

# 8

## Secrets

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## 8A

### Vocabulary

## Cover-up and conspiracy

*I can talk about cover-ups, privacy and journalism.*

- SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Who is the celebrity in the photo? What do you think he is protesting about?
- Read the text. What do you think of journalists who hack famous people's mobile phones?

## HACKED OFF

British tabloid journalists don't exactly have a sterling reputation for honesty. Gossip columnists in particular are often accused of libel, and newspapers frequently pay out damages when they damage a celebrity's reputation.



**BUT** even so, the scandal involving the hacking by journalists of the phones of celebrities, politicians, sports stars and crime victims was truly shocking.

The first revelations emerged in November 2005, when Clive Goodman, royal editor at the tabloid *News of the World*, wrote a story about a knee injury suffered by Prince William. The injury was not public knowledge, so the royal family quickly guessed that someone had hacked into the prince's voicemail to secure the scoop. Goodman and Glenn Mulcaire, a private investigator employed by the paper, were sent to prison after revealing that they had obtained special codes used by mobile network operators in order to listen in on several hundred messages. However, despite the prosecution and the public outcry, the newspaper insisted that it was not involved in any other phone hacking. In fact, it was just the tip of the iceberg. In 2009, the *Guardian* newspaper revealed that the *News of the World*'s parent company, News Group International, had quietly paid out more than £1 million to settle lawsuits that might reveal the use of phone hacks to obtain inside information about famous people. Despite accusations that the *Guardian* was merely conducting a smear campaign in order to damage a rival newspaper, the paper accurately reported in 2011 that the phones of more than 5,800 people – including celebrities such as actor Hugh Grant – had been hacked by Mulcaire. The *News of the World* also faced allegations that it hacked into a missing thirteen-year-old's phone messages, possibly hampering a police inquiry into her disappearance and murder. As a result of the exposé, international media mogul Rupert Murdoch shut down *News of the World* in 2011. A year later, he admitted that there had been a cover-up and issued a public apology.



**Political scandal** conspiracy conspiracy theory cover-up  
 exposé libel plot public outcry revelations scandal  
 slander smear campaign

- 3 **VOCABULARY** Find seven of the words above in the text. Check the meaning of all the words. What is the difference between *libel* and *slander*?

- 4 **VOCABULARY** Complete the collocations with the verbs below. All the collocations are in the text in exercise 2.

be accused of damage emerge face hack into  
 hamper issue listen in obtain payout secure settle

#### Journalism: 'dirty tricks'

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ of libel
- 2 \_\_\_\_\_ damages
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ someone's reputation
- 4 revelations \_\_\_\_\_
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ someone's voicemail
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ a scoop
- 7 \_\_\_\_\_ on a message
- 8 \_\_\_\_\_ a lawsuit
- 9 \_\_\_\_\_ inside information
- 10 \_\_\_\_\_ allegations of / that
- 11 \_\_\_\_\_ an inquiry
- 12 \_\_\_\_\_ a public apology



- 5 Look at the newspaper headline. What do you know about the Watergate Affair, a famous cover-up? What do you think happened?

- 6 **2.27** Read the questions below. Then listen to an account of the Watergate Affair. Answer the questions.

- 1 Which political party did Nixon belong to?
- 2 Why did the men break in to the Watergate Building?
- 3 What evidence connected the burglars to the president?
- 4 How did the break-in affect Nixon's popularity with American voters?
- 5 What did Nixon do to try to hide his involvement in the break-in?
- 6 Why were the tapes significant?
- 7 Why did Nixon finally have no choice but to release the tapes?
- 8 How did Nixon escape trial and prosecution following his resignation?

- 7 **VOCABULARY** Match the verbs with the definitions. Use a dictionary to help you.

#### Verbs that express agreement or approval (1)

accede to authorise concur with condone

- 1 accept behaviour that is morally wrong
- 2 give official permission for
- 3 agree to something (after initial reluctance)
- 4 agree with somebody

#### Verbs that express agreement or approval (2)

acquiesce in assent to comply with endorse

- 5 to obey (a rule, an order, etc.)
- 6 accept something even if you don't agree with it
- 7 say that you support something or someone
- 8 agree to a request, idea or suggestion

- 8 **2.27** Listen again. Which verbs from exercise 7 are used in the recording? To understand the context they're used in, can you quote the exact wording?

#### FLUENCY!

- Euphemisms are expressions which we can use in place of words or phrases that might be considered unpleasant or offensive. For example, *pass away* rather than *die*.

- 9 Read the **Fluency!** box. Then find a phrase near the beginning of the text in exercise 2 that means *are known for telling lies*. Then complete the phrase below from the listening that means *was being dishonest*.

He was being **efficient** / **economical** with the truth.

- 10 **VOCABULARY** Work in pairs. What do you think the following euphemisms mean?

**Euphemisms** a frank exchange of views be expecting  
 economically disadvantaged ethnic cleansing  
 getting thin on top let (employees) go misinformation  
 pre-owned put on a few extra pounds rest room (US)

- 11 Replace the underlined phrases in the sentences with euphemisms from exercise 10. Then write sentences that include the other five euphemisms.

- 1 The army was accused of forcing people who did not share their religion to leave the country.
- 2 We need more policies to help poor people in this country.
- 3 During the meeting the politicians had a massive argument about the way forward.
- 4 The union accused the company of a campaign of lies.
- 5 I'm afraid we're going to have to sack a number of staff.

- 12 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Discuss the questions below.

- 1 Think of other examples of cover-ups. What were the people trying to hide? Why? What happened in the end?
- 2 Why do politicians and businesses sometimes cover up the truth about things that they have done wrong? Why does it sometimes make matters worse for them?

➔ **Vocabulary Builder** Politics: compounds and collocations: page 130



# Emphatic forms

I can use a variety of structures to add emphasis.

1 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Do you know of any unexplained crimes? Describe one of them.

2 Read the text. What do you think happened to Ricky McCormick? Do you think anyone will ever crack the code?

## LEARN THIS! Emphasis

There are a number of ways to add emphasis.

1 Cleft sentences with *it*, *what* and *all*.

I admire his courage. → *It's his courage that I admire.*

What I admire is his courage.

I just want some peace and quiet. → *All I want is some peace and quiet.*

2 Phrases such as *The problem / trouble / truth / fact / question is ...*

*The truth is I'm bored with my job.*

3 *do / does / did* to emphasise an affirmative verb, especially for contrastive or emotive emphasis.

*You do look nice in that hat.*

*I don't like his tie, but I do like his shirt.*

4 *myself, herself*, etc. as emphasising pronouns.

*I wrote to the Prime Minister himself.*

5 Phrases that often indicate surprise or irritation.

*What ever / on earth / in the world is the matter?*

*Goodness knows where my keys are.* (= I don't know.)

*I received no help whatsoever.* (= No help at all.)

3 Read the **Learn this!** box. Find at least nine examples of emphasis in the text and match them to technique (1–5).

➔ Grammar Builder 8.1 page 148

4 Use the correct tense and form of *do* to make the sentences more emphatic or to show a contrast.

1 Come in and do take off your coat.

*Do come in and take off your coat.*

2 You've been late for school every day this week. Be on time today!

3 I don't much like listening to music on the radio, but I enjoy live music.

4 You've got an exam tomorrow. Go to bed early tonight.

5 I hate it when you raise your voice.

6 I didn't score a goal, but our team won, and that's what counts.

7 Stop talking, will you!

8 I didn't help with the housework but I did my homework.

5 Rewrite the sentences with *what* or *all* to give more emphasis.

1 I'd like to eat out this evening.

*What I'd like to do this evening is eat out.*

2 His rudeness really irritated me.

3 I just want you to be happy.

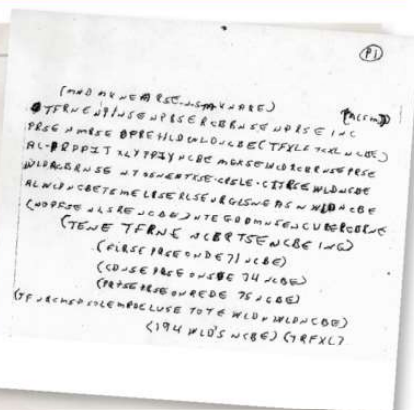
4 His reluctance ever to apologise gets on my nerves.

5 I just need a few more minutes to finish this exercise.

6 You only need love.

On 30 June 1999, the body of Ricky McCormick was found in a cornfield in St Charles County, Missouri, 20 miles from his home. It was on 26 June that he'd last been seen, but no one had raised the alarm or reported

him missing. There was no clue whatsoever to the cause of death, nor was there any clear evidence of a crime. What they did find on the body were two mysterious notes, covered in random letters and numbers. The FBI believed that they might hold the key to McCormick's death. The problem was, they could not decode them. All the FBI could do in the end was make the notes public, hoping that a member of the public might be able to make sense of them. It was assumed that an unbreakable code must be the product of a highly intelligent mind. But according to his family, McCormick wouldn't have been able to write the code himself since he was barely literate. One theory is that he was carrying a secret message between criminal gangs. He had a criminal record himself, and it is possible that someone wanted to kill him. What the FBI believe, however, is that McCormick wrote the notes himself. The fact is, we will probably never know how he met his end or what the mysterious message means.



6 Make the following sentences more emphatic, using techniques in the **Learn this!** box. You can sometimes emphasise more than one element of the sentence, or use more than one technique.

1 I saw the new Matt Damon film on Saturday.

*It was the new Matt Damon film that ... It was on Saturday that ... What I did on Saturday was ...*

2 Why did you do that?

3 My brother gave me this DVD, not my mum.

4 I don't like his attitude to women.

5 My brother married his childhood sweetheart in May.

6 I couldn't find a pen, but I found a pencil.

7 I met the American President!

8 The old woman was struggling with her luggage but she received no help from her fellow passengers.

7 **SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Complete these emphatic sentences with your own ideas. Then compare with your partner.

1 What I'd really like ...

2 Why on earth ... ?

3 What really annoys me ...

4 All I want ...

5 I don't particularly like ... but I ...



## Spilling the beans

*I can understand people gossiping.*

*I can't believe she would DO that!!*

*Really?*



**1 SPEAKING** Discuss the questions in pairs.

- What kinds of thing do people usually gossip about?
- Why do you think people like to listen to gossip?
- Do you think boys gossip more than girls, or the other way round? Why?
- Do you like gossiping? What do you gossip about?
- In what ways can gossip be harmful?

**Listening Strategy**

Notice how stress can affect the meaning of a sentence. Speakers stress certain words to indicate an alternative, make a contrast or to correct what someone has said.

*'Have you been spreading rumours about me?'*

*'I haven't. But Kate has.'*

*'Did you walk round the hill?' 'No, we walked over it.'*

**2 2.28** Read the **Listening Strategy**. Then listen to a question being repeated five times. Which piece of information is being emphasised each time? Match each question with a reply below.

- No, we played tennis. \_\_\_\_\_
- No, we played in the street. **1**
- No, we watched it. \_\_\_\_\_
- No, we played on Sunday. \_\_\_\_\_
- No, I played with Harry. \_\_\_\_\_

**3 2.29** Listen to six sentences. Which word is stressed in each sentence? Invent a follow-up sentence which makes sense of the stress pattern in the first sentence.

I bought my first TV in an electrical shop.

*I bought my first TV in an electrical shop. I bought my second TV online.*

**4 2.30** Listen to two conversations and choose the correct answers.

**Conversation 1:** You hear two people talking about their friend Harry.

- The girl is reluctant
  - to contact Kerry.
  - to believe the rumour about Harry.
  - to trust Ryan's word.
- The boy is surprised that
  - Ellie hasn't heard the rumour about Harry.
  - everyone in the school hasn't heard the rumour.
  - Harry was seen with another girl.

**Conversation 2:** You hear two people talking about a job offer.

- According to them both, Martha's current employers
  - have treated Martha badly.
  - will be embarrassed by Martha's departure.
  - will promote someone less qualified into Martha's position.
- The man is telling the woman about Hannah
  - in order to save her embarrassment.
  - because her employers already know that she has been applying for jobs.
  - even though he was asked not to tell anyone else.

**5 VOCABULARY** Complete the idioms with the words below. Check the meaning of the idioms.

between breathe further hat hearsay let lips  
quote rumour the latest tongue word

**Idioms: secrets and gossip**

- Don't \_\_\_\_\_ on (to anyone).
- If \_\_\_\_\_ gets out, ...
- Don't \_\_\_\_\_ a word to ...
- Keep it under your \_\_\_\_\_.
- Don't \_\_\_\_\_ me (on that).
- It won't go any \_\_\_\_\_.
- It's just \_\_\_\_\_.
- \_\_\_\_\_ has it (that) ...
- \_\_\_\_\_ you and me, ...
- Have you heard \_\_\_\_\_?
- My \_\_\_\_\_ are sealed.
- Bite my \_\_\_\_\_.

**6 2.30** Listen again. Which idioms from exercise 5 did you hear?

**7** Invent five false sentences that your partner can correct. Don't show them to your partner.

*The Earth goes round the Sun once every two years.*

**8 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Read the false sentences to your partner. Your partner corrects the information using contrastive stress.

No, the Earth goes round the Sun *once* every year.



**whatever, whoever, whenever, wherever and however***I can use whatever, whoever, whenever, whichever, wherever and however.*

- 1 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Which is more important in your opinion, love or money? Why?
- Read the text. Why did Joe conceal his wealth?
- Read the **Learn this!** box. Find all the examples of *whoever*, *whatever*, *wherever*, etc. in the text. Then match them with the uses below.

**LEARN THIS!** *whoever, whichever, however, etc.*

- We use *whatever*, *whoever*, *wherever*, etc. to mean 'it doesn't matter what / who / where, etc.'  
*I'll find my keys wherever they are.*  
*Whatever you decide, just let me know.*  
*I can go out with whoever I like.*
- We can use *whoever*, *whatever*, and *whichever* to mean 'the person / thing / one that'.  
*Whoever gets home first can cook dinner for the others.*  
*Whichever team wins will go through to the final.*
- We can use *however* with an adjective or adverb. After an adjective, we sometimes omit *it / the / she / they*, etc. + *be*.  
*However hard I try, I can never beat him at tennis.*  
*Try to answer every question, however difficult (it is).*

**4 Complete the sentences with the words below.**

however however whatever whenever wherever  
 whichever whoever

- \_\_\_\_\_ hard I tried, I couldn't work out the answer.
- \_\_\_\_\_ you do, don't touch the grill. It's red hot!
- \_\_\_\_\_ you go in Italy, you'll see wonderful buildings and ruins.
- I'm free on Monday and Tuesday. Let's meet up on \_\_\_\_\_ day suits you best.
- \_\_\_\_\_ phoned just now hung up without speaking.
- I don't mind swimming in the sea, \_\_\_\_\_ cold it is.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I visit London, I always go by train.

➔ Grammar Builder 8.2 page 148

**WHOEVER** believes that love is more important than money will take heart from the story of Joe and Lisa Johnson. Lisa, a divorced single mum, was struggling to make ends meet when she met Joe in the café where she worked as a waitress. Joe, also divorced, used to come in for breakfast before work. The two got to know each other and Joe invited Lisa out on a date. Joe turned up in shabby clothes in a dirty, old car and took Lisa to a cheap restaurant. The two hit it off and continued dating. Whenever they went out in the early stages of their relationship, Lisa would offer to go halves on the meal or drinks, and Joe would accept. Under normal circumstances, that was to be expected, but Joe was hiding a big secret: he was a £10 million lottery winner. Whenever Lisa visited Joe's enormous house, he'd pretend it didn't belong to him and that he was house-sitting for a rich friend. Before taking Lisa to meet his family, he asked them whatever they did not to let Lisa know about his secret fortune. After dating for a few months, Joe proposed to Lisa and she accepted. Then, a week later, Joe revealed his big secret. At first Lisa was furious because it felt like a betrayal. But Joe explained that he'd hidden the truth from her because most of the women he'd dated before meeting her were only interested in his money. Lisa realised she could trust him and that she would have accepted his proposal however rich or poor he'd been. 'I can say with complete honesty that I fell in love with a man who I believed had nothing,' she said. Now, of course, she can buy pretty much whatever she wants, and go wherever she wants on holiday. Was Joe right to deceive Lisa, or should he have been honest from the outset? Whichever way you look at it, it is a story with a happy ending!

**5 Rewrite the sentences in your notebook. Use *whatever*, *whoever*, *whenever*, etc.**

- I never tire of the Beatles, no matter how often I listen to their songs.
- It doesn't matter which road you take, you'll arrive at about the same time.
- It didn't matter how fast I ran, I just couldn't keep up with the other runners in the race.
- I never get a good mobile signal at home – it doesn't matter where I put the phone.
- Please come and see me any time you feel like it.
- It doesn't matter who you ask, you'll get the same answer.
- The charity is well worth supporting, so please make a donation, even if it's really small.
- People say all sorts of things about politicians, but they do a difficult job.

**6 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Complete the sentences with your own ideas. Then compare your ideas with your partner.

- Whatever happens, ...
- Whoever you marry, ...
- Wherever I go for my next holiday, ...
- Whenever I speak English, ...
- However hard I try, ...



# Prefixes and suffixes

*I can use a range of useful prefixes and suffixes.*

- 1 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Have you heard of Wikileaks? What do you know about it?
- 2** Read the text and check your ideas. To what extent do you agree or disagree with the views of Zoe Brown and Jude Lee?

- 3** Read the **Learn this!** box. What does each prefix or suffix mean? Compare your ideas with a partner.

## LEARN THIS! Prefixes and suffixes

New words are occasionally coined using these prefixes and suffixes. For example, *cyber* means *related to the internet* so the word *cybercrime* was coined to describe internet crime.

de-	debug, deforest
down-	downsize, download
over-	overbook, overwrite
under-	undercover, underexposed
up-	update, upgrade
cyber-	cybercafé, cyberspace
eco-	eco-friendly, eco-terrorism
mono-	monorail, monolingual
-free	fat-free, tax-free
-proof	bullet-proof, future-proof
-led	market-led, student-led
-worthy	roadworthy, praiseworthy
-based	London-based, class-based
-conscious	health-conscious, safety-conscious
-friendly	user-friendly, eco-friendly
-phile/-phobe	Anglophile/phobe, technophile/phobe

- 4** Find eleven examples of the prefixes and suffixes in the text.

- 5** Rewrite the sentences in your notebook. Replace the underlined words with words from the **Learn this!** box in the correct form. Make other changes as necessary.

- Can you give me the most recent information about our finances?  
*Can you update me on our finances?*
- The airline has issued tickets to more customers than there are seats on the flight.
- There isn't enough light in this photo.
- I must get rid of the viruses from my computer.
- Can you help me move these photos from the cloud to my computer?
- He really hates using computers and other digital devices.
- They have removed the trees from vast areas of the Amazon basin.
- Is there a coffee shop where they have computers around here?
- We can take the bus or the train that runs on one rail.


- 6** Match each adjective (1–8) with a noun from below. Write a sentence for each combination.

campaign   English speaker   instruction manual   jacket  
lifestyle   motor vehicle   recipe   society

- |                 |                    |               |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------|
| 1 fat-free      | 4 bullet-proof     | 7 roadworthy  |
| 2 student-led   | 5 health-conscious | 8 class-based |
| 3 user-friendly | 6 monolingual      |               |

- 7 SPEAKING** Work in pairs. Discuss this question: What information do governments have a right to keep secret?

➔ **Vocabulary Builder** Portmanteau words: page 130



WIKILEAKS is an organisation that publishes secret information provided by anonymous sources. It has a website, hosted by a Europe-based internet provider, onto which it uploads the information it receives. The information is often sensitive and is leaked by employees of governments and organisations who feel that their employer is hiding information that should be in the public domain. Other secrets on the Wikileaks website are stolen by hackers who break into information systems. Governments and corporations have become much more security-conscious, and are determined to stamp out this type of cybercrime. But there's no foolproof way of keeping information safe. The hackers are only ever one step behind. Here's what two journalists think of Wikileaks.

**ZOE BROWN** Some people downplay the sensitivity of the information on the Wikileaks website, but some of the documents contain details that could harm national security and endanger lives. Wikileaks should take special care that it doesn't release the names of civilians who work for governments or international organisations.

**JUDE LEE** I think Wikileaks is doing a public service, and empowering ordinary people. If information is out in the open, we can hold governments and big corporations to account. Governments don't like it of course. It is alleged that there's been a government-led cyberwar against Wikileaks, but to no avail. How much of the information is newsworthy anyway? Probably not much. People overestimate the sensitivity and significance of the documents. Lots of them should be declassified anyway.