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MINUTE
CD INSIDE

By appointment to...

hot

No. 112

english

magazine**SOCIAL SPLASH**Useful language
for talking
socially.**HOW TO LEARN
ENGLISH**

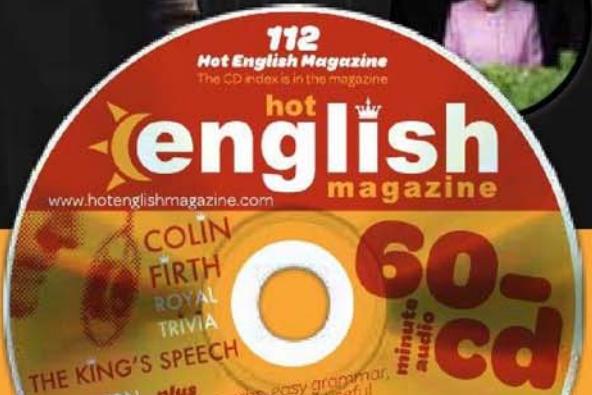
Our top tips!

**FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE**

Persuasion!

MODERN ROYALSInteresting princes
and princesses.**AN OSCAR WINNER!****COLIN FIRTH**

Is he the perfect English gentleman?

ROYAL TRIVIAInteresting facts about
the British Royal Family.**PLUS... phrasal verbs,
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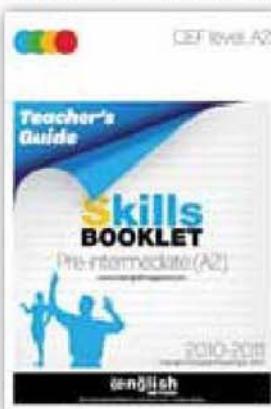
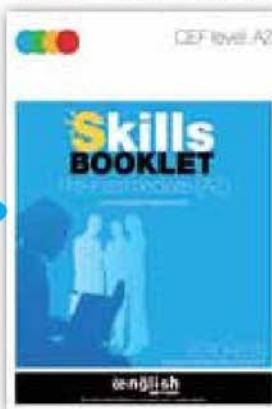
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www.hotenglishmagazine.com

Editor's intro



Hi, and welcome to another issue of Hot English Magazine, the fun magazine for learning English.



Our main focus this month is on the royal family. Why? Well, for a start, there's the wedding between Prince William (Princess Diana's eldest son) and his fiancée Kate Middleton (whose mum was a flight attendant). Plus, there's a new book out with some fascinating facts on the royal family. We've got an article on that, so you'll be able to find out what the Queen likes to do in her spare time and what Prince Charles likes to take with him wherever he travels (you won't believe it!). And finally, there's the film *The King's Speech*, which tells the story of King George VI and his speech impediment... and which was a big Oscar winner!

Apart from that, we're also taking a look at some award ceremony disasters, irritating noises, interesting investment opportunities (including one involving the Mafia) and ideas on what to do if you aren't feeling too good. In two of our language sections, we're looking at clichés – those expressions that have been overused. You know, the problem with clichés is that they just tend to come to you naturally. They're expressions that you've heard a thousand times before, but there are just moments when they seem to be the most appropriate thing to say. But then if you hear someone use a cliché, they do have a tendency to sound unoriginal. But is that a bad thing? In general, clichés can sum up a situation perfectly. Complicated!

Don't forget to have a look at our new-style videos. I think you'll like them! Anyway, must go. Get reading and get learning, and see you all next month. **Don't be a stranger!** Whoops! That was a bit of a cliché!

Yours,

Andy

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GLOSSARY

overused adj. if something is 'overused', it has been used too many times.
don't be a stranger exp. this expression (which is a bit of a cliché) means 'let's keep in touch' / 'visit us again' etc.

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READING!

Natural Remedies



Watch & Learn!
Reinforce your learning by watching
a mini-video related to this topic at:
www.hotenglishmagazine.com/videos.php



ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Read over the questions and discuss them with a partner. What do you do when you've got...

- a cold?
- a headache?
- a migraine?
- a stomach ache?
- backache?
- a fever?

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Were any of your ideas from the Pre-reading activity similar to the ones in the article?

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions. What does one reader do...

- to stop nasty illnesses?
- to fight viruses?
- to clean out any impurities?
- to reduce the risk of spreading colds?
- to cure a stomachache?
- to get to sleep at night?
- to cure a chesty cough?

4 Language focus Prepositions

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...I find putting a cold one on my head..." The writer has used the preposition "on" ("on my head"). Very generally, we put things *on* a surface and *in* a closed area (a room, box, container, etc.). Complete the sentences with *on* or *in*.

- I put the book _____ my bed.
- She placed the document _____ the box.
- I stuck the poster _____ the wall.
- The car was _____ the garage.
- They had the meeting _____ the living room.

5 Discussion

- What do you do if you've got a headache?
- What's your favourite natural remedy?
- What types of medicine do you use regularly? Why?

Colds. Headaches.

Stomachaches. If you're suffering from any of these things, it's time to reach for something in the **medicine cabinet** ... or is it? We asked our readers to tell us about their favourite *natural* remedies – those cures that don't involve a pill, tablet or **prescribed medication**. Here they are.

I find that getting lots of sleep is the best way to stop any **nasty** illnesses. If you aren't getting enough sleep, your body becomes more **vulnerable** to **viruses**.

I always eat lots of fruit and vegetables. All those vitamins and minerals help fight viruses. In the colder months, I wrap up warm. And if I do catch something, I drink a cup of hot water with honey and lemon. It's the best medicine.

I drink lots of water. It cleans out any **impurities** in your body. If you wash your hands regularly, you reduce the risk of spreading colds to yourself and other people.

I get lots of exercise. This helps with your **metabolism**, which in turn helps fight disease. You'll also look and feel great!



If I've got a stomachache, I drink a cup of chamomile tea, or a bit of Coca Cola – that always helps. I find the best thing for toothache is a bit of **clove oil** or **crushed garlic** – just rub a bit of the oil on your tooth and the pain will soon go away. If I can't get to sleep, I drink a glass of warm milk... and then start counting sheep.



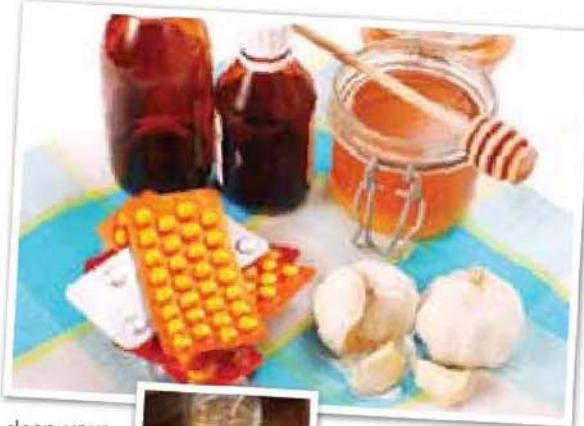
I LOVE STEAM!

For a chesty cough, there's nothing better than a bit of eucalyptus oil rubbed onto your chest. And if I've got a blocked nose, I inhale the steam from a pan of boiling water with **eucalyptus oil** in it. It soon **clears you up**. If I've got a headache **coming on**, I rub a bit of lavender or peppermint oil on my **temples**. That always helps. If I've already got a headache or **migraine**, I use a **wheat** bag. This is a little material bag filled with wheat. You can put it in the freezer to make it cold, or in the microwave to make it warm. I find putting a cold one on my head and a warm one around my neck really helps **relieve tension**. Also, heated wheat bags are also great for **aching joints**.



So, will you be "going natural"? ☺

GO AWAY!



GLOSSARY

- headache** *n*
a pain in your head
- ache** *n*
if a part of your body "aches", you feel a constant pain there
- medicine cabinet** *n*
a piece of furniture where you can keep pills / medicine, etc. It is often in the bathroom
- prescribed medication** *n*
medicine the doctor has told you to take
- nasty** *adj*
not nice; horrible
- vulnerable** *adj*
if someone is "vulnerable", they are weak (or in a weak position), and they can be attacked, or they can catch illnesses easily
- virus** *n*
an illness that can spread very quickly
- to clean out** *phr.vb*
to clean completely
- impurities** *n*
substances that aren't clean
- metabolism** *n*
your "metabolism" is the way that chemical processes in your body help you burn energy
- clove oil** *n*
oil from a clove plant
- crushed** *adj*
if something is "crushed" it has been broken into small pieces by pushing down on it / applying pressure to it
- garlic** *n*
a strong-tasting white vegetable that looks like a small onion
- eucalyptus oil** *n*
oil from a eucalyptus plant
- to clear up** *phr.vb*
if an illness "clears up", it goes away
- to come on** *phr.vb*
If a headache is "coming on", it is starting and will soon get bad
- temples** *n*
your "temples" are the flat parts on each side of your head to the side of your eyes
- migraine** *n*
a really bad headache. People with a "migraine" often need to be in a dark room
- wheat** *n*
a grain/cereal used to make bread
- to relieve tension** *exp*
if something "relieves tension", it makes you feel calm and relaxed
- aching** *adj*
if something is "aching", it is hurting you / giving you pain
- joints** *n*
the parts of your body that connect your bones together: wrists, ankles, knees, etc.

READING II

Royal Revelations



Some interesting facts about the British Royal Family.

1 Pre-reading

Match the members of the Royal Family (1 to 9) to the photos (a-i).

1. Queen Elizabeth II
2. Prince Philip (the Queen's husband)
3. Prince Charles (the Queen's eldest son)
4. Prince William (the Queen's grandson)
5. Prince Harry (the Queen's grandson)
6. Princess Anne (the Queen's daughter)
7. Princess Margaret (the Queen's sister)
8. Prince Andrew (the Queen's middle son)
9. Prince Edward (the Queen's youngest son)



2 Reading I

What do you know about the Queen or the British Royal Family? Discuss your ideas with a partner. Then, read the article. What's the most interesting fact?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Which fact do you find the hardest to believe? Why?

4 Language focus

Obligation with have to

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "... have to walk backwards..." The writer has used the construction "have to" to talk about obligation. Complete the following sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

1. I often have to... at work.
2. I never have to... at work.
3. I sometimes have to... at home.
4. I always have to... at home.

5 Discussion

1. What else do you know about the British Royal Family?
2. Which member of the British Royal Family is most famous in your country? Why?
3. Which members of other royal families are famous in your country?

What do you know about the British royal family? A new book by former BBC journalist Brian Hoey (*We Are Amused: A Royal Miscellany*) has some fascinating facts. Here are a few of them.

Any chocolates sent to the Royal Family are immediately destroyed in case they're **poisoned**.

The Queen sleeps under linen **sheets** and **woollen blankets**. She isn't that **keen on duvets**.

The Queen prefers the radio to television, with BBC Radio Four as her favourite station. There are radios on her bedside tables at all her residences.

When dining together, the Queen and Philip drink sweet German wine.



The Queen likes a special **blend of tea** made by R. Twining & Company. She has it with milk and no sugar (she uses a sweetener instead). Her husband prefers coffee made by the Savoy Hotel coffee department.

The Queen has about 330 full-time staff at her residences and a further 250 **part-timers**. The **housemaids** (there are 26 alone at Buckingham Palace) have to walk backwards when **vacuuming** to avoid leaving **footmarks** on the **carpets**.



Footmen must be about 5ft 9in tall (about 175cm), and have a 36-inch **chest** (about 91cm) so they can **fit into** the uniforms, which **date back** more than 100 years to the **reign** of King Edward VII.



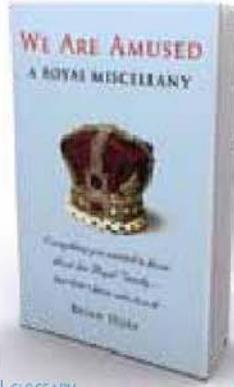
The Queen hates people **petting** her corgis. Visitors who try to **pat** the dogs are **sharply** told, "Don't do that! They don't like it." What she really means is **she doesn't like it!**

The Queen has seven state **limousines**: five Rolls-Royces and two Daimlers. They're all painted **maroon**.

At Balmoral, the Queen enjoys trying to catch **bats** in the great hall. She does this with the help of a footman and a large net attached to a long **pole**. The bats are a protected species so they're **released**... only to return the next night. The Queen then repeats the exercise the following day.

And we bet you didn't know that! ☺

Extracts taken from *We Are Amused: A Royal Miscellany* by Brian Hoey.



GLOSSARY

to poison **vb**
if someone "poisons" food, they put chemicals in it that will kill someone

a sheet **n**
a thin piece of material (often made of cotton) that you sleep on in a bed

a woollen blanket **n**
a piece of material to sleep under made of sheep hair

to be keen on **exp**
if you "are keen on" something, you like it

a duvet **n**
a thick cover to sleep under. Often filled with feathers

a blend of **exp**
a mixture of

a part-timer **n**
a "part-timer" is someone who works part-time (they work less than eight hours a day)

a housemaid **n**
a woman who works in someone's house cleaning, cooking, etc.

to vacuum **vb**
to clean the floor with a machine known as a vacuum cleaner / Hoover, etc.

a footprint **n**
if you leave a "footprint", you leave dirt on the floor from your feet / shoes

a carpet **n**
a thick material cover for the floor

a footman **n**
a man who works as a servant for a rich person – opening doors, serving food, etc.

a chest **n**
the top part of the front of your body

to fit into **phr.vb**
if you can "fit into" clothes, they are the right size for you

to date back **phr.vb**
if something "dates back" 100 years, it started 100 years ago

a reign **n**
a king or queen's "reign" is the time they were in power

to pet **vb**
if you "pet" an animal, you touch it lightly and in a friendly way

to pat **vb**
if you "pat" something, you touch it lightly many times, usually with a flat hand

sharply **adj**
if someone speaks to you "sharply", they speak to you angrily and often quickly

a limousine **n**
a long car often used by royalty and celebrities

maroon **adj**
a dark red colour

a bat **n**
a flying animal that sleeps upside down in trees

a pole **n**
a long stick

to release **vb**
if you "release" an animal, you let it go free

English language names with real meaning.

THE NAME GAME

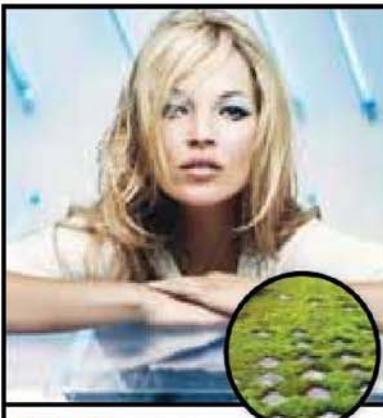
FAMOUS NAMES WITH MEANING.



Trivial Pursuit (board game)

IF YOU DESCRIBE SOMETHING AS "TRIVIAL", YOU DON'T THINK THAT IT'S IMPORTANT./ YOUR "PURSUITS" ARE THE ACTIVITIES YOU ENJOY DOING.

"It's a trivial matter and nothing to worry about. / His favourite pursuits as a child were swimming and skiing."



Kate Moss (British model)

"MOSS" IS A VERY SMALL, SOFT, GREEN PLANT WHICH OFTEN GROWS ON STONE.

"The stone was covered with moss."



Christina Applegate (American actress)

AN "APPLE" IS A ROUND FRUIT THAT'S USUALLY EITHER RED OR GREEN./ A "GATE" IS A DOOR THAT IS AN ENTRANCE TO A GARDEN.

"I'm going to eat an apple. / Close the gate after you or the dog will get out."



Ringo Starr (British musician)

A "STAR" IS A LARGE BALL OF BURNING GAS IN SPACE. STARS OFTEN APPEAR AS SMALL POINTS OF LIGHT IN THE SKY AT NIGHT.

"The sky was full of stars."



Bratz Dolls (toys)

A "BRAT" IS A WORD USED TO REFER TO A CHILD WHO BEHAVES VERY BADLY.

"That child is a little brat!"



Twister (game)

IF YOU "TWIST" A PART OF YOUR BODY, YOU TURN OR MOVE IT INTO A STRANGE OR UNCOMFORTABLE POSITION. A "TWISTER" IS AN INFORMAL WORD FOR A VERY STRONG WIND STORM SUCH AS A TORNADO.

"She twisted my arm behind my back."



STORY TIME

Jokes, anecdotes and stories as told by native English speakers.

Horrible Chef

I say, I say, I say. Why were there screams coming from the kitchen?

I don't know. Why were there screams coming from the kitchen?

Because the chef was beating the eggs.



Travelling Alone

An elderly gentleman is on a train. Every now and then he starts

mumbling to himself,

smiling, and then

raising his hand. After

a moment of silence,

he goes through the

same process again:

mumbling, smiling, raising his hand.

Another passenger who's watching is very curious as to what's **going on**. After a while, she says, "Excuse me for asking, but is something wrong?"

"Oh, no," the man replies. "It's just that long trips get boring so I tell myself jokes."

"But why do you keep raising your hand?" the woman asks.

"Well," the man says, "that's to interrupt myself if I've heard the joke before."



Witty Child

Two girls are talking about their parents' jobs. "My mum's an accountant and my dad's a nurse," says the first girl. "Well, my mum and dad are in the

steel and iron business."

"Really?" asks the first girl.

"Yes, my mum steals and my dad irons."



GLOSSARY

a scream n
a loud, high-pitched shout. People often 'scream' when they are in pain

a chef n
a person whose job is to prepare food in a kitchen

to beat vb
two meanings: a) to move eggs quickly with a fork in order to mix them up; b) to hit a person several times

to mumble to yourself exp
to talk to yourself in a low, quiet voice

to raise your hand exp
if you "raise your hand", you put it into a higher position, often because you want to say something

to go on phr vb
if you want to know what's "going on", you want to know what's happening

steel/to steal n
same pronunciation a) "steel" is a strong metal; b) "to steal" is to take something that isn't yours

iron n
two meanings: a) "iron" is a strong metal; b) "to iron" clothing is to make it flat by using an iron (a hot metal plate that you move over clothes)

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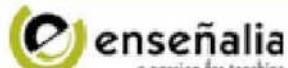
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USEFUL VOCABULARY

Toiletries & Bathroom Accessories - part II

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Match the words

Match the words (1 to 14) to the pictures (a-n).

1. Shampoo f
2. Conditioner
3. Shower gel
4. (A bar of) soap
5. Deodorant (roll-on deodorant)
6. Antiperspirant spray
7. (Nail) clippers
8. (Nail) scissors
9. Hair dryer
10. Make-up
11. Lipstick
12. Tweezers
13. Foot powder
14. Lip balm

**2 Wordsearch**

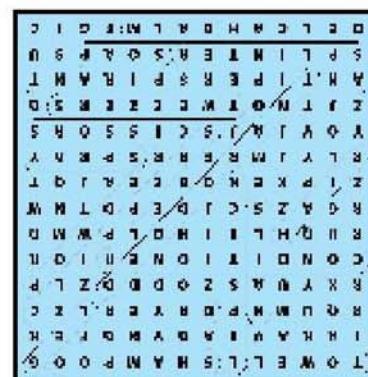
Now find these words in the wordsearch.

shampoo	gel
conditioner	soap
deodorant	antiperspirant
clippers	scissors
dryer	lipstick
tweezers	powder
balm	splinter
nails	hair
towel	

**3 Guess the word**

Think of ways to describe the words above.

See if your partner can guess the word from the clues.



USEFUL VERBS & EXPRESSIONS

Toiletries & Bathroom Accessories - part II

USEFUL VERBS & EXPRESSIONS

PUT ON
IF YOU "PUT ON" MAKE-UP / LIPSTICK / LIP BALM / DEODORANT, ETC., YOU APPLY IT TO A PART OF YOUR BODY.



"SHE PUT SOME MAKE-UP ON."

CUT YOUR NAILS
IF YOU "CUT YOUR NAILS", YOU USE NAIL CLIPPERS OR SCISSORS TO MAKE YOUR NAILS SHORTER.



"I CUT MY NAILS WITH SOME NAIL CLIPPERS."

WASH YOUR HAIR
IF YOU "WASH YOUR HAIR", YOU USE SHAMPOO TO CLEAN YOUR HAIR.



"SHE WASHED HER HAIR WITH SHAMPOO."

DRY YOURSELF
IF YOU "DRY YOURSELF", YOU USE A TOWEL TO REMOVE THE WATER FROM YOUR BODY.



"SHE DRIED HERSELF WITH A CLEAN TOWEL."

PULL OUT
IF YOU "PULL OUT" A HAIR / PIECE OF GLASS OR SPLINTER (A VERY SMALL, THIN PIECE OF WOOD) WITH TWEEZERS, YOU USE THE TWEEZERS TO TAKE THAT THING OUT.



"I USED THE TWEEZERS TO PULL IT OUT."

DRY YOUR HAIR
IF YOU "DRY YOUR HAIR", YOU USE A HAIRDRYER OR TOWEL TO REMOVE WATER FROM YOUR HAIR.



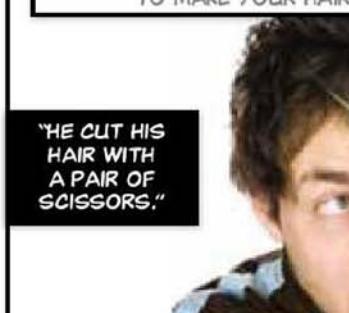
"SHE DRIED HER HAIR WITH A HAIRDYER."

SPRAY
IF YOU "SPRAY" ON HAIRSPRAY, YOU PUSH A BUTTON ON A SPRAY CAN TO MAKE THE PRESSURISED LIQUID COME OUT.



"SHE SPRAYED ON SOME ECO-FRIENDLY HAIRSPRAY."

CUT YOUR HAIR
IF YOU "CUT YOUR HAIR", YOU USE SCISSORS TO MAKE YOUR HAIR SHORTER.



"HE CUT HIS HAIR WITH A PAIR OF SCISSORS."

**1 Pre-reading**

Look at car number plates. What do you think they mean?

- 1 NVERLA8
- 2 DRTHVDR
- 3 STOL3N
- 4 L8ASUSL
- 5 XCUZE M3
- 6 SHY BOY
- 7 LEW 1S

2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your ideas from the Pre-reading task.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, add letters to complete the words in the sentences.

- Horse-drawn **car** _____ in the city of Victoria (Canada) were given licence plates in the 19th century.
- The first country to introduce plates was **Fr** _____.
- Some early licence plates were made of **car** _____.
- The **f**_____ car registration number in the UK was sold to Earl Russell.
- In the example number plate, the number 51 refers to the **a**_____ of the car.
- Denmark uses two letters and five **di**_____ on their number plates.
- Not all UK number plates have the European Union **sy**_____.

4 Language focus**The Present Perfect Simple**

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...the system has changed many times..." The writer has used the Present Perfect ("has changed"). Complete the following sentences with the correct forms of the verbs in brackets. Use the Present Perfect.

- They _____ (see) the film before.
- We _____ (not eat) yet.
- He _____ (send) the e-mail.
- She _____ (not take) the package to the post office.

5 Discussion

- What's the licence plate number of your car?
- What licence plate number-letter sequence would you like to have?
- What's the system in your country for licence plates?

Car Capers

Car number plates. What's yours? By Patrick Howarth

Car registration plates are just a series of numbers and letters, right? Well, yes... but not for everyone.

Amazingly, number plates existed *before* cars. The city of Victoria in Canada gave horse-drawn carriages number plates as early as 1884. And France was the first country to introduce plates in 1893. Early number plates were different shapes and sizes, and made of lots of different materials, including iron, cardboard and even pressed soybeans. In fact, it was not until 1957 that car manufacturers and governments agreed on standardised plates, and even today there are three different sizes.

The first car registration number in the UK was A1. This was sold to Earl Russell by the London County Council in 1903. The letter "A" showed the number was from London, while the number "1" showed it was the first number issued. However, since then, the system has changed many times. At the moment, number plates in the UK consist of a sequence of letters and numbers. Let's look at the registration number plate "LK51 FTN". First of all, "LK" shows which registration office has issued the registration number (in this case, it's London Stanmore). The numbers 51 show the age of the car (51 means the car was licensed in the second half of 2001). And the last three letters are random.

Different EU countries use different arrangements of numbers and letters. For example, Spain uses four numbers and three letters, while Sweden uses three numbers and three letters, and Norway and Denmark use two letters and five digits. The system has changed many times because the letter-number combinations keep running out. UK number plates don't have to include the European Union symbol (the EU stars on a blue background with the abbreviation of the country), although many do. Most EU countries use the symbol.

Some number plates have become extremely valuable... particularly those that spell out words. Basically, numbers on the plates can be used to represent words or parts of words. For example, "8" can mean "ate"; "4" can be "four" or "for"; and "2" can symbolise "to", "two" or "too". For example, "NVERLA8" means "Never late". Here are some more examples of plates that spell out words or phrases:

VNTYPL8 [VANITY PLATE]	DRTHVDR [DARTH VADER]	STOL3N [STOLEN]
L8ASUSL [LATE AS USUAL]	XCUZE M3 [EXCUSE ME]	TOP 10 [TOP TEN]
007 [JAMES BOND'S CODE NAME]	SHY BOY [SHY BOY]	

Plates that represent words or phrases are commonly known as "vanity plates". And they can be extremely expensive. Russian businessman Roman Abramovich is supposed to have paid over £250,000 for the plate "VIP 1". Formula One driver Lewis Hamilton has bought the plate "LEW 1S" and the most expensive number plate ever was "M1" which an anonymous buyer has acquired for £331,000.

So, what's your number plate? It might be worth a fortune. ☺

There are a number of ways of describing the sequence of numbers-letters at the front / back of a car: a number plate; a licence plate (UK); a registration number (UK); a license plate (US); a vehicle registration plate (US); a license plate number (US).

BD51 SMR

LET'S TALK ABOUT: THE ROYAL FAMILY

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King



Queen



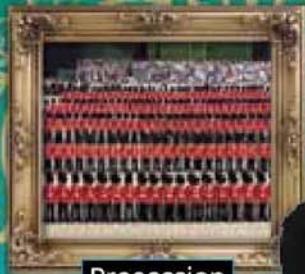
Horse-drawn carriage



Palace



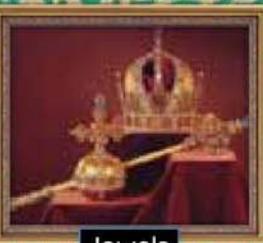
Prince



Procession



Princess



Jewels



Royal guard



The queen's head
(on coins, stamps
and banknotes)



Union jack
(the flag of
the UK)



Throne



Coat of
arms

MORE WORDS

- Coronation ceremony – a special event in which a king or queen is crowned (officially declared king or queen).
- Lady-in-waiting – a female personal assistant to the queen / a princess, etc.
- Footman – a male servant whose job is to assist a prince/king, etc. by opening doors, serving food, etc.
- Subjects – the people who live in a country ruled by a king / queen.
- National anthem – the official song of a country.
- Residence – one of the houses / palaces where a king / queen lives.
- Reign – the period when a king / queen rules.
- Valet – a male personal servant to a king / prince, etc.
- Chauffeur – an official driver for the king / queen.
- Bodyguards – security officers who protect the king / queen.
- Monarchy – the system in which a king / queen rules in a country.
- Monarchist – someone who supports the system of kings / queens ruling in a country.
- Anti-monarchist – someone who is against the system of kings / queens ruling in a country.
- Changing of the guard – an event that takes place outside a palace when one group of royal guards leaves and another group arrives.
- Consort – a ruling monarch's wife or husband (Prince Philip is Queen Elizabeth II's consort).
- Regent – a person who rules a country when the current king / queen is sick / unable to rule, etc.



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this topic in a mini-video at
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track 6

Persuasion

THIS IS THE FIRST PART IN A MINI-SERIES ON PERSUASION. MORE NEXT MONTH.

Persuasion



= the act of convincing / persuading / motivating / inspiring someone to do something, often by giving them good reasons for doing it.

There are a number of tenses that can be used for persuading someone to do something. Here are a few.

Imperatives

Imperatives can be used as a very direct way of persuading someone to do something. **For example:**

- a) Use this one! It's the best.
- b) Listen up! I've got something important to say.
- c) Just do it! You won't regret it!



Let's can be used if you're including yourself in the proposed action. For example:

- a) Let's go to the cinema tonight. There's a really good film on.
- b) Come on! Let's go to the party. I'm sure you'll enjoy it!

There is / There are

There is / there are can be used to introduce a problem-solution scenario. **For example:**

- a) There's something we need to talk about. I really feel that...
- b) There are three things we need to do. Firstly...
- c) There's a problem that we need to discuss. I think...
- d) There are better ways of doing this. Personally, I think...



Conditional structures

Conditional structures can also be used. They're good for referring to the possible negative consequences of not doing something. **For example:**

- a) If you don't do it soon, it'll be too late.
- b) If you don't tell them, someone else will.
- c) If we don't act now, we won't get another chance.
- d) If I were you, I'd get this one – it's much better.

Future tenses

Future tenses can be used for stressing the benefits of something. **For example:**

- a) I'm sure it's going to be fun.
- b) We'll have more time to ourselves.
- c) It's going to be much better in the long run.
- d) It'll provide us with a solution to all our problems.



Future tenses can also be used to minimise any possible inconvenience. **For example:**

- a) It isn't going to take very long.
- b) It won't take up much of your time.
- c) An extra seat won't cost much.

Now watch a video with someone trying to be persuasive!



track 7

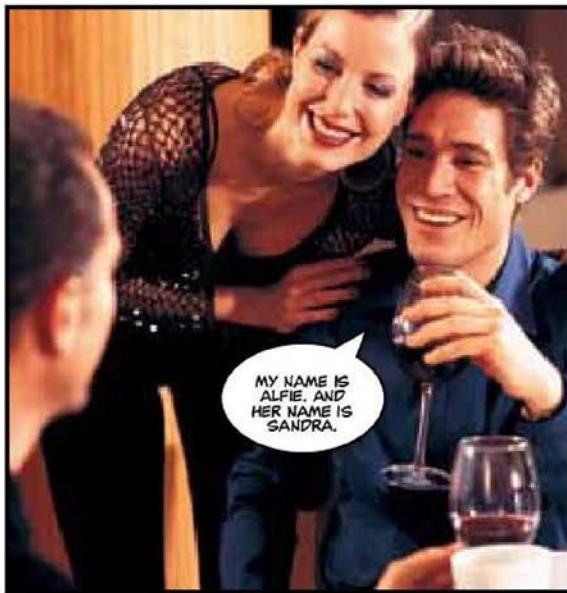
US woman & Englishman

track 8

Refer to unit 13 (page 69) of the
Pre-Intermediate Skills Booklet for
more explanations and exercises.

DR FINGERS' ERROR CORRECTION CLINIC

IN THIS SECTION, DR FINGERS IDENTIFIES AND CORRECTS TYPICAL ERRORS.



1 Activity

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

Read the sentences, find the errors and correct any errors. Then, listen to the CD to check your answers.

1. This is my brother. He name is Alfie.

This is my brother. His name is Alfie.

2. That is my sister. She name is Amelia.

3. My parents live in France. They house is very big.

4. The dog is in the garden. It bone is here.

5. My car is blue. They car is red.

6. He is very nice and he hair is long.

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING

Neighbourly Nightmares



Dealing with noisy neighbours.

1 Pre-listening

Look at the list of noises below. Which ones are the loudest? See if you can put them in order of loudness.

- punk rock music
- shouting
- the TV on at full volume
- a food blender
- an electric saw
- a door slamming
- road drilling
- footsteps
- a lion roaring
- a helicopter landing
- a bird singing
- a jet landing

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to a police officer who is talking to someone about excessive noise coming from their house. Listen once, which noises from the Pre-listening activity can you hear / are mentioned.

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. Who has complained about the noises?
2. What is Mr Crampton listening to?
3. What was he doing last night?
4. Who was making the noise early last Sunday?
5. Who was making the noise at 7am that morning?
6. Who's watching TV in the sitting room?
7. What animal is in the bathroom?
8. How is Mr Crampton's sister arriving?

4 Language focus The Past Continuous

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Neighbourly Nightmares: "...I was listening to my daughter's band..." The speaker has used the Past Continuous ("was listening"). Complete the following sentences with the correct form of the verbs in brackets.

1. They _____ (work) late last night.
2. She _____ (talk) to a friend of mine.
3. He _____ (not watch) the film.
4. We _____ (discuss) the problem.

5 Discussion

1. Are your neighbours noisy? In what way?
2. Have you ever had to ask a neighbour to make less noise? Why?
3. What other problems do you have with your neighbours?

The section that makes grammar easy, interesting and fun.



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GRAMMAR FUN

to have

This month, we're looking at passives with the verb *to have*.

Passives with *have*

We form this construction with *have* + an object + a past participle. **For example:**

- a) They had the car repaired.
- b) She had the computer fixed.



We often use this construction to refer to actions which are done for us (rather than by us) – very often for the things we pay other people to repair, fix, adapt or change.

For example:

- a) She had her car repaired at the garage.
- b) They had their jackets cleaned at the dry cleaner's.
- c) Corrine is going to have the computer fixed.
- d) Alfie has all his suits made by a top fashion designer.



We can use a variety of tenses with this construction.

For example:

- a) We had the carpets cleaned.
- b) They've had the windows repaired.
- c) She is going to have her hair cut.
- d) He has had his trousers repaired.
- e) They should have the swimming pool cleaned.

In some cases, *get* is possible instead of *have*. *Get* is considered more informal. **For example:**

- a) She got her car repaired at the garage.
- b) They got their jackets cleaned at the dry cleaner's.

1 Exercise

Complete the sentences with the past participles from below.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

done updated taken out
framed checked repaired cut recorded

1. They're going to have the song _____.
2. We want to have our roof _____.
3. We're having the system _____.
4. They'll have the photo _____.
5. I had my make-up _____ by a specialist.
6. She went to the dentist to have her tooth _____.
7. We are going to have the document _____ by a proof reader.
8. He's going to have his hair _____ by a specialist.

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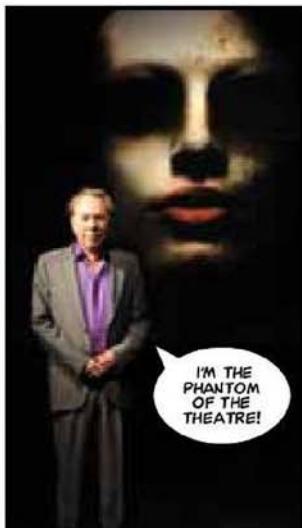
Theatre Thrill

Andrew Lloyd Webber – the world's most successful theatre producer.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 46

1 Pre-reading

Do you like musicals? Why? Why not? What are your three favourite musicals? What's so good about them? Discuss your ideas with a partner.



I'M THE
PHANTOM
OF THE
THEATRE!

What do these theatre productions have in common? *Evita*, *Cats* and *The Phantom of the Opera*. For a start, they're all musicals that millions of people around the world have enjoyed watching. More importantly, they were all written by Andrew Lloyd Webber – or Baron Lloyd-Webber of Sydmonton in the County of Hampshire, to give him his full title. Lloyd Webber has been a dominant figure in the British theatre for the last 30 years. But not everyone likes his work.



Andrew Lloyd Webber's achievements are extraordinary. He's won an Oscar (1996 – Best Original Song for "You Must Love Me" from *Evita*), seven Tony Awards (American theatre prizes), and three Grammys (American music industry awards). His company (The Really Useful Group) owns seven London theatres, including The London Palladium. Some of his

most successful musicals include *Joseph and The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat* (1968), *Jesus Christ Superstar* (1970), *Evita* (1976), *Cats* (1981), and *The Phantom of the Opera* (1986). These shows, and others, have had hit songs such as "Memory" (from *Cats*), "Don't Cry for Me Argentina" (from *Evita*), and "I Don't Know How to Love Him" (from *Jesus Christ Superstar*). And Lloyd Webber is one of the richest men in the UK, with an estimated fortune of £750 million.



Lloyd Webber's musicals tend to be massive hits. *The Phantom of the Opera* has been running at the same London theatre (Her Majesty's) since 1986, and has been performed over 10,000 times. It's also the longest-running show on Broadway (breaking the previous record held by *Cats*), and the musical was made into a hit film in 2004. It's estimated that 80 million people worldwide have seen the show. By 2007, it had grossed £1.8 million, making it the most successful entertainment project in world history.

But despite his success, Lloyd Webber has a number of critics. He clearly manages to fill seats in theatres, but many say that his shows are too commercial and the songs aren't that memorable. They feel that his productions are tourist attractions – easy-listening musicals instead of serious drama. It probably doesn't help that Lloyd Webber represents the Conservative Party (a right-wing party) in the House of Lords, while many prominent members of the Arts community are left-wing.

There have even been accusations of plagiarism. These include allegations that he "borrowed" ideas from Italian opera composer Puccini. In fact, Puccini's heirs attempted to sue Lloyd Webber claiming that a phrase of one of Phantom's hits had been taken from Puccini's opera "The Girl of the Golden West". The case was eventually settled out of court. On a similar note, musicians Roger Waters (of Pink Floyd) and Rick Wakeman (of the band Yes) have also claimed that Lloyd Webber took parts of their songs, although neither have threatened to take him to court.

Andrew Lloyd Webber's latest show *Love Never Dies*, a sequel to *The Phantom of the Opera*, opened in London in 2010 to mixed reviews, so it's still too early to say whether it's going to be another smash hit. ☺

Andrew Lloyd Webber was born in 1948 and is a composer, businessman, songwriter and theatre director. Some of his famous musicals include *Cats*, *Evita* and *The Phantom of the Opera*.



4 Language focus Gerunds & Infinitives

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...Lloyd Webber's musicals tend to be massive hits..." The writer has used a verb followed by an infinitive ("tend to be"). Look through the text again and find examples of the verbs below, which are followed by either gerunds or infinitives: enjoy, manage, attempt, threaten.

5 Discussion

- Are there any well-known composers or theatre producers from your country? What are they famous for?
- What do you like / dislike about going to the theatre?
- What's your favourite form of entertainment? Why?

READING

Ceremony chaos



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ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

- Match the ceremonies (1 to 6) to the descriptions (a-f).
1. MTV Video Music Awards
 2. The BRIT Awards
 3. The Oscars
 4. The Eurovision Song Contest
 5. The Grammy Awards
 6. The BAFTAs



- a. A British awards ceremony for films and television programmes.
- b. An annual competition for music acts from European countries.
- c. An awards ceremony for the best music videos of the year.
- d. The most prestigious awards ceremony for films.
- e. The most prestigious awards ceremony for music.
- f. A music awards ceremony held in Britain every year.

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which award ceremonies from the Pre-reading activity are mentioned in the article? In your opinion, which event was the most disastrous?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of an event next to each statement.

1. A singer was protesting against Michael Jackson.
2. Britney Spears made a mistake.
3. Sir Terry Wogan named the wrong winner.
4. Michael Jackson thanked everyone for a prize that didn't exist.
5. A singer pronounced the winner's name incorrectly.
6. Jarvis Cocker jumped onto the stage.

4 Language focus

Reflexive pronouns



Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...Michael Jackson sees himself as..." The writer has used a reflexive pronoun ("himself"). Complete the following sentences with the correct reflexive pronoun.

1. She looked at _____ in the mirror.
2. He cut _____ with a knife.
3. They hurt _____ with the toy.
4. I bought _____ a present.
5. Please don't get up! We can serve _____.

5 Discussion

1. Have you ever watched one of these award ceremonies? Which one? What was it like?
2. What's your favourite award ceremony? Why?
3. What famous award ceremonies are there in your country?

Celebrities. Glamour. Glitz. **Award ceremonies** take months to prepare. But sometimes things don't **go as planned**.

At the 19th MTV Video Music Awards, Britney Spears was supposed to invite pop legend Michael Jackson onto the **stage** to receive a birthday cake, but mistakenly she announced that he'd won an award. Unaware of the error, Jackson jumped up onto the stage and gave a **speech** thanking everyone for his "Artist of the Millennium" prize. The problem was – the award didn't exist!



THANKS FOR THE AWARD!



Michael Jackson was involved in another awards show catastrophe. During his 1996 performance at the BRIT Awards, Pulp **frontman** Jarvis Cocker jumped onto the stage and **disrupted the proceedings**. "My actions were a form of protest at the way Michael Jackson sees himself as some kind of Christ-like figure with the **power of healing**. The music industry allows him to **indulge his fantasies** because of his wealth and power," Jarvis explained later.

The BRIT Awards was the scene of another famous incident. During the 2000 show, friends of British **DJ** Brandon Block told him (as a joke) that he'd won an award. This led to a humorous scene as Brandon (who was very drunk at the time) got up on stage even though he hadn't been nominated. Eventually, security had to physically **remove** the DJ. Rolling Stones guitarist Ronnie Wood (who was presenting the award) threw a drink over Brandon. After the incident, Ronnie said, "That's the nicest **guy** I've ever met."

Sometimes the presenters **mess things up**. In 2007, Sir Terry Wogan announced the wrong winner at the Eurovision Song Contest. Instead of naming Scooch, he incorrectly declared Cyndi the winner. A similar thing happened during Australia's Next Top Model awards ceremony when presenter Sarah Murdoch announced the wrong winner during the final.



Finally, singer Avril Lavigne had an embarrassing moment during the 2003 Grammy Awards. She pronounced winner David Bowie's name incorrectly, using the "au" sound (as in the word "how") rather than the "əʊ" sound (as in the word "know" – David Bowie). When she was told about her mistake, Avril said, "Whoops! I knew that was going to happen... I knew I was going to pronounce someone's name wrong."

But at least she got the right person! ☺

GLOSSARY

- an award ceremony** n a special event where prizes are given to people who have done something well
- to go as planned** exp If an event "goes as planned", it happens the way people want it to happen
- a stage** n the elevated platform in a theatre where the actors / musicians act / sing, etc.
- a speech** n a formal talk to an audience
- a frontman** n the main person or singer in a music group
- to disrupt** vb If someone "disrupts" an event, they cause problems and stop it from happening properly
- proceedings** n the organised series of things that happen in a particular event
- the power of healing** exp If someone has "the power of healing", they have magical powers that make people better
- to indulge fantasies** exp If you let someone "indulge their fantasies", you permit them to do whatever they want
- a DJ** n a disc jockey; someone who plays music in a club or on the radio
- to remove** vb If someone is "removed" from a place, physical force is used to take them away
- a guy** n inform A man
- to mess up** phr vb If someone "messes something up", they do it badly / make a mistake / get it wrong

READING II

Twitter Trends

The rise and rise of Twitter.

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

What do you know about the social networking site Twitter? Think. Then, discuss your ideas with a partner.

2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your ideas from the Pre-reading activity. Did you learn anything new about Twitter?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, say what the numbers / dates, etc. refer to.

1. 65 million
2. 750 per second
3. 140
4. 2008
5. 12:18
6. 10th April

4 Language focus

The Past Passive

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...James Karl Buck was arrested..." The writer has used the Past Passive ("was arrested"). Transform the following sentences into the Past Passive. Do not include the agent (the person who does the action).

1. They took him to the police station.
2. They sent him to prison.
3. They held him for six days.
4. They released him after a lot of international pressure.

5 Discussion

1. Do you use Twitter? What do you tweet about?
2. What are the pros and cons of Twitter?
3. What other social networking sites do you use? What do you like / dislike about them?

Birthday wishes. Political opinions. **Breaking news.** Twitter is used for all sorts of things, but why's it so popular?

Twitter is one of the fastest-growing **social networking sites**. With over 65 million **tweets** every day, and 750 per second, Twitter is great for communicating with friends, relatives and the world in general. You can **pass on** news, share ideas, meet people, get opinions and ask for help. The great thing is that the limit to the number of **characters** you can send (140) means that messages are short and **to the point**. Here are a few examples of how people are using Twitter.



When ice was found on Mars, the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory **vessel** sent out status **updates**, giving details about what had been found.

twitter



Are you ready to celebrate? Well, get ready: We have ICE!!!! Yes, ICE; *WATER ICE* on Mars! WOOT!! Best day ever!!

Back in 2008, Max Kiesler used Twitter to ask Emily Chang if she'd marry him.

twitter



To @emilychang – After fifteen years of blissful happiness I would like to **ask for your hand in marriage**.

In 2010, Sandra Simmonds sent out an update about her baby using a device called Kickbee. This is a **stretchable band** with **vibration sensors** that can be worn by a **pregnant** woman. Whenever movement is **detected** by these sensors (such as the baby kicking in the mother's **womb**), a message is sent out.

twitter



I kicked Mommy at 12:18PM on Thu, Dec 11!

When photojournalist James Karl Buck was arrested by Egyptian police on 10th April 2008 whilst covering an anti-government protest, James was able to tweet one word. This eventually led to his university **hiring** a lawyer **on his behalf** and his **release** a day later.

twitter



Arrested

Why not send us a tweet and tell us what you're up to? ☺

How to use Twitter

Go to www.twitter.com where you can register and upload a picture. Type a message in the "What are you doing?" bar and press "Tweet" and you've created your first Twitter message, but remember, it can only have a maximum of 140 characters. You can follow other tweeters (including famous people), or write your own tweets and hope that other people will follow you. If someone does start "following" you, it's Twitter etiquette to follow them back, although you don't have to. Twitter was founded in 2006. With over one billion users right now, the company is expected to make \$1.54 billion by the end of 2013. The first ever Twitter status update was sent on 21st March 2006 by Twitter co-founder Jack Dorsey. Here it is: "just setting up my twttr"



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GLOSSARY

breaking news <i>n</i>
news that is happening and developing at the moment of speaking
a social networking site <i>n</i>
a website where people can talk, meet or connect with other people
a tweet <i>n</i>
a message posted on the website Twitter
to pass on <i>phr.vb</i>
if you "pass on" information, you send / show / give it to other people
a character <i>n</i>
any letter (ABC, etc.), punctuation mark or space in an e-mail / Twitter message
to the point <i>exp</i>
if your message is "to the point", it only says what is necessary
a vessel <i>n</i>
a large ship, boat or spaceship
an update <i>n</i>
a recent piece of news
to ask for someone's hand in marriage <i>exp</i>
to ask someone to marry you
a stretchable band <i>n</i>
a piece of elastic material that can be made bigger / longer by pulling it
a vibration sensor <i>n</i>
a device that can detect small movements
pregnant <i>adj</i>
if a woman is "pregnant", she is going to have a baby
to detect <i>vb</i>
if a machine "detects" something, it can sense / feel / see it
a womb <i>n</i>
the part of a woman's body where a baby grows
to hire <i>vb</i>
if you "hire" someone, you pay them to work for you
on someone's behalf <i>exp</i>
if you do something "on someone's behalf", you do it for them
release <i>n</i>
you can refer to someone's "release" as the time when they are freed / allowed to leave prison

Useful information on how to do different things in English.

HOW TO LEARN WITH HOT ENGLISH MAGAZINE

Here are our top six reasons why you can learn so much with Hot English magazine.

1. It's effective!

There's a simple formula for learning a language that goes like this: input + practice = language acquisition. Very basically, "input" refers to the things you read, watch or listen to in English. And practice refers to what you do when you speak or write in English. It's that simple! It's what children do when they learn their first language. They're exposed to language, they practise it and then they learn it... without making any conscious effort to study. Hot English magazine provides you with all the valuable language input you need. And best of all, the language has been carefully selected to provide you with the most useful words and expressions.



4. It's useful!

One of the keys to communicating in any language is building up your range of vocabulary. In order to communicate effectively, you'll need to learn lots of words and expressions. The important thing is to see those words and expressions in context – in chunks of language, in expressions, in phrases, in sentences not as isolated items of language! Every issue of Hot English magazine includes extremely useful, high-frequency words and expressions – language that you can use to communicate. Hot English is written in a fairly informal and chatty style, so there's a strong link between the written and spoken word. And as the glossaries are in English you'll be thinking in English too, working out meanings, guessing, hypothesising doing all

those things that are so important for language development. Plus, as Hot English deals with such a wide range of topics, you'll learn lots of different words and expressions every month!

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3. It's easy!

Reading is the other way for you to get comprehensible input. While you're reading, you're learning new words, revising previously-taught structures and absorbing thousands and thousands of useful expressions. This is crucial for your learning. And the great thing about reading is that learning takes place subconsciously. There are no exercises to do, no grammar rules to learn, no tasks to complete. It's all natural. The language flows in through your eyes, and gets registered in your brain. What could be easier? Once again, Hot English has some fantastic reading texts based on motivating, interesting and up-to-date topics.

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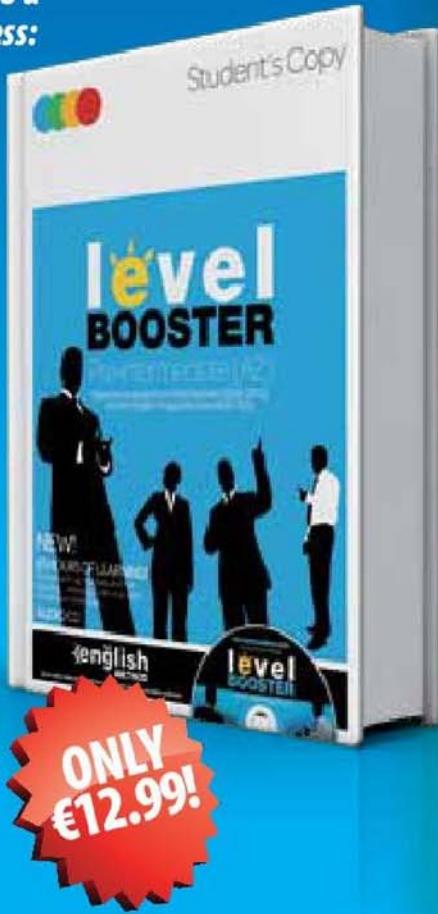
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NOTE: THE MATERIAL IN THIS BOOK HAS BEEN CREATED FROM MATERIAL IN HOT ENGLISH MAGAZINE issue numbers 95 to 103, as well as material from our SKILLS BOOKLETS 2009 TO 2010. The Level Booster books are in black and white.



Skills
BOOKLET

Refer to unit 13 (page 69) of the Intermediate Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING



Book Promotion

Trying to sell a few book ideas to a publisher.

1 Pre-listening

Match the books (1 to 5) to the authors (a-e).

1. War and Peace
2. A Christmas Carol
3. Romeo and Juliet
4. Crime and Punishment
5. Pride and Prejudice



a Fyodor Dostoyevsky



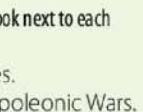
b Jane Austen



d Leo Tolstoy



c Charles Dickens



e William Shakespeare

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to a book publisher who is talking to an author. Listen once. Which book from the Pre-listening activity is *not* mentioned.

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, write the name of the author's book next to each description. It's...

1. ...the title of his book of short stories.
2. ...set in Russia at the time of the Napoleonic Wars.
3. ...about a mean money lender who learns the true meaning of Christmas.
4. ...about a man called Raskolnikov who commits a crime.
5. ...based on a book by the Greek poet Homer.
6. ...based on a book by English author Jane Austen.

4 Language focus Question tags

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Book Promotion: "...It's a good title, isn't it?..." The speaker has used a question tag ("isn't it?"). Complete the following statements with the correct question tags.

1. She got up on time, _____?
2. They've had enough, _____?
3. He's been practising it, _____?
4. We're going to win, _____?
5. I was using the right one, _____?

5 Discussion

1. Have you read any of the books mentioned? What did you think of them?
2. Who are your favourite authors?
3. Which authors from your country are famous?

ROYAL TRIVIA

Here are some more interesting facts about the British Royal Family. Extracts taken from the book *We Are Amused: A Royal Miscellany* by Brian Hoey.

The Queen doesn't like men in **loafers**, and prefers dark suits to brown ones. The Queen also hates her staff wearing **waistcoats**!



One of the things the Queen really can't stand is **clip-on bow ties**. It's said that she can spot one at 20 paces.



Both the Queen and Philip dislike long **sermons**. **Priests** are warned to make them less than 12 minutes long. Philip is reported to have once said that "the **soul** cannot **absorb** what the **posterior** cannot tolerate."



Guests for lunch or dinner have to eat as quickly as possible because the waiters start **removing** plates as soon as Prince Philip has finished – and he's a notoriously fast eater.



More than 1,000 letters a week addressed to the Queen are **handled** by staff at the Buckingham Palace post office. All letters from children and the elderly are replied to by **ladies-in-waiting**.



There's a subterranean passage from the palace that can be used to evacuate the Royal Family in an emergency. It leads to the Piccadilly Underground line, which connects directly to Heathrow Airport. A reinforced and fully-equipped **bunker** in the



basement is said to be capable of **withstanding** a nuclear attack.



There's a swimming pool at Buckingham Palace where Prince Philip goes every day. Staff are permitted to use the pool, but have to get out immediately if a royal arrives (unless they're invited to stay).

Doctors, opticians, pedicurists and hairdressers all go to Buckingham Palace to give the Queen her treatment. However, the Queen travels to **Harley Street** for dental appointments.



Philip has a fully-equipped barber's chair in his private apartment in Buckingham Palace, and a hairdresser visits once a week.



Every day after "luncheon" (she thinks the word "lunch" is **vulgar**) the Queen takes a walk in the gardens at



Extracts taken from *We Are Amused: A Royal Miscellany* by Brian Hoey. For more information on the royals, and to find out all sorts of interesting things such as the best places to see the Royal Family, whether the Queen has a driving licence, and what the Royal Family do for Christmas, get this fantastic guide to the British monarchy!



Buckingham Palace. Staff must remain out of sight as she likes to be alone.



The Queen's favourite drink is gin and Dubonnet (two-thirds gin to one-third Dubonnet) with ice added. Apparently, she doesn't like the sound of **ice cubes** banging against each other, so Philip invented a **device** that makes tiny ice **balls** that don't make any noise.



Every morning at 9am, the Queen's Piper (dressed in full Highland uniform) marches along the terrace beneath Her Majesty's window for 15 minutes playing Scottish military tunes on the bagpipes. He follows her from house to house – except Sandringham, the only royal residence where she has the possibility of a **lie-in**.



Prince Charles takes a white leather toilet seat with him wherever he travels.



Charles prefers fish to meat. Nothing containing nuts is allowed on his table.

Princess Anne is **teetotal** and usually drinks orange juice or Coke at state functions.



Princess Anne is a big rugby fan.



Princess Anne hates to be driven and insists on **taking the wheel** herself on practically all occasions. Also, she doesn't like having to **make small talk**, so the driver puts on CDs of her favourite music (which doesn't include classical music) before they set off.

What a family! ☺

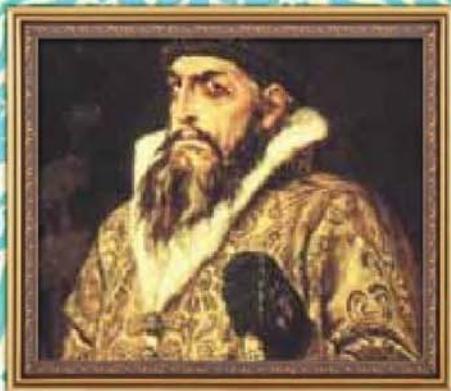
Strange tales of mad monarchs.

RAVING RULERS

These days, kings and queens are often seen attending banquets, greeting members of the public and waving politely from horse-drawn carriages. But in the past, things were somewhat different. Here are a few snippets of information on some of the more eccentric members of the monarchy.



Everyone knows that England's **King Henry the VIII** (1491 to 1547) was partial to a bit of **beheading** (he decided that two of his six wives needed to have their heads **chopped off**). But did you know that he actually went to play a game of tennis while Anne Boleyn was being executed? He obviously didn't have a problem **moving on** after the end of a relationship.



Ivan the Terrible of Russia (1530 to 1584) (perhaps you can tell from his name that he wasn't the nicest of leaders) commissioned the building of the Moscow church of St Basil. Luckily for the architects, Ivan thought it the most magnificent construction he'd ever seen – great news if your boss often **loses his temper**. However, he was so impressed with the church that he had the architects blinded so they could never design anything as good again. Shocking!



One of the most important jobs involved in being the king of England is **addressing** your subjects – but this was actually quite a challenge for **King George I** (1660 to 1727), seeing as he couldn't really speak English. The monarch was born and **raised** in Germany, so mainly communicated with officials in French (he also spoke fluent German and some Latin, Dutch and Italian). His English improved over time but due to his problems with the language, he left a lot of decision making to ministers and created the first cabinet government.



More and more smoking bans are coming into effect after several countries adopted the policy to prohibit smoking inside public buildings. Bad news for smokers, but it certainly could be worse: if you'd lived under the rule of **Murad IV Ghazi** (1612 to 1640) of Turkey, you were at risk of being executed if you were caught with a cigarette. In fact, the monarch himself would often wear civilian clothes and patrol the bars and cafés looking for anyone smoking, drinking alcohol or even enjoying a coffee. ☺

GLOSSARY

- loafers** *n*
a type of shoe with no laces (bits of string)
- waistcoat** *n*
a piece of formal clothing with no sleeves (the bits your arms go in) that is worn under a jacket
- a clip-on bow tie** *n*
a "bow tie" is an item of clothing that is worn around the neck. It is in the form of a bow (with two loose ends). A "clip-on" bow tie is attached to the shirt with a clip (you don't have to tie it)
- a pace** *n*
a "pace" is one step you make when walking
- a sermon** *n*
a speech (formal talk) given in church by a Christian priest
- a priest** *n*
an official leader of a Christian church
- asoul** *n*
your spirit; the part of you that consists of your mind, character, thoughts and feelings
- to absorb** *vb*
if you "absorb" information, you understand it and take it in
- a posterior** *adj*
old fashioned
the part of your body that you sit on
- to remove** *vb*
to take away
- to handle** *vb*
to deal with; to answer / reply to (in this case)
- a lady-in-waiting** *n*
a female assistant to a queen / princess, etc.
- a bunker** *n*
a strong room under the ground used to protect people from bombs
- to withstand** *vb*
if a building can "withstand" a nuclear attack, it won't be destroyed in the nuclear attack
- Harley Street** *n*
a street in London where there are lots of medical specialists
- vulgar** *adj*
rude or uncivilised
- ice cube** *n*
a little square of ice that is used in drinks
- a device** *n*
a little machine that can do a job
- a lie-in** *n*
if you have a "lie-in", you sleep later than the time that is usually acceptable
- teetotal** *adj*
someone who is "teetotal" never drinks alcohol
- to take the wheel** *exp*
to drive a car. Literally, to take the steering wheel (the round object you hold as you drive) in your hands
- to make small talk** *exp*
to talk to people about trivial, unimportant topics
- to be partial to** *exp*
if you are "partial to" something, you quite like it
- beheading** *n*
if there is a "beheading", someone's head is cut from their body
- to chop off** *phr vb*
to use a sharp tool (such as an axe) to cut someone's head off
- to move on** *phr vb*
if you "move on" after something sad has happened, you continue with your life in a normal way
- to lose your temper** *exp*
to get angry
- to address** *vb*
to speak to formally
- to raise** *vb*
if you "raise" a child, you look after him/her until they are an adult

Colin Firth's latest leaves audiences speechless.



Watch & Learn!
Watch a mini-video related to this topic at:
www.hotenglishmagazine.com/videos.php



BEST PICTURE
BEST DIRECTOR - TOM HOOPER
BEST ACTOR - COLIN FIRTH
BEST ORIGINAL SCREENPLAY - DAVID SEIDLER

THE KING'S SPEECH

Public speaking is **nerve-racking** at the best of times. But imagine having to speak to thousands of people if you have a **speech impediment**. That was what King George VI **faced**. And now it's the focus of a film *The King's Speech*.



King George (played by Colin Firth) suffered from a serious **stammer** (also known as a "stutter"). As a result, he found it difficult to say words without repeating the sounds several times. But because speaking to people is so important for a king, he **hired speech therapist** Lionel Logue (played by Geoffrey Rush) to help him with his problem. The film also stars Helena Bonham Carter as Queen Elizabeth (later more commonly known as the Queen Mother) and Guy Pearce as Prince Edward.



The film was written by David Seidler, who also suffered from a stammer as a child. He managed to **overcome** his problem after he was inspired by King George VI. "Here was a stutterer who was a king and had to give radio speeches where everyone was listening to every syllable he **uttered**," he said. "And yet he did so with such passion and intensity that it really helped me." The film also includes **excerpts** from speech therapist Lionel Logue's notes. These were included after the therapist's

grandson **approached** director Tom Hooper with a **previously unseen** diary just nine weeks before shooting was about to begin.

But despite every attempt from the creative team to make the film as historically accurate as possible, it does have its critics. Some say the film's **portrayal of events** involving former British Prime Minister Winston Churchill are untrue. For example, it's well-known that Churchill supported King Edward during the **abdication crisis**, but the film shows Churchill in favour of Edward **abdicating**. The filmmakers have also been liberal with the chronology of events, bringing things closer together in order to tell the story in a simpler way. In fact, *Time* magazine named the film one of the top 10 most historically inaccurate movies of all time, alongside *Shakespeare In Love* (which also starred Colin Firth) and *Pearl Harbour*.



NOW I'VE GOT TO MAKE AN OSCAR SPEECH TOO!

But despite all this, the film has received rave reviews from critics and a number of **prestigious** awards, including a few Oscars!

A truly inspiring story. ☺

King George VI

Born: 14th December 1895
The second son of George V and Mary of Teck, Albert (which was his name before he became King George VI) unexpectedly became king in 1936 after the abdication of his brother, King Edward VIII. He was very shy and had a stammer, which took many years to overcome. He was king during the Second World War. He died on 6th February 1952. His daughter, Elizabeth (the current queen), became queen after his death.



*The Abdication Crisis

When King Edward VIII announced his plans to marry Wallis Simpson, he had no idea how much controversy it would cause. Simpson had been divorced twice, so the wedding was unacceptable for religious and political reasons. In the end, Edward abdicated as king and let his brother Albert become the new king.



Oscars 2011

The King's Speech picked up a number of Oscars, including Best Actor (for Colin Firth), Best Director (for Tom Hooper) and Best Picture.



Some of the problems people have with speech.

SPEECH IMPEDIMENTS

In the film *The King's Speech*, Colin Firth plays King George VI – the former English monarch who had a stammer. The film highlights some of the challenges faced by people with this condition, and how it can be overcome. Let's take a look at some of the most common speech impediments.

Stammer (also known as a stutter) A person suffering from a stammer (such as King George VI) has trouble speaking without saying the same sounds in words repeatedly. It can also prevent the person from speaking at all in some cases. Words beginning with "w", "m" or vowel sounds are often the hardest to pronounce for someone with a stammer. Many people believe a stammer is caused by anxiety or lack of self-esteem, but there's no evidence to prove this. In fact, it's usually the stammer itself that causes people to feel insecure. Speech therapy can help correct a stammer.

Lisp

A lisp is a speech impediment which usually causes the sufferer to have problems pronouncing the letter "s". As a result, it often comes out as a "th" sound. So, instead of saying "sea", they might say "thea". A lisp is usually the result of a physical problem. Lips can usually be treated by a speech therapist, who gives the patient exercises with sounds they find the most difficult to pronounce.

Rhotacism

Rhotacism refers to problems pronouncing the letter "r". People with this condition usually say the "r" sounds as a "w" sound (so they would say "I'm weally happy" instead of "I'm really happy"). British television presenter Jonathan Ross is one of the most notable sufferers (he often jokes about the way he speaks), and is often affectionately known as "Wossy" (taken from his surname, Ross). Cartoon character Elmer Fudd also had rhotacism.

Dysprosody

Actually, this isn't very common at all, but it's worth mentioning. A person with dysprosody will start to speak in a foreign accent, often after suffering a head **injury**. In 1999, American Judi Roberts suffered a stroke. But when she recovered, she started to speak in a British accent, despite having lived in America all her life. Another victim from England, Linda Walker, started speaking in a mixture of Jamaican, Canadian and Slovakian accents after her injury. ☺

King George VI wasn't the only high-profile stammer sufferer who overcame his speech impediment. Here are a few more.



DieHard actor **Bruce Willis** (1955), who is famous for his action-hero roles, had to deal with a stammer as a child. The star claims it was his acting career that helped him overcome the problem. He said, "I was one of the fortunate people who **grew out of it**. Everybody has some kind of vocal **flaw**. It's what makes us unique."



Golfer **Tiger Woods** (1975) managed to cure his stammer in a slightly more unusual way – by talking to his dog. The sports star admitted it was hard, but having conversations with his pet really helped out. "It was very difficult, but I **fought through** it. I would talk to my dog and he would sit there and listen, and he'd fall asleep," Woods added.



Sir Isaac Newton (1643-1727) – the man who discovered the law of gravity – also had a stammer. It's said that as an **MP**, Newton was so **self-conscious** about it that he had the windows of the Houses of Parliament closed so the public couldn't hear him while he was **addressing** other MPs.



Known for his super cool **monologues** and smooth, deep voice, **Samuel L. Jackson** (1948) is one of the last people you'd imagine with a speech impediment. Although the actor says his stammer is "annoying", he has learnt to control it. "It's kind of bizarre," he said, "but if my character doesn't stutter, then I don't." In fact, Jackson has his stammer to thank for his successful career after his speech therapist suggested he **take up** acting.



Charles Darwin (1809-1882) – the man who **came up with** the theory of evolution – suffered from several health problems and also had a stammer. It is said that he would speak with a stammer when he became confused in conversation, and he often had trouble pronouncing words that begin with "w". ☺



GLOSSARY

nerve-racking *adj*
if something is "nerve-racking", it makes you very nervous / worried / frightened

a speech impediment *n*
if someone has a "speech impediment", it is difficult for them to speak "normally" / fluently

to face *vb*
if you "face" a problem, you need to deal with it / find a solution to it

a stammer *n*
someone with a "stammer" has problems speaking, and may repeat sounds several times

to hire *vb*
if you "hire" a person, you pay them to do a job

a speech therapist *n*
a person whose job is to help people who have problems speaking

to overcome *vb*
if you "overcome" a problem, you deal with it so it isn't a problem anymore

to utter *vn*
if someone "utters" words, they speak / say them

an excerpt *n*
a short section of a book or magazine

to approach *vb*
if you "approach" someone, you go to them (often with information or a proposal)

previously unseen *exp*
if something is "previously unseen", no one has seen it before

a portrayal *n*
an actor's "portrayal" of a character in a film, is the way the actor presents that character

events *n*
important things that happen

to abdicate *vb*
if a king / queen "abdicates", he/she stops being king / queen

prestigious *adj*
something special that is admired / respected by other people

a challenge *n*
something that is difficult to do and which requires a lot of effort and determination

an injury *n*
if you have an "injury", you have a cut or pain somewhere on your body

to grow out of *vn*
if you "grow out of something", you stop doing it naturally as you get older

a flaw *n*
an imperfection; something with a "mistake" in it

to fight through *vn*
if you "fight through" something, you continue fighting until it is resolved

an MP *n*
a member of parliament; an elected politician in central government

self-conscious *adj*
easily worried / embarrassed / nervous, especially about what other people think

to address *vb*
to talk directly to someone or a group of people, often in a formal setting

a monologue *n*
a part of a movie or play when one person speaks for a period of time

to take up *phv* *vb*
if you "take up" a new sport or hobby, you start doing it

to come up with *phrv* *vb*
if you "come up with" an idea, you think of it

Is Colin really such an English gentleman?

COLIN FIRTH

Many people think of Colin Firth as a typical Englishman. On screen, he usually speaks with a posh English accent, and plays some very English characters in some very English films. Even his name sounds incredibly English. But just how English is he?

Not very English at all, apparently... "It's true, I'm very associated with this English stereotype," he said. "But I don't think that exists outside of the roles I play." In fact, Colin is sure that the stereotypical Englishman is a thing of the past. "It's hard to **run into** those **guys** now. I'll give you a hundred dollars for every guy with a **bowler hat** and umbrella you see walking the streets of London who's not going to a **fancy dress party**," he added.

Colin, 50, was born in Hampshire, England to university **lecturers** Shirley and David. However, his **upbringing** was anything but English. He spent some of his early years living in Nigeria (where his parents were teaching) before moving to Missouri in America at the age of 11, followed by some time in Canada. He later returned to England to study, ending up at drama school in London.

His **big break** came in the BBC TV adaptation of Jane Austen's classic novel *Pride and Prejudice*. After its **release**, he became a **heartthrob** and **much sought-after** for both British and Hollywood films. He went on to star as the love-interest in two *BrIDGET Jones* films, had



a supporting role in *The English Patient*, and later played a love-sick writer in *Love, Actually*. This year, he played King George VI in *The King's Speech*, a role that won him an Oscar for Best Actor.

But it's not all acting for Colin – the star is also an active **campaigner** for the rights of **asylum seekers** and **refugees**, as well as other deserving charities. He says his multi-cultured upbringing is the reason why he wants to help people from other countries. He said, "To me, it's just basic civilisation to help people. I find it incredibly painful to see how we **dismiss** the most desperate people in our society. It just makes me furious."

Colin's future is looking bright. He's been given a part in an upcoming film by the Coen brothers called *Gambit* (which also stars Cameron Diaz). And he'll also star in a film adaptation of popular spy novel *Tinker, Tailor, Soldier, Spy*. But will he ever break free from the English gentleman typecast? "I don't know how many times I've read a script and thought, 'nobody knows how good I'd be at this character – but they want me to play that other one,'" he said. "But I've **embraced typecasting**. I'm more afraid of not being employed!" ☺



Colin Firth

Born: 10 September 1960

Colin Firth is the son of Shirley and David Firth, who both worked as lecturers. He was born in Grayshott, Hampshire in England. He spent the first four years of his life in Nigeria, where his parents were working as English teachers. At age five, they moved back to England. He has a younger sister, Kate Firth and a brother, Jonathan Firth. He is married to Livia Giuggioli.

Famous films: *Bridget Jones' Diary* (2001), *Love, Actually* (2003), *A Single Man* (2009) and *The King's Speech* (2010).

FUN FACTS

 Colin has played a character called Darcy on screen three times in his career: once in *Pride and Prejudice* and twice in the *Brigit Jones* films.

 The actor has lost his **on screen** "wife" twice to members of the Fiennes family. To Ralph Fiennes in *The English Patient* and to Joseph Fiennes in *Shakespeare in Love*.

 His sister Kate is a vocal coach, so she helped him develop his stammer for the role of King George the VI in *The King's Speech*.

QUOTES

On being attractive...

"Forget 'trying' to be sexy. That's just **gruesome**."

On being English...

"If you want to define an Englishman nowadays, look at Keith Richards or Johnny Rotten or Ray Winstone rather than John Major or Princ on who always wanted to see middle-aged men in **tight spandex** trying to sing, then this is the film for you."

On being an actor...

"Actors are basically **drag queens**. People will tell you they act because they want to **heal mankind** or, you know, explore the nature of the **human psyche**. Yes, maybe. But basically we just want to put on a **frock** and dance."



On his admirers...

"I find I'm increasingly **lusted after** by people beyond pensionable age. I was told about a woman in hospital, diagnosed with high blood pressure, who was told not to watch *Pride and Prejudice* anymore. She was 103."

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→ Page 43

Today's young royals.

MODERN

Royalty isn't just about old people with crowns. Today, there are several "hot", young royals who are a lot more popular than their parents. Here are a few of the most famous blue-blooded youngsters.



Prince William

Prince William is the son of Prince Charles (the Prince of Wales) and the late Princess Diana. He's **second in line to the throne** of England after his father, and is a qualified RAF pilot. It was recently announced that the 28-year-old prince will marry Kate Middleton. The couple have become such big celebrities that a TV movie is **in the works**. And it isn't only the English who are crazy about Kate and "Wills". Hundreds of Germans have booked flights to the UK for the big day (the English royal family is of German **descent** after all), and the Japanese toy manufacturers of Sylvanian Families have made rabbit replicas of the couple. Amazing!

Interesting fact: Kate wasn't William's first love. When he was 13, he **had a crush on** supermodel Cindy Crawford, so his mum (Diana) invited her round for tea!

Born: 21st June 1982

Bio: Prince William Arthur Philip Louis Windsor is the eldest child of Prince Charles (the Prince of Wales) and the late Diana (the Princess of Wales).



Prince Harry

William isn't the only popular young royal in the **Windsor family**, his brother Harry is a bit of a celebrity too. While he's been the focus of some controversy (he once got into a fight with a photographer outside a nightclub), he's considered a **national treasure** and shares his mother's **fondness for charity work**. Like his brother, Harry, 26, served in the military, including 77 days in the **front line** in Afghanistan (he was later pulled out after a newspaper **revealed** this). He's far more care-free than his brother and is often photographed at night clubs with celebrities such as Paris Hilton.

Interesting fact: Harry is actually a nickname – his real name is Henry.

Born: 15th September 1984

Bio: The younger son of Prince Charles and Diana. Henry Charles Albert David Mountbatten-Windsor studied at Eton College and also joined the military.



Charlotte Casiraghi

Most royals are far too **busy** to work, but Charlotte Casiraghi manages to find time to be a magazine editor! The daughter of Caroline (Princess of Hanover), Charlotte is an established journalist, editor of *Above* magazine (an environmental magazine) and co-founder of *Ever Manifesto* (a fashion magazine). Not just that, Charlotte, 24, is also an accomplished **show jumper**, and last year she was the honorary president of the Jumping International de Monte-Carlo. We think it's hard enough making Hot English Magazine every month – we couldn't imagine having to perform official royal **duties** as well!

Interesting fact: Charlotte's grandmother was none other than American actress Grace Kelly.

Born: 3rd August 1986

Bio: Charlotte Marie Pomeline Casiraghi is the second child of Caroline, Princess of Hanover and the late Stefano Casiraghi, an Italian industrialist. She is the fourth in line to the throne of Monaco.



Prince Azim

Prince Azim (or His Royal Highness Prince Haji Abdul Azim to use his full title) is the fourth in line to the throne of Brunei. Often followed by the **paparazzi**, the 28-year-old has been **dubbed** the "billionaire playboy prince" for his **extravagant lifestyle**. He's especially well-known for his **lavish** birthday parties. He once paid the **late** pop star Michael Jackson a reported \$10 million just to attend one celebration. At other parties, he's given guests (including supermodel Naomi Campbell and actress Scarlett Johansson) **goodie bags** with iPods and diamonds.

Interesting fact: Prince Azim once **delivered** a necklace as a gift for singer Mariah Carey by private jet. Total cost: \$6 million.

Born: 29th July 1982

Bio: His Royal Highness Prince Haji Abdul Azim is the fourth in line to succeed the throne of Brunei. He is the son of Sultan Hassanal Bolkiah. Prince Azim has two sisters and one brother, as well as five half-sisters and three half-brothers.

MONARCHY



Carl Philip

Lots of people would like to be a prince or princess. And lots of people would like to be a **race-car driver**. But what if you could be both? Prince Carl Philip is living that very dream. Second in line to the throne of Sweden, he's currently competing in the Porsche Carrera Cup Scandinavia. And as if his life wasn't **glamorous** enough, last year he was romantically linked with model Sofia Hellqvist.

Interesting fact: The prince would have been first in line to the throne (in front of his older sister) if it wasn't for the Act of Succession in 1980, which ruled that men do not have more right to the throne than women.

Born: 13th May 1979

Bio: Prince Carl Philip, Duke of Värmland is the second child of King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia of Sweden. He has a sister, Crown Princess Victoria, who is expected to take the throne.

Prince Albert

Prince Albert of Thurn and Taxis is a German prince and one of the richest men in the world. Last year, Albert, 27, **lost out** to Facebook creator Mark Zuckerberg for the title of the world's youngest billionaire (Albert is worth an estimated \$2.2 billion, while Zuckerberg is said to have \$4 billion). Like Prince Carl Philip, Albert also has a passion for cars, and races for Reiter Engineering when he isn't busy with his royal duties.

Interesting fact: Albert changed his **surname** to "Prinz von Thurn und Taxis" because German law does not officially recognise royal titles, which means he couldn't legally call himself a "prince"... but now the word "prinz" is in his surname!

Born: 24th June 1983

Bio: Albert Prinz von Thurn und Taxis is the son of Johannes and Gloria von Thurn und Taxis. He has two sisters, Princess Maria Theresia and Princess Elisabeth.

Princess Sheikha

The Karate Princess sounds like the title of an action movie, but Sheikha Maitha bint Mohammed bin Rashid al Maktoum is exactly that! The princess of Dubai, 27, has competed in karate and taekwondo competitions internationally, and even won the silver medal in the 2006 Asian games.

Interesting fact: In 2008, she was included as 17th on the list of the "20 Hottest Young Royals" as compiled by *Forbes Magazine*. She also won the Arab World's best female athlete award in March 2007.

Born: 5th March 1980

Bio: One of 13 officially-recognised daughters of Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum (he also has eight sons).

Princess Sikhanyiso

If you are born a royal, you can pretty much do whatever you want, right? So why not start a rap career? Princess Sikhanyiso of Swaziland has **defied** her parents' traditional wishes and recorded hip-hop songs and even **pursued** an acting **career**. She also wears western clothes, something strongly **discouraged** for women in her country.

Interesting fact: She's the eldest daughter of King Mswati III of Swaziland, and one of his 24 children. Her mother is one of Mswati's 14 wives.

Born: 1st September 1987

Bio: Princess Sikhanyiso Dlamini of Swaziland is the eldest daughter of King Mswati III of Swaziland. ☺

GLOSSARY

blue-blooded adj

If someone is "blue-blooded", they are a member of a royal family

second in line to the throne exp

a person who is "second in line to the throne" could be king or queen after the person before them

in the works exp

if a project is "in the works", there are plans to make it (or it is being made) at the moment of speaking

descent n

If you are of (German) descent, your grandparents / ancestors were German

to have a crush on exp

If you "have a crush on" someone, you like them in a romantic way

the Windsor family n

the British Royal Family

a national treasure exp

someone who is loved / appreciated / admired by their country

fondness for exp

If you have a "fondness for" something, you like it very much

charity work n

things you do to help poor people: giving money, working on projects, etc.

front line n

The "front line" in a war is the place where soldiers are fighting

to reveal vb

To show something: to make some information public

busy adj

If you are "busy", you have a lot of things to do

a show jumper n

someone who rides horses in jumping competitions

a duty n

Something you have to do as part of your job

paparazzi n

Photographers who work for magazines / websites and who take photos of famous people

to dub vb

To give someone a different name based on how they behave

an extravagant lifestyle exp

If someone has an "extravagant lifestyle", they spend lots of money / go to exclusive places, etc.

lavish adj

If you have a "lavish" party, you spend lots of money on it

late adj

dead

a goodie bag n

A bag of presents often given to guests when they leave a party

to deliver vb

If you "deliver" something, you take it somewhere

a race-car driver n

A person who drives cars in races with other cars in a competition

glamorous adj

If your life is "glamorous", it is exciting, interesting, attractive, etc.

to lose out to exp

If you "lose out to" someone, they win and you lose

a surname n

Your last name, your family name: Jenny Brock - Brock is the surname

to defy vb

If you "defy" someone in authority, you do something against their wishes

to pursue vb

If you "pursue" an activity, you do it

a career n

Your "career" is the job you do for the majority of your working life

to discourage vb

If you try to "discourage" someone from doing something, you tell them not to do it

READING |

Play Time**1 Pre-reading**

Look at the list of toys / games. Which ones have you played with? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

Cluedo, Slinky, LEGO, Play-Doh, Yahtzee, Frisbee, Hula Hoop, Barbie, Mouse Trap, G.I. Joe, Operation, Twister, Battleship, Hot Wheels, Rubik's Cube, Uno, Dungeons and Dragons, Playmobil, Star Wars Action Figures, Cabbage Patch Kids, Trivial Pursuit, My Little Pony, Transformers, Pictionary, Tamagotchi

Other?

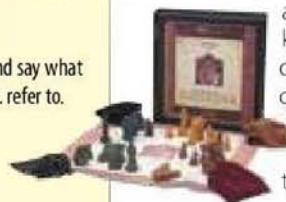
2 Reading I

Read the article once. Which toys / games are mentioned that you like / liked?

3 Reading II

Read the article again and say what the numbers / dates, etc. refer to.

1. 4000BC
2. 6th century
3. 1903
4. 22 million
5. 100 million
6. \$4 million
7. 2004
8. 2 million



X BOX 360 Kinetic. RoboSapien. The Flytech Dragonfly. Wii Party. These are just a few of the games of recent times. But some of the most popular toys are actually quite old.

Games have been around for several years. In 4000 BC, Babylonians played a **board game** that was similar to chess. An early version of *modern* chess was a game called "chaturanga", which was popular in India in the 6th century. Yo-yos made of stone were first used in ancient Greece around 1000 BC. And kites appeared in China around the same time. Many of the most popular toys today appeared in the 20th century. These include Crayola Crayons (which first appeared in 1903), Monopoly (which was invented in the early 1930s), and Twister (which has sold more than 22 million games since its **release** in 1966).



Another popular game is Scrabble. Unemployed architect Alfred Mosher Butts invented the game in the 1930s. At first, it was called "Lexiko" and later "Criss-Cross Words". In 1947, entrepreneur James Brunot **acquired** the game, but it wasn't until 1953 (when the president of Macy's discovered it) that things really **took off**. And since then, more than 100 million sets have been sold worldwide.

**The American International Toy Fair**

The American International Toy Fair was first held in New York City in 1903. It has been held there every year (except 1945) since then. It's the global toy industry's most important event.

**GLOSSARY**

a board game n
a game you play on a flat piece of cardboard / wood / plastic, etc.
a release n
a product's "release" date is the time it is placed in shops so you can buy it
to acquire vb
to get or obtain
to take off phr vb
if something "takes off", it becomes really popular
to gross vb
the amount of money that a product "grosses", is the total amount it makes from sales before any tax deductions, etc. are made
wallpaper n
paper that you put over the walls of your home so it looks nice
all the rage exp
very popular
to make a comeback exp
If a game "makes a comeback", it becomes popular again after it stopped being popular
to bend down phr vb
to move the top half of your body forwards and down, often so you can pick something up
to pick up phr vb
to take something in your hands (often from a surface)
to punch vb
to hit with a fist (with your fingers closed into your hand)
to snore vb
when someone "snores" while they are asleep, they make a loud sound through their mouth / nose
to belch vb
if someone "belches", air comes out of their mouth, making a loud noise. This often happens after eating or drinking

4 Language focus
The use of since

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...And since then, more than 100 million sets have been sold worldwide..."

The writer has used the Present Perfect with "since". Complete the following sentences with your own ideas.

1. I haven't spoken to _____ since last month.
2. I haven't cleaned my car since _____.
3. I haven't seen _____ since last year.
4. I haven't been to _____ since 2008.
5. I haven't _____ since last week.

As you can imagine, toys and games are a multi-billion dollar industry. Mr Potato Head was made in 1952 by Hasbro's Playskool unit. It was the first toy advertised on TV, and it **grossed** more than \$4 million in its first year. Play-Doh (which was originally designed for cleaning **wallpaper**) made inventor Joseph McVicker a millionaire by his 27th birthday. Mattel sells an astounding 1.5 million Barbie dolls each week (that's two dolls per second!). And Bratz Dolls global sales in 2005 were two billion dollars.



Some toys go out of fashion, but then become popular again. Cabbage Patch Kids were **all the rage** in the early 1980s and are now back... as is the Rubik's Cube. Toy analysts say that parents are increasingly choosing to buy toys they remember from their own childhood. Other toys from the past that are **making a comeback** include Power Ranger action figures, board games such as Cluedo, Buckarool and Twister, and circular trampolines.

These days, toys are getting a lot more sophisticated. RoboSapien is a remote-controlled robot that was launched in 2004. He can walk, turn around, **bend down** and **pick** things **up**, as well as **punch**, **snore** and **belch** (much to the delight of children). RoboSapien was designed by Mark Tilden, who once created robots for NASA space missions. He expected the toy to be used mostly by schools and fellow scientists, but almost 2 million Robosapiens have been sold worldwide since their launch as a toy.

Fancy a game, anyone? ☺

READING II



Watch & Learn!
Watch a mini-video related to this topic at:
www.hotenglishmagazine.com/videos.php



1 Pre-reading

Look at the pictures of rubbish below. What type of rubbish is the most offensive? Why?



2 Reading I

What are some of the problems regarding rubbish? Think. Then, read the article once to compare your ideas.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

- How many tons of waste does the UK produce?
- How often are the bins emptied in some towns and cities?
- What are the green bins for?
- What did the survey by Keep Britain Tidy find?
- What effects has the smoking ban had?
- What problems do some waste disposal workers cause?

4 Language focus



Verbs + prepositions

Look at the extract from the article on this page. "...local governments are trying to deal with this..." The writer has used a verb with the preposition "with" ("deal with"). Complete the sentences with the correct verbs.

- I'm not sure I _____ with your point of view.
- They _____ the terms of the agreement with us.
- They _____ the price of the product in the shop with the online price.
- I'd like to _____ with you about a somewhat delicate matter.

5 Discussion

- What's the level of rubbish like where you live?
- How is the government in your country dealing with litter-related problems?
- What do you recycle at home?

Litter Bugs

The growing problem of rubbish.

Chewing gum. Plastic bags. Empty crisp packets. Litter affects most cities. But a new report says it's getting worse.

Rubbish is a problem all over the world. Some of the major producers of waste are the countries with the biggest GDPs. These include the USA, which produces 254 million tons a year, Russia, which creates over 200 million tons, Japan, which accumulates around 52.36 million tons, Germany, which has to deal with approximately 48.84 million tons, and the UK, which generates around 34.85 million tons.



In the UK, local governments are trying to deal with this. Many towns and cities have introduced weekly or even fortnightly bin collections.



This is designed to get people to produce less garbage (and to save money). During the week, residents store their trash in rubbish containers, plastic bags or wheelie bins. Then, on rubbish collection day, they take their garbage to the nearest road for it to be collected by waste disposal workers.

There are also initiatives to get people to recycle more. Many councils have green bins for garden and kitchen waste. This includes old bits of food and grass clippings. This is then used to create compost, which will later be used as fertiliser. Then, there are black bins for general waste, and other bins for glass and paper.

However, none of this seems to be helping much with general litter problems. A survey by Keep Britain Tidy found that sweet wrappers, drink cans, fast food packaging waste and smoking-related rubbish on the streets had all increased over the past 12 months. So, who's to blame?



Some say it's down to the cuts. With fewer waste disposal workers in general to clean the streets, rubbish is obviously not getting cleared away. Others blame the smoking ban. "Now that everyone's smoking in the street, the pavements are covered in cigarette butts," said one resident.

Some blame the rubbish collectors themselves. "Most of the litter round our way is caused by the trash collectors," said another resident. "We have communal bins in our flats and the day the dustmen come, the area around the bins is covered in rubbish." Others blame the government. "There need to be more campaigns, notices and fines. Also, children need to be educated about picking up litter."

Of course, the easiest way to reduce the amount of rubbish that's produced is to consume less. That means eating less, buying less and spending less... but then that might affect the economy. What do you think? ☺



GLOSSARY

GDP n Gross Domestic Product. The amount of money a country makes
fortnightly adj every two weeks
a bin n a container for rubbish / waste (old things you throw away)
a collection n If there is a bin 'collection', the bins are emptied and the rubbish is taken away
garbage n old things you don't want / rubbish / trash / waste
trash n old things you don't want / rubbish / garbage / waste
a wheelie bin n a bin (see previous entry) that has wheels (round objects at the bottom) so you can push it along the ground
a waste disposal worker n a person whose job is to remove rubbish from the streets / empty bins
compost n a substance that is formed from a mixture of old plants / food. It is added to the soil / earth to help new plants grow
fertiliser n a chemical substance added to soil / earth to help make plants grow better

Keep Britain Tidy n an organisation whose aim is to reduce the amount of rubbish in the streets
a can n a metal container, often used for fizzy drinks / beer, etc.

packaging n the plastic, metal or paper around a product
cuts n reductions / decreases in the amount of money that is spent
disposal n the act of throwing away things you don't want / need anymore

to clear away phr v if you "clear something away", you take it to another place so the area is clean

a smoking ban n a law that prohibits people from smoking in bars / cafés / restaurants
a communal bin n a bin that everyone in a building / block of flats / community can use
a dustman n (informal) a person who collects rubbish
a fine n money you have to pay as a punishment because you have done something wrong
to pick up phr v to collect; to take something away



DR FINGERS' VOCABULARY CLINIC

clichés



This month we're looking at some clichés – those popular expressions that have been used so much that they've lost their meaning or become unoriginal. For more information on clichés, turn to our Word of the Month article on page 46.



- a)** Alfie's working as an accountant, isn't he?
b) That's right. Like father, like son.

This expression means that both the father and the son are working in similar jobs / in the same industry, etc.



- a)** Sara's studying to become a doctor.
b) She's following in her mother's footsteps.

This expression means that the daughter is doing the same as the mother in terms of work / education, etc.



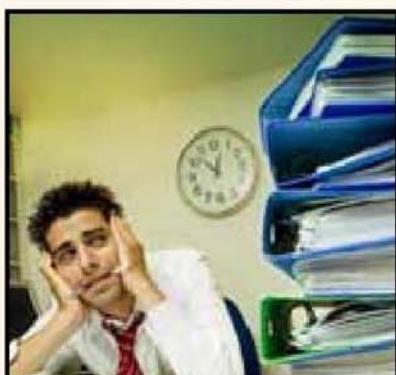
- a)** I can't believe it's already six o'clock.
b) Time flies when you're having fun.

This means, "Time goes quickly when you're enjoying yourself."



- a)** When do you think we should have the meeting?
b) There's no time like the present.

This means, "The best time to do something is now!"



- a)** Have you got that report finished yet?
b) Rome wasn't built in a day, you know.

This means, "It takes a long time to do an important job."



- a)** I've had enough of this.
b) Yeah, let's call it a day.

This means, "Let's stop doing it!"



- a)** I can't believe you charged us for just coming to the meeting.
b) Time is money.

This means, "Time has a value and it will be charged for."



- a)** Do you think they'd do it if we offered them more?
b) Money makes the world go round.

This means, "Money is the prime motivator for most actions."



- a)** They cheated him out of all his savings.
b) A fool and his money are easily parted.

This means, "Stupid people often lose their money."



- a)** Do you think I should say something?
b) I wouldn't rock the boat if I were you!

This means, "I wouldn't do or say anything that might cause problems."



- a)** Look at all that rain! The weather's awful!
b) Yes, it's raining cats and dogs.

This means, "It's raining very heavily."

Museum Mix

Unusual museums from around the world. By Patrick Howarth

ANSWERS ON PAGE 45

1 Pre-reading

Look at the words below. They are all topics / themes for unusual museums. What do you think you can find in these museums? Discuss your ideas with a partner.



2 Reading I

Read the article once to check your ideas from the Pre-reading activity.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write the name of a museum next to each statement.

1. You can donate something to this museum.
2. You'll be shown clothing worn by famous people at this museum.
3. You'll see some examples of awful art.
4. You'll be given information about when bananas were introduced to the USA.
5. They both claim to have the definitive collection of barbed wire.
6. This museum includes an exhibit from the 18th century.



4 Language focus Future passives

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...We'll be shown some truly awful..." The writer has used a future passive ("will be shown"). Transform the following sentences into the future passive. Do not include the agent (the person who does the action).

1. They will send it later.
2. They will finish it tonight.
3. They will clean the rooms tomorrow.
4. They will take out the rubbish this afternoon.

Read through the article again. Can you find any more examples of future passives?

5 Discussion

1. What's the most unusual museum you've ever been to?
2. Are there any unusual museums in your town / city / country? What exhibits do they have?
3. What's your all-time favourite museum? Why do you like it so much?

"Museums of the World" Travel Plan

Here's the travel plan for some of the more unusual museums on our "Museums of the World" tour. I'll send you the full itinerary next week.

The Museum of Bad Art (MOBA) (Boston, USA) shows what it describes as "art too bad to be ignored". The museum hopes to bring the worst of art to the widest possible audience and has even published a book of its most "important" works. As part of the visit, we'll be shown some truly awful portraits, landscapes and sculptures.

The Devil's Rope Museum (in McLean, Texas) and The Kansas Barbed Wire Museum (in Lacrosse, Kansas) both claim to have the definitive barbed wire collections, telling the story of the wire's role in the development of America. We'll be visiting both of these, so we can decide which one we like best!

The Washington Banana Museum (Auburn, Washington, USA) contains 4,000 objects related to the history of what the museum describes as "the world's most perfect fruit". We'll be given a guided tour around the museum, during which we'll learn all sorts of interesting things, such as the fact that bananas were introduced to the USA in 1878 in the same exhibition as Alexander Graham Bell's telephone, and that the banana is now the US' number-one selling fruit.

The Hair Museum (Avanos, Turkey) is located in a cave in Cappadocia, in Central Anatolia. It contains 16,000 samples of people's hair. You'll be offered a chance to add your own hair to the collection. Later in the year, the museum curator selects 10 donors to attend a pottery workshop. If you're one of them, you'll be invited to stay in his guest house.

The Musée du Slip (Brussels, Belgium) is devoted to underwear. The idea behind the museum is that everyone is equal in their underwear. You'll be fascinated to know that the curator has collected samples from all sorts of people, including artists, politicians and pop stars.

The Museu de Carrosses Funebres (Barcelona, Spain) is a museum of funeral hearses. It takes a look at how local people have been transported to their funerals since the 19th century. During the tour, we'll be provided with a fascinating insight into how the people of Barcelona viewed death. On a similar note...

...The Funeral Museum (Vienna, Austria) provides a central European picture of death and its rites. Amongst the 1,000 or so exhibits, pride of place goes to a "flap-coffin", which is a reusable coffin from the 18th century.

Speak soon! ☺



Watch & Learn!
Watch a mini-video related to this topic at:
www.hotenglishmagazine.com/videos.php



Quirky News

Quirky News N° 112 The voice of the people London 2011

Old Crime

GIVE US YOUR MONEY, HONEY!

The elderly turn to crime.

What do elderly people in your country do? Play bingo? Go bowling? Meet up with their friends in bars and cafés? These days, more and more **pensioners** around the world are turning to crime!

In Manchester (England), more than 1,600 elderly people have been arrested over the past three years. The oldest was a 94-year-old man cautioned for violence against another person. In Watford, a gang of over 65-year-olds **held up** three banks before getting caught. One of the members terrorised banking staff by pointing a carrot through a jacket pocket, claiming it was a **loaded gun**. The gang leader was 78 years old. In London, a gang of elderly ladies was detained by police after a number of **vicious** street attacks. They'd been using handbags filled with rocks to **stun** their victims, **making off with** valuables such as money, jewellery and mobile phones.

In northwest Germany, police captured a three-man gang as they prepared to storm a bank. It would have been their sixth **raid**. "These were not lovable old **coggers**," a police spokesperson said. "Two members of the gang (aged 63 and 74 respectively) were carrying **grenades** and a **hammer**." Meanwhile, police in France are hunting a 70-year-old grandmother who used a toy pistol to hold up at least four banks. And in Austria members of a major **narcotics ring** (**dubbed** the "Grandpa Gang") were arrested after selling more than €6m worth of drugs.

Back in London, a 69-year-old (who goes by the online name Devilman) was found guilty of credit card **fraud** in a recent trial. A **search** of his house uncovered a **counterfeit** credit card factory with details of 2,000 cards. He **owned** three houses, and was described by neighbours as "a very quiet man".

"The over-60s are now the fastest-growing section of the prison population. There are currently almost 2,500 people in this age group in British prisons, **making up** three percent of the total, up from two percent in 2003," a police spokesperson explained. Just recently, Summertown prison in Bristol became the first in the country to provide a special "elderly wing", complete with **stairlifts** and specially-adapted bathrooms.

Whatever next? ☺

GLOSSARY

- a pensioner** n
an old person who has stopped working and who is over 65
- to hold up** phrvb
to rob a bank with a gun
- a loaded gun** exp
a pistol / rifle, etc. that is ready to fire and that has bullets in it
- vicious** adj
cruel or violent
- to stun** vi
if someone is "stunned", they are hit and then become unconscious or confused
- to make off with** phrvb
if someone "makes off with" money, they steal that money and escape
- a raid** n
an attack / a robbery (often with force / violence)
- a cogger** n
an old man
- a grenade** n
a small, round explosive device which explodes when a metal pin is pulled out
- a hammer** n
a heavy tool used for hitting things (nails into a wall, for example)
- a narcotics ring** exp
a gang that produces / sells illegal drugs
- dubbed** adj
if someone is "dubbed" a certain name, they are given this name
- fraud** n
to lie or steal information in order to get money
- a search** n
if there is a "search", people look for something in a place / area / house, etc.
- counterfeit** adj
fake (not real); not original, not genuine
- to own** vb
if you "own" something, it belongs to you / it's yours / you possess it
- to make up** phrvb
if A "makes up" 3 percent of the total, A is 3 percent of the total amount
- a stairlift** n
an electrical chair that elderly people sit on to go up the stairs

Easy Dips!

This is the second part of our recipes for delicious dips.

Serve them with nacho chips, toast quarters, pitta bread triangles, crisps, crackers or crudités (carrot sticks, celery sticks, etc.). To make the dips, you'll need an electric, hand-held blender (see image to the right).

BLT dip

Ingredients

- 250 grams of mayonnaise.
- 250 grams of sour cream or cream cheese.
- 1/4 teaspoon of chopped garlic.
- Pinch of ground black pepper.
- 2 tablespoons finely chopped onion.
- 1 large tomato, diced.
- 500 grams of bacon, cooked to a crisp and crumbled or diced.



Mix all the ingredients together except the tomato and bacon. Place in the fridge until it's time to serve. Just before serving, stir in the bacon and tomato. Yummy!

Amazing nacho dip

Ingredients

- 250 grams cream cheese.
- 1 red chilli pepper chopped finely (optional).
- 1 onion, chopped.
- 250 grams grated cheese.



Put the cream cheese, chilli (optional) and onion into a microwaveable dish. Sprinkle the grated cheese on top. Then, microwave for about five minutes (or until the cheese has melted). Serve immediately with nacho chips.

Guacamole dip

Ingredients

- 3 ripe avocados, peeled and pitted.
- 1/4 cup chopped red onion.
- 1 tablespoon of freshly-squeezed lime juice.
- 1 red chilli or jalapeño pepper chopped finely (optional).
- 1 tomato, diced.
- Salt and pepper to taste.



Use the hand-held blender to mix all the ingredients except the tomato. Then, stir in the tomato. Cover and chill in the refrigerator for at least 30 minutes. ☺

GLOSSARY

- a dip** *n*
a thick, creamy sauce that you eat with toast, biscuits, raw vegetables, etc.
- a pinch of** *exp*
a measurement that consists of an amount of food that you can hold between two fingers
- finely chopped** *exp*
cut into very small pieces
- diced** *adj*
cut into small cubes (squares)
- cooked to a crisp** *exp*
fried in oil until it is hard and easy to break
- a microwaveable dish** *n*
a plate that you can put in the microwave and heat up
- to sprinkle** *vb*
if you "sprinkle" food on top of a dish, you put an amount of that food over the top of that dish
- peeled** *adj*
with the skin taken off
- pitted** *adj*
with the stone taken out from the middle
- to stir in** *exp*
If you "stir in" food, you add it slowly whilst moving it around or mixing it in



Social Splash

Offering advice in the nicest possible way.

1 Pre-listening

Think of places in your town / city that you'd recommend for the following categories. Discuss your choices with a partner.

- A hotel.
 - A restaurant.
 - A trip outside the city / town.
 - A museum.
 - A guidebook to use.
 - An area in the city to visit at night.
 - A musical / play / show to see.
 - A phrasebook to buy.
- Other?

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to someone who is giving advice on visiting the Greek island of Rhodes. Listen once. What advice does the man give?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, complete the spaces with the appropriate words.

1. You shouldn't have _____ to Rhodes.
2. Were you _____ on the south side of the island?
3. You should have _____ in the village of Lindos.
4. We _____ it was quite touristy, actually.
5. I would have _____ The Delphi.
6. The manager _____ us that his family were Greek.
7. We _____ to this lovely place called Salt & Pepper on our last night.
8. You'd be better off _____ here and watching a documentary on Berlin.



4 Language focus Short answers

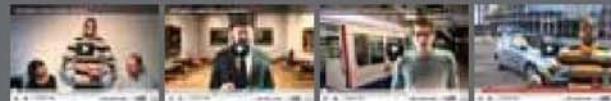
Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Social Splash: "...No, we didn't..." The speaker has used a short answer. Complete the spaces with appropriate short answers.

1. A: Did you go out last night? B: Yes, _____.
2. A: Have you seen the film yet? B: Yes, _____.
3. A: Were you waiting for me? B: No, _____.
4. A: Had they been here before? B: No, _____.
5. A: Does she want me to send it to her? B: Yes, _____.

5 Discussion

1. When was the last time you gave someone a bit of advice about a holiday destination? What did you tell them?
2. When was the last time someone gave you a bit of advice?
3. When was the last time you had a conversation with someone who seemed to be more interested in showing off than actually helping? What was discussed?

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The video clips are linked into
articles in this magazine. In
order to truly benefit from the
videos, read the article first.
Then, watch the video to help
reinforce your learning.



These are transcripts of videos that you can watch on our website (www.hotenglishmagazine.com/videos.php), or on the interactive online magazine version. Please note that these transcripts are based on recordings of natural, unscripted speech. As a result, there may be some examples of non-standard English (errors, interruption, unfinished sentences, etc.). This occurs when people speak quickly and spontaneously... even native speakers!

Natural Remedies (page 4)

Radio listeners call in with their opinions on natural remedies.

English accent/s: US / British



DJ Hot: Good morning, you're listening to Hot English Radio. Er, this morning we're asking people to, to phone in and tell us some of their remedies er, when they're feeling sick; when they have a cold. Er, so caller number one, what do you do when you're feeling under the weather?

Caller #1: Er, I always try to get lots of sleep. I find it's the best way to get rid of any nasty illnesses.

DJ Hot: That's a good idea thank you very much for your call. Caller number two, what do you do?

Caller #2: I always eat lots of fruit and vegetables. It keeps me healthy and strong so I can fight those nasty viruses.

DJ Hot: Great advice, thank you caller. Er, caller number three.

Caller #3: I drink lots of water. I always drink water. I drink about three litres of water every day. [Yeah]. Er, it cleans out your body.

DJ Hot: Yeah, you have to drink water. Thank you very much. Er, and just one more caller.

Caller #4: Hello. I often wash my hands. I wash my hands regularly. I find if you keep your hands clean, you reduce the risk of spreading colds and giving yourself a cold.

DJ Hot: Yeah, some more great advice. Well, thank you very much er, callers for your for your tips there. You're listening to Hot English Radio.

Let's Talk About: The Royal Family (page 11)

Tourists outside Buckingham Palace.

English accent/s: US / British



Harry: Wow. This parade is amazing.

Vanessa: It really is. I think I see the Queen coming.

Harry: Yeah, I can see the Queen. I think that's... that's Prince Harry in the background.

Vanessa: Yeah, is he coming in a limousine?

Harry: Yeah. Wow, that limousine is amazing. [Wow]. Wow.

Vanessa: And look at the royal guards.

Harry: Yeah, loads of guards around [They're uniforms!]. It's incredible. [Wow].

Vanessa: Wow. Can you see the... it's a beautiful crown.

Vanessa: Wow. Look at the jewels on it.

Harry: Wow. Beautiful.

Vanessa: So bright... Do you... do you know what time the changing of the guard is tomorrow?

Harry: Er, I don't know.

Vanessa: Oh.

Harry: I don't know. We'll have to... we'll have to find out. Have you got your camera?

Vanessa: No I haven't. I thought I told you to bring it.

Harry: I thought I told you to bring it.

Vanessa: No... (To the Queen) Hey Elizabeth! Hey!

Harry: Elizabeth!

Functional Language: Persuasion (page 12)

Trying to persuade someone to go to a party.

English accent/s: British



Ted: Come on, Andy. Let's go to a party!

Andy: I really don't want to go to a party.

Ted: Come on, it'll be fun.

Andy: I'm really tired. I don't want to go out again.

Ted: Look, but... but John will be at the party. You want to see John.

Andy: Yeah, I want to see John, but I really don't feel like going to the party.

Ted: But there's, there's going to be free food, there's going to be free drinks... a DJ. Come on, it'll be good.

Andy: Yeah, I'm sure it's going to be great, but I really, really want to go home. I'm really tired.

Ted: Ok, but if you don't come, you'll regret it. We'll have a great time... great photographs. You won't be in the photographs. Come on, let's go!

Andy: I know, I know, but really, I've got to get up tomorrow morning and I'm really tired. I really can't be bothered to go out anymore.

Ted: OK. If you change your mind, give me a call.

Andy: See you later...

much cleaner place.

Polly: I mean, I guess you have a point.

Winston: Pick it up... Pick it up!

Polly: OK.

Grammar Fun: Passives with have (page 14)

A telephone conversation.

English accent/s: US



Yeah, yeah. Well, you know how I told you my washing machine was broken? I had it fixed yesterday! Yeah, and now it works amazing [amazingly]! I did a load of laundry last night and it ran smoothly and perfectly and it doesn't make any noise now. Yeah, yeah. Mmm. And then last weekend I had my nails done. And the girl, she was... she wasn't very good at it. It didn't come out very good. No, I was really disappointed. And then, yesterday I had my computer fixed, also. And now it runs a lot faster. I can put all my pictures on there and all my music. And I can save lots of files and it still goes really fast. Ah, well of course I had my hair done too! And, I mean, that cost more than I thought it would. It was, it was an arm and a leg! And now, I'm not really happy with my hair do. But, you know, whatever... Hello? Hello? I think I got cut off

Litter Bugs (page 29)

Telling someone off for throwing rubbish in the street.

English accent/s: US / British



Winston: What are you doing?

Polly: Who me?

Winston: Yes, you. You're throwing your bottle on the floor.

Polly: So what's the problem?

Winston: Well that's littering. That's illegal. You could have a three-hundred euro (300€) fine for doing that.

Polly: No one's going to know that I threw the bottle there.

Winston: Well, there are a hundred (100) cameras now in this town to spot people like you throwing your bottles on the floor.

Polly: Well, someone's going to pick it up later so...

Winston: Yeah, but the... the garbage collection people only come twice a week (two times) a week. That will stay there for a few days.

Polly: Maybe somebody will find it and need an empty bottle?

Winston: You are contributing to the two-hundred million (200m) tons of litter that this country produces every year.

Polly: It's just one (1) bottle.

Winston: But did you know that if just one (1) per cent of people stopped the litter... that... stopped littering. Er, the country would be a

much cleaner place.

Polly: I mean, I guess you have a point.

Winston: Pick it up... Pick it up!

Polly: OK.

Quirky News (page 32)

Arise in crime among the elderly.

English accent/s: British



Trevor McDougal: Good evening and welcome to the news. In tonight's program, we'll be looking at reactions to the latest bank interest rate increases, but first local news. Is crime a problem where you live? In the UK, crimes committed by the elderly are on the increase. Simon Smithers was the victim of just such a crime.

Simon Smithers: So, yesterday, I was walking to the shop when, uh, out of nowhere an old man attacked me. He hit me on the head with his walking stick. He took my wallet, he took my phone, er, he took my iPod. Er, then he kicked me on the ground, uh, and ran away. So now, I am scared to leave... there's one! There's an old... there's an old man! Quick!

Trevor McDougal: And now for the latest on transport. Government plans to extend the high-speed train line seem to have become derailed. Joanna Barker was on the scene to speak to Hugh Smitherington.

Noise Alert (page 41)

Trying to get a bit of peace and quiet.

English accent/s: British



Bryn: Ah, peace at last! Absolute silence for me to enjoy this magazine. [sound of trumpet playing]. What's that noise!

Harold: Sorry! I was practising my trumpet!

Bryn: Oh, I'm trying to read. Be quiet.

Harold: OK.

Bryn: [sound of electric drill] Ah... What are you doing now?

Harold: Oh, sorry! I was drilling some holes in the wall.

Bryn: Could you just keep it down. I'm trying to read.

Harold: OK, I'll do it later.

Bryn: Yeah. Thanks. [sound of loud snoring] What are you doing?

Harold: Oh, sorry. I was sleeping. I think you could hear my snoring.

Bryn: Yeah, could you just maybe not snore.

Harold: OK, I'll have a sleep later.

Bryn: Yeah, thanks. Thank you. [sound of annoying mobile phone ringtone] What is that noise?

Harold: Sorry! It's my new ringtone on my mobile phone. [Yeah] Do you like it?

Harold: No. Could you just put it on silent or something?

Harold: OK, I'll put it on vibration.

Bryn: Yeah. Thank you.

Harold: I'm just going to the shops. Do you want anything?

Bryn: No.

Harold: OK, bye.

Bryn: Bye.

Trying to persuade someone to go to a party.

English accent/s: British

Ted: Come on, Andy. Let's go to a party!

Andy: I really don't want to go to a party.

Ted: Come on, it'll be fun.

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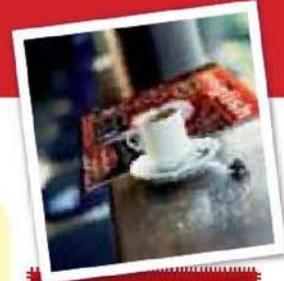
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DICTIONARY OF SLANG

EXAMPLES OF HOW TO SAY THINGS IN DIFFERENT SITUATIONS.

Situation	Formal	Normal	Informal
A friend has been using a video console all afternoon and hasn't let anyone else use it.	He refuses to share it with anyone else.	He won't let anyone else use it.	He's been hogging it.
You are showing someone around the area in the town where you live.	This is the area in which I reside.	This is my neighbourhood.	This is my hood.
A friend knows a lot about computers.	She is most knowledgeable on the topic of information technology.	She knows a lot about computers.	She's hot on computers.
A friend is a bit angry.	He is in a mild state of anger.	He's a bit angry.	He's in a huff. / He's in a bad mood. / He got out of bed on the wrong side.
You recently moved house. During the move, you had to carry lots of heavy boxes.	We were conveying cardboard containers for the duration of the day.	We were carrying boxes all day.	We were humping boxes around all day.
A friend is extremely boring.	He often lulls me into a state of slumber.	He's boring.	He bores the hell out of me.



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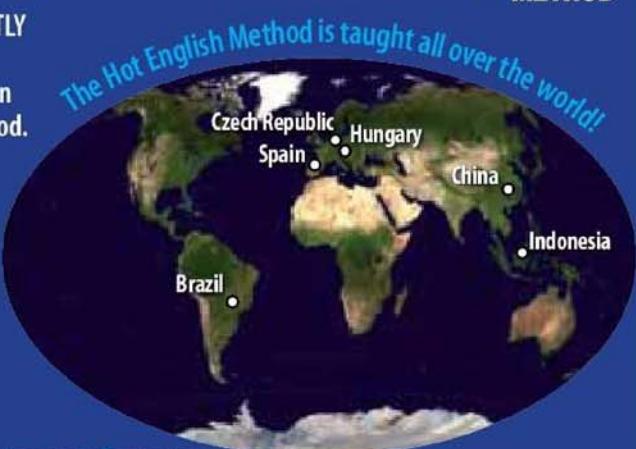
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Photos from the news.



PHOTO MAGIC

CAN YOU THINK OF ANYTHING TO WRITE
IN THE SPEECH BUBBLES?
HAVE A COMPETITION IN CLASS OR AT HOME.

Photo 1 2011 Oscar winners Christian Bale, Natalie Portman, Melissa Leo and Colin Firth.



Photo 2 Prince William and his fiancée Kate Middleton released two official engagement photos. The Prince and Kate are set to marry at Westminster Abbey on 29th April 2011.



Photo 3 Colin Firth (King George VI) and Geoffrey Rush (Lionel Logue) in *The King's Speech*.



Englishman &
US woman

track

21

SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING

Refer to unit 13 (page 69) of the Advanced Skills Booklet for more explanations and exercises.

Skills Booklet

Hot English
Language Service

PHOTO MAGIC &
SKILLS BOOKLET LISTENING (C1)



Music Mania

When you don't get what you were expecting.

1 Pre-listening

Look at the words below. In just two minutes, name as many bands / singers, etc. as you can. Have a competition with a partner.

musicians | bands | conductors | pop singers
rock stars | reggae bands or singers | punk bands
country and western singers or bands | indie bands
opera singers | folk singers or bands
classical composers | singer-songwriters

Other?

2 Listening I

You're going to listen to a conversation between an unsatisfied client and an events organiser. Listen once. Are any of the musicians / singers / composers, etc. that you thought of for the Pre-listening activity mentioned?

3 Listening II

Listen again. Then, answer the questions.

1. When is Mr Blunt's next appointment?
2. What does the client want Mr Blunt to return?
3. What was Mr Blunt supposed to be organising?
4. Which composer and orchestra did Mr Blunt say would play at the wedding?
5. Which group did the client believe were going to be performing at the wedding reception?
6. What was supposed to happen at the end of the reception party?
7. Who is the client going to speak to in order to get back some of the money?

4 Language focus Reported Speech

Look at this extract from the transcript of the recording Music Mania:
"...Herr Karajan's agent hadn't told me he'd died..."

The speaker has used Reported Speech. Complete the following sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

1. I was recently informed that...
2. I'd been told that...
3. They assured me that...
4. I was told that...

5 Discussion

When was the last time ...

1. ...you made a complaint about something? What happened?
2. ...you didn't get what you were expecting? What went wrong?
3. ...you had to deal with someone who was attempting to evade an issue? What happened in the end?

WALL IDIOMS

This month we're looking at some more "wall" idioms.



These four walls

IF SOMETHING YOU SAY IS FOR "THESE FOUR WALLS" ONLY, IT MUST NOT BE REPEATED OUTSIDE THE ROOM / PLACE WHERE YOU'RE TALKING.

"You mustn't discuss this beyond these four walls."



Fly-on-the-wall

A "FLY-ON-THE-WALL" TV PROGRAMME IS ONE IN WHICH PEOPLE ARE IN A HOUSE (FOR EXAMPLE) WITH MANY TV CAMERAS IN IT AND THEY ARE FILMED (EITHER SECRETLY OR NOT).

"The fly-on-the-wall documentary focuses on the lives of six student doctors, who are all living together."



Be like banging / hitting your head against a brick wall

IF TALKING TO SOMEONE IS LIKE "BANGING YOUR HEAD AGAINST A BRICK WALL", THE PERSON YOU'RE TALKING TO WON'T LISTEN TO WHAT YOU'RE SAYING.

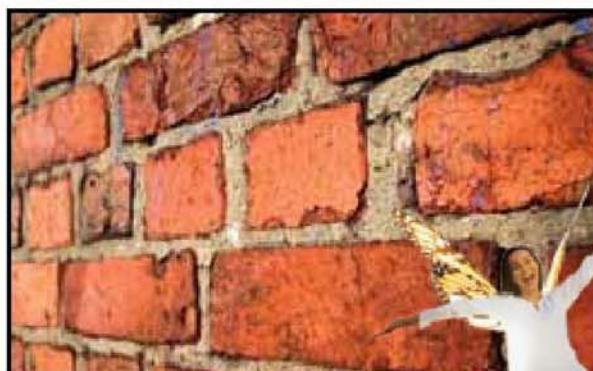
"I've been trying to convince him to do the course, but it's just like banging my head against a brick wall."



See / read the writing on the wall

IF YOU CAN "SEE THE WRITING ON THE WALL", YOU UNDERSTAND THAT YOU'RE IN A DANGEROUS / BAD SITUATION AND THAT SOMETHING BAD IS GOING TO HAPPEN.

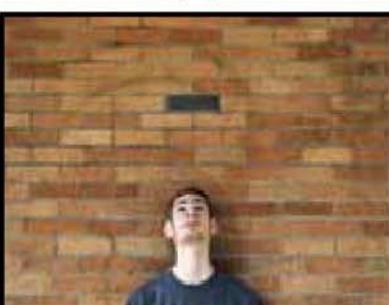
"They failed to see the writing on the wall and lost a lot of money as a result."



Be a fly on the wall

IF YOU SAY THAT YOU'D LIKE TO "BE A FLY ON THE WALL", YOU MEAN THAT YOU'D LIKE TO BE SOMEWHERE SECRETLY WHEN SOMETHING HAPPENS SO YOU CAN HEAR/SEE WHAT PEOPLE SAY/DO.

"Kylie is going to talk to the president next week. I'd love to be a fly on the wall for that meeting."



Be / come up against a brick wall

IF YOU "COME UP AGAINST A BRICK WALL" WHILE YOU'RE TRYING TO ACHIEVE SOMETHING, YOU CAN'T MAKE ANY MORE PROGRESS BECAUSE THERE'S AN OBSTACLE.

"We've been trying to find a solution to the problem, but I think we've come up against a brick wall."



Be a wallflower

IF YOU SAY THAT SOMEONE IS A "WALLFLOWER" AT A PARTY, ETC. YOU MEAN THAT THEY'RE BEING SHY/TIMID/BORING AND NOT ENJOYING THEMSELVES.

"Come on! Get up and dance! Stop being such a wallflower!"

Like talking to a brick wall

IF TALKING TO SOMEONE IS "LIKE TALKING TO A BRICK WALL", THE PERSON YOU'RE TALKING TO ISN'T LISTENING.

"I've tried to discuss it with her, but it's like talking to a brick wall."

Investment Scam

Bad, disastrous and unusual investment opportunities. By Patrick Howarth

1 Pre-reading

What are the pros and cons of investing in the following sectors? Discuss your ideas with a partner:

telecommunications
property real estate

2 Reading I

Read the article once to compare your ideas from the Pre-reading task.

3 Reading II

Read the article again and answer the questions.

1. What sector of the population did Amp'd Mobile target?
2. How was their business model different from other mobile providers?
3. Why did costs for the hotel-casino project go up so much?
4. What went wrong on opening night for the hotel-casino?
5. What did the Mafia do when Bugsy couldn't pay the money back that he'd borrowed from them?
6. According to the writer, what are two of the main drawbacks of investing in property on the Moon?



4 Language focus

Perfect modal verbs

Look at the extract from the article on this page. "...he should never have gone into the hotel business..." The writer has used a perfect modal verb construction ("should never have gone"). Complete the following sentence beginnings with your own ideas.

1. I shouldn't have said anything about...
2. I could have become rich if I'd...
3. I should have... last night.
4. I really never should have... last year.
5. If I'd known better, I could have...

5 Discussion

1. Have you invested in anything lately? What? Why?
2. What's the best thing to invest in right now if you've got a bit of spare cash?
3. Have there been any investment scandals lately? What happened?

The world of business is an interesting place. Sometimes, the most unlikely products become incredibly successful. Other times, what looks like a dead cert is actually a dead duck.

The communications sector is a safe investment, surely. After all, everyone needs a mobile phone, don't they? The founders of Amp'd Mobile thought they'd come up with the perfect business plan. They decided to aim their mobile phone services at the 18-35 market. But while other mobile providers check their customers' ability to pay within 30 days, Amp'd gave their customers 90 days to do it... which, as it turned out, wasn't such a good idea. Eventually, about 80,000 of the company's 175,000 customers weren't paying their bills. As a result, the company (which was launched in 2005) filed for bankruptcy in 2007. Now, if they'd only decided to target an older market...

Surely the Mafia know what they're doing when it comes to money. In the 1940s, they invested large sums in a scheme worked out by notorious American gangster Bugsy Siegel (real name Benjamin Siegelbaum, 1906-1947). Bugsy was good at beating people up, but he should never have gone into the hotel business... even if the hotel he wanted to set up also had a casino and was located in Las Vegas. A casino in Las Vegas you say! What could possibly go wrong? Everything, as it transpired.



was legalised in 1931, development of the casino-hotels (for which Las Vegas is famous) took place slowly during the following decade. And finally, while Bugsy was an excellent thug, he was a very poor businessman and was incapable of running the company. His lack of experience in the construction industry resulted in huge costs, much of it due to theft, double-billing



and other fraudulent practises. For example, by day, trucks delivered goods for the construction of the hotel and casino, but by night, those very same goods were stolen... and then resold to Siegel a few days later. Very soon, the estimated price of the complex had gone from \$1million to \$6 million.

The casino eventually opened

at the end of 1946. However, opening night was a disaster: the weather was awful (keeping many potential customers away), and as the hotel wasn't finished, the customers who did gamble there, stayed at several of the other downtown establishments. Bugsy's really big mistake was to borrow his investment funding from the Mafia. As anyone who's ever seen a Martin Scorsese film knows, when you borrow from the Mafia they do expect to be paid back. So, when Bugsy couldn't, they killed him. Ironically, Bugsy's plans for Las Vegas closely resemble what has happened in the resort since then. He could have made millions, if he'd only known what he was doing.

But sometimes it's the investors themselves who make poor decisions. Take the case of Lunar Embassy, a company set up in 1980



to sell real estate... on the Moon. The surface of the earth's satellite sells at around \$37 an acre, making it quite an attractive purchase... if it weren't so far away. The other big problem is that United Nations "Outer Space Treaty" of 1967 expressly forbids private ownership of any part of the Moon. However, this hasn't deterred investors. Lunar Embassy claim to have a couple of million buyers, and they've sold more than 300 million acres in the last 30 years. What's more Lunar Embassy aren't the only company in the business. The experts' advice? Save your money!

So, what can the investor do? *The Guardian* newspaper's suggestions include the following: "Make things! Get a better paid job! And rent out a room in your home!" Good luck! ☺

READING | Building Bash

Should we protect old buildings?

1 Pre-reading

Before reading the article, answer the questions below (a-c). Use the following words below to help you:

the environment | comfort | space | cost
 access | acoustics | history | culture
 tradition | modernization | energy

Other?

- Should old, historic buildings be preserved? Why?
- What are the benefits of modern buildings?
- What are some of the problems associated with old buildings?

2 Reading I

Read the article once. What does the writer say about old / historic buildings? Compare the ideas in the article to the ones you thought of for the Pre-reading activity.

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, answer the questions.

- What needs to be installed in the Combination Room at Cambridge University?
- Why does it need to be installed?
- Why are some people against this proposal?
- According to the writer, what are some of the benefits associated with modern buildings?
- What's going to happen to the Rose and Crown pub in Croydon?

4 Language focus

Modal passives



Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...and they can be designed to ensure..." The writer has used a modal passive ("can be designed"). Complete the following sentences with any verbs of your choice.

- The house could be _____ in the distance.
- The work must be _____ by next week.
- All cars should be _____ in the spaces provided.
- All my commands must be _____ at all times.

5 Discussion

- What historic buildings are there in your town / city?
- Are any old buildings under threat of demolition in your town / city? Do you think they should be preserved?
- What old / historic buildings do you regularly use / visit? What do you like / dislike about them?

How many historic churches, pubs or buildings are there in your city? Are they worth **preserving**? Or are they just a **waste of space**? There are arguments for and against spending money on historic buildings.



Dangerous **staircases**. **Uneven** floors. A lack of IT infrastructure.

The problem with many old buildings is that they're... old – and extremely expensive to modernise. Take the case of the Combination Room in Cambridge University. It was built in 1347 and was initially used for **lectures**. Later, it became the Regent House – the university's parliament. It's of enormous historical value and cultural interest. However, it doesn't meet **accessibility** standards for **disabled people**. As a result, a lift needs to be installed, but not everyone is happy about this. "Nothing will persuade me that this [lift] would not, in its effect, be a substantial alteration to the most precious room in the university. It would destroy the **symmetry** of that beautiful room," said one user.

In general, modern buildings don't have this type of problem. They can be built according to the latest environmental standards, with **draught proofing** and **insulation** to help reduce carbon emissions and save energy. They can also be made **wheelchair accessible**, and they can be designed to ensure maximum comfort and space. Anyone who's been to a modern cinema, theatre or concert hall recently may understand the difference between the new buildings and the older ones, which tend to have smaller seats, less space and poorer acoustics.

Very often, there's money to be made by knocking down old buildings... especially if they're in city centres. So, the biggest **threat** to many historic buildings comes from **developers**. One of Croydon's oldest pubs, The Rose and Crown, is a perfect example of this. A property development company has recently been **granted** permission to convert the 18th century building into **flats**, much to the **disappointment** of many local residents. The bar is full of unique features and perfect examples of a traditional London pub. It really would be truly tragic for this Grade II listed building to be turned into **soulless flats**, said a spokesperson for **English Heritage**.

So, are these buildings really worth preserving? "Traditional buildings such as churches, town halls, schools and hospitals **give** England **its character**," the spokesperson added. "This is about guaranteeing the future of the past. It's about making the past part of our future. This is why we exist."

What do you think?

Just recently in Italy, the 2,000 year old **Schola Armaturarum Juventus Pompeiani** (Pompeii's "House of the Gladiators") collapsed. It had survived the volcanic eruption in AD79 that destroyed the town, and heavy Allied bombing in 1943. Should more have been spent on preserving it?



GLOSSARY

to preserve	to protect to keep in its original condition
waste of space	if you say that something is a "waste of space", you don't value it and think it should be demolished
a staircase	a set of steps leading from one floor (a level in a building) to another
uneven	if something is "uneven", it is not level (not flat)
a lecture	a formal talk given to an audience
accessibility	if a building has good "accessibility", it is easy to get in and out of (particularly for disabled people)
a disabled person	a person with physical difficulties
symmetry	something with "symmetry" is symmetrical in design, with two halves that are identical
draught proofing	if a building has "draught proofing", there are no holes in the walls, etc. and no cold air can come in
insulation	if a building has "insulation", the walls and ceilings have a substance in them that keeps warm air inside and stops cold air coming in
wheelchair accessible	if a building is "wheelchair accessible", people in wheelchairs (chairs with wheels) can enter it easily
a threat to	If A is a "threat to" B, A is a danger to B
a developer	a person who buys land and builds houses, etc.
to grant	if you "grant" someone permission to do something, you say that it's all right to do that thing
a flat	a set of rooms for living in, usually on one floor (level) of a bigger building; an apartment
disappointment	if you feel "disappointment", you aren't happy about the results
soulless	with no life or energy
English Heritage	an organisation that protects buildings and other historical landmarks
to give something its character	to make something special

READING II

Noise Alert



Watch & Learn!
Watch a mini-video related to this topic at:
www.hotenglishmagazine.com/videos.php



1 Pre-reading

Look at the list of noises. Rank them in order of preference (number 1 is the one you like the most). Then, discuss your choices with a partner.

- Birds singing
- Children crying
- Laughter
- A dentist's drill
- Drilling sounds
- Banging noises
- A stranger speaking on his/her mobile phone
- A barking dog
- Fireworks
- Motorbikes
- Pigs grunting
- Tapping fingers
- Other?



Sounds that really annoy us.

Crying babies. Buzzing mosquitoes. Ringing car alarms. They're all annoying noises. But what's the worst? A recent survey **lists** the things we hate to hear.

The definitive list of horrible noises has over 100 items. Several mobile phone **ringtones** appear near the top. These include ringtones of non-stop **coughing**, **devilish** laughter, the "Can You Hear Me Now?" ringtone, a man screaming "Ring! Ring!", and **chirping crickets**. Other general irritating noises include barking dogs, **pneumatic drills**, electric **leaf blowers**, loud **snoring** and banging noises early on a Sunday morning.



GLOSSARY

to list vb
to mention (often in reference to a list of things)

a ringtone n
the sound your phone makes when someone is calling

to cough vb
if someone is "coughing": they are making a noise from their throat because they are ill with a sore throat, etc.

devilish adj
evil / bad / nasty (like the devil)

to chirp vb
when a cricket (an insect that jumps) "chirps", it makes a high-pitched sound

a cricket n
a small insect that can jump very far / high

a pneumatic drill n
a machine used to make holes in the ground / earth

a leaf blower n
a machine that is used to clear leaves from the ground by blowing them away

to snore vb
the noise some people make through their mouth / nose when they're sleeping

a dentist's drill n
a machine used by dentists to make small holes in teeth

to send shivers down your spine exp
if something "sends shivers down your spine", it makes you scared / frightened / afraid

to shake vb
if someone is "shaking", their body is moving with very quick, short movements

to cancel out phr vb
if noise A "cancels out" noise B, noise A stops you from hearing noise B

dreaded adj
something "dreaded" causes you to feel fear or to be very worried

tiny adj
very small

a gadget n
a small, useful device / machine

to filter out phr vb
if A "filters out" B, A stops B from entering / coming through

to pick up phr vb
if a device "picks up" a sound, it receives / records / detects / hears it

to come through phr vb
if a sound "comes through" a device, it is possible to hear the sound with that device

to disturb vb
to annoy / to irritate

2 Reading I

Read the article once. Do you agree that the noises mentioned are annoying? Which ones would you add to (or take off) the list?

3 Reading II

Read the article again. Then, write a brief description of how the device works. Try to do this without referring back to the article.

4 Language focus Phrasal verbs with up

Look at the extract from the article on this page, "...These pick up any sounds and..."

The writer has used a phrasal verb with "up" ("pick up"). Complete the sentences with the correct verbs.

1. I've _____ up a new hobby: bird watching.
2. She's _____ up smoking at last!
3. Could you _____ up, please? I can't hear you very well.
4. Could you use these notes to _____ up a report of the meeting, please?

5 Discussion

1. What noise do you hate the most?
2. What are some of the most pleasant sounds in the world?
3. Where do you go to get some peace and quiet?

But there's some good news. A new device developed by experts at King's College London, Brunel University and London South Bank University can **cancel out** the sound of the **dreaded** drill. The **tiny gadget** allows patients to listen to music on an MP3 player while the sound of the drill is eliminated. However, patients are still able to hear the dentist's voice because not *all* sounds are **filtered out**.

The theory behind it is fairly straightforward. Microphones are placed close to the dental drill. These **pick up** any sounds and transform them into digital signals. Then, electronic filters cancel out any unwanted sound waves. This can be done even if the wave's amplitude and frequency changes (as the ones for the drill do). However, the great thing is that this technology also allows other noises (such as the dentist's voice) to **come through**.

It's easy to use, too. Patients simply plug the sound-filtering device into their MP3 players. Then, via headphones, they can listen to music and hear the dentist's voice without being **disturbed** by the noise of the drill. Fantastic!

So, next time you go to the dentist, remember to bring your MP3 player. ☺



PHRASAL VERB THEMES

Health & Sickness

Here are some more phrasal verbs that you can use to talk about health and sickness.
Complete the sentences (1 to 8) with the words from below. Part III of III.

drugs ill eye ages work food cold plant



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TAPESCRIP TS & BAR CHATS

 track
8

**Neighbourly Nightmares
(track 8)**
Dealing with noisy neighbours.

CL: Good evening. Would you be Mr Crampton?
MC: Yes, that's right. How can I help you, officer?
CL: I'm Police Constable Long and I'm from the local police station.
MC: Is there some sort of problem?
CL: Well, I'm sorry to disturb you on a Sunday. Mr Crampton, but... erm, would you mind, erm, could you turn that music down, please?
MC: Oh, yes, sorry, I was listening to my daughter's band. They're good, aren't they? Anyway, how can I help you?
CL: Well, I'm afraid I've received a number of complaints from your next door neighbour.
MC: What?
CL: Your neighbour, Mrs Willows, has made a number of complaints about excessive noise. She says that you were making a lot of noise last night, for example.
MC: Oh, that. We were having a barbecue party. We were eating and drinking in the garden for a couple of hours, but we finished before 10.
CL: Yes, very well, and there were also reports of loud noise early last Sunday morning.
MC: Oh, that'll be my daughter. She was rehearsing with her band. I've told her not to start too early. I'll have a word with her about it.
CL: And also this morning at 7am?
MC: Oh, that was probably me. I was drilling a few holes in the wall. It didn't take long. Look, why don't you come in and sit down? We can have a chat. Let's go into the sitting room.

CL: Thank you, sir.
MC: This way.
CL: Oh, we can't go in there. My mother's watching TV. Let's go to the kitchen. It's this way. Here we are. Oh dear. My son must be cooking something. We can go into the dining room. This way. [to his daughter] I told you to keep the noise down. My daughter Zara's doing her woodwork homework. Let's go into the garden. Follow me. So, here we are. Come this way. We're having a bit of work done on the garden. It'll be finished in a month or two. I know, we can go upstairs. Let's try in here. I forgot, Shona, my other daughter, is rehearsing for a concert they're doing next week. We can try the bathroom. Here we are. [lion roars] I don't believe it. Someone's left that lion in here again. Perhaps we should try the attic. Here we are.

CL: [sound of helicopter] What's that?
MC: Oh that'll be my brother. He's coming over for lunch. He always travels by helicopter. Perhaps we should go back outside. So, officer. Tell me, what was the problem again?
CL: The noise, sir. Your neighbour says that your house is extremely noisy. [a jet plane is landing] What's that?
MC: Oh, that'll be my sister's private plane landing. She's also coming round for lunch. Would you like to stay?

 track
11

**Book Promotion
(track 11)**
trying to sell a few book ideas to a publisher.

FR: Frank Ripley = FR (book publisher)
CH: Charlie Horden = CR (author)

FR: Come in.
CH: Hello, Mr Riley. I'm Charlie Horden.
FR: Oh, yes. Come in Miss Horden. How can I help?
CH: I wanted to talk about my book – the short

story collection.

FR: Oh, yes. That would be the short story collection entitled *Ten Really Good Short Stories*.
CH: Yes, that's right. It's a good title, isn't it?
FR: Well, I wouldn't exactly call it "good", Miss Horden. It's much more than just "good". Anyway, what did you want to ask me about your book?
CH: I don't understand why you don't want to publish it.
FR: Ah, I see. Well, I don't usually discuss these decisions with authors.
CH: But you do want to publish it, don't you?
FR: Well, no. We don't.
CH: Why not?
FR: Well, your stories are not very original, are they, Miss Horden?
CH: What do you mean?
FR: Well, for example, one of your stories is a love story set in Russia at the time of the Napoleonic Wars. A Russian girl called Natasha falls in love with a man called Pierre, who is a Russian count.
CH: That's right. It's a wonderful story, isn't it?
FR: Your story is called *Peace and War*.
CH: That's right. It's set in a time of, erm... peace and war.
FR: You have heard of Leo Tolstoy, Miss Horden, haven't you?
CH: Oh, yes. He wrote the James Bond books, didn't he?
FR: No, Miss Horden. He wrote a novel called *War and Peace*.
CH: Really! What a coincidence. What's it about?
FR: It's a love story set in Russia at the time of the Napoleonic Wars. A Russian girl called Natasha falls in love with a man called Pierre, who is a Russian count.
CH: Oh!
FR: Yes. And the second story in your collection is called *The Man Who Hated Christmas*.
CH: Yes, it's the story of Willy Scrooge, a mean money lender who learns the true meaning of Christmas when three ghosts visit him on Christmas Eve. I think it's great.
FR: Oh, yes. The ghosts of Christmas Long Ago, Christmas Now and Christmas Soon.
CH: Oh, so you've read it, have you?
FR: Yes, I have. And I've also read *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens.
CH: Oh, yes. What's that about then?
FR: It's the story of Ebeneezer Scrooge, a mean money lender who learns the true meaning of Christmas when three ghosts visit him on Christmas Eve. The ghosts of Christmas Past, Christmas Present and Christmas Yet to Come. But you didn't know that, did you, Miss Horden?
CH: Er, no. Never heard of it.
FR: And presumably you've never heard of Fyodor Dostoyevsky, either, have you?
CH: Dostoyevsky. He plays for Dynamo Kiev, doesn't he?
FR: No, he was a great Russian novelist. His most famous work *Crime and Punishment*. You've read it, haven't you?
CH: Er, I might have done. Why do you ask?
FR: Because in your book you have a story called *Punishment and Crime*. It's about a man called Raskolnikov who decides that it's acceptable to commit a crime if he then uses the profits from his crime to do good.
CH: That's right. It's one of my best stories. Has this Dostoyevsky bloke stolen my idea?
FR: Yes, that's right. However, he "stole" your idea nearly 150 years ago when he published *Crime and Punishment* in 1866. And the Greek poet Homer also "stole" the idea for your story *Odysseus Goes on a Long Journey* nearly 3,000 years ago, and Jane Austen "stole" your idea for *Prejudice and Pride* nearly 200 years ago... I'm afraid the world of publishing is like that, Miss Horden.
CH: I see. Oh, well. I've got a great idea for another book. It's about this boy called Johnny Potter who's a wizard, and he goes to this special school for wizards called Hogwarts, and...
FR: Goodbye, Miss Horden.

 track
16

**British Bar Chat
(track 16)**
Gossip Magazines

Faith: Do you ever read gossip magazines?
Leo: Well, I never buy them, but, you know, if you go to the dentist you can't help picking them up, can you?
Faith: Well, when you're in a waiting room [in a waiting room, yeah] for a few hours...
Leo: That's the only time I sort of flick through them. Erm, oh, and when I used to be, when I was younger I lived at home, my mum, my step-mum used to get *Cosmopolitan* and things, so I used to read that.
Faith: Oh... I like *Cosmopolitan*, but that's not really a gossip magazine.
Leo: No, that's right it's not. It isn't, it's more of beauty tips and...
Faith: Yeah, Hello, OK, Heat they're gossip columns.
Leo: Yeah, Hello and what's that one... *Hello* is a bit boring. It's just, like, reports on so and so, what a wonderful house they've got and what beautiful kids...
Faith: Yeah, ten-page reports on the princes or princesses and what they're doing.
Leo: Sometimes when I go to the, erm, the newspaper shop, I just, like, flick through them sometimes 'cos there's a couple, I don't know what their names are, they have some quite funny reports on, they have, like, before-and-after pictures or...
Faith: Oh, like *Heat* and things like that.
Leo: Yeah. Well, I don't know what they're called but they must be things like that. Like picture... unflattering pictures of the stars as they're...
Faith: I like to read those [yeah they're quite funny]. They make me feel better.
Leo: Yeah, yeah, yeah. Yeah, not everyone's as perfect as they make out they are.
Faith: No, it's the airbrushing. Photoshop.
Leo: Yeah yeah. We'd all look good if we'd got some stylists and make-up artists.
Faith: But they don't always look good.
Leo: Yeah, that's true.
Faith: Even after they've been styled.

 track
17

**US Bar Chat
(track 17)**
Easter

Alexis: So, I'm really excited for Easter coming up. I'm excited to do the whole Easter egg hunt.
Isaac: You do that? You do the egg, you do the Easter egg hunt? Do, do you actually take eggs and paint them or...?
Alexis: Yeah, that's the best part. Actually you, you know, boil the eggs and then you paint them and then you just place them around, usually, I don't know, I do this with my family, and, erm...
Isaac: You don't feel like you're a bit too old for it?
Alexis: Never. You're never too old for those things. How do you usually celebrate Easter?
Isaac: Er, I usually go over my aunt's house and, erm, the thing I remember most about Easter is we, she always put out jelly beans that were very good and that was pretty much the only good thing about the dinner. She's not the very, not the best cook.
Alexis: My family is a little bit religious, so we usually go to church in the morning and then we have all the festivities after church. I just loved dressing up, especially.
Isaac: Really?

 track
18

**Social Splash
(track 18)**
Offering advice in the nicest possible way.

Daniel: Hello, Maxine. How are you?
Maxine: Oh, hi, Daniel. It's been ages.
Daniel: It has indeed. So, what have you been up to?
Maxine: Well, Bob and I...
Daniel: Bob? Are you still with Bob?
Maxine: Yes, I am.
Daniel: Well done. Good on you, mate. So, the counselling helped, did it?
Maxine: I don't know what you're talking about. What do you mean, counselling?
Daniel: Oh, nothing, nothing. Something I heard. So, what have you and gorgeous Bob been up to then? Did you go out last night?
Maxine: No, we didn't. Er... we've just been to Greece. A sort of second honeymoon.
Daniel: Good idea. Try to patch things up. Take your mind off things. Did you have a good time?
Maxine: Yes, we did.
Daniel: So, where did you go in Greece?
Maxine: Somewhere nice?
Daniel: Yes, Rhodes.
Maxine: Rhodes? Don't tell me you went to Rhodes. Did you see that documentary on Rhodes?
Daniel: No, I didn't.
Maxine: Terrible place. Tinos is much better. You should have gone there. You shouldn't have gone to Rhodes. I know all about the Greek islands. If there's anything you want to know, just ask me.
Maxine: Right, yes, well, anyway, we had a lovely time.
Daniel: Really? Of course you did. Were you staying on the south side of the island?
Maxine: No, we weren't. We stayed at this place near Rhodes town.
Daniel: You're joking. The hotels there are 10 times more expensive than the ones on the south side. Don't tell me you stayed in Ixia. Please, no. No one stays in Ixia.
Maxine: Er... yes, we did, actually. It was very nice.
Daniel: No, it isn't. It's horible. You should have stayed in the village of Lindos. That's much better. And cheaper. And it isn't so touristy. Did you see Lindos?
Maxine: Yes, we did. We went there for the day. Actually, we thought it was quite touristy actually. We didn't like it.
Daniel: Oh, rubbish! Everyone loves Lindos. So, which hotel did you stay at? Not The Apis, I hope. Did you stay at The Apis?
Maxine: No, we didn't. We stayed in a little family-run bed-and-breakfast place near The Apis.
Daniel: Not Stephano's. Please tell me that you didn't stay at Stephano's.
Maxine: Err, yes, we did, actually. Do you know it?
Daniel: Yes, I do. Terrible place. Even The Apis is better than Stephano's. You should have asked me. I would have recommended The Delphi. Have you heard of it?
Maxine: No, I haven't.
Daniel: It's a wonderful private hotel. Very exclusive but not at all expensive. It's run by real Greeks. Not like Stephano's. They're an English family pretending to be Greeks. You should have gone to The Delphi. They serve real Greek food there. Wonderful.
Maxine: Well, we thought it was quite nice. The manager told us that his family were Greek, although he'd been brought up in London.
Daniel: Oh, you didn't believe that, did you? He's no more Greek than I am.
Maxine: But he introduced us to his Greek mother. He showed us the house

ANSWERS

Daniel: where he was born.
KB: OK. If you say so. If you say so. Let's not argue. So, did you like the food?
Maxine: Oh, yes we did. We went to this lovely place called Salt & Pepper on our last night.
Daniel: Oh no. Not Salt & Pepper! What a tourist trap!
Maxine: It was really nice. We were the only tourists there.
Daniel: You should have gone to Taverna Ikaros. That's where you get real Greek food.
Maxine: We walked past it one evening, but all it had on the menu was burgers and chips.
Daniel: That's a trick! That's a trick! It's designed to keep the tourists away. Don't you know anything? If you're friends with the owner, like I am, you get the real thing. You should have asked me.
Maxine: Oh well. Next time. Anyway, Bob and I have just booked a weekend in Berlin. Perhaps you could recommend somewhere to stay.
Daniel: Berlin? I was there a few weeks ago. Fabulous place. How good is your German?
Maxine: Err, not very good. I can't speak a word.
Daniel: Oh dear. You shouldn't go to Berlin then. I mean everyone speaks English, but you won't see the *real* Berlin unless you speak German. You'd be better off staying here and watching a documentary on Berlin. Now, did I tell you about the time I went to... [fades out]

track 21
Music Mania (Track 21)
When you don't get what you were expecting.

KB = Ken Blunt (event organiser)
RS = Rachel Stevens (client)

KB: Come in.
RS: Good morning, Mr Blunt. We need to speak.
KB: Do we? Well, I'm rather busy at the moment. Perhaps you can come back next week.
RS: I'm afraid that's not convenient, Mr Blunt. We need to speak NOW!
KB: Err, I've got another appointment in 15 minutes.
RS: That's fine, Mr Blunt. It won't take more than 15 minutes... to return my money.
KB: Return what money?
RS: The £25,000 that I paid you for organising my daughter's wedding.
KB: I'm sorry – no refunds. It's quite clear. It's in the contract. Look, it says here quite clearly, *[Reading from the contract]* "All fees must be paid in full a month before the date of the event and no part of the fees are refundable should circumstances beyond our control cause the organisation of the event to be slightly changed."
RS: Slightly changed?
KB: Yes, that is correct.
RS: According to our contract, Mr Blunt, there was going to be live music. You promised me live music, Mr Blunt. You said Herbert von Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra would perform Mendelssohn's "Wedding March" from *A Midsummer Night's Dream* as my daughter and her husband walked down that aisle.
KB: And they did.
RS: You put a CD on, Mr Blunt.
KB: Yes. And?
RS: That's not what I expected, Mr Blunt.

Besides, I have since discovered that Herbert von Karajan died in 1989. Really? I didn't know. How sad!
RS: You told me Karajan would perform at my daughter's wedding. Mr Blunt. That was a lie!
KB: Not at all. A misunderstanding. Herr Karajan's agent hadn't told me he'd died. I acted in good faith.
RS: I don't agree. However, I am prepared to accept that everyone makes mistakes. But I cannot accept so many mistakes.
KB: What do you mean?
RS: You told me that The Beatles would perform at the wedding reception. The contract clearly says that there'll be dancing to the music of the popular group The Beatles.
KB: That is correct.
RS: But I don't remember seeing Paul McCartney at my daughter's wedding.
KB: That's because you paid for "The Beetles" – that's "Beetles" with two 'e's, see. Look, it's in the contract. They're a cover band. I thought they were rather good.
RS: They were a punk rock band. My daughter doesn't like punk rock, Mr Blunt.
KB: Well, you shouldn't have booked them then. You can't expect the *real* Beatles for £200. Two of them are dead anyway. Everyone knows that. I acted in good faith.
RS: And then there was the firework display. Or should I say, then there *wasn't* the firework display. You told me that the reception would end with a ten-minute firework display accompanied by Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.
KB: Well, we did our best.
RS: You did your best? There weren't any fireworks.
KB: I know. The shop was shut.
RS: What?
KB: The shop was shut.
RS: What shop?
KB: The firework shop. It wasn't open so I couldn't buy any fireworks. Circumstances beyond my control. Like it says in the contract.
RS: Oh, yes, the contract. But what about the music?
KB: The music?
RS: Tchaikovsky's 1812 Overture.
KB: Well, I didn't bother because I didn't have the fireworks. I thought 10 minutes silence would probably be better anyway.
RS: It's not very festive to end a wedding with 10 minutes silence, is it Mr Blunt? You said the fireworks would make the day unforgettable. I paid you £10,000 for them.
KB: A bargain. An absolute bargain.
RS: But there weren't any fireworks. I want my money back.
KB: I'm afraid I can't help you there. The money's gone.
RS: What do you mean?
KB: Well, I had to pay Mr Tchaikovsky in advance. He's got your £10,000.
RS: But he didn't perform.
KB: I know but he was *there*. He still had to be paid. You should ask him for your money back.
RS: Well, erm, oh, right, have you got his phone number?
KB: No, I haven't. But I do have an e-mail address for him. You should write to him asking for your £10,000.
RS: OK. I will. What's his address?
KB: It's Tchaik40@hotmail.com That's T C H A I K, 40, at hotmail dot com.
RS: OK. Great. I'll write to him this afternoon. Thanks.
KB: My pleasure. Bye.
RS: Bye.

Natural Remedies (page 4)

- 3** Reading II (wording may vary)
 1. Sleep a lot.
 2. Eat lots of fruit and vegetables.
 3. Drink lots of water.
 4. Wash their hands regularly.
 5. Drink chamomile tea or Coca Cola.
 6. Drink warm milk and count sheep.
 7. Rub eucalyptus oil on their chest.

Language focus

1. on; 2. in; 3. on; 4. in; 5. in

Royal Revelations (Page 5)

- 1** Pre-reading
 1e 2g 3a 4d 5f 6b 7h 8c 9c

Useful vocabulary (Page 8)

- 1f** 2e 3m 4a 5j 6g 7n 8b 9k
 10l 11c 12h 13d 14i

Car Capers (Page 10)

- 3** Reading II
 1. carriages; 2. France; 3. cardboard;
 4. first; 5. age; 6. digits; 7. symbol
4 Language focus
 1. have seen; 2. haven't eaten;
 3. has sent; 4. hasn't taken

Error Correction (Page 13)

- 1** This is my brother. His name is Alfie.
2 That is my sister. Her name is Amelia.
3 My parents live in France. Their house is very big.
4 The dog is in the garden. Its bone is here.
5 My car is blue. Their car is red.
6 He is very nice and his hair is long.

Neighbourly Nightmares (Page 13)

- 3** Listening II
 1. a neighbour;
 2. his daughter's band;
 3. having a barbecue;
 4. his daughter's band – they were rehearsing;
 5. Mr Crampton – he was drilling some holes;
 6. his mother;
 7. a lion;
 8. by jet plane
4 Language focus
 1. were working;
 2. was talking;
 3. wasn't watching;
 4. were discussing

Grammar Fun (Page 14)

- 1** recorded;
2 repaired;
3 updated;
4 framed;
5 done;
6 taken out;
7 checked;
8 cut

Theatre Thrill (Page 15)

- 3** Reading II
 1. one;
 2. three;
 3. seven;
 4. £750 million;
 5. 2004;
 6. over 10,000;
 7. 80 million;
 8. in 2010
4 Language focus
 1. have enjoyed watching (gerund);
 2. manages to fill (infinitive);
 3. attempted to sue (infinitive);
 4. threatened to take him to court (infinitive)

Ceremony Chaos (Page 16)

- 1** Pre-reading
 1c 2f 3d 4b 5e 6a
3 Reading II
 1. BRIT Awards;
 2. MTV Video Music Awards;
 3. Eurovision Song Contest;
 4. MTV Video Music Awards;
 5. Grammy Awards;
 6. BRIT Awards
4 Language focus
 1. herself;
 2. himself;
 3. themselves;
 4. myself;
 5. ourselves

Twitter Trends (Page 17)

- 3** Reading II
 1. The number of tweets every day.
 2. The number of tweets per second.
 3. The limit to the number of characters you can send.
 4. When Max asked Emily to marry him.
 5. The time when the baby sent the tweet.
 6. When James was arrested.
4 Language focus
 1. He was taken to the police station.
 2. He was sent to prison.
 3. He was held for six days.
 4. He was released after a lot of international pressure.

Book Promotion (Page 19)

- 1** Pre-listening
 1d 2c 3e 4a 5b
3 Listening II

1. Ten Really Good Short Stories
 2. Peace and War
 3. The Man Who Hated Christmas
 4. Punishment and Crime
 5. Odysseus Goes on a Long Journey
 6. Prejudice and Pride
4 Language focus
 1. didn't she; 2. haven't they;
 3. hasn't he; 4. aren't we; 5. wasn't I

Play Time (Page 28)

- 3** Reading II
 1. The time when Babylonians played a game that was similar to chess.

2. When an earlier version of modern chess was popular in India.
 3. When Crayola Crayons first appeared.
 4. The number of Twister game sets sold since 1966.
 5. The number of Scrabble sets sold.
 6. The amount Mr Potato Head made in its first year.
 7. When RoboSapien was launched.
 8. The number of RoboSapiens sold.

Litter Bugs (Page 29)

- 3** Reading II
 1. 34.85 million
 2. Once or twice a week.
 3. Garden and kitchen waste.
 4. That rubbish had increased over the past 12 months.
 5. There are more cigarette butts in the street.

6. They leave a lot of rubbish around the bins.

Language focus

1. agree;
 2. discussed;
 3. compared;
 4. talk

Museum Mix (Page 31)

- 3** Reading II
 1. The Hair Museum

2. Musée du Slip
 3. The Museum of Bad Art
 4. The Washington Banana Museum
 5. The Devil's Rope Museum / The Kansas Barbed Wire Museum
 6. The Funeral Museum

- 4** Language focus
 1. It will be sent later.
 2. It will be finished tonight.
 3. The rooms will be cleaned tomorrow.
 4. The rubbish will be taken out this afternoon.

Social Splash (Page 33)

- 3** Listening II
 1. gone; 2. staying; 3. stayed;
 4. thought; 5. recommended;
 6. told; 7. went; 8. staying
4 Language focus
 1. Yes, I did; 2. Yes, I have;
 3. No, I wasn't; 4. No, they hadn't;
 5. Yes, she does

Music Mania (Page 37)

- 3** Listening II
 1. In 15 minutes.
 2. Her money.
 3. The client's daughter's wedding.
 4. Herbert von Karajan and the Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra.
 5. The Beatles
 6. There was supposed to be a firework display.
 7. "Mr Tchaikovsky"

Investment Scam (Page 39)

- 3** Reading II
 1. They targeted 18-35-year olds.
 2. They offered their clients 90 days to pay their bills, instead of 30.
 3. Because Bugsy was a poor businessman and workers at the site were stealing from him.
 4. The weather was very bad and the hotel hadn't been completed.
 5. They killed him.
 6. It's far away, and there's a law forbidding private ownership of any part of the Moon.

Building Bash (Page 40)

- 3** Reading II
 1. A lift.
 2. Because the building doesn't meet accessibility standards for disabled people.
 3. Because installing the lift will "destroy the symmetry of the room".
 4. They can be built according to the latest environmental and accessibility standards.
 5. It's going to be converted into flats.
4 Language focus (answers may vary)
 1. seen;
 2. finished / completed;
 3. parked;
 4. obeyed

Noise Alert (Page 41)

- 4** Language focus
 1. taken; 2. given; 3. speak; 4. write

Phrasal verbs (Page 42)

- 1** ill; 2. cold; 3. eye; 4. food;
 5. plant; 6. drugs; 7. work; 8. ages

Our monthly look at interesting words and expressions.

WORD OF THE MONTH



cliché

A cliché is an expression that has been used so often that it starts to sound ridiculous – repetition makes it “clichéd”. In some cases, the original expression has completely lost its meaning because it’s been overused – it’s become a cliché. Although the ideas in the cliché may still be true, they aren’t taken seriously and are considered unoriginal. However, clichés are still commonly used. In fact, people often use the cliché in a sarcastic / ironic / funny way, saying something like, “Excuse the cliché, but” or, “I know it’s clichéd, but” Here are some common clichés. Do you know what they mean? Match the clichés (1 to 4) to the meanings (a-d).

1. Love is blind.
 2. It takes two to tango.
 3. It was too little, too late.
 4. If it ain't broke, don't fix it.
- a) If two people are involved in a bad situation, they're equally responsible.
 - b) If something works well, don't try to improve it.
 - c) It wasn't enough and it wasn't at the right time.
 - d) When you love someone a lot, you can't see any faults in them.

Answers: 1d 2a 3c 4b

Many clichés start life as proverbs – memorable sayings about everyday life. To give you an idea of

how old these sayings can be, “love is blind” was first recorded in Shakespeare’s play *Two Gentlemen of Verona* in 1590!

There seem to be certain topics that attract a large numbers of clichés. One of these is “time”. We’re often informed that “time’s a great healer” (problems go away with time), that “time flies when you’re having fun” (time goes quickly when you’re enjoying yourself), and that “there’s no time like the present” (it’s better to do something now rather than later). Similarly, it comes as no surprise to learn that “Rome wasn’t built in a day” (it takes time to do things well), and when “it’s time to call it a day”, it’s time to stop doing something.

However, if there’s one area of communication where the cliché is “king”, it must be sport. Sports commentators in particular are famous for their use of clichés. Here are some of their favourites:

- They’ve got this one in the bag. = They’re going to win this game easily.
- It ain’t over till the fat lady sings. = You can’t say who’s going to win until the very end.
- A win is a win. = It’s a victory and it’s important.
- This win was for the fans. = This victory is dedicated to the supporters.
- It hasn’t sunk in yet. = They still don’t realise what they’ve done.

One of the greatest sporting clichés of all is “no question about it”. For example:

- a) He’s the greatest golfer in the world, no question about it.
- b) Inter Milan are going to win, there’s no question about it.

Of course, there always is “a question about it”, or we wouldn’t watch sports matches, but that’s clichés for you! *

Dr Fingers

For more information on clichés, turn to Dr Fingers’ Vocabulary Clinic on page 30.

next month in hot english



Lady Gaga

Strangely-dressed stars

Smoking debate

Graphology

Biscuit alert

High-speed trains

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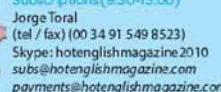
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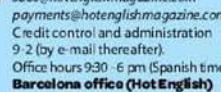
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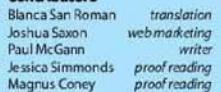
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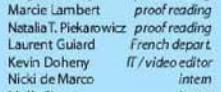
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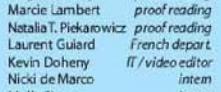
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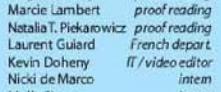
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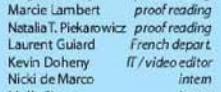
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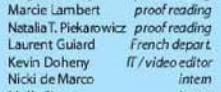
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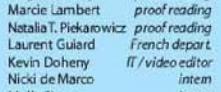
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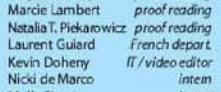
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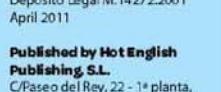
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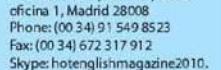
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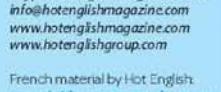
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