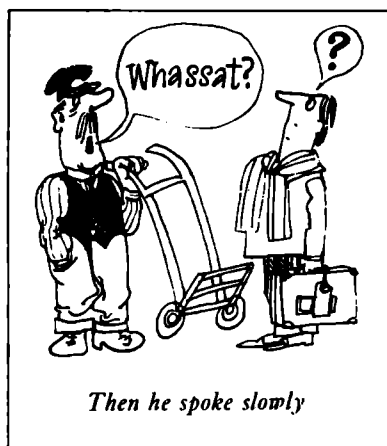


## 25 Do the English Speak English?

- I arrived in London at last. The railway station was big, black and dark. I did not know the way to my hotel, so I asked a porter. I not only spoke English very carefully, but very clearly as well. The porter, however, could not understand me. I repeated my question several times and at last he understood. He answered me, but he spoke neither slowly nor clearly. 'I am a foreigner,' I said. Then he spoke slowly, but I could not understand him. My teacher never spoke English like that! The porter and I looked at each other and smiled. Then he said something and I understood it. 'You'll soon learn English!' he said. I wonder. In England, each man speaks a different language. The English understand each other, but *I* don't understand *them*! Do they speak English?



### Comprehension and Précis

Answer these questions *in not more than 70 words*.

1. Did you arrive at a railway station in London or not? Did you ask a porter the way to your hotel or not? Could he understand you or not? (*and . . . but*)
2. Did he understand you at last or not? Could you understand his answer? (*but*)
3. Did your teacher ever speak English like that or not?
4. What did the porter say to you?
5. Does each man speak a different language in England or not?
6. Do they understand each other or not? Do you understand them? (*but*)

### Letter-writing

The address appears at the top right-hand corner of the page. It is called 'The Heading'. The address is always followed by the date:

14 Grafton St.,  
Croydon,  
Surrey,  
England.  
24th April, 19

#### Exercise

Write your home address. Follow the above pattern carefully.

### Key Structures

#### Word Order in Compound Statements

*a* Do you remember the six parts of a simple statement? Refer to KS 13c if you have forgotten them.

*b* We can join simple statements together to make *compound statements*. Here are some of the joining words we use: and, but, so, yet, or, both . . . and, either . . . or, neither . . . nor, not only . . . but . . . as well (or also).

Study these sentences carefully. Pay close attention to the way they have been joined.

He finished lunch. He went into the garden.

He finished lunch *and went* into the garden.

I ran to the station. I missed the train.

I ran to the station *but missed* the train.

I saw him yesterday. He did not greet me.

I saw him yesterday *but he* did not greet me.

He teaches English. I teach English.

*Both he and I* teach English.

He teaches English. He teaches French.

He teaches *both English and French*.

You must tell him. I must tell him.

*Either you or I* must tell him.

He plays soccer. He plays rugby.

He plays *either soccer or rugby*.

He does not speak English. I do not speak English.

*Neither he nor I* speak English.

He does not speak English. He does not speak French.

He speaks *neither English nor French*.

He cannot read. He cannot write.

He can *neither read nor write*.

You must wash the dishes. You must sweep the floor.

You must *not only* wash the dishes *but* sweep the floor *as well*.

### Exercises

A. Underline the joining words in the passage.

B. Join these pairs of sentences. Use the joining words in brackets. Do not refer to the passage until you finish the exercise.

1. I did not know the way to my hotel. I asked a porter. (*so*)
2. I spoke English very carefully. I spoke very clearly. (*not only . . . but . . . as well*)
3. I repeated my question several times. At last he understood. (*and*)
4. He answered me. He did not speak slowly. He did not speak clearly. (*but . . . neither . . . nor*)
5. Then he spoke slowly. I could not understand him. (*but*)
6. Then he said something. I understood it. (*and*)
7. The English understand each other. I don't understand them. (*but*)

C. Join these sentences with the words in brackets:

1. I knocked at the door. He did not open it. (*but*)
2. He went on holiday. I went on holiday. (*Both . . . and*)
3. He must be mad. He must be very wise. (*either . . . or*)

### Composition

Join the following sentences using the words in brackets:

1. My sister went shopping. I went shopping. (*Both . . . and*)
2. We got very tired. We got very hungry. (*not only . . . but . . . as well*)
3. It was three o'clock. We could not get lunch. We had a cup of tea. (*and . . . so*)