

*Speaker 1*

So they **hoped** that I would take a **vocational** degree; **I** wanted to study English **Literature**. A **compromise** was **reached** that in retrospect satisfied **nobody**, and I went up to study Modern **Languages**. **Hardly** had my parents' car rounded the **corner** at the end of the **road** than I **ditched German** and **scuttled** off down the **Classics** corridor. I cannot **remember** telling my parents that I was **studying** Classics; they might well've found out for the **first** time on **graduation** day. Of **all** the subjects on this **planet**, I think they would have been **hard put** to name one **less** useful than **Greek** mythology when it came to **securing** the **keys** to an **executive bathroom**.

*Speaker 2*

A century **later**, we are talking about the 16<sup>th</sup> -17<sup>th</sup> century there; we had the power of **science**, **technology**, the industrial **revolution**. English is a language of **science**. That started **then** as something like two-thirds of the people, who **invented** all the things that make modern society what it **is**, **did** so through the **medium** of the English language. And then, in the 19<sup>th</sup> century, **economic** power. Money **talks**, **always**. And the language it was **talking** in the 19th century was **English** because **America** and **Britain** between them had the money **markets** of the world **sawn up** for the most part. And then, in the 20<sup>th</sup> century, we have **cultural** power, with English being the language of the vast majority of the **inventions** that make modern society what it **is**. So, it's English turning up, as it was always, in the right place at the right **time**, during these last four hundred **years** or so, that it produced the **enormous** global status that it currently **has**.

*Speaker 3*

That means fighting **against** the burning **injustice** that if you're born **poor** you will **die**, on average, nine years **earlier** than others. If you're **black**, you're treated more **harshly** by the criminal **justice** system than if you're **white**. If you're a white, working-class **boy**, you're **less** likely than anybody else in **Britain** to go to **university**. If you're at a **state** school, you're less likely to reach the top **professions** than if you're educated **privately**. If you're a **woman**, you will earn less than a **man**. If you suffer from mental **health** problems, there's not enough help to **hand**. If you're **young**, you'll find it harder than ever **before** to own your own **home**. But, the mission to make Britain a country that works for **everyone** means **more** than fighting these injustices. If you're from an ordinary working-class **family**, life is much **harder** than many people in Westminster **realize**. You **have** a job, but you don't always have job **security**. You have your own home but you **worry** about paying the **mortgage**. You can just about **manage**, but you worry about the **cost** of living and getting your **kids** into a good **school**. If you're **one** of those families, if you're **just** managing, I want to address you **directly**. I know you're **working** around the **clock**; I know you're doing your **best** and I know that **sometimes** life can be a **struggle**.

*Speaker 4*

That's kind of applauding **yourself** and the right thing to **do**, but the **truth** is that nothing quite **prepares** you for the honour of being **asked** to be a Foreign **Secretary**. I walked up the Grand **Staircase**, as it's called in the **Foreign** Office, as you'd expect a red **carpet**, and gazing **down** on me from the **walls** were the **pictures** of my distinguished **predecessors**. One of the more **recent** ones seemed to have forgotten to comb his blond **hair**. At the **time** I'd just **become** the longest-serving **Health** Secretary. So, I decided to look **up** who was the **shortest**-serving **Foreign** Secretary. It was **not**, actually, John **Major**, who was only there for a short **time**, it was someone called Earl **Temple**, who was there in 1783 for just four **days**. So, my first four **days** were **critical**. And **in** those four days I, actually, met Angela **Merkel**. She gave me a wry German **smile** and said "**congratulations**... if that's the right **word**." I had a manly handshake with President **Trump**. But I soon **realized** that meeting world leaders abroad is **peanuts** compared to the diplomacy you need at **home** when you call your Chinese wife **Japanese**.