

*Speaker 1*

On this wonderful **day** when we are gathered **together** to celebrate your academic **success**, I have decided to **talk** to you about the **benefits** of **failure**. And as you **stand** on the **threshold** of what is sometimes called ‘real **life**’, I want to extol the **crucial** importance of **imagination**. These may seem **quixotic** or paradoxical **choices**, but please **bear** with me.

Looking **back** at the 21-year-old that I was at **graduation**, is a **slightly** uncomfortable **experience** for the 42-year-old that she has **become**. Half my **lifetime** ago, I was **striking** an uneasy **balance** between the ambition I had for **myself**, and what those **closest** off **to** me expected **of** me. I was **convinced** that the only thing I wanted to do, **ever**, was to write **novels**. However, my **parents**, both of whom came from impoverished **backgrounds** and **neither** of whom had been to **college**, took the view that my **overactive** imagination was an amusing personal **quirk** that would never pay a **mortgage**, or secure a **pension**. I know that the **irony** strikes with the force of a cartoon anvil, **now**.

*Speaker 2*

A **language** becomes a **global** language because of the **power** of the people who **speak** it. It has **nothing** to do with the **structure** of the language; it’s nothing about the English **grammar** or **vocabulary** or **pronunciation** or **spelling** that makes English an **appealing** language at a global **level**. In fact, if you think about it, English **spelling** would put most people **off**, you’d think. So, it’s nothing to do with the **structure** of language. No, it’s all to do with **power**. But power means different things at different **times**. English **first** became international because of **political** power, **military** power, the power of the British **Empire**, really. But it isn’t just **political** that takes a language around the **world**. There’ve got to be **other** factors **too**.

*Speaker 3*

In David **Cameron**, I follow in the footsteps of a great modern **Prime Minister** under David's **leadership**, the government stabilized the **economy**, reduced the budget **deficit**, and helped more people to **work** than ever **before**. But David's **true** legacy is not about the **economy**, but about **social** justice. From the introduction of same-sex **marriage** to taking people on low wages out of **income** tax **altogether**, David Cameron has led a One Nation **government**, and it is in **that** spirit that I also plan to **lead**. Because, not everybody **knows** this, but the full title of my **party** is the Conservative and **Unionist** Party, and the word Unionist is very **important** to me. It means that we believe in the **Union**, the precious, precious **bond** between **England, Scotland, Wales**, and Northern **Ireland**, but it means something **else** that is just as **important**. It means we believe in a Union, **not** just between the **nations** of the United Kingdom, but between **all** of our citizens, every **one** of us, whoever we **are**, and wherever we're **from**.

*Speaker 4*

For the last **six years**, you've heard me speak as **Health** Secretary, one of the more **demanding** jobs in the **Cabinet**. However, I **see** you've decided not to let me off the **hook** by giving me the small matter of **Brexit** to deal with as **Foreign** Secretary where I support Dom **Raab**. Of course, in the NHS, we would have **banned** all this talk of **cakes, cherries**, and **eating** them as contributory factors for **obesity**. But it is **Brexit** I want to talk about today. How we can make it **work**, how we **will** make it work – not on a wing and a **prayer** but **whatever** the outcome of the **negotiations** - and what we need to do **now** to make that **happen**. But first, let me tell you about my first few **moments** as Foreign **Secretary**. In the **summer** I met Madeleine **Albright**, who was President **Clinton's** Secretary of **State**, and she **said** to me “never **forget** what an honour it **is** to represent your **country**.” So, I want to **start** by thanking all of **you** for giving me **that privilege** and thanking Theresa **May**, our Prime **Minister**. The **truth** is...