

53 I can talk about truth and lies

A A story about lying



I was once **economical with the truth** on a job application form. I lied about my employment record, **talked up** my skills, and **embellished** my previous salary by a few thousand. Oh, and I **glossed over** one rather **unpalatable** truth, **namely** that I'd been sacked from my last job. But trying to **sustain** the lies at the interview was a nightmare. My interviewer soon **detected** something was wrong, and a friendly chat **deteriorated** into an awful **interrogation**. And after a series of awkward questions, he **caught me out**; I felt utterly **humiliated**. **Needless to say**, I've never done it since.

Glossary

be economical with the truth	say things that are only partially true (used as a euphemism for 'lie': see page 203).	sustain sth	make sth continue for some time.
talk sth up	describe sth in a way that makes it sound better than it is.	detect sth	discover or notice sth, especially sth that is hard to see or hear.
embellish sth	make a statement or story more interesting by adding details that are not always true.	deteriorate	become worse. deterioration N.
gloss over sth	deliberately avoid talking about sth unpleasant, or say as little as possible about it.	interrogation	the process of asking sb a lot of questions, especially in an aggressive way. interrogate sb v.
unpalatable	unpleasant and hard to accept.	catch sb out	make sb make a mistake which shows they have been lying.
namely	used to introduce more exact information about a subject.	humiliated	feeling ashamed because you have lost the respect of other people. humiliate sb v. humiliation N.
		needless to say	obviously.

1 Complete the words and circle the stressed syllable.

► economical

3 hmlted

6 unpletble

1 embell

4 interrogion

7 distct

2 sustn

5 interrog

8 necmly

2 Complete the dialogue.

- A Did you know that Johnny Savill's got the sack? Evidently he was, well, let's just say he was '(1)' with the truth' about a few things.
- B Well, I can't say I'm surprised. When I worked with him he often (2) things up, especially when our sales were down. And I think he was a bit dishonest – he would (3) the facts, or (4) over the things he didn't want you to know about. And his relationship with Mrs Kilgarriff has really (5) lately because she was obviously suspicious of him.
- A Yeah, evidently he was called in to see her yesterday and she virtually (6) him, asking him loads of difficult questions, and eventually she (7) him out. He must have felt really (8) – he's a very proud guy. In the end, he just couldn't (9) all those lies. Well who could, faced with Mrs Kilgarriff? But (10) say, I'm not sorry for him. He deserved it.



B Quotes about truth and lies

- When war is **declared**, truth is the first **casualty**. *Arthur Ponsonby*
- The most dangerous of all **falsehoods** is a slightly **distorted** truth. *C. G. Lichtenberg*
- Level with** your child by being honest. Nobody spots a **phoney** quicker than a child. *Mary MacCracken*
- There are only two ways of telling the complete truth: **anonymously** and **posthumously**. *Thomas Sowell*
- Tell the truth so as to **puzzle** and **confound** your **adversaries**. *Henry Wotton*
- We are never **deceived**; we deceive ourselves. *Johann Wolfgang von Goethe*

spotlight Types of lie

A **falsehood** FML is a lie. A **white lie** is a small lie, especially one you tell to avoid hurting someone. A **half-truth** is a statement which only gives some of the facts. A **fib** INF is an unimportant lie.

Glossary

declare war / a ceasefire	announce the start of war or a ceasefire.
casualty	sth that is destroyed or sb who suffers when sth else happens.
distort sth	twist or change facts, etc. so that they are no longer true.
level with sb	INF tell the truth and not hide any important facts.
phoney	INF a person who is not honest or sincere. phoney ADJ, INF.
anonymously	in such a way that the speaker's name is kept secret. anonymity N.
posthumously	after sb has died.
puzzle sb	make sb feel confused because they don't understand sth. SYNS baffle sb , confound sb FML, puzzled ADJ.
adversary	FML an enemy or opponent.
deceive sb	trick sb by behaving dishonestly (also deceive yourself refuse to admit that sth unpleasant is true SYN delude yourself). deceit N.
	SYN deception N.

3 Write the words in the correct column in the table.

phoney a white lie falsehood confound sb fib deceit
adversary level with sb declare sth distort sth

Formal	Informal	Neutral

4 Complete the dialogues.

- Did she sign her name on the letter? ~ No, she sent it _____.
- Why did Erich lose his job? ~ He was a _____ of the financial cutbacks.
- He was awarded the medal _____. ~ Yes, his widow accepted it on his behalf.
- I eat loads of vegetables. ~ That's a _____ -truth. They're all on your pizzas!
- What's the latest news? ~ The rebels have _____ a ceasefire.
- Did you understand what she said? ~ No, I was a bit _____, actually.
- I'm good enough to win. ~ You're just _____ yourself; you won't.
- Was it true what he said? ~ No, he _____ the facts. I was very angry.

5 ABOUT YOU Look at the quotes again. Do you agree with them? Write your answers, or discuss with another student.



Remember to test yourself

54 I can discuss problems and solutions

A Problems in general

Word	Example	Meaning
minor	<i>The design is a minor problem.</i>	not important. OPP major .
growing	<i>Obesity is a growing problem.</i>	increasing in size, amount, or degree.
urgent	<i>Lack of funds is an urgent issue.</i>	requiring immediate action.
perennial	<i>Noise is a perennial problem.</i>	always existing and not seeming to change.
insoluble	<i>The problem seems insoluble.</i>	unable to be solved. SYN insurmountable FML.
arise	<i>Various problems have arisen.</i>	start to exist. SYN occur / come up .
raise sth	<i>I raised the problem of staffing.</i>	mention sth for people to discuss.
confront sb	<i>There are a number of problems confronting the head teacher.</i>	If problems confront sb , they appear and have to be dealt with by sb. SYN face sb .
confront sth	<i>She's had to confront the fact that she can no longer walk.</i>	deal with a problem or difficult situation. SYN face up to sth .
address sth	<i>We've got to address the lack of experience in the team.</i>	think about a difficult situation and decide how to deal with it.
get to grips with sth	<i>I'm just beginning to get to grips with my new job.</i>	begin to understand and deal with sth difficult.
tackle sth	<i>They must tackle inflation.</i>	make a big effort to deal with a problem.
overcome sth	<i>The company had to overcome a number of financial difficulties.</i>	succeed in dealing with a problem that has been preventing you from achieving sth.
exacerbate sth FML	<i>We must be careful not to exacerbate the problem.</i>	make an existing problem worse. SYN aggravate sth .

1 Replace the underlined word with a synonym.

- 1 The problem is increasing. _____
- 2 She's had to confront her fear. _____
- 3 When did the problem occur? _____
- 4 Drugs can aggravate the problem. _____
- 5 It is an insurmountable problem. _____
- 6 The problem facing us is huge. _____

2 Complete the gaps in the dialogues with one word.

- 1 Have they aggravated the problem? ~ Yes, they've made it _____.
- 2 Is it an _____ problem? ~ No, we can deal with it later.
- 3 Have they discussed finance? ~ Yes, I _____ it at the last meeting.
- 4 Has she _____ her shyness? ~ Yes, and the difference is amazing.
- 5 Have they solved the problem? ~ No, but they've begun to get to _____ with it.
- 6 It's a _____ problem, isn't it? ~ Yes, it never seems to go away.
- 7 Are they _____ the problem? ~ Yes, I think they're making a real effort.
- 8 Is it a major problem? ~ No, it's just a _____ matter really.

3 ABOUT YOUR COUNTRY Are these things problems in your country? If so, which adjectives above might describe the problem, and what is being done about them?

litter on the streets graffiti on walls increasing household waste
pollution in town centres parking in town centres vandalism bullying in schools



B Teenage problems and solutions

How parents can deal with teenage problems

- Teenagers are never satisfied with their appearance and this can **dent** their **self-esteem**. Don't **make light of** these worries even if they seem **trivial** to you. Explain that others don't notice the details that we notice in ourselves.
- Some teenagers **take** failure **in their stride**, while others let it **get them down**. Help your teen to **keep things in perspective**. Explain that everyone has **setbacks** in life, and **reassure** them that you're behind them 100 per cent, **regardless of** what happens.
- Some teenagers – boys especially – find it difficult to identify and **articulate** how they feel. Keep **channels of communication** open at all times and respect their ideas.

Glossary

dent (sb's confidence, reputation, etc.)	damage sb's confidence, etc.	keep sth in perspective	not allow a problem to have too much importance.
self-esteem	the way you feel about yourself (high/low self-esteem).	setback	a problem that delays or prevents progress.
make light of sth	treat sth as unimportant. OPP take sth seriously .	reassure sb	say or do sth that makes sb less worried. SYN set sb's mind at rest .
trivial	not important or serious.	be behind sb/sth	give your support to sb/sth.
take sth in your stride	accept and deal with a difficult situation without letting it worry you.	regardless of sth	without being affected or influenced by sth.
get sb down	If sth gets you down it makes you feel sad or depressed.	articulate sth	FML express your thoughts clearly in words. articulate ADJ. a system or method for sending or obtaining information.
		channel of communication	

4 Complete the gaps in the sentences with a single word.

- His poor exam results have not been good for his self-_____.
- It's upsetting, but she mustn't let it _____ her _____.
- She expresses herself very well; she's always been extremely _____.
- His mother will support him _____ of what he does, because she loves him.
- Bullying is not a _____ issue; it's a very serious problem.
- Parents must ensure there is an open _____ of communication with their kids.

5 Complete the conversation with a suitable word or words.

- A Carrie's teacher told her that she isn't good enough to become a doctor, and it has (1) _____ her confidence.
- B I'll bet it has. And Carrie's not good at taking these things in (2) _____, is she?
- A No. And when you're her age, it's difficult to keep things in (3) _____.
- B Yeah. But I'm sure her mother has tried to set her mind (4) _____.
- A Oh yes, she's been right (5) _____ her, and has (6) _____ her that everything is OK. She's also tried to make (7) _____ of the teacher's remarks by suggesting that he didn't mean it.
- B Yes, but even so, it must be a real (8) _____ for her. I hope she gets over it quickly.

6 ABOUT YOU Have you experienced any of the teenage problems above, either as a teenager yourself or as a parent? What other problems do teenagers often have, and how should parents respond? Write your answers or talk to another student.

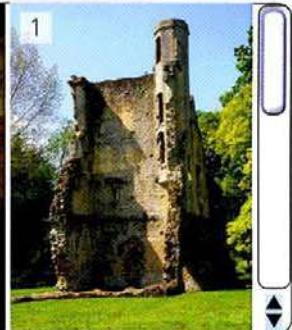
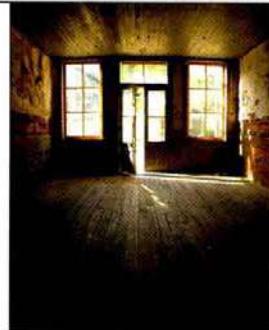


Remember to test yourself

55 I can describe old and new

A An old house

... we saw this amazing, **dilapidated** house, **formerly** owned by a wealthy family but then **abandoned** at the end of the century. Some features like the oak staircase are very well **preserved**, but most of it is pretty **run-down** and has **fallen into decay**. It could be a lot of fun **renovating** it, though. It has old **stables**, which I'd like to convert into an **ultra-modern** kitchen. There are also the **ruins** of a **medieval tower**! I'd love to **trace** the history of the place ...



Glossary

dilapidated	(of a building) old and in very bad condition. SYNS run-down , ramshackle .
formerly	in earlier times. SYN previously .
abandon sth	leave a place, vehicle, etc. empty without planning to return.
preserve sth	keep sth in its original state or in good condition. preservation N.
fall into decay/ disrepair	gradually be destroyed through lack of care.
renovate sth	repair and decorate an old building, car, etc. SYN do sth up INF.
stables	buildings in which horses are kept.
ultra-(modern)	extremely (modern) (also ultra-cautious).
ruins	parts of a building that remain after it has been destroyed. (Remains are parts of objects and buildings that have been discovered recently. Human/animal remains are bones or dead bodies.)
medieval	connected with the Middle Ages (= about 1000 to 1450).
trace sth (back) (to sth)	find the origin or cause of sth.

1 Cross out the word that is wrong in each sentence. Write the correct word at the end.

- 1 The company deals in extra-modern, contemporary furniture. _____
- 2 The weather has meant that the building is in a poor state of destruction. _____
- 3 They discovered the ruins of a dead sheep at the end of the field. _____
- 4 She keeps the horses in the estables at night. _____
- 5 The war left the whole area on ruins, with countless run-down buildings. _____
- 6 Mumbai, formally known as Bombay, has a population of 15 million. _____

2 Complete the dialogues. More than one word may be correct.

- 1 The building used to be a prison, didn't it? ~ No, it was _____ a hospital.
- 2 Are you going to do the place _____? ~ Yes, we plan _____ it.
- 3 It's in a bad state, isn't it? ~ Yes, it's very _____.
- 4 It fell into _____ years ago. ~ Yes, it was _____ by the owner.
- 5 We can restore it to its original condition. ~ Yes, we should _____ old buildings.
- 6 It dates from the _____ Ages, I believe. ~ That's right, it's _____.
- 7 Why is he using the internet so much? ~ He wants to _____ his family history.
- 8 That style's very fashionable just now. ~ Yes, it's _____ modern.



B Old and new objects



Brand new Sasko G5000 mobile phone – **cutting-edge** technology at its very best.



Genuine antique grandfather clock. The 8-day mechanism is in **mint condition**.



Innovative anti-snore device – clips on to sleeper's nose for a good night's sleep.



Reproduction ancient Egyptian statue of the goddess Bastet.



Up-to-date guidebook to Korea – second-hand but **good as new**.



Fully reconditioned exercise bike with original **packaging** and instructions.

Glossary

brand new	completely new.	genuine	exactly what it appears to be; real. SYN authentic .
cutting-edge (technology)	the most advanced (technology) in the field.	antique	old, and often very valuable. antique N.
innovative	featuring or introducing new ideas, methods, etc.	in mint condition	new or as good as new. SYN in perfect condition .
device	an object or piece of equipment designed to do a particular job.	reproduction	a thing made as a copy of an earlier object or style. reproduce sth v.
up to date	modern (out of date = old-fashioned, or without the most recent information and therefore no longer useful).	ancient	belonging to a period of history from thousands of years ago.
second-hand (as) good as new	not new; owned by sb else before. in very good condition (also like new ADV).	reconditioned	(of a machine) repaired so that it is in good condition.
		packaging	materials used to wrap and protect goods sold in shops.

3 Complete the phrases.

- 1 of date 3 as new 5 brand
2 in condition 4 cutting 6 second-

4 Complete the sentences.

- 1 A battery charger is an extremely useful energy-saving _____.
- 2 It's a beautifully made, 18th-century _____ clock. At least, I hope it's genuine!
- 3 There were earrings like it thousands of years ago in _____ Greece, and now they make _____ of them and sell them in tourist shops.
- 4 We bought a second-hand lawnmower – it was fully _____, and it was fantastic value.
- 5 I don't want a copy of the clock: I want a _____ antique.
- 6 Shops often sell more goods if they're displayed in attractive _____.
- 7 Our small factory _____ antique clocks and we sell them on the internet.
- 8 They want something really _____ to date, and they're awarding a prize for the most _____ design.



Remember to test yourself

56 I can talk about success and failure

A Success

JANE Maximo, your pizza chain's been a **resounding** success. How did things **turn out** so well for you? What's **the secret of your success**?

MAXIMO Well, I had a **stroke of luck** early on. I hired a talented young chef who was really keen to **fulfil his potential**, and basically he **never put a foot wrong**. We had to work together to **overcome** all the **obstacles in our way** – we nearly **came unstuck** when the first restaurant was flooded – but eventually we **made it**.

JANE You **made a big breakthrough** after you were on that TV show, didn't you?

MAXIMO Yes, we **went from strength to strength** after that. Still, you can never relax ...

Glossary

resounding	very great (a resounding success/defeat/win/victory).	overcome sth	succeed in controlling or dealing with a problem.
turn out (well/badly)	happen in a particular way, often unexpectedly.	obstacle	a situation or event that makes it hard for you to achieve sth.
the secret of (your) success	a way of doing things that has brought success.	in sb's/the way	stopping sb from doing sth.
a stroke of sth	an unexpected but important event (a stroke of luck).	come unstuck	fail completely.
potential	qualities that exist and can be developed (fulfil/realize your potential = use your natural abilities to achieve what you hoped to achieve).	make it	succeed in achieving a goal; become successful.
not put a foot wrong	not make a single mistake.	breakthrough	an important development that may lead to an achievement or agreement (make/achieve a breakthrough).
		go from strength to strength	become more and more successful.

1 Make six phrases using words from the box.

a resounding come the secret turn out a stroke fulfil
of luck unstuck of your success your potential victory badly

2 Good or bad? Write G or B.

- 1 We went from strength to strength. _____
- 2 There were obstacles in our way. _____
- 3 They came unstuck. _____

- 4 She never put a foot wrong. _____
- 5 They had a breakthrough. _____
- 6 They overcame the obstacles. _____

3 Complete the sentences.

- 1 He's very successful, but he's had to _____ various personal problems during his life.
- 2 I passed my exam. However, I think it was a _____ of luck.
- 3 The company struggled at first; now they're going from strength _____.
- 4 You must ask him for the _____ of his success.
- 5 There's a long way to go, but things have _____ out well so far.
- 6 The film industry is a tough business, but I believe she has the _____ to go on and make it.



B Failure

- A Did Don **make a go of** the business?
 B No, he was **way out of his depth**.
- A It's a **tricky** situation to deal with.
 B Yes, Sue's really **up against it**.
- A I'm afraid the marriage is **going downhill**.
 B And it started so well. That's sad.
- A So Carla **came bottom** in the exams.
 B Yeah, and I only just **scraped through**. Mum thinks we've **let her down**.
- A That boxer **is past it**, surely.
 B Yeah, but he still wants to **make a comeback**.
- A I hear the film was a **flop**.
 B Afraid so – an **unmitigated** disaster.

spotlight way

Way can be used informally to mean 'by a large amount' or 'very far'.
*It cost **way** over \$1,000.* = a lot more than \$1,000
*The others were **way** ahead of me.* = a long way ahead of me

Glossary

make a go of sth	INF make sth succeed, especially a business or marriage.
out of your depth	unable to do or understand sth because it is too hard.
tricky	difficult to do or deal with (a tricky situation/question/problem).
up against it	INF facing difficult problems or opposition.
go downhill	get worse in quality, health, etc. SYN deteriorate .
come bottom	receive the lowest score in an exam. OPP come top .
scrape through (an exam)	only just succeed in passing an exam.
let sb down	make sb disappointed because you haven't behaved well or done what you said you would do.
be past it	INF be too old to do what you used to be able to do.
comeback	If a person in public life makes a comeback , they start doing sth again which they had stopped doing.
flop	INF a film, play, book, party, etc. that is not successful. flop V, INF, complete (used to describe sth bad). SYN absolute .
unmitigated	

4 Tick the words or phrases which are informal.

- 1 Did she **make a go of it**? _____
- 2 The play was a **flop**. _____
- 3 She's **past it**. _____
- 4 He **let me down**. _____
- 5 I'm really **up against it**. _____
- 6 That's **way too expensive**. _____

5 Circle the correct word(s). Sometimes both words are correct.

- 1 Embarrassingly, I **got / came** bottom in the end-of-year progress tests.
- 2 He's determined to stay and **make / have** a go of his marriage.
- 3 The team started well but they've **deteriorated / gone downhill** recently.
- 4 He's **away / way** too old to be driving.
- 5 She wants to **do / make** a political comeback at the next election.
- 6 The show was an **unmitigated / absolute** disaster; I didn't know what to do with myself.

6 One word is missing in each speaker's utterance. Where does it go? Write it at the end.

- 1 I don't like to tell him he's **past**. _____ ~ Hmm, it's a situation. I don't envy you. _____
- 2 Any chance he'll **make** comeback? _____ ~ No, his last film badly. _____
- 3 Did she **top** in the public vote? _____ ~ Yes, but she was **against** it. _____
- 4 He **himself** down in the exam. _____ ~ Yes, he only just **through**. _____
- 5 Her interview was an **unmitigated**. _____ ~ Yes, she was **way** of her depth. _____



57 I can describe the past, present, and future

A Thinking about time

- **Time flies** when you get older.
- I get depressed **from time to time**.
- I will go to university **in due course**.
- It's about time I started a pension.
- At one time I wanted to be a journalist.
- I do everything **at the last minute**.

- **In retrospect**, I wish I'd gone to university.
- **For the time being** I'm happy where I am.
- My parents are a bit **behind the times**.
- I've become more tolerant **over time**.
- Elvis Presley was a bit **before my time**.
- **With hindsight** I should've worked harder.

Glossary

time flies	time seems to pass very quickly.
from time to time	sometimes but not regularly. SYN now and again .
in due course	at the right time and not before.
it's about time	used to say that sth should happen soon or should have happened already (notice the past tense). SYN it's high time .
at one time	in the past but not now.
do sth at the last minute	do sth at the latest possible time before sth else happens. SYN leave sth to/till the last minute .

in retrospect	thinking now about the past, often with a different view from the one you had then. SYN looking back .
for the time being	for a short period of time but not permanently.
behind the times	old-fashioned in ideas, ways, etc.
over time	gradually.
before your time	before you were born or before you can remember.
with hindsight	with the ability to understand a situation only after it has happened (with the benefit of hindsight).

1 Find nine time phrases in the box.

at the last over in with behind at retrospect from time for the time
in due the times minute one time course hindsight time being to time

2 Complete the sentences.

- 1 In _____, I don't think I made the most of my time at university.
- 2 With the benefit of _____ it was probably a mistake for me to leave my last job.
- 3 The trouble with Angel is that he _____ everything to the last _____.
- 4 Listen, it's _____ time you started taking these exams seriously.
- 5 My mum used to love punk music, but it's a bit _____ my _____.
- 6 The time has _____ since I've been in Greece. I've loved every minute of it.
- 7 The university says they'll give us the date of the exams in due _____.
- 8 _____ one time I wanted to be a professional footballer. I think I'm a bit old for that now.
- 9 Your English won't improve immediately; it happens _____ time.
- 10 This dictionary will be fine _____ the time _____.

3 ABOUT YOU Read the statements at the top again. Are they true for you? If not, write answers that are true for you using the phrases in bold, or talk to another student.



B Time words which are similar in meaning

Word	Example	Meaning
during throughout	<i>It rained during the day.</i> <i>It rained throughout the day.</i>	at a point within a period of time. continuously within a period of time.
age era	<i>We're living in the nuclear age.</i> <i>When Mandela was released, it was the beginning of a new era.</i>	a particular period of history. a period of time with a particular quality or character.
extend sth prolong sth	<i>They're going to extend my visa.</i> <i>The drugs will prolong her life.</i>	increase the length of time of sth. make sth last longer. OPP curtail FML.
interval	<i>Buses run at regular intervals.</i> <i>There's a fifteen-minute interval.</i>	a period of time between two events or two parts of sth, e.g. a play.
gap break	<i>We met again after a ten-year gap.</i> <i>I get a coffee break and lunch break at work.</i>	a period of time when sth stops. a short period of time when you stop what you are doing and rest.
spell stage phase	<i>I did a spell of work there.</i> <i>I stopped for water at one stage.</i> <i>It's just a phase that most teenagers go through.</i> <i>It's an early stage/phase of the project.</i>	a short period of time or of a particular activity. a period that forms part of an activity. a difficult period of time that sb/sth passes through (stage is also possible). a period of time that forms part of a process or the development of sth.
pass elapse go by	<i>Two years passed / elapsed / went by before I saw her again.</i> <i>Time passed / went by slowly.</i>	all the verbs describe the process of time: elapse is FML; pass and go by are often used with an adverb to describe how time happens.
soon or shortly	<i>He soon realized it was a mistake.</i> <i>I'll be with you soon/shortly.</i> <i>I left soon/shortly after Dina.</i> <i>He left shortly before midnight.</i>	quickly (after sth happens). in a short period of time from now. a short period after sb/sth. a short period before sb/sth.

4 Circle the correct word(s). Both words may be correct.

- 1 There's bound to be a **gap** / an **interval** during the concert.
- 2 We're off **soon** / **shortly** but I'll give you a ring tomorrow.
- 3 Several days **went by** / **elapsed** before the solicitor rang me again.
- 4 She had a short **spell** / **stage** working for an oil company.
- 5 I woke up twice **during** / **throughout** the night.
- 6 She's reached a critical **stage** / **phase** in her career.
- 7 The late 70s was the height of the 'punk music' **age** / **era**.
- 8 I'm afraid we will have to **curtail** / **prolong** the meeting until 9.00.

5 Complete the text with suitable time words.

I went to university in 1995, and I worked incredibly hard (1) _____ the time I was there. I decided I needed a (2) _____ after that, so I travelled round Europe, spending nine months in France. (3) _____ the time I was there, I had a short (4) _____ of work teaching English. It was the most interesting (5) _____ of my life. When I came back, I decided that as we were living in the computer (6) _____, I'd get a job in IT. It was a terrible mistake. I (7) _____ realized I didn't want to sit at a computer all day, and although the company offered to (8) _____ my contract, I decided to quit. So, after a three-year (9) _____, I retrained as a teacher, and came to work in Finland. Almost five years have (10) _____ since I made that decision.



Review: Concepts

Unit 52

1 Circle the correct word.

- 1 An **outcome** is a cause / result of something.
- 2 You can **dent** a car / book.
- 3 **Coerce** means force / encourage someone.
- 4 **Repercussions** are usually good / bad.

5 You **provoke** a person / an object.

6 You can **generate** an income / a loss.

7 A **motive** is a design / reason.

8 A **detrimental** effect is positive / negative.

A Z more words: *pressurize sb, lie behind sth, after-effect, domino effect, the upshot, incite, induce*

Unit 53

1 Make words from the jumbled letters. Use the definitions to help you.

► HAFOLODES a formal word for a lie. falsehood

1 MAHITEDULI feeling ashamed because you have lost the respect of others. _____

2 HENOPY a person who is not honest or sincere. _____

3 OGITERINTRAON the process of asking somebody a lot of difficult questions. _____

4 MONYAOYNUSLA in such a way that the speaker or writer's name is kept secret. _____

5 BESHELMIL make a story more interesting by adding false details. _____

6 VADRYRESA a formal word for an enemy or opponent. _____

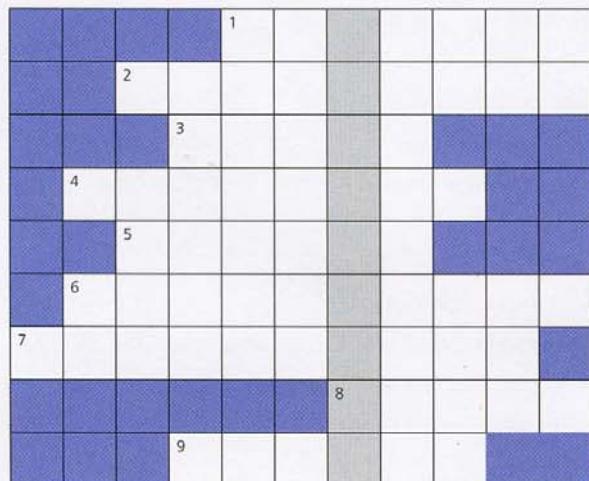
7 PAUNALATELB unpleasant and hard to accept. _____

8 MEYANL used to introduce more exact information about a subject. _____

A Z more words: *a pack of lies, a tall story, lie through your teeth, true to your word, too good to be true, nothing could be further from the truth*

Unit 54

2 Complete the crossword. The letters in the grey squares spell out another word. What is it?



- 1 not serious or important
- 2 always existing and never seeming to change
- 3 occur, come up
- 4 deal with a problem or difficult situation
- 5 make a big effort to deal with a problem
- 6 able to express your thoughts clearly in words
- 7 make things worse
- 8 make _____ of something = treat something as unimportant
- 9 requiring immediate attention

A Z more words: *predicament, dilemma, in a quandary, be at your wits' end, teething troubles, grapple*

Unit 55

1 Is the meaning of the words in italics the same or different? Write S or D.

- 1 The painting is *genuine / authentic*. ...
- 2 It's a *brand new / an innovative* car. ...
- 3 They want to *preserve it / do it up*. ...
- 4 The building is quite *dilapidated / ramshackle*. ...
- 5 I collect *ancient / antique* clocks. ...
- 6 These shoes are *completely / brand* new. ...
- 7 Beijing was *previously / formerly* called Peking. ...
- 8 They want to *abandon / preserve* the place. ...

A Z more words: *an old hand, a newcomer, newfangled, new blood, be on its/your last legs, archaic*

Unit 56

1 Complete the words in the text.

At 17, Rob Greig was a very successful amateur golfer. Everyone said he had the (1) p_____ to go on and (2) m_____ it in the professional game, so after a (3) r_____ success in the British Open last year, and just three days after his 18th birthday, Rob turned professional. He soon realized how different the professional game was. 'There were experienced players out there ten years older than me, so I knew I was up (4) a_____ it,' said Rob. 'At first it was obvious I was (5) w_____ out of my (6) d_____ and I felt that I was (7) l_____ myself down.' But Rob was determined not to let any (8) o_____ get in his (9) w_____. He kept working at his game to (10) o_____ the weaknesses, and his big (11) b_____ came last year in the Italian Open. He didn't put a foot (12) w_____ in the four rounds and won by three clear shots. Since then he has gone from strength to (13) s_____ , and is now really starting to (14) f_____ his enormous potential.

A Z more words: *an overnight success, an out-and-out failure/success, pull sth off, attain sth, backfire, pinnacle*

Unit 57

1 Complete the sentences in a suitable way.

- 1 I got to the station just as the train was leaving! In retrospect, I _____.
- 2 Jack knows it's a major operation, but it could prolong _____.
- 3 We left the cinema shortly _____.
- 4 The children are 5, 12, and 17, so they're at different stages _____.
- 5 He promised he would come and fix the tap, and in due course _____.
- 6 I work weekdays mostly, but from time to time _____.
- 7 The ceremony was very long and we _____ throughout it.
- 8 He was released from prison after two years, and with hindsight _____.

A Z more words: *have time to kill, third time lucky, be (living) on borrowed time, once upon a time, nine times out of ten*

58 I can use everyday language

A An informal conversation

- DAN I thought the **do** at Coleen's would be a **good laugh**, but actually it was a **bit of a drag**.
- TIM Yeah, **lousy** I thought. And asking people to pay twenty **quid** was a bit of a **rip-off**. There wasn't much to eat either, but then Coleen is a bit **tight-fisted**, isn't she?
- DAN She can be. And who was that **vile bloke** in the black leather jacket? He was awful.
- TIM Yeah, he was a **pain**, wasn't he? He spent ages **moaning** about his flatmate, and then when I got up and went to the **loo**, he **pinched** my drink.
- DAN **What a nerve!**

Glossary (all these items are informal)

do	a friendly informal meeting or party. SYN get-together .	vile	very bad or unpleasant (a vile smell). SYN disgusting .
a (good) laugh	an enjoyable experience.	bloke	a man. SYN guy .
a (bit of a) drag	a boring or annoying occasion or situation.	a (real) pain	an annoying person or situation. SYN a pain in the neck .
lousy	bad, unpleasant, or of poor quality (a lousy film , lousy weather).	moan (about sth)	complain (about sth) in a way that annoys people.
quid	a pound (£) in money (PL quid NOT quids).	loo	a toilet.
rip-off	a thing that is not worth what you pay for it. rip sb off v.	pinch sth	steal sth. SYN nick sth .
tight-fisted	not generous with money. SYNS tight , stingy .	What a nerve!	used to say you think sb's behaviour is rude or inappropriate. SYN What a cheek!

1 Replace the underlined word(s) with an informal equivalent.

- It was a man in the street.
- Who stole your pen?
- He's always complaining.
- What a horrible smell.
- He is so mean.
- It was ten pounds.
- The film was terrible.
- He's gone to the toilet.

2 Complete the dialogues with a single word.

- Is he very annoying?
~ Yes, he's a real
- Was the party enjoyable?
~ Yes, it was a good
- Did the company overcharge you?
~ Yeah, it was a
- Was the trip boring?
~ Yes, it was a bit of a
- What a !
~ Yeah, it was incredibly rude, wasn't it?
- Are they having a do at the office?
~ Yeah, just an informal



B Common informal words in spoken English

Word	Example	Meaning
darling/love	Darling. have we got any eggs? What would you like, love ?	used to address sb you love, and by some people in shops as a friendly way of addressing customers, particularly women.
broke	I'm completely broke .	not having any money.
starving	What's for lunch? I'm starving .	very hungry. SYN dying for sth to eat .
kip	I might have a kip after lunch.	a short sleep.
posh	They stayed in a very posh hotel.	elegant and expensive.
nosy (also nosey)	I'm careful what I say to Cath; she's very nosy .	DISAPPROVING interested in things that don't concern you.
bug	She picked up a bug on holiday.	an infectious illness.
be into sth	They're both into extreme sports.	be very interested in sth as a hobby.
hammer sb	Our team got absolutely hammered yesterday. We lost 5–1.	defeat sb very heavily (often used when talking about sport). SYN thrash sb .
con sb	I think that builder conned us.	deceive and trick sb, especially in order to get money from them.
flak	He's taken a lot of flak over this issue.	criticism. SYN stick .
daft	It was rather a daft thing to say.	silly (sometimes in an amusing way).
ta	Here's your change. ~ Ta .	thanks. SYN cheers .
dodgy	His idea sounds a bit dodgy .	causing suspicion; possibly dishonest.
laid-back	He's very laid-back .	calm and relaxed. SYN easy-going .
racket	What a terrible racket !	a large amount of noise. SYN din .

- 3 Write one word to describe the topic of conversation in each sentence.

- 1 He's got a **bug**. _____
- 2 What a **racket** next door! _____
- 3 I need a **kip**. _____
- 4 She's **broke** at the moment. _____
- 5 I'm **starving**. _____
- 6 Will he get much **stick** for this? _____

- 4 Replace one informal word with an equivalent informal word or phrase.

- 1 Here's your coffee. ~ Cheers. _____
- 2 What's that **din**? _____
- 3 I got a lot of **stick** for what I did. _____
- 4 When's dinner? I'm **starving**. _____
- 5 Do you need the car, **love**? _____
- 6 We were **thrashed** yesterday. _____

- 5 Complete the dialogues with a suitable informal word.

- 1 Do you want to go out this evening? ~ I can't afford to – I'm _____.
- 2 What a stupid comment. ~ Yes, it was a bit _____. _____.
- 3 Is he fairly **easy-going**? ~ Oh yes, very _____. _____.
- 4 This is none of her business. ~ Well, tell her not to be so _____. _____.
- 5 Are you still feeling tired? ~ Yes, I think I'll go and have a _____. _____.
- 6 Did he really need money for the bus? ~ No, I think he _____ us.
- 7 He's a rather suspicious-looking bloke. ~ Yes, he looks a bit _____. _____.
- 8 I didn't know she was ill. ~ Yes, she picked up a _____ in Crete.
- 9 Do they go to the beach a lot? ~ Yes, they're both _____ surfing.
- 10 Their house looks very expensive. ~ Yes, it's a very _____ place.



Remember to test yourself

59 I can use idioms and set phrases (1)

A Discussing problems

- A I'm having a hard time with this German course. New words seem to **go in one ear and out the other**. And when I want to say something, **my mind goes a complete blank**.
- B Well, it takes time to learn a language, but you'll **get there** in the end.
- A Yeah, **it's no good moaning** about it. Maybe I **could do with** some extra lessons.
- B That's a possibility. Do you **have anyone in mind**?
- A Not **off the top of my head**, no.
- B Well, **your best bet** is to talk to your teacher. She may know someone who could do it.

Glossary

go in one ear and out (of) the other	If sth goes in one ear and out of the other, you forget it very quickly. = suddenly I cannot remember sth.
my mind goes (a complete) blank	be successful (get somewhere = make progress; get nowhere = make no progress).
get there	used to say that it is not useful doing sth. SYNS there's no point in + -ing, it's no use + -ing.
it's no good + -ing	I (/you/he, etc.) need sth.
I (you/he, etc.) could do with sth	be thinking of sb/sth for a particular purpose.
have sb/sth in mind	without thinking about sth carefully.
off the top of my head	used when advising sb what to do. SYN the best thing (to do is ...).
your best bet (is to ...)	

spotlight idioms and set phrases

An **idiom** is a group of words whose overall meaning is different from the meanings of the individual words, e.g. **under the weather** (= slightly ill). Idioms are commonly used in informal English.

A **set phrase** is a group of words which function as a complete unit, e.g. **sorry to keep you waiting**. The meaning may be easy to understand, but the same idea might be expressed differently in your own language.

1 One word is missing. Where does it go? Write it at the end.

- 1 It's no worrying about it. _____
- 2 That's just off the of my head. _____
- 3 It goes in one and out the other. _____
- 4 Marty could with some help. _____
- 5 My went a complete blank. _____
- 6 I think he's feeling under weather. _____

2 Complete the idiom or set phrase in each dialogue.

- 1 We need someone for the extra work. ~ True. Do you have anyone in _____ ?
- 2 What shall I do? ~ Off the top of my _____, I'm not sure.
- 3 Did she ask you a question? ~ Yes, my mind went a complete _____.
- 4 What shall we do? ~ Your best _____ is to ring the station.
- 5 They're making very slow progress. ~ Yes, but they'll get _____ eventually.
- 6 Has Marc gone to bed? ~ Yes, he was feeling a bit under the _____.
- 7 Didn't we say we'd meet at 4 o'clock? ~ Yes. I'm sorry to _____.
- 8 Can you remember the instructions? ~ No. They went in one ear _____.

3 ABOUT YOUR LANGUAGE How would you translate these idioms and set phrases into your own language? Write a translation, or talk to someone who speaks your language.



B Idiomatic responses

Idiom or set phrase	Meaning
A Bob's coming, isn't he? B Don't hold your breath.	used to say you don't expect sth to happen even though sb said it would.
A Are they sure to win the election? B Yeah. It's a foregone conclusion.	used to say that sth is a result that is certain to happen.
A Are you going to the party? B You bet.	used to emphasize that you are keen to do sth.
A It's very cold today. B You can say that again.	used to agree completely with what sb has just said.
A Have you got Saturday off? B No such luck. I'm afraid.	used to express your disappointment that sth is not going to happen.
A Sal said she's too busy to help us. B A likely story.	used ironically to say you don't believe what sb has told you.
A Where's Patsy? B I haven't the faintest idea.	used to say you don't know sth. SYNS Don't ask me. Your guess is as good as mine.
A You look very stressed. B Yes, it's been one of those days.	used to say you have had a hard day.
A Shall I apply for that job? B You've got nothing to lose.	used to say there is no reason for sb not to do sth.
A Rani's going out with a film star. B You're kidding.	used to say that you think sth cannot be true and must be a joke. SYNS You're joking. You can't be serious.
A I hurt my toe, then I burnt my hand. B Oh dear. It's not your day. is it?	used when several unpleasant or unfortunate things happen on the same day.
A Can we go in if we're not members? B No way.	used to say that sth is not at all possible or not allowed. SYN no chance.

4 Circle the correct word/phrase.

- 1 A **likely story** is one that you think is probably true / false.
- 2 If you reply **Don't ask me**, it means you don't know the answer / don't want to answer.
- 3 If you say **You're kidding**, you think the other person is being / not being serious.
- 4 **No way** means it's not practical / possible.
- 5 **I haven't the faintest idea** means I don't care / I don't know.
- 6 **Don't hold your breath** means you expect / don't expect something to happen.

5 Complete a suitable idiom in response to these statements or questions.

- 1 I've just won the lottery! ~ You _____.
- 2 Could I borrow your Dad's car? ~ No _____.
- 3 Why did they leave so early? ~ No idea. Your guess _____.
- 4 Has it been busy in the office today? ~ Yes, it's been _____.
- 5 Are you going to the wedding? ~ Yes, you _____.
- 6 Do you think they'll win? ~ Definitely. It's a _____.
- 7 I won some money. Did you? ~ No such _____.
- 8 Shall we enter for the competition? ~ Why not? We've got nothing _____.
- 9 It's hot in here, isn't it? ~ Yes, you can _____.
- 10 My car broke down this morning, and a tooth fell out this afternoon. ~ It's not _____.



Remember to test yourself

60 I can use idioms and set phrases (2)

Do Unit 59 first

A Commenting on a situation

Some idioms and set phrases are commonly used to express an opinion about a situation.

We can borrow money if need be, but it's **a last resort**.

I've got a new computer, and frankly **it's more trouble than it's worth**.

He's got his own flat, but his mum still cooks for him – he's **got the best of both worlds**.

She wouldn't admit her mistake because she didn't want to **lose face**.

I think my nephew will do well as long as he **keeps his feet on the ground**.

She's always terribly serious. I think she needs to **let her hair down** a bit.

She's trying her best, but I think she's **fighting a losing battle**.

You can eat what you like and drinks are free. Sounds **too good to be true**, doesn't it?

The trouble with Rolf is that – most of the time – he **lives in a world of his own**.

Glossary

a last/final resort

an action you will take if there is no other option (**as a last resort** SYN **if all else fails**).

it's more trouble than it's worth
the best of both worlds

used to say the disadvantages of sth are greater than the advantages.
a situation in which you have the advantages of two things without any disadvantages.

lose face

look stupid or be less respected because of sth you have done.

keep your feet on the ground

remain sensible and realistic about life.

let your hair down

relax and enjoy yourself.

fight a losing battle

try to do sth that will almost certainly fail.

too good to be true

used to express doubts about a surprisingly good situation.

live/be in a world of your own

spend your time imagining things, and not be aware of things around you.

1 Cover the text and glossary, then complete these set phrases and idioms.

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1 let your hair _____ | 5 too good to be _____ |
| 2 if all else _____ | 6 live in a world _____ |
| 3 fight a losing _____ | 7 the best of both _____ |
| 4 it's more trouble than it's _____ | 8 keep your feet on the _____ |

2 Complete each dialogue with a suitable set phrase or idiom.

- 1 Is Karen a bit of a dreamer? ~ Yes, she lives in _____.
- 2 You don't want to use your savings? ~ No, that's a last _____.
- 3 He thinks he can achieve anything. ~ Yes, he needs to _____.
- 4 So you may have to sell your car. ~ Yes, if all _____.
- 5 Did he try to cover up his mistake? ~ Yes, he didn't want to _____.
- 6 You mean everything is free? ~ Yes, it sounds too _____.
- 7 She looks as if she's enjoying herself ~ Yes, she's really _____.
- 8 It's near the sea but close to the city. ~ Great, so you've got _____.

3 ABOUT YOUR LANGUAGE How would you translate these idioms into your own language? Write your answers, or talk to someone who speaks your language.



B Adding tone and emphasis

Some idioms and set phrases add extra politeness or emphasis, or prepare the listener for what you are going to say, or give a more personal interpretation of the message.

Idiom or set phrase	Meaning
<i>Do you know if they're married, by any chance?</i>	used to add politeness to a question (also: <i>Do you happen to know if they're married?</i>).
If you don't mind my/me asking, how much did it cost?	used before a question which you think may be sensitive.
We'd like to see you, but the thing is , we don't know what time we'll get there.	used to introduce an explanation, and often one that suggests there is a problem.
I think the film is every bit as good as his last one.	used to emphasize the comparative; equally good, bad, interesting, etc.
I may get the job – you never know.	used to say that you can never be certain about future events, so anything is possible.
Guess what! Ed and Sue are getting married.	used before giving sb surprising or exciting news.
He doesn't look rich, but believe it or not , he owns a castle in Bavaria.	used to introduce information which is true but surprising.
He's been working since 7 o'clock this morning, so no wonder he's tired.	used to emphasize the fact that sth is not surprising.
Where on earth did you get those boots?	used after wh- questions to indicate surprise, and sometimes annoyance, about sth.
I would say, all things being equal , that women are better communicators than men.	used to say that sth is true if there are no other factors affecting it.
The room is empty but, for some reason , we're not allowed to use it.	used to say, often with slight annoyance, that you don't know the reason or don't understand it.
I have to admit , he's very good at his job.	used to agree reluctantly that sth is true.

4 Complete the idiom or set phrase in each sentence.

- 1 _____ what! I've got a new job.
- 2 I don't think he has the ability to do it, but you never _____.
- 3 What on _____ are you doing here?
- 4 I made a special trip to the post office, but for _____ reason, they closed early.
- 5 I have to _____, France are a good team – even though I'm English!
- 6 He won all his matches, so no _____ he's delighted.
- 7 All things being _____, I think we'll lose.
- 8 We went trekking in the desert and, _____ it or not, it started raining!

5 Add a suitable idiom or set phrase to these sentences. Put an arrow to show where it goes.

- 1 Do you know if it's open? _____
- 2 How old are you? _____
- 3 She looks about 20, but she's only 13. _____
- 4 He's been very ill, so he looks thin. _____
- 5 I'm hoping to go, but I've got a meeting on the same day. _____
- 6 There are many exceptions, but I think men are better cooks than women. _____
- 7 The book is as violent as all his others. _____
- 8 It was a beautiful day, but the beach was deserted; I can't think why. _____



61 I can use set phrases with two key words

These set phrases consist of two words belonging to the same grammatical category, joined by *and*, *or*, and *to*. The word order is fixed, i.e. *back and forth*, not *forth and back*. Many are made up of synonyms or opposites.

Example	Meaning
We've been going back and forth all day.	from one place to another and then back again, many times.
First and foremost we need a plan.	more than anything else.
I thought long and hard before taking the job.	for a long time.
They'll be here sooner or later .	at some time in the future.
You're wearing your jumper back to front .	with the back where the front should be.
I enjoy the hustle and bustle of city life.	busy and noisy activity.
I learnt how to use a computer by trial and error .	a process of trying to solve a problem in different ways until you are successful.
What are our aims and objectives ?	things you want to achieve.
That's against the rules and regulations .	rules.
Who is responsible for law and order ?	safe and peaceful conditions in society when people obey the law.
Max was very bright and cheerful today.	happy and lively.
The children got home safe and sound .	safely; not harmed, damaged, lost, etc.
I'm sick and tired of this weather.	bored with or annoyed about sth, and wanting it to stop. SYN fed up with sth .
He badly needs a job, so he can't really afford to pick and choose .	choose only those things that you like or want.
They were pushing and shoving behind us.	shove push in a rough way.

1 Write eight set phrases using words from the box.

push pick back first long sooner
rules front sick regulations foremost
choose tired later hard shove

spotlight bribery and corruption

Bribery is the offering of money or another incentive to sb to persuade them to take part in an activity, usually something dishonest. **bribe**
sb v. Corruption is illegal or dishonest behaviour, especially on the part of sb in power. **corrupt** ADJ. The two words are often used together.
There are still allegations of bribery and corruption in the police force.

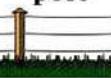
2 Complete the set phrase in each sentence.

- I saw Joelle earlier. She's very bright and _____ today.
- There's no law and _____ in the place: just bribery and _____ everywhere.
- They said 4 o'clock, so they should be here sooner or _____.
- First and _____, we have got to establish our aims and _____.
- I used to love the hustle and _____ of city life, but I'm sick and _____ of it now.
- I didn't have the instructions, so I just worked it out by trial and _____.
- It was a terrible flight, but we finally got here safe and _____.
- I'm moving stuff from Pete's flat to my flat, and I've been back and _____ all day.



62 I can use similes

We form most similes with *as* + adjective + *as* + noun, and some with verb or noun + *like* + noun. Similes with *as* emphasize the meaning of the adjective. (Note that the first *as* is often omitted.)

Key word	Simile
 gold	<i>The kids were as good as gold</i> today. = well behaved
 feather	<i>I picked up the little girl – she was as light as a feather.</i>
 bat	<i>I'm afraid I'm blind as a bat.</i> (used humorously)
 post	<i>My father is deaf as a post.</i> (used humorously)
 ox	<i>John will carry it – he's as strong as an ox.</i>
 rake	<i>My sister's as thin as a rake.</i>
 mouse	<i>The baby's been as quiet as a mouse.</i>

Key word	Simile
 sheet	<i>Ken went as white as a sheet.</i> = white with fear or illness
 beetroot	<i>Sally went as red as a beetroot.</i> = very embarrassed
 bone	<i>The ground is as dry as a bone</i> at the moment.
 cake	<i>The new model is selling like hot cakes.</i> = selling very quickly or in large numbers
 log	<i>I slept like a log</i> last night. = slept very well
 dream	<i>The plan worked like a dream.</i> = was very successful
 sieve	<i>Sometimes I've got a mind like a sieve.</i> = a bad memory

1 Complete the similes.

- He's been as quiet as a _____.
- I'm sure this new computer game will sell like hot _____.
- We badly need rain because the garden is as dry as a _____.
- When I picked her up she was as light as a _____.
- My father always sleeps like a _____.
- She can't remember what she did with it; she's got a mind like a _____.
- My builder is as strong as an _____.
- I fitted a new ink cartridge and the printer's working like a _____ now.

2 Choose a suitable simile to describe these people and things.

- My grandfather can't hear a thing. _____
- My grandmother can't see a thing. _____
- My girlfriend needs to put on weight. _____
- The plan was very successful. _____
- She looked horrified. _____
- The children behaved very well. _____
- She was very embarrassed. _____
- He often forgets things. _____



Remember to test yourself