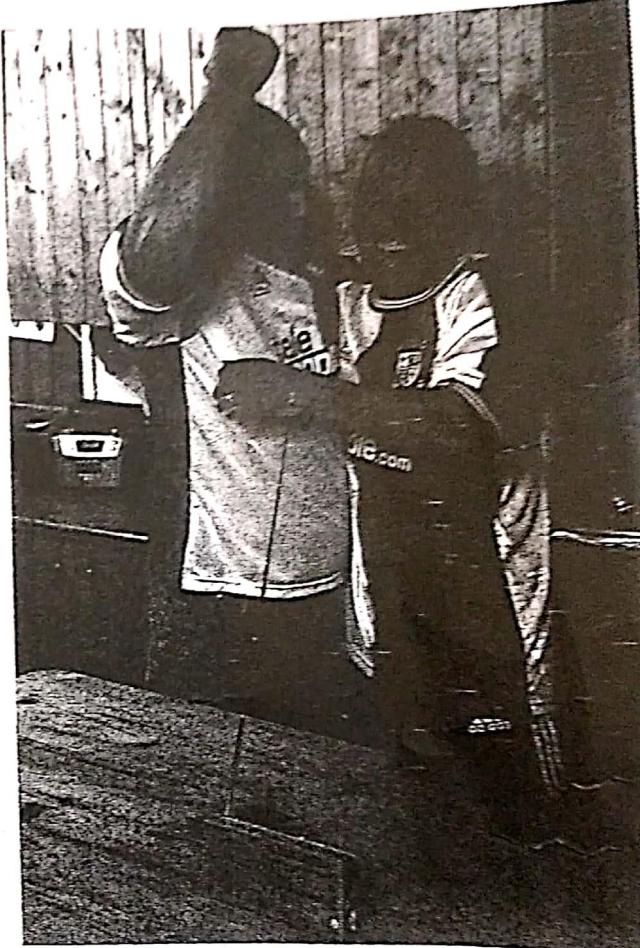

WHAT ON EARTH DOES IT MEAN?

1. He tried to FOX me but I saw through him.
2. What kind of CONFECTIONERY do you like?
3. The notice on the restaurant said : BYOB
4. Benedict Cumberbatch's performance in the movie was particularly EDGY I thought.
5. Jerry has been very EDGY today, what do you think is wrong with him?
6. Portuguese is a very NASAL language.
7. We will have to put your dog into QUARANTINE, I'm afraid.
8. We QUERIED whether the job had been done properly.
9. Alastair is such a good SPIN DOCTOR that I think the Conservative party will win the election.
10. His funny sketch went VIRAL after it was posted onto You Tube.
11. It was always my dream job to be a VALET.
12. The sniper got a medal for his VALOUR.

Have I got news for you!

8.1 The media

TOPIC VOCABULARY



Discuss these questions:

- What do you think has happened in the photos?
- How do you find out what's in the news?
- Which newspapers do you read regularly? Which do you prefer and why?
- What current affairs programmes do you watch or listen to on the TV or radio?
- If you go to websites for news, which do you prefer and why?
- Which English-language newspapers have you read? What were they like?
- Is there a local English language newspaper in your country? What's it like?
- Do you believe everything you read in the newspapers? Why/Why not?



Match the words and phrases in red to their synonyms in blue.

article circulation editorial issue
magazines main story newsreader
the papers reporter reviewer

critic the dailies journalist
leader monthlies & weeklies
number number of copies sold

lead story
newscaster
reporter

2 In headlines, as well as special vocabulary being used, some words (*a, the, some, be, been* etc.) are often omitted, abbreviations are common, and verb tenses are sometimes used differently. Explain the following headlines in simple English.

e.g. **UK TO SEND MORE AID TO GHANA**

The United Kingdom is going to send more help to Ghana.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) ARMY AXES 3 BASES, 3,000 MEN | (k) TOP SCIENTIST QUILTS UK FOR US |
| (b) BID TO REACH NORTH POLE FAILS | (l) 3 QUIZZED OVER BOY'S KIDNAP |
| (c) HOTEL BLAST KILLS 8 | (m) FILM STAR SEEKS DIVORCE |
| (d) ANIMALS DIE IN ZOO BLAZE | (n) AIR FARES SLASHED TO WOO |
| (e) US, RUSSIA CLASH OVER ARMS CURBS | (o) HOLIDAY MAKERS |
| (f) 3 SAVED IN FLATS BLAZE DRAMA | (p) STORM AT UN OVER 'SPIES' |
| (g) ENVOY ACCUSED OF SPYING | (q) ACCUSATION |
| (h) TOURISTS HIT BY PILOTS' STRIKE | (r) EARTHQUAKE TOLL REACHES 27 |
| (i) PM ANNOUNCES MARCH POLL | (s) ACTOR TO WED FOR FIFTH TIME |
| (j) POLICE PROBE MISSING WOMAN RIDDLE | |

Newspaper Headlines

Vocabulary

1 Certain words are found in newspaper headlines sometimes with a different meaning from that of their normal use. For each of the following 'headline words' on the left, find an item on the right with the same meaning (it will help you if you look at the headlines in exercise 2 below).

- | | |
|-------------------|--|
| (a) AXE | fire |
| (b) BID | close down, dismiss (usually for economic reasons) |
| (c) BLAST | conflict, disagree(ment), fight, fighting |
| (d) BLAZE | diplomat |
| (e) CLASH | exciting or dramatic event |
| (f) CURB | attempt |
| (g) DRAMA | explosion |
| (h) ENVOY | affect badly |
| (i) HIT | vote, election, public opinion survey |
| (j) POLL | reduce, reduction, limit |
| (k) PROBE | investigate, investigation |
| (l) QUIT | question, interrogate, interview |
| (m) QUIZ | reduce drastically |
| (n) RIDDLE | leave, depart, resign |
| (o) SEEK | attract, interest, win the support of |
| (p) SLASH | look for, want, ask for |
| (q) STORM | mystery |
| (r) TOLL | marry |
| (s) WED | angry argument |
| (t) WOO | total number of dead |

For questions 16–25, read the text below. Use the word given in capitals at the end of some of the lines to form a word that fits in the space in the same line. There is an example at the beginning (0). In the exam you will mark your answers on a separate answer sheet.

Example: 0 **headlines**

The Word 'Bogus'

For years 'bogus' was a word the British read in newspaper (0)*headlines*..... LINE
but tended not to say. Its popularity among the teenagers of America changed that, although they didn't use it with its original meaning. It came from the Wild West. Its first appearance in print, in 1827, was in the *Telegraph* of Painesville, Ohio, where it meant a machine for making (16) of coins. FORGE
Soon, those 'boguses' were turning out 'bogus money' and the word had (17) a change from noun to adjective. By the end of the GO 19th century, it was well-established in Britain, applied to anything false, spurious or intentionally (18) But the computer scientists of 1960s LEAD America, to whom we owe so much (19) innovation, redefined LANGUAGE it to mean 'non-functional', 'useless', or 'unbelievable', especially in relation to calculations and engineering ideas. This was followed by its (20) among Princeton and Yale graduates in the East Coast EMERGE computer community. But it was the (21) of the word by American ADOPT teenagers generally, who used it to mean simply 'bad', that led to it being widely used by their counterparts in Britain.
(22) , 'bogus' is one of only about 1,300 English words for which INTEREST no sensible origin has emerged. The 1827 'bogus' machine seems to have been named by an (23) present at the time of its capture by police. LOOK But why that word? The *Oxford English Dictionary* suggests a connection with a New England word, 'tantrobogus', meaning the devil. A rival US account sees it as a (24) of the name of a forger, called Borghese or CORRUPT Borges. (25) , it has been connected with the French word 'bagasse', ELSE meaning the refuse from sugar-cane production.

Now check your answers to Part Two of the test.

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Pairs

1 Put each of the following colloquial 'pair-phrases' in its correct place in the sentences below.

cloak and dagger
chop and change
pins and needles
touch and go

length and breadth
song and dance
tooth and nail

hard and fast
by and large
prim and proper

- (a) It was _____ whether the police would get to the scene of the accident in time.
(b) She's very strict in moral matters and rather a snob. She's very _____.
(c) I agree that the shop treated you very badly. But just write a polite letter of complaint. It's not worth making a _____ about it.
(d) Of course a few pupils were lazy, but _____ the children were interested and hard-working.
(e) If you take a decision, you must stick to it. You can't _____ all the time.
(f) When the old man died, his greedy relatives fought _____ over his will.
(g) We don't regard our entry requirements as _____. We are prepared to be flexible.
(h) He knows Brazil very well. He's travelled the _____ of the country.
(i) I like exciting novels about spies and conspiracies. I love that _____ stuff.
(j) If you've been sitting in one position for a long time without moving, you sometimes get _____.

2 Instructions as above.

safe and sound
sick and tired
pros and cons

ups and downs
to and fro
spick and span

odds and ends
ins and outs

up and about
down and out

- (a) I'm _____ of his continual bad behaviour.
(b) She's very house-proud. Her kitchen is always _____.
(c) I just keep various _____ in that drawer, nothing special.
(d) Like everyone else, she has her _____ of course, but on the whole she's quite satisfied with life.
(e) He lost everything, family, job, money, home ... Now he's _____ and sleeping in the park.
(f) You should consider the _____ carefully before you make a decision.
(g) She's ill in bed, but she'll be _____ in a couple of days.
(h) The parents were beginning to worry but finally the children arrived home _____.
(i) This ferry-boat operates between England and France. It just goes _____ all the time.
(j) He's the right man for the job. He's experienced. He knows the _____ of the business.

6 Newspeak

Distancing the facts • Nouns formed from phrasal verbs • Responding to news

STARTER

- 1 The words in the box are commonly used in newspaper headlines.
Why do you think these words are often short and dramatic?

Complete the headlines with the words.

haul swoop blow havoc cops fury raid axe
orgy cons dumps bid row ban probe

1

NEIGHBOURS' [] OVER HEDGE ENDS IN COURT

2

BA to [] 5,000 jobs in [] to break even

3

OAPs' [] at measly 1.5% rise in pensions

4

£50 MILLION HUBBY PUTS BANK [] ON MISSUS

5

SWORD MANIAC SHOT BY []

6

NEW [] INTO MURDERS REVEALS FRESH CLUES

7

WIFE [] HUSBAND IN SEX []

8

Police [] on crack factory – huge drug []

9

PC shot in bank [] dies

10

New inflation figures deal [] to recovery hopes

11

BOGUS VICAR [] WIDOW OF LIFE SAVINGS

12

AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL STRIKE THREAT SPELLS FOR HOLS []

- 2 **T 6.1** Listen to five people talking about which newspapers they read and why.
Put numbers 1–5 next to the correct newspaper(s). What do they like about the newspaper(s) they read?

Financial Times Sun Independent Guardian Observer
 Daily Mail Daily Mirror Times International Herald Tribune

- 3 In Britain the main newspapers are national, not regional. Is it the same in your country?
Do your newspapers have a political bias?
Do you read a newspaper regularly? Which one? Why do you choose that one?

Unit 6 • Newspeak