# **41 A court case**

A few months ago, there was a bank robbery in Stanford. The police arrested a man and a woman. They're in court now. A woman saw the robbery. She's standing in the witness box. The judge and the twelve members of the jury are listening to her. A lawyer is asking her some questions.

**Lawyer** Now, Miss Dexter. You saw the bank robbery, didn't you?

**Miss Dexter** Yes, I did.

**Lawyer** You saw a man, didn't you?

**Miss Dexter** That's right. I saw him when he went into the bank and when he came out.

**Lawyer** Now, look around the court … can you see that man?

**Miss Dexter** Yes, he's the man I saw.

**Lawyer** He wasn't alone when he went into the bank, was he?

**Miss Dexter** No, he was with a woman.

**Lawyer** Now, look around the court again … can you see that woman?

**Miss Dexter** Yes, there! She's the woman I saw.

**Lawyer** I see, Miss Dexter. Now look at the man and woman again. This is very important. Are you absolutely sure about them?

**Miss Dexter** Absolutely sure. They're the people I saw.

**Lawyer** Now, Miss Dexter. What was the man wearing when he went into the bank?

**Miss Dexter** I don't remember everything … but I remember his hat and his bag.

**Lawyer** Look at the hat on the table. Is that the hat?

**Miss Dexter** Yes, that's the hat he was wearing.

**Lawyer** … and the bag?

**Miss Dexter** Yes, that's the bag he was carrying.

**Lawyer** Do you remember anything about the woman?

**Miss Dexter** Yes. She was wearing a blonde wig and black platform shoes.

**Lawyer** How do you know it was a wig, Miss Dexter?

**Miss Dexter** Because it fell off when she was running to the car.

**Lawyer** Look at the wig on the table. Is that the wig?

**Miss Dexter** Yes, that's the wig she was wearing.

**Lawyer** … and the shoes... look at the shoes.

**Miss Dexter** Yes, they're the shoes she was wearing.

**Lawyer** Thank you, Miss Dexter.

# **42 The empty chair**

A friend of mine, Rob Jenkins, almost had a nervous breakdown last year.

I told him to go to the doctor.

**Doctor** Hello, Mr Jenkins. What can I do for you?

**Mr Jenkins** Well, doctor … I'm very tense and nervous. I haven't been able to sleep for several days.

**Doctor** Hmm … have you been working hard?

**Mr Jenkins** Oh, yes. I've been very busy. I've been working twelve hours a day.

**Doctor** Have you been taking any pills?

**Mr Jenkins** No, but I've been smoking too much, and I've been drinking a lot of coffee.

**Doctor** Well, you should take a holiday. You should go somewhere quiet and peaceful, like Cornwall. Why don't you go there?

Rob decided to go to Cornwall the next weekend.

Penquay was a very small fishing village on the north coast of Cornwall.

There were no trains or buses to Penquay, so he had to drive.

It was a long journey, and Rob arrived late on Friday evening.

The landlady of the guest house, Mrs Doone, answered the door and showed him to his room.

Rob was very tired and went straight to bed.

He slept well and didn't wake up until nine o'clock the next morning.

Rob went downstairs for breakfast.

Because there were no other guests, Mrs Doone invited him to have breakfast with her and her daughter, Catherine.

Catherine was already sitting in the dining room.

She was about thirteen years old, with long, black hair and clear, grey eyes.

Mrs Doone went to the kitchen to prepare breakfast.

Rob and Catherine looked at each other nervously for a few seconds.

**Rob** There are four places at the table. Is there another guest?

**Catherine** Oh, no … we never talk about the empty place.

**Rob** The empty place? What do you mean?

**Catherine** Well, that used to be my father's place.

**Rob** 'Used to be?' I don't understand.

**Catherine** My father was a fisherman. Three years ago he went out in his boat, and he never returned.

**Rob** What happened to him?

**Catherine** Nobody knows. They searched everywhere, but they found nothing. My mother always keeps that place for him, and she makes his breakfast every morning. She thinks he'll come back. That's a photograph of him … over there, on the wall. My mother's been waiting for him for three years.

Rob said nothing, but he looked very worried.

At that moment Mrs Doone returned.

She poured four cups of tea, and put one cup in the empty place.

Rob looked more worried and he stared at the empty chair.

Suddenly, he heard footsteps outside the door and a tall man, with a black beard, walked into the room.

Rob looked terrified.

It was the man in the photograph!

He jumped up and ran out of the room.

**Man** Who was that? What's the matter?

**Mrs Doone** I don't know. I don't understand. He's a guest from London, He arrived last night while you were asleep.

**Man** Catherine! Do you know anything about this?

**Catherine** No, I don't, father. But he's here because he's very nervous. He says he's hiding here because a tall man with a black beard is trying to kill him.

**Man** Catherine, have you been telling stories again?

**Catherine** Stories, father? Me? *(laughing)*

# **43 How long? How much?**

**Bank Manager** Come in. You're Mr Carson, aren't you? Please sit down.

**Mr Carson** Thank you.

**Bank Manager** What can I do for you, Mr Carson?

**Mr Carson** Well, I want to borrow some money.

**Bank Manager** What for?

**Mr Carson** I want to buy a car. I've been saving for two years.

**Bank Manager** Ah, how much have you saved?

**Mr Carson** I've saved about a thousand pounds.

**Judith** What are you reading?

**Maureen** *The Godfather.* It's about the Mafia in America. John told me to read it.

**Judith** It's a very long book.

**Maureen** I know. I've been reading it for a month, and I haven't finished it yet!

**Judith** How many pages have you read?

**Maureen** About 400. I don't like long books.

**Judith** Neither do I!

**Attendant** Petrol, sir?

**Motorist** Please … fill it up.

**Attendant** Which grade?

**Motorist** Four star. It's nearly empty. I've been driving all day.

**Attendant** Oh, how far have you driven?

**Motorist** About 400 miles. I've driven from Scotland.

**Attendant** Oh, that's a long way. Shall I check the oil and water?

**Motorist** Please.

**Karen** Hello, Jenny. Are you still working? It's time for lunch.

**Jenny** I know. But I haven't finished these letters yet. They're important. Mr Power wants them this afternoon.

**Karen** How long have you been typing?

**Jenny** Since nine o'clock. I didn't stop for coffee.

**Karen** How many have you done?

**Jenny** Most of them. There are only two left.

**Karen** Well, do them after lunch.

**Jenny** No. I'll do them now.

**Karen** O.K. See you this afternoon.

# **44 Look!**

Nick Owen is a guide for Britannia tours. Some new tourists have just arrived in Exmouth. He's showing them around the town.

'I'm sure you'll enjoy your stay here. There's the beach that's the safest for swimmers. The other beaches aren't as good. And that's the shop that sells picnic lunches. Over there's the shop that sells souvenirs. I'll meet you back here at four o'clock.'

Paul's showing Angela some holiday photos.

'Look … this is the hotel I stayed in … and here's the restaurant I used to go to. 1 used to eat there every day. This is the beach we used to lie on. It was a marvellous holiday.'

Anne's just had an accident. She's telling a policeman about it.

"The car in front of me stopped suddenly. I managed to stop, but the van behind me didn't. It hit my car, and pushed it into the car in front. There's my car. There's the van that hit my car. And that's the car my car hit.'

Paul's showing Angela an old school photo.

The headmaster's in the middle. He's the one that taught us Latin. His lessons were very boring. The fat one on the left is Mr Bunter. He's the one that used to hit us with a cane. Mr Cherry's on the right. He's the one that taught us French and football. I was never bored in his lessons!'

This is a picture of Ronald Rigg. He's the man the police arrested yesterday. He's standing next to P.C. Martin. Martin's the policeman that caught him.

# **46 Booking in advance**

**A** Hello. Old England Restaurant. Can I help you?

**B** Yes. I'd like to book a table for tonight.

**A** Yes, sir. What time?

**B** Eight o'clock.

**A** Certainly, sir. For how many people?

**B** There are ten of us.

**A** Ten of you! We don't usually accept large parties, sir.

**B** I know, but we are regular customers.

**A** What's your name please, sir?

**B** Richard Burton.

**A** Mr Burton … of course that'll be all right. We'll put two tables together.

**C** I'd like two seats for the concert on Thursday evening.

**D** Yes. Where would you like to sit?

**C** I'm not sure.

**D** Well, here's a seating plan of the concert hall.

**C** How much is it in the middle?

**D** £6.

**C** £6! That's a little too expensive for us. How much is it there … at the back?

**D** £2.

**C** That's fine. What time does the concert start?

**D** At half past seven, sir.

**E** Have you got any seats left for the Stratford excursion?

**F** Yes, sir. There are a few seats left.

**E** Is that the one that goes to Oxford as well?

**F** That's right.

**E** How long does the whole excursion take?

**F** Approximately ten hours, sir.

**E** Shall I pay you now?

**F** If you don't mind, sir.

**G** Good morning. Unisex Hairdressers.

**H** Good morning. I'd like to make an appointment, please, for three o'clock this afternoon. With Marcel.

**G** Let me see. I'm afraid Marcel's busy at three, madam.

**H** Oh dear. Marcel always does my hair.

**G** I'm sorry, madam.

**H** Well, how about four o'clock?

**G** I'm terribly sorry, madam. Marcel's busy all afternoon.

**H** What a nuisance!

**G** I'm very, very sorry, madam. But you should always book well in advance.

# **47 A new job**

**Patti** Alice! Have you seen this ad in the paper?

**Alice** Oh, yes … but I'm not interested in finding a new job. I've been here since I left school. I like working here.

**Patti** Really? I've only been here for two months and I'm already tired of doing the same thing every day. I want some adventure!

**Alice** Adventure! There's too much 'adventure' in New York. People are afraid of walking in the streets.

**Patti** Oh, come on! It's not that bad … and the salaries are fantastic!

**Alice** I'm not interested in earning more money. I've got enough now.

**Patti** Ah, yes … but you live at home with your parents.

**Alice** But I like living with my parents. What's wrong with that?

**Patti** Nothing. But I like being independent. I like travelling, I enjoy meeting new people. I'm going to apply for the job.

**Alice** Well, good luck!

# **48 The weather forecast**

Paul and Judy live in Birmingham. It's a large city in the Midlands. They're planning a weekend holiday.

**Paul** I know, Judy! Why don't we go to Scotland?

**Judy** It's a very long way.

**Paul** Oh, it isn't too far. Anyway, the motorway's very good, so we can get there quickly.

**Judy** But Scotland's often cold at this time of the year. It may snow!

**Paul** Well, yes … it may … but I don't think it will.

**Judy** I'm not sure. It is February, and I'm frightened of driving in snow. And we may not be able to find a hotel. They may be closed.

**Paul** Oh, that's no problem. I can book a hotel by phone.

**Judy** Well, perhaps it's not a bad idea. We may have beautiful weather.

**Paul** Oh, we'll enjoy ourselves anyway. Let's watch the weather forecast on television. We may not go to Scotland, we may go to Wales or London. We can decide after the forecast …

Good evening, and here is the weather forecast for tomorrow. Northern Scotland will be cold, and there may be snow over high ground. In the north of England it will be a wet day and rain may move into Wales and the Midlands during the afternoon. East Anglia will be generally dry, but it will be dull and cloudy. In southern England it will be a bright clear day with sunshine, but it may rain during the evening. In the south west it may be foggy during the morning, but the afternoon will be clear. It may be windy later in the day.

# **49 A restaurant kitchen**

**Waitress** Hurry up, Chef! The customers have been waiting for ten minutes. They're hungry and they're getting angry!

**Chef** I know, I know … but I've only got one pair of hands! You'll have to help me.

**Waitress** Help you? That's not my job … I'm a waitress, not a cook.

**Chef** Well, both of my assistants are off work.

**Waitress** Oh, all right. What shall I do first?

**Chef** Well, start putting the meat on the plates and I'll prepare the vegetables.

**Waitress** O.K. Is that enough meat?

**Chef** Hmm... that's a bit too much... take a bit off.

**Waitress** What about potatoes?

**Chef** Oh, put on plenty of potatoes … they're cheap … and lots of peas.

**Waitress** All right, all right. Can I take them now?

**Chef** Have you put the sauce on yet?

**Waitress** Eh? Oh no, I haven't. Where is it?

**Chef** Here it is.

**Waitress** Oh, there isn't quite enough sauce here.

**Chef** There's plenty in that pan over there.

**Waitress** Ah, yes … I've got it.

**Chef** Fine, now you can begin taking the plates to the customers.

**Waitress** Ow! They're hot!

**Chef** Well, use a cloth … and don't carry too many plates. You may drop them.

**Waitress** Oh, I won't drop them. I've never dropped a plate in my life!

# **50 Asking for directions**

**A** Excuse me!

**B** Yes?

**A** I'm looking for the Men's Clothes department.

**B** Ah, yes, sir. It's on the fourth floor. The lift's over there.

**A** Thank you … but I'll use the stairs. I need the exercise!

**C** Good morning. Can I help you?

**D** Yes, I've got an appointment with Mrs Truman, the Sales Manager.

**C** What time is your appointment, sir?

**D** Half past eleven.

**C** Right. Go up those stairs to the first floor. Take the corridor on the left. Mrs Truman's office is the third door on the right. You can't miss it.

**D** Thank you.

**C** Oh, sir …

**D** Yes?

**C** Don't bother to knock. Go straight in. She's expecting you.

**E** Excuse me!

**F** Yes?

**E** I'm lost! Is this the way to Brighton?

**F** No, I'm afraid it isn't. You're going the wrong way. This is the Portsmouth Road.

**E** Oh, dear. Can you tell me the way to Brighton?

**F** Yes, turn round and go back to the roundabout. Take the third exit … that's the A272.

**E** The A272?

**F** That's right. You'll see signposts to Brighton from there.

**G** Fares, please …

**H** Two to Market Street, please.

**G** 36p.

**H** Can you tell me when we get there?

**G** O.K.

**H** Thanks a lot.

# **51 Air-sea rescue**

This is the Radio 1 Newsdesk. In Dorset, a helicopter is trying to rescue a man who has fallen down a cliff. He's lying on a small beach. An air-sea rescue helicopter has arrived at the scene, and one of the crew has climbed down a ladder to the beach. He's speaking to a doctor by radio.

**Crewman** Hello. Can you hear me, doctor?

**Doctor** Yes, I can hear you clearly. Is he unconscious?

**Crewmen** No, he's conscious. But he looks pretty bad.

**Doctor** Ο.Κ. Ask him if he can move.

**Crewman** Can you move?

**Man** No...

**Doctor** Ask him if he's in pain.

**Crewman** Are you in pain?

**Man** Oh … yes …

**Doctor** Ask him where it hurts.

**Crewman** Where does it hurt?

**Man** It's my back.

**Doctor** Right. Don't move him. I'm coming down.

Frank Aitken is the editor of *The Daily News.* He's sending a trainee journalist to interview the American singer, Bob Sonata.

'Now, I've arranged the interview for four o'clock … at his hotel. Ask him lots of questions. You know … ask him if he likes England. Ask him what his next record will be, when he recorded it … and ask him where. Ask him all the usual questions … but don't … don't ask him how old he is. O.K.?'

# **52 UFO**

Ronald and Jean were driving along a quiet country road in southern England. They were on the way to Westbury. It was nearly midnight.

**Jean** Ron … look over there. There's something in the sky. What is it?

**Ron** I don't know what it is. It's probably a plane.

**Jean** I don't think so. It's too big. and too bright.

**Ron** Oh, no.

**Jean** What's the matter?

**Ron** The engine's stopped.

**Jean** Why has it stopped?

**Ron** I don't know why it's stopped. We'll have to find a garage.

**Jean** Is there one near here?

**Ron** Yes, there's one in the next village … but I don't know if it's open. It's very late.

Suddenly there was a loud noise, and a big, bright silver object flew low over their car. It stopped in mid-air, turned round and flew back over their car. Then it went straight up into the sky and disappeared.

**Jean** Oh, Ron! What was that?

**Ron** Eh? Don't ask me … I've got no idea what it was!

**Jean** Oh, I'm frightened … let's go.

**Ron** We can't … the engine isn't working.

**Jean** Oh … try it again!

**Ron** That's strange. It's O.K. now. I wonder why it wasn't working?

**Jean** Oh, Ron … do you think it was a UFO?

**Ron** I don't know … I really don't. We should phone the police.

**Jean** Ron … do you think they'll believe us?

54 A mugging

**1** One night, Mrs Riley, an elderly widow, was walking along a dark, London street. She was carrying her handbag in one hand and a plastic carrier bag in the other. There was nobody else in the street except two youths. They were standing in a dark shop doorway. One of them was very tall with fair hair, the other was short and fat with a beard and moustache.

**2** The youths waited for a few moments, and then ran quickly and quietly towards Mrs Riley. The tall youth held her from behind while the other youth tried to snatch her handbag.

**3** Suddenly, Mrs Riley threw the tall youth over her shoulder. He crashed into the other youth and they both landed on the ground. Without speaking, Mrs Riley struck both of them on the head with her handbag, and walked calmly away.

**4** The two surprised youths were still sitting on the ground when Mrs Riley crossed the street towards a door with a lighted sign above it. Mrs Riley paused, turned round, smiled at the youths and walked into the South West London Judo Club.

# **55 An important visitor**

The platform of Portsbridge station is full of people. They're waiting for an important visitor-the Queen. They're expecting her to arrive soon. She's going to open a new secondary school-Portsbridge Comprehensive. The Mayor's secretary is telling him about the plans for the day.

She'll be here soon. We'll wait until we see the train.

**1** When the train stops, the band will start playing.

**2** Your son will give her some flowers when she gets off the train.

**3** You'll make a speech before she leaves the station.

**4** As soon as she arrives at the school, the children will begin cheering.

**5** After she opens the school, we'll go to the Town Hall.

**6** When she gets to the Town Hall, you'll make another speech.

**7** After you make the speech, we'll have lunch.

**8** Before she leaves Portsbridge, you'll give her a present from the town.

56 General Hospital

**Maternity Ward**

Mr Wallace is in the maternity ward. His wife's going to have a baby.

**Nurse** Hello … you're Mr Wallace, aren't you? Have you been waiting long?

**Mr Wallace** Not really. Is there any news?

**Nurse** Not yet. We'll tell you as soon as there is. Have you thought of any names for the baby?

**Mr Wallace** Oh yes! If it's a girl, we'll call her Victoria, and if it's a boy we'll call him Jason.

**Operating Theatre**

David Foster has had a serious accident. His wife's outside the operating theatre now.

**Doctor** Mrs Foster? I'm Dr. Payne.

**Mrs Foster** Oh, Doctor! How is he?

**Doctor** Well, I'm afraid we'll have to operate.

**Mrs Foster** Oh, no! He's always been afraid of operations.

**Doctor** Don't worry. If we operate now, he'll be all right.

**Mrs Foster** Oh, Doctor. Do you really have to?

**Doctor** I'm afraid so. He's lost a lot of blood. If we don't operate, he'll die!

**Ward Ten**

Mr Frampton has just arrived at the hospital. He's going to have a minor operation tomorrow.

**Sister** This is your bed, Mr Frampton.

**Mr Frampton** Oh, thank you, Sister.

**Sister** Now, could you get undressed and get into bed. There's a buzzeron the bedside table. If you press the button, someone will come at once.

**Mr Frampton** Oh, I'm sure I won't need anything …

**Sister** Well, don't forget … if you need anything, just press the button!

**Casualty Department**

**Doctor** Oh, dear! How did this happen?

**Mother** He was just playing with the saucepan, and he put it on his head … and now it's stuck!

**Doctor** Have you tried to get it off?

**Mother** No, I'm afraid of hurting him.

**Doctor** Yes, if we pull too hard, we'll hurt him.

**Mother** What are you going to do?

**Doctor** Well, if I don't get it off, he won't be able to eat!

**Mother** Oh, no!

**Doctor** I'm only joking. If I put some soap on his head, it'll come off easily.

# **57 At the races**

Horse-racing is a very popular sport in Britain. There are over 11,000 horses in training, and there is a race meeting almost every day of the year. Some of the prizes are worth thousands of pounds and some of the horses are worth millions. Horses from all over the world enter for the big races. People bet on the horses, and if they are lucky, they can win a lot of money. Some people spend a lot of time studying the form of the horses, others just guess! Look at the list of horses for the Hampshire Gold Cup. Study it, and try to choose the winner.

'It's a lovely day here at Hurstwood Park. The horses are ready for today's big race-the Hampshire Gold Cup. And they're off! They've all started well. They're racing towards the first bend, and Dobbin's in the lead! Concorde's second and Chestnut Mare's third. Now they're approaching the first fence. And Dobbin's fallen … but the jockey looks all right … and now Concorde's in front. White Rum, the favourite, is at the back. Now they're entering the second bend … and they're all over the second fence … Cash Register has just passed Concorde, and Sylvester Stallion has moved into third place … then Irish Prince, then Tricky Dicky … now they're coming round the third bend … and it's a very close race … and they've all jumped the third fence .. and the favourite, White Rum, is coming through … the crowd is cheering wildly … they're over the last fence … there's only 300 metres to go … and all the horses are in a line … I can't see which one's in front … it's very, very close … it's a photo finish! What a race! But we'll have to wait for the result …'

# **58 On the road**

**Ann** Ben! You can't park here! There's a double yellow line.

**Ben** Oh, we'll be back in a few minutes. It's O.K.

**Ann** Oh, no, it isn't. You'll get a parking ticket if you leave it here.

**Ben** No, I won't. It's half past five. All the traffic wardens have gone home.

**Ann** Ben!

**Ben** Yes?

**Warden** Is this your car, sir?

**P.C.** Excuse me. May I see your licence?

**Ben** I'm afraid I've left it at home.

**P.C.** In that case you'll have to take it to the police station within five days.

**Ben** But … but why?

**P.C.** You were speeding, sir.

**Ben** But I was only doing 35!

**P.C.** There's a 30 miles an hour speed limit on this road, sir.

**Ben** Is there? I didn't see the sign …

**P.C.** Well, sir. We've been following you.

**Ben** So you were doing 35, too.

**P.C.** No, sir. We were doing 60 miles an hour … and we couldn't catch you!

**Man** Hello … Wadley's Garage.

**Ben** Oh, good evening. I don't know if you can help me. My car's broken down.

**Man** We have a 24-hour breakdown service. Where are you?

**Ben** I'm on the A357 … just north of Ringbourne. My car's just past the Red Lion pub … it's a white M.G.

**Man** Do you know what's wrong with it?

**Ben** I've got no idea … but it won't start.

**Man** I'll send a mechanic out to you. He'll be there in about ten minutes.

**Mechanic** It's nothing serious, sir. You've run out of petrol.

**Ben** Oh! Can you tow me to the garage?

**Mechanic** That's not necessary. I've got a spare can of petrol in my truck.

**Ben** Shall I pay you now, or shall I come to the garage?

**Mechanic** You can pay me now.

**Ben** Will you take a cheque? I've run out of cash, too.

**Mechanic** Yes, that's O.Κ.

**Ben** Hold on … I can't find my cheque book!

# **60 Emergency … 999**

**Operator** Emergency. Which service, please?

**Caller** Police.

**Police** Police, here.

**Caller** I've just seen two cars crash into a security van. I think it's a robbery.

**Police** Where?

**Caller** Just outside the factory gates.

**Police** Which factory, sir?

**Caller** Croxley Engineering … in Brook Lane …

The first police car got to the factory three minutes later, but it was too late! The robbers had gone. They had knocked out one of the security guards and shot the other. They were both lying on the ground near the van. The thieves had taken all wages for the factory. The police called an ambulance, and questioned three people who had seen the robbery.

**Operator** Emergency. Which service, please?

**Caller** Fire.

**Fire** Fire Service.

**Caller** Come quickly! Fenley's Garage is on fire … the one in Churchill Road.

**Fire** We'll be there in two minutes …

The fire engine got to the garage just in time. The showroom was burning. Fortunately the fire hadn't reached the petrol pumps, and hadn't spread to neighbouring houses. The firemen were able to put it out quickly. The fire had started in the office. Someone had thrown a lighted cigarette into a waste-paper basket.

**Operator** Emergency. Which service, please?

**Caller** Ambulance …

**Ambulance** Ambulance service.

**Caller** Hurry … there's a boy … he's in the canal, and I don't think he can swim!

**Ambulance** Where are you, madam?

**Caller** Oh, sorry … near the bridge … the one in Balaclava Street.

**Ambulance** We're on our way!

When the ambulance arrived the boy was lying on the quay. A policeman had seen the boy in the water and had dived in and rescued him. The boy was all right. The policeman had given him artificial respiration. The ambulance took the boy and the policeman to hospital.

# **61 Readers’ Letters**

***A smart teacher!***

… My most embarrassing experience happened when I had just left university. I had just started teaching in a Liverpool secondary school. One morning my alarm clock didn't ring … I had forgotten to wind it up. I woke up at half past eight and school began at nine. I quickly washed, shaved, dressed, jumped into my car and drove to school. When I arrived the students had already gone into class. I didn't go to the staff room, but went straight into class. After two or three minutes the students began laughing, and I couldn't understand why! Suddenly 1 looked down and understood. I had put on one black shoe and one brown shoc! *Stanley Hooper, B.A., Preston, Lancs.*

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# **63 Buying a present**

**In a record shop**

**Liz** Have you got *Disco King,* please?

**Assistant** Who's it by?

**Liz** Soul Sensation. It's their latest single. It's just entered the charts … it's number nine this week! **Assistant** Hold on … I'll just look … here you are.

**Liz** Oh, thanks … and have you got the new L.P. by the Rats.

**Assistant** What? *Teenage Revolution?* Oh, yes … we've got that … it's a fantastic album … you'll love it.

**Liz** Oh, it's not for me. It's for my grandmother. It's a birthday present!

**In a jeweller's shop**

**Nigel** I'm trying to find a Christmas present for my wife.

**Assistant** Yes, sir. What exactly are you looking for?

**Nigel** I'm not sure, really. Perhaps you can help me.

**Assistant** Right … I'll show you some bracelets.

**Nigel** No, I bought a bracelet for our wedding anniversary.

**Assistant** Maybe a ring, then. These rings are made of gold.

**Nigel** Yes … I like that one. What's the stone?

**Assistant** It's a diamond, sir … and it's only £2000!

**Nigel** Ah … well, perhaps you could show me some ear-rings, then.

**In a toy shop**

**Mrs Cox** Good morning. Perhaps you can advise me …

**Assistant** Yes, madam.

**Mrs Cox** I'm looking for a toy … for my nephew.

**Assistant** Oh, yes … how old is he?

**Mrs Cox** He'll be nine years old on Saturday.

**Assistant** Skateboards are still very popular.

**Mrs Cox** Hmm, I don't want him to hurt himself.

**Assistant** What about a drum set?

**Mrs Cox** I don't think so. His father will be angry if I buy him one of those. Have you got anything educational? You see, he's a very intelligent boy.

**Assistant** I've got the perfect thing! A do-it-yourself computer kit!

# **64 Made in England**

**Ken** I like your radio. Is it new?

**Pat** Yes, I bought it last week. It's a Bisonic.

**Ken** Bisonic? I've never heard of it. Where was it made?

**Pat** I'm not sure. I think it was made in Japan. I'll have a look. No, I'm wrong. It was made in England.

# **65 A real bargain**

Mr Palmer is looking for a new house. He's tired of living in the city and he wants to live in a quiet village. He's with the estate agent now.

**Estate Agent** Well, Mr Palmer. This is the semi-detached house that I told you about … Number 26, Richmond Road. The owners are away, but I've got a key.

**Mr Palmer** Hmm … when was it built?

**Agent** It was built in 1928.

**Mr Palmer** Who built it?

**Agent** I'm not really sure. Is it important?

**Mr Palmer** No, not really. Is that a new roof? It looks new.

**Agent** It is nearly new. It was put on last year.

**Agent** You can see that it's in very good condition. The previous owner was a builder.

**Mr Palmer** It's quite an old house. I'm worried about the electrical wiring. Has it been rewired?

**Agent** Yes, it has.

**Mr Palmer** Oh, when was it done?

**Agent** Five years ago. Also, it's been redecorated. Central heating has been put in, and a new garage has been built.

**Mr Palmer** Oh, when was that done?

**Agent** Last year … I think.

**Agent** It's a very solid house. It's built of brick with a tiled roof …

**Mr Palmer** It's a long way from a big town. What are the services like?

**Agent** Hold on … I've got the details here. Yes … let me see … the dustbins are emptied every Thursday.

**Mr Palmer** It's important for me to see the post before I go to work. When is it delivered?

**Agent** It's usually delivered at about 7.30. The milk is delivered about six o'clock … so you'll have fresh milk for breakfast.

**Mr Palmer** It's certainly very cheap. I've seen a lot of similar houses … and they're more expensive.

**Agent** Ah, yes … it's a real bargain.

**Mr Palmer** Are there any plans for the area?

**Agent** Pardon? Plans … well, a new school is going to be built in the village next year …

**Mr Palmer** Anything else?

**Agent** … and a new road, a motorway actually, will be built next year, too. You'll be able to get to London easily.

**Mr Palmer** Where exactly will the motorway be built?

**Agent** Well, actually, it'll be built behind the house. A bridge will be constructed over the house. It'll be very interesting. You'll be able to watch the traffic …

# **66 The Eight O’Clock News**

Good evening, and here is the Eight O'Clock News. Robert Gibbs, the great plane robber, has been caught in Montina. He was arrested in a Vanadelo night club. He is being questioned at police headquarters, and he will probably be sent back to Britain. Two British detectives left Heathrow earlier this evening, and they will help the police in Vanadelo with their enquiries. In 1978 Gibbs was sentenced to forty years in prison for his part in the Great Plane Robbery. He escaped from Parkwood Maximum Security Prison in April. Since then he has been seen in ten different countries.

The strike at Fernside Engineering in Birmingham has ended after talks between trade union leaders and management representatives. The strike began last weekend after a worker had been sacked. He had had an argument with a supervisor. Five thousand men went on strike. The worker has now been re-employed.

Vic Bostik, the lead guitarist of The Rat's pop group, is dead. He was found unconscious in his Mayfair flat early this morning. Bostik was rushed to St. Swithin's Hospital, but doctors were unable to save his life. A number of bottles, which had been found in his flat, were taken away by the police.

There is no more news about the famous Lanstable painting, *Norfolk Sunset,* which was stolen last night from the National Gallery. The painting, which is worth half a million pounds, was given to the gallery in 1975. It hasn't been found yet, and all airports and ports are being watched. Cars and trucks are being searched. A reward of £10,000 has been offered for information.

Jumbo, the Indian elephant which escaped from London zoo this afternoon, has been caught. Jumbo was chased across Regent's Park, and was finally captured at a hot dog stall in Regent's Park Road. A tranquillizer gun was used, and Jumbo was loaded onto a truck and was taken back to the zoo. At the zoo, he was examined by the zoo veterinary surgeon. Fortunately no damage had been done, and Jumbo will be returned to the elephant house later tonight.

Jimmy MacTavish, the Eastfield United and Scotland striker, has been transferred. The contract was signed at lunchtime. He was transferred to the American club, Miami Galaxy, for $3,000,000. MacTavish, aged 23, was bought two years ago for a fee of £2000 from a Scottish non-league club.

# **67 The Saturday Magazine**

**FILMS**

**Monsters of the Deep**

Produced by Anton Wells. Directed by Stephen Slovanski. Written by Harvey Foster. Music composed by Oliver Lawrence.

*Monsters of the Deep,* which is now being shown at the Odeon, Leicester Square, is one of the most exciting films I've ever seen. It was made in Hollywood last year, but the sharks were filmed on location off the coast of Florida. Steve Newman is brilliant as the shark hunter, but the real stars are the sharks themselves. It can be seen at cinemas in the provinces from next week. Don't miss it!

**BOOKS**

**Atlantic Crossing**

Written by Eric Redwood. Published by Heath Brothers (£12.95)

This book tells the story of Eric Redwood who crossed the Atlantic Ocean alone in a small wooden boat. The boat was made in Ireland, and was designed like the boats which were used by Irish fisherman one thousand years ago. Redwood thinks America was first discovered many years before Columbus was born. The designs for the boat were taken from old books which had been found in an Irish monastery. The book is beautifully illustrated with many colour photographs and maps. The photographs were taken by Redwood himself during the voyage.

**RECORDS**

**Songs of the City**

By Lisa Francis (XYZ Records) Produced by Martin Duncan.

All the songs on this new album were written by Lisa herself, and the album was recorded live during her recent successful concert tour. She is accompanied by several well-known musicians, Elton Kash, Dave Langdown, Ken Thompson, and Tony Lloyd. There is a great variety of music on the album-gentle romantic ballads, soul music, and exciting rock songs. The words to all the songs are printed on the back of the cover.

**TELEVISION**

**Last of the Eagles?**

Directed by Barbara Anfield. (BBC-TV)

This documentary, which was first shown on BBC 2 last year, will be repeated on BBC 1 next week. The golden eagle is now found in only a few remote places in Scotland. In recent years nests have been robbed and eggs have been stolen. Eagles are protected by law, but they are threatened with extinction. Barbara Anfield spent a year making this programme. The everyday habits of the eagle have been recorded for future generations.

# **68 Elvis Presley-Story of a Superstar**

When Elvis Presley died on 16th August, 1977, radio and television programmes all over the world were interrupted to give the news of his death. President Carter was asked to declare a day of national mourning. Carter said: 'Elvis Presley changed the face of American popular culture … He was unique and irreplaceable.' Eighty thousand people attended his funeral. The streets were jammed with cars, and Elvis Presley films were shown on television, and his records were played on the radio all day. In the year after his death, 100 million Presley LPs were sold.

Elvis Presley was born on January 8th, 1935, in Tupelo, Mississippi. His twin brother, Jesse Garon, died at birth. His parents were very poor and Elvis never had music lessons, but he was surrounded by music from an early age. His parents were very religious, and Elvis regularly sang at church services. In 1948, when he was thirteen, his family moved to Memphis, Tennessee. He left school in 1953 and got a job as a truck driver.

In the summer of 1953 Elvis paid $4 and recorded two songs for his mother's birthday at Sam Phillips' Sun Records studio. Sam Phillips heard Elvis and asked him to record *That's All Right* in July 1954. 20,000 copies were sold, mainly in and around Memphis. He made five more records for Sun, and in July 1955 he met Colonel Tom Parker, who became his manager in November. Parker sold Elvis's contract to RCA Records. Sun Records got $35,000 and Elvis got $5,000. With the money he bought a pink Cadillac for his mother. On January 10th, 1956, Elvis recorded *Heartbreak Hotel,* and a million copies were sold. In the next fourteen months he made another fourteen records, and they were all big hits. In 1956 he also made his first film in Hollywood.

In March, 1958, Elvis had to join the army. He wanted to be an ordinary soldier. When his hair was cut thousands of women cried. He spent the next two years in Germany, where he met Priscilla Beaulieu, who became his wife eight years later on May 1st, 1967. In 1960 he left the army and went to Hollywood where he made several films during the next few years.

By 1968 many people had become tired of Elvis. He hadn't performed live since 1960. But he recorded a new LP *From Elvis in Memphis* and appeared in a special television programme. He became popular again, and went to Las Vegas, where he was paid $750,000 for four weeks. In 1972 his wife left him, and they were divorced in October, 1973. He died from a heart attack. He had been working too hard, and eating and drinking too much for several years. He left all his money to his only daughter, Lisa Marie Presley. She became one of the richest people in the world when she was only nine years old.

69 If I had enough money …

**Andrew**

I've got £3500. I'm going to look at the car. If I like it, I'll buy it.

How much is the car?

Has he got enough money?

Is he going to look at the car?

Will he buy it?

What will he do if he likes it?

**Christopher**

I've worked for an oil company for ten years.

I'm a Bachelor of Science in Engineering.

I've got the qualifications.

I'm going to apply for the job.

If they offer me the job, I'll certainly take it.

Has he got experience?

Has he got a B.Sc?

Is he going to apply?

What will he do, if they offer him the job?

**Eric**

I'm a mechanic, and I know a lot about cars.

I've got a clean driving licence and enough money.

If they ask me, I'll go with them.

What's his job?

How much does he know about cars?

Has he got a clean driving licence?

Has he got enough money?

What'll he do, if they ask him to go with them?

**Georgina**

I can speak French and German.

I'll apply for the job.

If I get it, I'll have to move to Switzerland.

What languages can she speak?

What languages does she need?

Will she apply?

What'll she do if she gets the job?

**Isabel**

I'm 19 and I'm interested in the job. I'll get more information if I phone them, and if the salary's good. I'll apply!

How old is she?

Is she too old?

What'll happen if she phones?

Will she apply?

**Barbara**

That's a nice car, but I haven't got enough money.

If I had enough money, I'd buy it!

Does she like the car?

Has she got enough money?

Will she buy the car? Why not?

What would she do if she had enough money?

**David**

I like that job, but I can't apply for it.

I haven't got the qualifications.

If I had the qualifications, I'd apply for it.

Does he like the job?

Can he apply?

Why not?

What would he do, if he had the qualifications?

**Frank**

I've got £1000, and a driving licence.

But I know very little about cars.

If I knew something about cars, I'd go with them.

Has he got a licence?

What about money?

How much does he know about cars?

What would he do if he knew enough about cars?

**Helen**

I can speak French, but I can't speak German.

If I could speak German, I would apply for the job.

Can she speak German?

Does she need German?

Can she apply?

Why not?

What would she do, if she could speak German?

**Jack**

I'm interested in the job, but I'm too old.

If I were younger, I'd apply.

Is he over 23 or under 23?

Is he going to apply?

Why not?

What would he do, if he were younger?

# **70 In a restaurant**

**Waiter** Good evening, sir … madam. Shall I take your coats?

**Mr Adams** Thank you. Where shall we sit, Barbara?

**Waiter** Oh, would you like to sit over here, sir? Near the window.

**Mr Adams** Ah, yes … Could we see the menu?

**Waiter** Certainly. Here it is.

**Mr Adams** Do you fancy a starter?

**Mrs Adams** Mmm … I think I'll have the prawn cocktail. I'm very fond of prawns. What about you?

**Mr Adams** I'm not sure … I can't decide.

**Mrs Adams** Oh, I'd have the trout, if I were you. You always say that you like trout, and you haven't had it for a long time.

**Waiter** Are you ready to order yet, sir?

**Mr Adams** Yes … a prawn cocktail for my wife, and the trout for me.

**Waiter** And the main course, sir?

**Mr Adams** Veal for my wife. I can't decide between the veal and the chicken. What do you recommend?

**Waiter** Oh, if I were you, I'd have the veal. It's the speciality of the house.

**Waiter** What would you like with the veal?

**Mr Adams** Two mixed salads, please.

**Waiter** … any vegetables, sir?

**Mr Adams** Yes. Some cauliflower, some courgettes and some boiled potatoes, please.

**Waiter** Anything to follow?

**Mr Adams** Can we order that later?

**Waiter** Of course, sir.

**Waiter** Would you like to see the wine list?

**Mr Adams** Yes … we'd like a bottle of dry white wine.

**Waiter** May I suggest something?

**Mr Adams** Of course.

**Waiter** Why don't you try a bottle of English wine?

**Mr Adams** English wine?

**Waiter** Yes, it isn't very well-known, but it's being produced in the south of England now. You'll be surprised … it's very good.

# **71 North Sea Oil**

Good evening. This is London Radio. Welcome to 'Man in the Street'. Our programme tonight is about North Sea oil. Oil was first discovered beneath the North Sea in the late 1960s. Since then more and more oil has been found off the coasts of Britain, and is being brought ashore. We aren't going to become very rich, but we must decide how to spend the oil revenues. Our interviewer went into the streets to ask people their opinion. He asked: 'If you were the Prime Minister, what would you do with the money?'

'Well, of course I'm not the Prime Minister, but if I were, I'd spend the money on more hospitals and schools. We need more doctors, nurses, and teachers. Classes are too big. If classes were smaller, children would learn more. And there aren't enough nurses either, because salaries are too low. If the salaries were higher, more people would become nurses. Money which is spent now on education and health is an investment for the future.'

'I think the answer is quite simple. Taxes are much too high in this country, aren't they? I would reduce them. If we reduced taxes, people would have more money. If they had more money, they'd spend more. Industry would have to produce more, so it would need more workers. There would be more jobs, and we would all be richer.'

'I'm very worried about inflation. I'd try to control prices. If I were the Prime Minister, I'd reduce the price of gas, coal, and electricity. If we did that, everybody would benefit, wouldn't they? Food is much too expensive. I'd encourage the farmers to produce more food, more cheaply. However there are some things that I certainly wouldn't do. I certainly wouldn't build more roads, and I wouldn't spend money on guns, and tanks, and warplanes.'

'There's too much crime and violence nowadays. There aren't enough policemen on the streets. I'd increase the size of the police force, and I'd increase their salaries. If we had more policemen, we'd all feel safer. I'd also increase old age pensions. I've worked hard all my life, and I should have a reasonable standard of living.'

# **72 What would you do?**

Imagine that you are going to a desert island. You can take six things. Which six things would you take? And why?

If I weren't here, I'd like to be in California.

If I could be somebody else, I'd like to be a filmstar.

If I had a million pounds, I'd travel round the world.

If you weren't here, where would you like to be? Why?

If you could be somebody else, who would you like to be? Why?

If you had a million pounds, what would you do? Why?

# **74 Four reports**

Laura Bruce is a trainee reporter for the *London Evening Echo.* Last week several famous people arrived at London Airport. Laura was sent to interview them. Nobody told her very much!

**Doctor Sowanso,** Secretary-General, UNO:

I'm very busy. I've got a lot of appointments. I can't say very much. I love England. I've been here many times before. I enjoyed my visit in January. I'll only be in England for twelve hours. I'm going to meet the Prime Minister. I have no other comments.'

**Laura's Report**

Dr Sowanso visited England yesterday. He arrived at London Airport at 10 am, and we asked him to comment on the international situation. He just made a brief statement. He said he was very busy, and that he'd got a lot of appointments. He said he couldn't say very much, but he said he loved England. He said that he had been here many times, and that he had enjoyed his visit in January. He said he would be in England for only twelve hours, and that he was going to meet the Prime Minister. He said he had no other comments.

**Brutus Cray,** world champion boxer: 'like newspaper reporters, but I haven't got time to say much. Just that I'm the greatest! I've always been the greatest, and I always will be the greatest. I can beat anybody in the world! I've beaten Leo Fink before. I knocked him out in Miami, and I'm going to knock him out in São Paulo. I'll be the champion forever! Excuse me …"

**Laura's Report**

Brutus Cray stopped at London Airport on his way from Frankfurt to São Paulo. I managed to see him in the V.I.P. lounge. Brutus was in a hurry. He said he liked newspaper reporters, but that he hadn't got time to say much. He said he was the greatest, he had always been the greatest, and he always would be the greatest. He said he could beat anybody in the world. He also said he had beaten Leo Fink before. He said he had knocked Fink out in Miami, and that he was going to knock him out in São Paulo. He also said he would be the champion forever!

# **75 Examination day**

Victor Hey, Maria! Have you finished your exam?

Maria Yes, I have.

Victor Was it difficult?

Maria Well, it was quite hard.

Victor Did you pass?

Maria I don't know … she didn't tell me.

Victor What questions did she ask?

Maria First she asked me what my name was.

Victor That was easy, wasn't it?

Maria … then she asked me where I came from, and how long I'd been studying at the school.

Victor … and what else did she ask?

Maria She asked when I had begun studying English, and she asked how I would use English in the future.

Victor Go on …

Maria Then she asked me if I liked the school, and if I lived with my parents.

Victor Anything else?

Maria Oh, Victor! I'm trying to remember … oh, yes! She asked if I spoke any other languages.

Victor Is that all?

Maria Oh, there were a lot of other questions. She asked me what my hobbies were, and she asked me to tell her about them. Then she gave me a picture and asked me to describe it. Oh, and then I was asked to read a passage.

Victor What did she say at the end?

Maria Ah! She asked me to tell you to go in … immediately.

This is the paper that the examiner used, when she was asking the questions.

# **76 But you said …**

**Marion** Good afternoon.

**Travel Agent** Good afternoon, madam.

**Marion** I'm interested in the holiday in Saint Cuthbert.

**Agent** Ah, yes … the Caribbean! I can recommend it highly.

**Marion** Can you tell me a little bit more about it?

**Agent** Of course, madam. It's an excellent package holiday. You'll travel on a scheduled flight. You'll be met at the airport, and taken to your hotel. You won't have to pay airport taxes. They're included in the price. The hotel is very near the beach, and it's got a swimming pool and a discotheque. It's a very modern hotel, it was built last year. The restaurant's superb, and drinks are very cheap in Saint Cuthbert. Oh, and you can walk to the sea in two minutes.

**Marion** Hmm … it sounds good. I'd like to make a reservation.

**Agent** One moment, madam and I'll get you a booking form.

Marion paid a deposit, and booked the holiday. Two months later she was in Saint Cuthbert. But she was disappointed. When she returned to England, she went to see the travel agent.

**Agent** Ah! It's Miss Ward. Did you have a good holiday?

**Marion** No, I certainly did not have a good holiday.

**Agent** Oh, I'm very sorry to hear that. What was wrong?

**Marion** Well, when I arrived in Saint Cuthbert, I had to spend four hours at the airport … you said that we would be met, and we weren't. You also said that we would be taken to the hotel. We weren't and the taxi cost about £12. You told me that airport taxes were included. In fact I had to pay £10.

**Agent** Oh, dear … you had a very bad start. But the hotel was nice, wasn't it?

**Marion** No, it was not! You said it was very modern. You were quite right. They hadn't finished building it! We couldn't sleep because the workmen were working all night … on our balcony! You said it had got a swimming pool. It had … but it was empty. And the restaurant … the restaurant served fish every night.

**Agent** Oh, dear …

**Marion** You said that the hotel was near the beach, and that we could walk to the sea in two minutes.

**Agent** Couldn't you?

**Marion** Well, yes … we could … but there was an oil refinery between the hotel and the beach, and it took half an hour to walk round it.

**Agent** Oh, I'm really terribly sorry. We really didn't know … I'm afraid we're unable to give you a refund, but we can give you a ten percent discount on next year's holiday …

**Marion** Next year! Next year, I'm staying in England!

# **77 Having things done**

**A** Sorry I'm late. I couldn't start the car this morning.

**B** Well, winter's coming. It was probably cold.

**A** It needs a service, really … but garages are so expensive nowadays.

**B** Can't you service it yourself?

**A** Who? Me? I don't know anything about cars!

**B** Then if I were you, I'd have it serviced. The garage that I use is very reasonable. And have the radiator filled with anti-freeze. They say it's going to be a cold winter.

**C** Do you know where there's a good dry-cleaner's?

**D** Yes … there's a good one in Victoria Road. I'd go there if I were you.

**C** Ok, thanks. I want to have my suit cleaned … I'm going to a wedding on Saturday.

**D** Well, I had my suit cleaned there last week, and they did a good job.

**E** Excuse me. Do you do alterations?

**F** Yes, we do. What kind of alteration do you want?

**E** I'd like to have this skirt lengthened. It's too short for me.

**F** That's fine. It'll take about a fortnight.

**E** … and at the same time I want to have this dress shortened. It's a bit too long.

**F** Good. Would you mind just putting the skirt on first? There's a changing room over there.

**G** Hello. Can I make an appointment to see the optician?

**H** Yes. Would next Friday be convenient? At three o'clock?

**G** Oh, yes. I want to have my eyes tested. I think I need some new glasses. Goodbye.

**H** Goodbye. Oh, be careful! That isn't the door! It's a window!

**G** Oh, yes … Sorry!

# **79 The Appointment**

Once upon a time, there was a rich Caliph in Baghdad. He was very famous because he was wise and kind. One morning he sent his servant, Abdul, to the market to buy some fruit. As Abdul was walking through the market, he suddenly felt very cold. He knew that somebody was behind him. He turned round and saw a tall man, dressed in black. He couldn't see the man's face, only his eyes. The man was staring at him, and Abdul began to shiver.

'Who are you? What do you want?' Abdul asked.

The man in black didn't reply.

'What's your name?' Abdul asked nervously.

'I … am … Death, the stranger replied coldly and turned away.

Abdul dropped his basket and ran all the way back to the Caliph's house. He rushed into the Caliph's room.

'Excuse me, master. I have to leave Baghdad immediately,' Abdul said.

'But why? What's happened?" the Caliph asked.

'I've just met Death in the market,' Abdul replied.

'Are you certain?" said the Caliph.

'Yes, I'm certain. He was dressed in black, and he stared at me. I'm going to my father's house in Samarra. If I go at once, I'll be there before sunset.'

The Caliph could see that Abdul was terrified and gave him permission to go to Samarra.

The Caliph was puzzled. He was fond of Abdul and he was angry because Abdul had been badly frightened by the stranger in the market. He decided to go to the market and investigate. When he found the man in black, he spoke to him angrily.

'Why did you frighten my servant?'

'Who is your servant?' the stranger replied.

'His name is Abdul,' answered the Caliph.

'I didn't want to frighten him. I was just surprised to see him in Baghdad.'

'Why were you surprised?' the Caliph asked.

'I was surprised because I've got an appointment with him … tonight … in Samarra!'