**1, In Touch-Ability Net Tech Conference; Love on the Run**

**whilst** (formal)it is the formal form of “**while**”.

**vouch**//(for something)(formal) to say that you believe something is true or good because you have evidence for it.

**see-saw**1, [n.] 跷跷板  
2, [vt.] change repeatedly from one emotion, situation, etc. to another and back again.  
Share prices see-sawed all day.

**literacy** //  
[n. U.] the ability to write and read  
**computer literacy :** the ability to use computers well.  
**technological literacy :** the ability to use new technology.

**champion**   
[vt.] to fight or speak in support for a group of people or a belief.  
He has always championed the cause of women rights.

**live up to** (phrasal verb) to do as well as or be as good as other people expect you to  
**Could it live up to its billing?**   
= Could it fulfill the expections or meet the standard that was advertiseed or announced?

**panel**   
[n.] a group of specialists who give their advices or opinion about sth in a particular field

**commit**  
[vt.] to promise sincerely that you will definitely do something.  
commit somebody/yourself to do something.

**buy into**  
1, (*informal*) to believe something, especially an idea that many other people believe in.  
 (synonym) to support  
She had never bought into the idea that to be attractive you have to be thin.  
2, to buy shares in a company  
buy into in the stock market

**benefit**1, [vt.] to be useful to sb or improve their life in some way.  
AI benefits blind and partially sighted people.   
2, [C. U.] an advantages that something gives you; a helpful or useful effect that sth has.  
I have had the benefit of good education.

**VI :** visually impaired **accessibility** [n. U.]: it means designing products, services, and environments so that people with disablity can use them.

**inclusive** [adj.]  
**inclusivity** [n. U.] making sure that everyone feels welcome and respected, regardless of their differences.

**enable** [vt.] enable sb. to do sth.  
The software enables you to create your own DVDs.

**step change** (BrE) a big change or improvement in something

**illuminate**  
[vt.] (*formal*) to shine light on something  
Floodlights illuminated the stadium.  
[vt.] (*formal*) to make something clearer or easier to undersand.  
This text illuminated the philopher’s early thinking.

**literate**  
[adj.] able to read and write

**daunt**  vt. to make sb. feel nervous and less confident about doing sth.  
She was a brave woman but she felt daunted by the task ahead.

**predominant**1. [adj.] most obvious or noticeable.  
Yellow is the predominant colour in autumn.  
2. [adj.] (SYNONYM: **dominant**)having more power influence than ohters.  
a way of thinking that is predominant in modern social life.

**itinerary**   
[n. C.] a plan of a journey, including the places and the route that you visit.  
a detailed itinerary.

**relevance**  
**1,** [n.] a close connection with the subject you are discussing or the situation you are thinking about.  
I don’t see the relevance of your question.  
2, [n.] the fact of being valuable and useful to people in their lives and work  
In today's fast-paced world, the relevance of traditional marketing techniques is often questioned.

**underline** [vt.] to emphasize or show that something is important or true.

**one-off** [n.](BrE.) a thing that is made or happens only once and not regularly.

**as a matter of course :**[collocation] the usual or expected thing.  
Safety precautions are observed as a matter of course.

**kiosk /’****/**[n.] a small shop or store, open at the front, where newspapers, drinks, etc. are sold.

**awe:**[n.] feelings of respect and slightly fear; feelings of very impressed by sth./sb.  
awe and respect.  
[v.] (usually passive) to fill sb. with awe.  
She seemed awed by the presence of so many famous people.

**horrendous** //   
1, [adj.] extremely shocking.  
horrendous injuries.  
2. [adj.] (informal) extremely unpleasant unacceptable  
They have horrendous financial problems.

**nettle** [n.] 荨麻  
a wild plant with leaves that have pointed edges, are coverd in fine hairs and sting if you touch them.

**stride**   
[n.] one long step; the distance between covered by a step  
He cross the room by two strides.  
[vi.] to walk with long steps in a particular direction  
We strode across the snow fields.

[**ramble tag**](https://shop.rnib.org.uk/ramble-tag-v2-89977)    


**tandem**  
[n.] a bicycle for two riders

**tether**  
[vt.] to tie an animal to a post so that it can not move very far.  
He tethered his horse to a tree.  
[n.] a rope or chain to tie animal to do this.

**stride**  
[n.] a long step; the distance covered by a step  
He crossed the road in two strides.  
[v.] to walk with a long step in a particular direction

**hitch**[vt.] to fix something to something else with a rope, a hook, etc.  
She hitched the pony to the gate.  
**get hitched**: (*informal*) to get married

**2, In touch-All The Light We Cannot See**

**relove around**[phrasal verb] to have somebody / something as the main interest or subject.  
His whole life relove around surfing.  
The movie reloves around a blind character called Marie –Laure Le Blanc.

**anecdote** //  
[n.C.] a short, interesting or amusing story about a real person or event.  
She shares anecdotes what it was like on set as a blind person.

**on set**  
(*idiom*) to be in the location of filming, to be in with the scenery

**avid** //  
[adj.] very enthusiastic about something.  
an avid reader.

**rave** [vt.]   
(rave about sb./sth.) to talk or write about something in a very enthusiastic way.

**out of blue:** unexpectedly

**intimidate** //   
[vt.] to frighten or threaten somebody so that they will do what you want.  
(intimidate sb. into sth./doing sth.)  
They were accused of intimidating people into voting for them.

**tantamount** // [adj.]  
*tantamount to something* : (formal) having the same bad effect as something else.  
e.g. If he resigned it would be tantamount to admitting that he was guilty.

**chime** /tSaIm/  
[vi.vt] to ring; to show the time by making a ringing sound.  
**chime in** **(with sth)** to join or interrupt a conversation

**portrayal** //   
[C.] the act of showing/describing sb./sth. in a picture, play, book, etc;  
The article examines the portrayal of gay men in the media.  
(**The article takes a close look at how gay men are shown in movies, TV shows, advertisements, and other media.** It investigates whether these portrayals are accurate, fair, and inclusive.)  
[U.] a particular way in which this is done

**star-struck**  
[adj.] very impressed by famous people such as actors, football players, etc  
A star-struck young girl goes to Hollywood to make her fortune.

**habitual** //   
[adj.] usual or typical of somebody or something.   
They waited for his habitual response.

**recipient** /rI'sIpIEnt/  
[n.] a person who recieves something  
  
**... is there a risk of us going from blind characters habitually being the victims in the films and the recipients of pity to being almost super heroes?**

Explanation:  
In essence, the sentence is asking if there is a danger of going overboard with the positive portrayal of blind characters, creating unrealistic and potentially harmful stereotypes on their capabilities. (from Bard)

**residual** //   
[adj.] (only befor noun)(*formal*) remaining at the end of a process  
There are still a few residual problems with the computer program.  
residual income.

**squadron** // n.   
a group of military aircraft or ships forming a section of military force.  
e.g. a bomber/fighter squadron.

**gung-ho** //   
[adj.] (*informal, disapproving*) too enthusiastic about sth., without thinking seriously about it, especially about fighting an war.

**3, In Touch-Christmas Time at New College**

**mainstream school :** normal school

**festival** // n.  
**festive** // adj.   
1, typical of a special event or celebration.  
a festive occasion   
2, (British English) connected with the period when people celebrate Christmas.

**house** [vt.] to be the place where something is kept or where something operates from.  
Three separate white squares house each of the three letters. (From the introduction)  
The books are housed in a glass-fonted cases.

**diagonal** // adj.   
(of a straight line)at an angle; joining two opposite sides of something at an angle.  
e.g. diagonal stripes

**pantomime** // n. C. (informal **panto**)  
(in Britain) a type of play with music, dancing and jokes, that is based on a fairy tale and is usually performed at Christmas.  
e.g. We took chidren to a pantomime.

**phonic** // adj.   
relating to sound; relating to sounds made in speech.

**chipper** [n.]  
a machine which cuts wood into small pieces.

**conjure** //vi.  
**conjure up** : (phrasal verb) to make something appear as a picture in you mind.  
That smell always conjure up memories of holidays in France.

**advent** // n.   
(in Christian religion) the period of approximately four weeks before Christmas.

**braille** // U. (Breille, a blind Franch)   
a system of printing for blind people. (布莱叶盲文)

**brailler** [C.] a mechanical device for writing brealle.

**perception** [U.]   
the way that you notice things, especially with the senses.  
e.g. visual percetion.

**poke** // vt. to push your fingers or another object into somebody or something.  
She poke him in the ribs with her elbow.

**tactile** // adj.   
connected with the sense of touch; using your sense of touch  
e.g. visual and tactile communication.  
tactile fabric (= pleasant to touch)

**potpourri** // n.U. (from French)  
a mixture of dried flowers and leaves used for making a room smells pleasant.

**chapel** // n.  
a small building or a room for Christian worship in a school, prison, large private house, etc.  
e.g. a college chapel.

**ringmaster**   
[n.] a person who in charge of a circus performance.

**fed up with**  
bored or unhappr, especially with a situation that has continued for too long.

**crowning** [adj.]  
making something perfect or complete  
e.g. Is this a sort of crowning part of Christmas at college?

**collective** [adj.]  
done or shared by all members of a group of people.  
e.g. Could we do a collective Merry Christmas everyone?

**4, In Touch-How Accessible is X?**

**mark the spot**  
indicates the specific or exact location

**extract**[n.] a short message from a book, a piece of musice, etc. that gives you an idea of what the whole thing is like.  
[vt.]   
1, (fromal, specialist) to take or pull somethint out, especially when this needs force or effort.  
The stone whell crushes it into pulp, which is then pressed to extract the oil.  
2, to remove or obtain substance from something  
a machine that extracts the excess moisture from the air.

**reinstate**   
[vt.] to give back a job or position that has been taken away from somebody.  
I urge you to reinstate the Twitter’s accessibility team.

**address**  
[vt.]  
1, to write on an envelope, etc. the name and address of the person.   
2, to make a formal speech to a group of people  
The president was asked to address the assembly.  
3, to say something directly to somebody  
I was surprised when he addressed me in Egnlish.  
**address the points**: to respond directly to a particular topic or an issue  
**address somebody (as something):** to use a particular name or title for somebody when you speak or write to them.   
The judge shoulde be addressed as “Your Hornour”.

**spell out**1, to explain something in a clear, simple way.  
Could you spell out the implications of it?  
**spell out why, what, etc.**  
2, to say or write the letters of a word in a right order.

**implication** [n.C.plural]  
see “Categories of Collocations and Words”

**dispense** [vt.]  
1,(formal) to give out something to people  
The machine dispenses a range of drinks and snacks.  
2, (formal) to provide something, especially a service, to people.  
The organization dispense free health care to the poor.  
**dispense with sb/sth**  
to stop use sb or sth because you no longer need them or it.

**scam** //   
(informal) a clever or dishonest plan or making money  
an insurance scam.

**fallout** [n.]  
the bad results of a situation or an action.  
e.g. the political fallout of current crisis.

**clutter** [vt.] to fill a place with too many things, so that it is untidy.  
Don’t clutter the page with too many digrams.

**strip** [vt.]  
to remove a layer of something so that it is completely exposed.  
Deer had strip all the bark off the tree.  
**strip back**reduced to its simplest form, with the most basic and essential features.

**lure** [vt.]  
(lure somebody +adv./prep.) to persuade or trick somebody to go somethere or to do something by primosing them a reward.  
The child was lured to car but managed to escape.

**viral** // adj.  
1, like or caused by a virus.  
a viral infection.  
2, used to describe a piece of information, a video, an imiage, etc. that is sent rapidly over the internet.  
e.g. a viral email.   
(go viral) Within 24 hours, the video went viral on Youtube and Facebook.

**apologetic** /**/** [adj.] apologize [v.]

**forth** [adv.] towards a place; forwards  
Water gushed forth from a hole in the rock.

**ad hoc**   
[adv.](from latin) in a way that is arranged or happens when necessay and is not planned in advance.  
The tribunals operated ad hoc and were dissolved when the work concluded.  
[adj.] arranged or happens when necessay and is not planned in advance  
an ad hoc meeting.

**hefty**  
1, (of an amount of money) large; larger than usual or expected  
 heft fee  
2, (of a person or an object) big and heavy

**commence**  
[vi. vt.] (fromal) to begin to happen; to begin something.  
The meeting is scheduled to commence at noon.  
She commenced her medical career in 1956.

**interoperable** “inter.operable”   
[adj.] (of computer or programs) able to exchage information.  
**interoperability** [n.U.]

**clunky** //   
[adj.] (informal, especially NAmE) heavy and awkward.  
clunky leather shoes.

**workaround**   
[C.] (computing) a way of working with a piece of software in order to avoid a particular problem even thouh you do not solve that problem.

**meagre** //   
[adj.] small in quantity and poor in quality  
e.g. a megre diet of bread and water

**hobbyist**  
[n.] a person who is very interested in a particular hobby.  
a hobbyist developer

**feasible** // (SYNONYM) **practicable**[adj.] that is possible and likely to achieved  
a feasible plan.

**chronological**[adj.] (of a number of events) arranged in the order in which they happened.  
chronological timeline

**cajole** //   
[vt.] to make somebody to do something by talking to them and being very nice to them.  
(cajole somebody into something / into doing something)

**hunch** //  
[n.] a feeling that something is true even though you do not have envidence to improve it.  
My hunch is that the burglars are still in that area.  
[vi. vt.] to bend the top of your body forward and raise your shoulders and back.  
She leaned forward, hunching over the desk.  
(hunch something) He hunched his shoulders...

**erroneous** //   
[adj.] (formal) not correct; base on wrong information.  
erroneous conclusions / assumptions.

**precedent** /’/   
[n.C.U.] an official action or decission that has happened in the past and that is seen as an example or a rule to be followed in a similar situation later.   
The rulling set a precedent for the future label cases.

**unquivocal /****/**   
[adj.](formal) express your opinion or intention clearly and firmly.  
an unquivocal rejection.

**pro bono**(from Latin)   
[adv.] without asking for payment.   
  
[adj.] (only befor noun) (especially of legal work) done without asking for payment.  
Serval law firms in the city participate in pro bono initiatives, assisting low-income individuals.

**5, In Touch-Living Through War**

[Hamas-led Attack on Israel](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/2023_Hamas-led_attack_on_Israel)

**abrupt** //   
[adj.] sudden and unexpected, often in an unpleasant way.  
an abrupt change.  
**abruptly** [adv.]

**communal** //   
1, [adj.] shared by, or for the use of, a number of people, especially people who live together.  
a communal kitchen.  
2, [adj.] involving different groups of people in a community.  
communal violence between religious groups.

**disruptive** //  
[adj.] causing problems, noise, etc. so that something cannot continue normally.  
She had a disruptive influence on the rest of the class.

**consuming**   
[adj.] (onluy before noun.) (of a feeling, an interast, etc) so strong and important that it takes all your time and energy.  
Motorcycle is my comsuming passion.

**surveilance** //   
[n. U.] tha act of carefully watching a person suspected of a crime or a place where a crime may be committed.   
surveilance camera.

**sanity** //   
[n.] the state of having a normal healthy mind.  
His behivour was so strange that I doubt his sanity.

**respite** //  
[singular, U.] a short break or escape from something or unpleasant.  
(respite from something)  
The drug brought a brief respite from the pain.

**reserve** //  
[n. C.] an extra military force, etc. that is not part of a country’s military forces, but is available to be used when needed.  
the army reserve.  
[vt.] to ask for a seat, table, room, etc. to available for you or somebody else at a future time. (n. **reservation**)  
I would like to reserve a table for three for eight o’clock.

**disorientate** //   
(*also* BrE **disorient** //)  
[vt.]   
1, to make sb. unable to recoganize where they are or where they should go  
The darkness had disorientated him.  
2, to make sb. feel confused.

**flight**  
[n.C.] a series of steps between two floors or levels.   
e.g. a flight of stairs.

**Iron Dome**:  is an Israeli mobile all-weather [air defense system](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Air_defense_system).

**reverberate** (SYNONYM vibrate) [vi.]

**dribble**   
[n.] (SYNONYM **trickle**)  
a very small amount of liquid, in a thin stream.  
e.g. a dribble of blood.

**municipality** //  
[n.C] (formal) 1, a town, city or district with its own local government; 2, the group of officials who govern it.  
The municipality offers services such as electricity, water and rubbish collection.

**reel**   
[vi.] 1, to feel very shocked or upset about something.  
(reel at/from/with something)  
I am still reeling from the shock.  
[vi.] 2, to move in a unsteady way, for example because you are drunk or hit.  
[n.] (*also* **spool**) e.g. reel of cotton  


**devastated** //  
[adj.] extremely upset and shocked  
His family is absolutely devestated.  
**devastate** //  
[vt]  
 1, (devastate sth.)to completely destroy a place or an area.  
2, (devastate sb.) to make sb. very shocked and sad.

**6, In Touch – Look UK’s Mentoring Project**

**scheme**[n.C.] a plan or system for doing or orginazing sth.   
a training scheme.

**harness**[vt.] to control and use the force or strength of sth. to produce power or to achieve sth.  
(harness sth.) We must harness the skill and creativity of our workforce.

**strand**  
[n. C.] one of the different parts of an idea, a plan, a story, etc.  
There are two strands of the project.

**throw a curve ball**  
surprising sb. by doing sth that they do not expect

**cathartic** //  
[adj.] the process of releasing strong feelings, for example through plays or other artistic activities, as a way of providing relief from anger, suffering, etc.  
 It was a cathartic experience.  
**catharsis** [n.]

**utilise** (-ze)  
[vt.] (formal) to use sth. especially for a particular purpose.  
The Roman was the first to utilise concrete as a building material.

**recruit**  
[vt.vi.] to find sb. to join a company, an army, etc.   
to recruit more officers.  
[n.] a person who joins a company, an organization, etc.  
attempts to attract new recruits to the nursing profession.

**GCSE**  
General Certificate of Secondary Education: a system of public exams taken in various subjects from the age of about 16, or one of these exams, or a qualification from this system.

**revision**   
1, [U.] (BrE.) the process of learning work for an exam.  
Have you started your revisioin yet?   
2, [C.] (from revise) a change or a set of changes of sth.  
He made some minor revisions to the report before printing it out.

**prognosis**  
[U.] (medical) an opinion, based on medical experience, of the likely development of a disease or an illness.  
The prognosis is not good.

**fatigue** [U.] a feeling of being extremely tired, usually because of hard work or exercise.  
Driver fatigue was to blame for the accident.

**wobble**  
[n.]   
1. a moment when you hesitate or lose confidence aoubt something.  
The team is experiencing a mid-season wobble.  
2.   
[vt.]

**reassurance**[U.] the fact of giving advice or help that takes away person’s fears or doubts.  
Teenagers need love, encouragement and reassurance from their parents.

**upfront** [adj.]   
1. (upfront about sth.) not trying to hide what you think or do.  
He has been about his intention since the begining.  
2. paid in advance, before other payments are made.  
There will be an upfront fee of 4%.

**out of the blue**  
If something happens out of the blue, it is completely unexpected

**swap** //  
1. [vt. vi.] to give sb. sth. and receive sth. in exchange.  
Can I swap my magazine with you?  
2.[vt.] (BrE) to replace one person or thing with another.

**in midstream**  (idiom)  
in the middle of doing sth; while sth is still happening.

**nitty-gritty** (*informal*)  
the most important aspects or basic details of a subject or situation.  
Time ran out before we get down to the real nitty-gritty.

**intrigue** //  
[vt.] to make sb. very interested and want to know more about sth.  
(intrigue sb )   
The idea intrigued her.

**spur**[vt.] to encourage sb. to do sth. or to encourage them to try harder to achieve sth.  
spur sb. to do sth.   
spurt sb. on to sth.  
Her diffcult childhood spurred her on to succeed.

**asset** /’/  
1. [n.C.] a person or thing that is valuable or useful to sb. or sth.   
In his job, patience is an invaluable asset.  
2. [n.] (usually plural) a thing of value, especially property.

**perception**1. [U.] the way you notice things, especially with the senses

**fountain**: 喷泉

**sterling**   
[adj.] of excellent quality  
He has done sterling work.

**poignant** //   
[adj.] have a strong effect on your feelings, especially in a way that makes you sad.  
Her face was a poignant reminder of the passing of time.

**7, The Blind Chocolatier**

**be tucked away**[phrasal verb] to be located in a quiet place, where not many people go.  
The shop is tucked away down a backstreet.

**brewery**  
[n.] a factory where beer is made; a company that makes beer

**conceal**  
[vt.] to hide sb/sth  
The paintings were concealed beneath a thick layer of plaster.

**pun**  
[n. C.] the clever or humurous use of a word that has more than one meaning, or of words that have different meaning but sound the same. (双关语)  
[vi.] to make a pun

**counter**  
[n.] a long flat surface over which goods are sold or business is done in a shopr, bank, etc.  
I asked the woman behind the counter if they had any posdcards.

**almond** /'A:mEnd/  
[n.] 杏仁

**pistachio** /pIs'tQtSiEu/  
[n.] 开心果

**bonbon**  
[C.] a sweet/candy, especially one with a softe centre. (夹心糖)

**hazelnut** /'heIzlnVt/  
[C.] the small brown nut from a hazel tree. 榛子

**truffle**  
[n.] a soft round sweet/candy made of chocolate.

**temper**  
[n.] if somebody has a temper, they become angry very easily.  
He must learn to control his temper.  
a violent/short/qicuk, etc. temper.  
[vt.] to make metal as hard as it needs to be by heating and then cooling it.  
tempered steel