 2, 6 or 10, you say ‘three’.

If he says 4, 5 or 9, you say ‘four’.

If he says 3, 7 or 8 you must say ‘five’.

and if he says 11 or 12 you must say ‘six’.

What do you have to say if he says 13?

Rhyming Forms

The words below may look very strange but they are actually used in every day conversation. Can you match the word (1-10) with its meaning (a-j)?

1. flower power
 2. handy andy
 3. heebie jeebies
 4. pub grub
 5. riff raff
 6. sin bin
 7. super duper
 8. topsy turvy
 9. willy nilly
 10. wishy washy
-
- a) hippy peace movement
 - b) good with manual work
 - c) fear
 - d) food served in bars
 - e) term of abuse used by upper and middle classes to describe undesirable people
 - f) a box or bench to which offending players in a sports contest can be sent for a period as a penalty , especially in ice hockey.
 - g) very good
 - h) upside down
 - i) whether one likes it or not
 - j) feeble character or idea

Riddles

Insert the words in the box into the blank spaces.

Where are ____ usually crowned?

On the head.

If two is company and three is a crowd, what are ____ and five?

Nine.

What ____ bigger the more you contract it?

Debt.

What is it that no one wishes to have, yet no one wishes to lose?

A ____ head.

What is that you must ____ after giving it to someone else?

Your word.

Captain Cook made three voyages around the world and was killed on one of them?
Which one?

The ____ one.

A woman had ____ children and half of them were boys. How could that be?

The other half were boys too.

A duck was swimming in a pond and a dog was sitting on its tail. How could that be?

The dog was on the ____ , sitting on its own tail.

What teacher wears the biggest hat?

The one with the biggest ____ .

What always happens at the end of a ____ spell?

It rains.

bald, dry, five, four, grows, head, keep, kings, last, shore

Idioms

Match the idioms in the first column with their explanations in the second column.

that was a bit below the belt	strong criticism to shock someone into positive action
be too big for one's boots at the drop of a hat	what you said was unfair/sarcastic/nasty think oneself very important
I'll eat my hat	envious
a kick in the pants	only interested in personal (monetary) gain
line one's own pockets	stay calm/cool
keep your shirt on	let everyone see your emotions
wear one's heart on one's sleeve	immediately and willingly
I wish I were in your shoes	make more effort
pull one's socks up	convinced that something won't happen

Add an -e.

If you add an e to the end most of the words below this will produce another word.
But not in all cases - which?

hum
not
rat
rip
scar
set
star
them
two
win

Keys to Chapter 10

Word Ladder

FOUR

FOUL (an act that violates of the rules of a sport)

FOOL (an idiot)

FOOT

FORT (a fortified defensive structure)

FORE (in a forward position)

FIRE

FIVE

Smileys

Match the smileys (i.e. a group of keyboard characters that taken on a facial expression) with their meanings.

:")	Embarrassed
:-)	Happy
:0	Hungry
:-*	Kiss
:-D	Laughing
:-S	Makes no sense
:-("	Sad
:-D	Side splitting laughter
:-O	Surprised/shocked
:-\\	Undecided
;)	Winking

Grammar Challenge

Underline the correct form in these riddles.

1. What *stays* at the bottom of the sea and shakes? A nervous wreck.
[wreck = a ship that has broken up; *a nervous wreck*: a person who is emotionally exhausted]
2. Who *owns* all the dairy cows in the Middle East? The Milk Sheik.
3. Why *do* elephants have grey trunks? They all belong to the same swimming club.
4. How *does an Inuit build* his house? Igloos it together. [Igloos = he glues]
5. What *goes* round the house and in the house but never touches the house?
The sun.
6. What *is it* that you can keep after giving it to someone else? Your word
7. The more you take, the more you leave behind. What *are they*? Footsteps.
8. Who *spends* the day at the window, goes to the table for meals and hides at night? A fly.
9. It's been around for millions of years, but it's no more than a month old.
What *is it*? The moon.
10. What *belongs* to you but others use it more than you do? Your name.

Word Combinations

airport
countryside
earthquake
lighthouse
rainbow
seasick
snowball
sunrise
waterfall

Proverbs

All is fair in *love* and war.
All that glitters is not *gold*.
A *bad* workman always blames his tools.
The exception that proves the *rule*.
God helps *those* who help themselves.
Let sleeping *dogs* die.
There's no place like *home*.
There's no *smoke* without fire.
When the *cat* is away the mice will play.
Why keep a *dog* and bark yourself?

Illogical?

He murdered his parents and then pleaded for mercy because he was an orphan. *He cannot claim to be an orphan (someone who has lost both parents) if he killed them himself.*

Her feet are so big that she has to put her skirt on over her head. *Being able to put on a skirt and the size of one's feet have no relation.*

She hasn't had any children and she's going to make sure her mother doesn't either. *She is the child of her mother.*

She's still writing books. Autobiographical mainly. *An autobiography is book written by an author regarding the same author's life. Generally an author will only write one autobiography.*

We saw an iceberg that had completely melted. *If it is completed melted it is no longer an iceberg.*

Anagrams

search
rarest
source
garden
secret
bedsit
signed
cities
desert
ladies

Logical 1

John sat down in the chair. Jack ran around it twice, then said, “I’ll be back in a week to run the third time around!”

Logical 2

Her son.

Logical 3

8 (it relates to the number of letters in the number)

Rhyming Forms

flower power *hippy peace movement*

handy andy *good with manual work*

heebie jeebies *fear*

pub grub *food served in bars*

riff raff *term of abuse used by upper and middle classes to describe undesirable people*

sin bin *a box or bench to which offending players can be sent for a period as a penalty during a game, especially in ice hockey*

super duper *very good*

topsy turvy *upside down*

willy nilly *whether one likes it or not*

wishy washy *feeble character or idea*

Riddles

Where are *kings* usually crowned? On the head.

If two is company and three is a crowd, what are *four* and five? Nine.

What *grows* bigger the more you contract it? Debt.

What is it that no one wishes to have, yet no one wishes to lose? A *bald* head.

What is that you must *keep* after giving it to someone else? Your word.

Captain Cook made three voyages around the world and was killed on one of them? Which one? The *last* one.

A woman had *five* children and half of them were boys. How could that be? The other half were boys too.

A duck was swimming in a pond and a dog was sitting on its tail. How could that be? The dog was on the *shore*, sitting on its own tail.

What teacher wears the biggest hat? The one with the biggest *head*.

What always happens at the end of a *dry* spell? It rains.

Idioms

that was a bit below the belt *what you said was unfair/sarcastic/nasty*

be too big for one's boots *think oneself very important*

at the drop of a hat *immediately and willingly*

I'll eat my hat *convinced that something won't happen*

a kick in the pants *strong criticism to shock someone into positive action*

line one's own pockets *only interested in personal (monetary) gain*
keep your shirt on *stay calm/cool*
wear one's heart on one's sleeve *let everyone see your emotions*
I wish I were in your shoes *envious*
pull one's socks up *make more effort*

Add an -e.

hum
not, note
rat, rate
rip, ripe
scar, scare
set
star, stare
them, theme
two
win, wine

Chapter 11

Have fun and play as many word games as possible

Grammar Challenge 1

A man who was the owner of a winery died. In his will, he *choose/chose* to leave 21 barrels (*showed/shown* in the figure below) between his three sons. Seven of the barrels are filled with wine, seven are half full, and seven are empty. However he *set/setted* a series of rules: the wine and barrels must be *split/splitted* so that each son has the same number of full barrels, the same number of half-full barrels, and the same number of empty barrels. Note that there are no measuring devices. How can the barrels and wine be evenly divided?

Grammar Challenge 2

You have three boxes of fruit. One *contains/is contained* just apples, another just oranges, and the other both oranges and apples. Each box *labels/is labeled*. One says "apples," one says "oranges," and one says "apples and oranges." However, it *knows/is known* that none of the boxes *label/are labeled* correctly. How *can you label the boxes/can the boxes be labeled* correctly if you *only allow/are only allowed* to take and look at just one piece of fruit from just one of the boxes?

Similes

Insert the words in the box into the spaces.

as _____ as coal

as _____ as a bat

as busy as a _____

as fat as a _____

as _____ as a pancake

as free as a _____

as _____ as gold

as _____ as lead

as light as a _____

as _____ as the hills

bee, bird, black, blind, feather, flat, good, heavy, old, pig

Word Ladder

Lewis Carroll, the author of Alice in Wonderland, enjoyed converting one word into another by changing one letter at a time. For example: H A T E > h a v e > h o v e > L O V E

See if you can convert REST into SOFA. You can use the clues in brackets to help you.

REST

LEST (in case)

_____ (floor consisting of open space at the top of a house just below roof)

SOFA

Riddles

Choose the best answer. Some of the answers are subjective.

The more there is of it, the less you see. What is it?

- a) darkness b) a black hole c) death

What has four fingers and a thumb, but neither flesh nor bone.

- a) a mutant frog b) a glove c) fear

What would you call something with two mouths, three noses and four eyes?

- a) an English teacher b) a monster b) very very ugly

Where is everyone equally beautiful?

- a) in the cemetery b) in the dark c) in the imagination

What question can never be answered 'yes'?

- a) are you asleep? b) do you know the meaning of life? c) are you joking?

What would you do if you saw an elephant sleeping in your bed?

- a) call the local zoo b) sleep somewhere else c) push him/her out

How many planets are there out in space?

- a) seven b) six thousand three hundred and twenty four million c) all of them

If you had five cakes and the boy next to you took three, what would you have?

- a) one b) two c) a big fight

If I'm holding five apples in my right hand, and six apples in my left hand, what do I have?

- a) a problem b) very big hands c) a miracle

What most resembles half a cheese?

- a) a full moon b) the other half c) the truth

Add an -e.

If you add an e to the end most of the words below this will produce another word.
But not in all cases - which?

art
big
bit
bar
fat
fir
her
hug
low
mad

Idioms

Match the proverbs (1-10) with their explanations (a-j).

1. a one off
2. the number one
3. one foot in the grave
4. one for the road
5. one night stand
6. in two minds
7. kill two birds with one stone
8. put two and two together
9. thick as two short planks
10. two-faced

- a) a casual sexual relationship
- b) a final drink before leaving for home
- c) a single occurrence or example of something
- d) do one thing and solve another at the same time
- e) hypocritical
- f) the most important or popular
- g) uncertain, undecided
- h) understand, realise
- i) very ill, nearly dead
- j) very stupid

Funny book titles

Match the titles with the authors.

TITLES	AUTHORS
Daddy Are We There Yet?	Dusty Rhodes
Get Out There!	Miles Away
Highway Travel	M.T. Tank
Why Cars Stop	Archie Pelago
Where to Find Islands	Sally Forth

Lewis Carroll Logic Games 1

"Here's another," said the Red Queen. "A little girl named Alice had a brother named Tony."

Alice interrupted: "I don't have a brother named Tony."

"I wasn't talking about you," the Red Queen retorted sharply. "I was talking about another Alice!"

"Oh." replied Alice.

"Now," continued the Red Queen, "Tony has as many brothers as sisters. How many boys and how many girls are in the family?"

Lewis Carroll Logic Games 2

If a grandfather clock takes thirty seconds to strike six, how long does it take to strike twelve? asked the Red Queen.

"Why, sixty seconds of course!" exclaimed Alice. "Oh, no," she suddenly realised, "that was wrong!"

What is the correct answer?

Lewis Carroll Logic Games 3

Alice practically stumbled on Tweedledum and Tweedledee, who were grinning under a tree. "I'm afraid I can't very well tell you apart without your embroidered collars," remarked Alice.

"You'll have to used logic," said one of the brothers. At this point he pulled out a playing card from his pocket - it was the queen of diamonds - and showed it to Alice. "As you see, this is a red card. Now a red card signifies that the one carrying it is telling the truth, whereas a black card signifies that the speaker is telling a lie."

"Now, my brother there is also carrying either a red or a black card in his pocket. He is about to make a statement. If his card is red, he will make a true statement, but if his card is black, he will make a false statement. Then your job is to work out whether he is Tweedledee or Tweedledum."

At this point, the other brother said: "I am Tweedledum, and I am carrying a black card."

Anagrams

Create an anagram from the letters of the words in the first column. The anagram should correspond to the definition.

	ANAGRAM	DEFINITION
creams		the cry you make during a horror film
drawer		prize for doing something
dynamo		first day of the week
please		not awake
elects		chooses
stripe		someone who works for the Catholic church
purest		what a volcano does
softer		bigger than a wood
lifter		coffee goes through this
finder		someone you would find on Facebook

Limericks

Practise reading the limericks aloud and hear/find the rhythm.

A wonderful bird is the pelican,
His beak hold more than his belly can;
He takes in this beak
Enough food for a week,
But nobody knows how the hell he can.

There was a long lady of Malta
Who strangled her aunt with a
halter.
She said, "I won't bury her,
She'll do for my terrier:
She'll keep for a month if I salt
her.

Proverbs

Match the proverbs (1-10) with their explanations (a-j).

1. Too many cooks spoil the broth
2. Truth is stranger than fiction
3. Two wrongs don't make a right
4. Two's company, three's a crowd
5. Variety is the spice of life
6. When in Rome, do as the Romans do
7. Where there's a will, there's a way
8. You can cross that bridge when you come to it
9. You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink
10. You shouldn't judge a book by its cover

- a) If too many people try to do something then often the job will not be done well
- b) Real life is sometimes stranger than fiction
- c) You cannot justify doing something wrong or bad just because somebody else has done the same thing to you
- d) Two people (often two people on a date) are happier when nobody else is around
- e) Life is made more interesting by doing new or different things
- f) You should adjust your habits to match the customs of the people or place where you live
- g) If you are sufficiently determined you can overcome difficulties and do what you want to do
- h) Face a problem or challenge when you come to it or when it arises
- i) You can give someone the opportunity to do something but you can't get him or her to do it if they do not want to
- j) You cannot judge something by how it looks on the outside

Grammar Challenge 1

An explorer was trekking through a remote jungle when he was captured by logic-loving cannibals. He was brought before the chief and told, "You may now speak your last words. If your statement *is/will be* true, then we *burn/will burn* you at the stake. If your statement *is/will be* false, we *boil/will boil* you in oil." The man thought for a moment, then made his statement. Perplexed, the clever cannibals realized they could do nothing but let him go. What did the explorer tell them?

Grammar Challenge 2

You have two slow-burning fuses, each of which will burn up in exactly one hour. They are not necessarily of the same length and width as each other, nor even necessarily of uniform width. Consequently, you can't measure a half hour *by/thus/when/while* noting when one fuse is half burned. Find a way to use these two fuses, *by/thus/when/while* enabling you to measure 45 minutes?

Grammar Challenge 3

You must cut a birthday cake into exactly eight pieces, but the rules only *allow to make/allow you to make* three straight cuts, and pieces of the cake are not allowed *to move/to be moved* as you cut them. What method will enable *to do/you to do it*?

Grammar Challenge 4

Bill is in the middle of *a/an/one* desert, dying of thirst. He comes across two men who know where there is water. Bill knows that *a/an/one* man always tells the truth, the other always lies. What *a/an/one* question should Bill ask to find out which is the road to water?

Keys to Chapter 11

Grammar Challenge 1

A man who was the owner of a winery died. In his will, he *chose* to leave 21 barrels (*shown* in the figure below) between his three sons. Seven of barrels are filled with wine, seven are half full, and seven are empty. However he *set* a series of rules: the wine and barrels must be *split* so that each son has the same number of full barrels, the same number of half-full barrels, and the same number of empty barrels. Note that there are no measuring devices. How can the barrels and wine be evenly divided?

Two half-full barrels are dumped into one of the empty barrels. Two more half-full barrels are dumped into another one of the empty barrels. This results in nine full barrels, three half-full barrels, and nine empty barrels. Each son gets three full barrels, one half-full barrel, and three empty barrels.

Grammar Challenge 2

You have three boxes of fruit. One *contains* just apples, another just oranges, and the other both oranges and apples. Each box *is labeled* -- one says "apples," one says "oranges," and one says "apples and oranges." However, it *is known* that none of the boxes *are labeled* correctly. How *can you label the boxes correctly/can the boxes be labeled correctly* if you *are only allowed* to take and look at just one piece of fruit from just one of the boxes?

Take a piece of fruit from the box marked "apples and oranges." Suppose the fruit you take is an apple. Then that box must be the box containing just apples. Therefore, the box marked "oranges" can't be the box containing just apples, and it can't be the box containing just oranges either -- so it must be the box containing apples and oranges. The remaining box is therefore the box containing just oranges. If the fruit you take out is an orange, the solution is derived in a similar fashion: the box marked "apples and oranges" is the box containing just oranges; the box marked "apples" is the box containing both apples and oranges; and the box marked "oranges" is the one containing just apples.

Similes

as *black* as coal
as *blind* as a bat
as *busy* as a *bee*
as *fat* as a *pig*
as *flat* as a pancake
as *free* as a *bird*
as *good* as gold
as *heavy* as lead
as *light* as a *feather*
as *old* as the hills

Word Ladder

REST

LEST (in case)

LOST

LOFT (floor consisting of open space at the top of a house just below roof)

SOFT

SOFA

Riddles

The more there is of it, the less you see. What is it? *Darkness*.

What has four fingers and a thumb, but neither flesh nor bone. A *glove*.

What would you call something with two mouths, three noses and four eyes?
Very very ugly.

Where is everyone equally beautiful? *In the dark*.

What question can never be answered 'yes'? *Are you asleep?*

What would you do if you saw an elephant sleeping in your bed? *Sleep somewhere else.*

How many planets are there out in space? *All of them.*

If you had five cakes and the boy next to you took three, what would you have? *A big fight.*

If I'm holding five apples in my right hand, and six apples in my left hand, what do I have? *Very big hands.*

What most resembles half a cheese? *The other half.*

Add an -e.

art
big
bit, bite
bar, bare
fat, fate
fir, fire
her, here
hug, huge
low
mad, made

Idioms

a one off	<i>the most important or popular</i>
the number one	<i>a final drink before leaving for home</i>
one foot in the grave	<i>a single occurrence or example of something</i>
one for the road	<i>a casual sexual relationship</i>
one night stand	<i>very ill, nearly dead</i>
in two minds	<i>hypocritical</i>
kill two birds with one stone	<i>very stupid</i>
put two and two together	<i>uncertain, undecided</i>
thick as two short planks	<i>do one thing and solve another at the same time</i>
two-faced	<i>understand, realise</i>

Funny Book Titles

Daddy Are We There Yet? by Miles Away (i.e. we still have a long way to go)

Get Out There! by Sally Forth (*to sally forth* means to depart)

Highway Travel by Dusty Rhodes (dusty roads)

Why Cars Stop by M.T. Tank (empty gas tank)

Where to Find Islands by Archie Pelago (archipelago = a group of islands)

Lewis Carroll Logic Games 1

4 boys, 3 girls. Tony has 3 brothers and 3 sisters, Alice has 4 brothers and 2 sisters.

Lewis Carroll Logic Games 2

Between the first and sixth stroke there are five intervals of time, and it takes 30 seconds to cover those five intervals; so the interval between any two consecutive strokes is six seconds. Between the first stroke and the twelfth, there are 11 time intervals; therefore it takes the clock 66 seconds.

Lewis Carroll Logic Games 3

The speaker cannot be telling the truth and also carry a black card. Therefore, he must be lying. So his card really is black, and since his statement was false, he is not really Tweedledum, but Tweedledee.

Anagrams

scream
reward
Monday
asleep
select
priest
erupts
forest
filter
friend

Proverbs

Too many cooks spoil the broth *If too many people try to do something then often the job will not be done well*

Truth is stranger than fiction *Real life is sometimes stranger than fiction*

Two wrongs don't make a right *You cannot justify doing something wrong or bad just because somebody else has done the same thing to you*

Two's company, three's a crowd *Two people (often two people on a date) are happier when nobody else is around*

Variety is the spice of life *Life is made more interesting by doing new or different things*

When in Rome do as the Romans do *You should adjust your habits to match the customs of the people or place where you live*

Where there's a will there's a way *If you are sufficiently determined you can overcome difficulties and do what you want to do*

You can cross a bridge when you come to it *Face a problem or challenge when you come to it or when it arises*

You can lead a horse to water but you can't make him drink *You can give someone the opportunity to do something but you can't get him or her to do it if they do not want to*

You shouldn't judge a book by its cover *You cannot judge something by how it looks on the outside*

Grammar Challenge 1

An explorer was trekking through a remote jungle when he was captured by logic-loving cannibals. He was brought before the chief and told, "You may now speak your last words. If your statement *is* true, then we *will burn* you at the stake. If your statement *is* false, we *boil* you in oil." The man thought for a moment, then made his statement. Perplexed, the clever cannibals realized they could do nothing but let him go. What did the explorer tell them?

"You will boil me in oil."

Grammar Challenge 2

You have two slow-burning fuses, each of which will burn up in exactly one hour. They are not necessarily of the same length and width as each other, nor even necessarily of uniform width, so you can't measure a half hour *by* noting when one fuse is half burned. Find a way to use these two fuses, *thus* enabling you to measure 45 minutes?

Light one fuse at both ends and, at the same time, light the second fuse at one end. When the first fuse has completely burned, you know that a half hour has elapsed, and, more relevantly, that the second fuse has a half hour left to go. At this time, light the second fuse from the other end. This will cause it to burn out in 15 more minutes. At that point, exactly 45 minutes will have elapsed.

Grammar Challenge 3

You must cut a birthday cake into exactly eight pieces, but the rules only *allow you to make* three straight cuts, and pieces of the cake are not allowed *to move* as you cut them. What method will enable *you to do it*?

Use the first two cuts to cut an 'X' in the top of the cake. Now you have four pieces. Make the third cut horizontal, which will divide the four pieces into eight.

Grammar Challenge 4

Bill is in the middle of *a* desert, dying of thirst. He comes across two men who know where there is water. Bill knows that *one* man always tells the truth, the other always lies. What *one* question should Bill ask to find out which is the road to water?

Bill can ask either of them: "If you were him, what would you say?" He should then do the opposite of what they say.