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Hi, everybody and welcome to another issue of Learn Hot English magazine — the fun magazine for learning English. This month, find out how to pronounce 45 irregular past tense verbs. This is extremely useful as we use these verbs in English all the time, so it'll really help with your speaking, listening and writing. Try our little exercise to really make sure you learn them. Of course, that’s not all and we’ve lots more fun things for you to read and listen to so you can learn lots of useful English. We’ll be looking at the Indian Mutiny, actress Sarah Jessica Parker, some traditional English songs, futures with “going to” and Dollywood. Plus lots, lots more! Well, we hope you enjoy reading and listening to this issue of Learn Hot English. Have fun, learn lots of English and see you all next month!

Andy

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What do you have for breakfast? A new report says that the coffee you have in the morning may contain up to 50% of the calories you need for the whole day. Some of the cups of coffee tested by a consumer magazine had almost 400 calories. Researchers said that the full-fat milk, cream and chocolate in the coffees contains most of the calories. A skimmed milk cappuccino only had about 30 calories. But the worst thing about the coffee shops is the food. A slice of chocolate cake may have more than 600 calories; and some sandwiches can have as many as 500 calories. The report said, “You might be surprised to know that some coffee shop sandwiches contain more calories, fat and salt than a fast-food hamburger.” In Britain, the recommended daily intake of calories for women is 2,000 calories, and for men it is 2,500. So, a coffee and a snack could give you almost half that amount alone.

Australian party teenager turns pro.

“It was the best party ever – that’s what everyone’s saying,” said Corey Delaney, an Australian teenager. Last month, Delaney, 16, had a party when his parents were away. The party caused more than $18,000 of damage. Five hundred teenagers went to the party at Delaney’s home in Melbourne. Delaney’s neighbours called the police because there was a lot of noise. The police came with dogs. But now, Delaney says he is going to be a professional party host. He even has a manager, Max Markson. “He did a great party in the wrong place. Now we’re going to do a great party in the right place,” Markson said. People have different opinions of Delaney: for some, he is a hero; for others, he is just an arrogant brat.
English language names with real meaning.

THE NAME GAME
This is another part in our series of famous names with meaning. More next month.

Billy Holiday
A “holiday” is a break you have from work. “They went to the south of France for their holiday.”

Oliver Stone
A “stone” is a little rock. “He threw a stone at the window and broke it.”

George Bush
A “bush” is a small tree. “The garden had bushes all around it.”

The Doors
A “door” is the thing you open to get into a room. “Please close the door behind you.”

The Eagles
An “eagle” is a very large bird that eats little mammals. “The eagle flew down and caught the rabbit.”

Michael J. Fox
A “fox” is a type of dog with red hair and a bushy tail (a tail with a lot of hair). “Fox hunting is illegal in England now.”

Natalie Wood
A “wood” is a forest (a large number of trees all in one place). “They walked through the wood collecting wild flowers.”

Al Gore
“Gore” is a word used to refer to the presence of a lot of blood. A “gory” film is one with a lot of blood. And a “gory” picture has an image of an injury with blood. “The film was full of blood and gore.”
Train Anger

A doctor gets angry on a train.

Match each form of transport (1-8) with its corresponding picture (a-h). Answers on page 44

1. Car
2. Helicopter
3. Train
4. Bus
5. Ship
6. Bicycle
7. Motorbike
8. Balloon

A doctor was on a train. He ordered some food. But when the food came, he got very angry. Why?

Dr Russell Walshaw was on a train. He was travelling to London. At the time of the incident, he was in the first class dining carriage. The 66-year-old doctor was sitting there when a steward came to talk to him. The steward wanted to prepare the tables for lunch. So, he asked the doctor politely, “Would you mind moving, please?”

However, the doctor didn't want to move. He had just finished eating breakfast and he was working on his laptop. “You can lay the table around me,” the doctor said.

The doctor continued working until the steward came back to lay the table. But then the problems started. “The steward put the plate down on the table very forcefully,” the doctor explained. “I shouted at the steward. But he just walked away. I was so angry that I threw a plate.”

The doctor was given a warning from the General Medical Council in London (The GMC). They said that the doctor’s actions were “unacceptable”. In his defence, the doctor said that he had been responding to the steward’s aggression. “The steward dropped the plate on my table and showed bad manners,” the doctor explained. “Also, I didn’t throw the plate at him, I threw the plate in his general direction. I’m sorry that it hit him. Perhaps I should have just shouted at him instead.”

GLOSSARY

a dining carriage n a special car/carriage in a train where people eat and there is a restaurant
a steward n a person who works on a train/airplane serving food, helping passengers, etc
politely adv with respect; considerately; not rudely
a laptop n a small, portable computer that opens and closes like a book
to lay the table exp to prepare a table for eating: to put plates, glasses, forks, knives, etc on it
a plate n a round, flat ceramic object on which you put food to eat
forcefully adv with a lot of force
a warning n if you give someone a “warning”, you tell them of a possible danger in the future
to drop vb to let something fall from your hands; if something “drops”, it falls accidentally
bad manners exp if you have “bad manners”, you are not polite to someone; you say/do rude things
Banning tourists!

Pre listening
Canterbury quiz: What do you know about the city of Canterbury? True or false:
1. Canterbury is in the county of Kent and is known as “the garden of England”.
2. Canterbury attracts approximately 5 million tourists.
3. There is no university in Canterbury.
4. Canterbury is more than 20 centuries old.
5. Chaucer was a famous writer who wrote a series of stories called The Canterbury Tales.

Listening I
You are going to listen to a conversation about the British city, Canterbury. Listen once and check your answers from the previous exercise.

Listening II
Listen again and complete each space with a word / words.
1. The city of Canterbury is fed up of ____.
2. The school children arrive in ____.
3. The city wants ____.
4. The problem is that teachers are not ____.
5. Most people want to attract tourists from the ____.

Audio script - A British city is thinking about banning certain tourists.

Anna: Hello, and welcome to the Morning Show. Today in the studio we’re talking to Katlin Jones, a tourist industry spokesperson. Well, Katlin, what’s been happening in the world of tourism?

Katlin: Well, just recently, the city of Canterbury in Kent has been talking about banning certain tourists.

Anna: Really? Why’s that?

Katlin: Well, apparently, they’re fed up of all the school trips. And the locals are fed up of them too. These school-children arrive in coaches and do stupid things such as spraying their hair green and squirting silly string in the street. The city says that they want quality tourism – people who come for a few days and stay in hotels, not tourists who just cause trouble.

Anna: But surely they don’t want to turn away any tourists?

Katlin: No, obviously not all coach parties are like that, but there do seem to be a lot of children wandering the streets with no teachers looking after them.

Anna: Perhaps these children should go to other touristy areas, such as seaside resorts.

Katlin: Yes. They’d probably have more fun there too. Canterbury is a place of cultural interest, and it gets more than five million tourists every year. It dates back to the 7th Century and is one of the most visited cities in the country. Most people feel that the best thing is to target the higher end of the market – those people from the UK and abroad who want a short break and might spend two or three nights here visiting the cathedral.

Anna: Yeah, well that makes sense because those types of tourists put a lot more into the economy which keeps people here in jobs. OK, Katlin. Thanks very much for that.

Katlin: No problem.
Listening I
You are going to listen to a telephone conversation. Listen once and write down the purpose of the call.

1. Purpose of the call:

Listening II
Complete each space with the correct word/s.

Paul: Hi, (1) ___________ Susan, please?
Receptionist: I’m sorry but she’s not in the office at the moment. (2) ___________
Paul: Yes, sure, could you tell her that the meeting for this afternoon (3) ___________
until next Friday.
Receptionist: Is that Friday 1st March?
Paul: No, sorry, I mean the week after next Friday. So, that’s Friday 8th March.
Receptionist: (4) ___________
Paul: Also, please tell her that the venue has been moved. It’s no longer at the Aspertian Hotel. It’s (5) ___________ at the Meadows Spring hotel.
Receptionist: Have you got an address for that?
Paul: Yes, it’s 97 Spring Avenue, Woodside.
Receptionist: And what time’s the meeting?
Paul: The same as before - 10am. Could you tell Susan to bring her laptop with the Powerpoint presentation on it too, please?
Receptionist: OK. So (6) ___________: the meeting today has been postponed until Friday 8th March. The location has also changed to Meadows Spring hotel at 3 Spring Avenue, Woodside. The meeting will start at 10am and Susan should bring her laptop, OK?
Paul: Yes, that’s great. Thanks for your help.
Receptionist: (7) ___________ Goodbye.
Sales: Bye.

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This is another part in our series on nursery rhymes and their fascinating origins.

**Old Mother Hubbard**
This song is about Cardinal Thomas Wolsey (1473-1530), an important political figure who worked for King Henry VIII. Cardinal Wolsey was popular at first. But then King Henry wanted to divorce his wife (Catherine of Aragon) as he wanted to wed Anne Boleyn. Wolsey “failed” to get the Pope to approve the divorce. So, he fell out of favour with the king. In the song, Wolsey is Old Mother Hubbard, King Henry is the “doggie” and the “bone” refers to the divorce. The “cupboard” symbolises the Catholic Church. The subsequent divorce, arranged by Thomas Cramner, resulted in a break with Rome and the formation of the Anglican Church.

**Oranges and lemons**
This song originated in 1665. The names in the song relate to some of the many churches in London. Originally, the song was part of a game of catch. When a child was caught in the game (between the joined arms of two players), the child’s head was “cut off”. The song is about owing money and debtors (people with debts). At the time of the song, debtors were sometimes executed in public in Newgate prison. Just before the execution, prisoners were woken up by a bell (the “Execution Bell”), which is why there is a reference to bells in the song.

**One two buckle my shoe**
This nursery rhyme has no known connection with any events in history. Some say the song was invented as a fun way to teach children how to count.

**Glossary**
- to fail: to be unsuccessful
- a doggie: an informal word for a dog
- a bone: the hard objects that make up the skeleton in a body, dogs like to play with them
- a cupboard: the room in the kitchen where you keep food, dishes/plates, etc
- to break: to separate
- Rome: the capital city in Italy, the centre of the Catholic Church
- Anglican Church: also called the Church of England, started by King Henry VIII when he left the Catholic Church
- bare: empty; there is nothing inside
- a game of catch: a type of game that children play in which they try to catch/trap each other
- to owe: if you “owe” someone money, you must repay money that someone lent you
- a debtor: a person who owes money to another person
- a farthing: an old type of coin from England that was worth a quarter of a penny
- a chopper: a person or thing that “chops” or cuts (it can be a large knife)
- to chop off: to separate A from B with a knife
- to buckle: a “buckle” is a piece of metal or plastic attached to one end of a strap. This is used to “close” a shoe
- a hen: a female bird (such as a chicken)
- to dig: to make a hole in the earth
- to delve: if you “delve” into something, you investigate it and try to discover something about it
- a maid: an old English word for a young girl who is not married
- a-courting: a colloquial way to say “courting”; if a maid is “courting”, she is looking for a husband
- in waiting: a married woman who works for a queen or princess

Old Mother Hubbard
Old Mother Hubbard, Went to the cupboard, To get her poor dog a bone, But when she got there, The cupboard was bare, And so, the poor dog had none.

Oranges and lemons
“Oranges and lemons,” say the Bells of St Clements, “You owe me five farthings,” say the Bells of St Martins, “When will you pay me?” say the Bells of Old Bailey, “When I grow rich,” say the Bells of Shoreditch, “When will that be?” say the Bells of Stepney, “I’m sure I do not know,” say the Great Bells of Bow, “Here comes a candle to light you to bed, Here comes a chopper to chop off your head.”
**story time**

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**Glossary**

- **a side parting** n with a line of no hair down the side of your head
- **a middle parting** n with a line of no hair down the middle of your head
- **in a mess** exp not ordered
- **a turtle** n an animal with a hard shell on its back
- **a picnic** n if you have a “picnic”, you have food outside in a park or in the country
- **starving** adj informal very, very hungry
- **to pop up** phr vb to appear suddenly
- **an expectant father** n a man whose wife/girlfriend/partner is going to have a baby
- **in labour** n if a woman is “in labour”, she is about to have a baby
- **triplets** n three babies born at the same time from the same mother
- **quadruplets** n four babies born at the same time from the same mother
- **to faint** vb to lose consciousness
- **to rush** vb to move quickly
- **to regain consciousness** exp to become conscious again

---

**Hair Today**

A man goes into the hairdresser’s. He only has three hairs on his head. The hairdresser says, “Good morning. How would you like it?” And the man replies, “A side parting, please.”

So, the hairdresser tries to give him a side parting, but it’s impossible. “I’m sorry,” says the hairdresser. “Could we try something else?” “OK,” says the man. “How about a middle parting?”

So, the hairdresser tries that, but it’s still no good. “I’m really, really sorry,” says the hairdresser. “Oh, don’t worry,” says the man. “Just leave it in a mess.”

---

**Turtle Food**

There are three turtles who are best friends. One day they decide to go on a picnic. But when they get there, they realise that they’ve forgotten the drinks. “I’ll go and get them,” says one of the turtles. “OK,” say the other two turtles. “We’ll wait for you to come back before we start eating.”

An hour goes by, then six hours, and finally a day. Eventually, one of the turtles says, “Oh, come on. I’m starving. Let’s eat some of the sandwiches.”

And all of a sudden, the first turtle pops up from behind a rock and says, “If you do, I won’t go.”

---

**Baby Boom**

Four expectant fathers are in a hospital waiting room. Their wives are in labour. The nurse arrives and says to the first man, “Congratulations, you are the father of twins.”

“What a coincidence!” says the first man. “I work for the Twins Baseball Team.”

A little while later, the nurse returns and says to the second man, “You are the father of triplets.” “Wow! That’s an incredible coincidence,” he says. “I work for the 3M Corporation.”

An hour later, the nurse comes back. This time, she turns to the third man, and tells him that his wife has just given birth to quadruplets. And he says, “I don’t believe it. I work for the Four Seasons Hotel.”

After hearing this, everybody’s attention turns to the fourth guy, who has just fainted. The nurse rushes to his side and, after some time, he slowly regains consciousness.

The nurse asks, “Are you all right?” “Yes,” says the man. “I’m OK now. I just had a shocking thought. I work at the 7-11 store.”

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This month: telling the time.

**Telling the time**
- It’s four o’clock.
- It’s half past one. / It’s one thirty.
- It’s half past six. / It’s six thirty.
- It’s a quarter to seven. / It’s six forty-five.
- It’s a quarter past three. / It’s three fifteen.
- It’s eight twenty-five.
- It’s five to nine.

**Asking about the time**
- What time is it, please?
- Have you got the time on you, please?
- What time do you make it, please?
- Is my clock right?
- What time is the exam?
- Is it an hour ahead in England?
- Is it an hour behind?

**Talking about the time**
- We have one hour.
- We don’t have much time.
- There isn’t much time.
- There’s plenty of time.
- We’ve got time to get lunch.
- Time flies.

---

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This month: skiing.

Basic English

- Ski boots
- A chairlift
- A ski resort
- Ski goggles
- Gloves
- Skis
- Ski sticks/poles
- A ski hat
- An anorak / a jacket
- A scarf
- A ski rental shop
- Snowboarding
- A snowboard
- Ice skating
- A ski slope
- A skier
- Figure skating
- A ski suit
- Ice skates
- Snow
- Ear muffs
- A skiing instructor
- A cable-car

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This month: the ski rental shop. Listen and repeat these expressions.

**What you say**
- I'd like to **rent** some skis and ski boots, please.
- Can I have one size bigger, please?
- Have you got any longer skis?
- I'd rather have some shorter skis, please.
- Have you got a snowboard?
- Do you rent out ski clothing?
- The boots are a bit **tight**.
- I take a size 42.
- Where can I get a ski pass?
- How long do you want to rent them for?
- What's your shoe size?
- Does that feel OK?
- How does that feel?
- Stand up, please.
- Sit down, please.
- Take off your shoes, please.
- **Try these on.**
- Are you a good skier?
- These sticks should be all right for you.
- I'll just need to adjust them for you.
- **How does that feel?**
- Are you an experienced skier?
- I've been a few times before.
- These skis should be OK for you. (**He takes some skis from the ski-rack.**) They're short, so they're easier to control.
- Can you stand up **a sec**, please? (**Sally stands next to the skis.**) Yes, that's fine. Right. I need your ski-boots, so I can **fit** them to the skis.
- Here you are. (**She gives him the boots.**) **Perfect.** (**He fits the boots to the skis.)** You'll have to **fill out** this form and I need to **swipe** your credit card?
- Yes, here you are…

**What you hear**
- Hi, I'd like to rent some skis and ski boots, please.
- What's your shoe size?
- Forty.
- OK. Try these. (**Sally tries the boots on.**)
- Erm, they're a bit tight.
- (**He gives her a bigger size.**) How about these?
- Oh, yes, that's much better. I can get my thick socks on now.
- Are you an experienced skier?
- I've been a few times before.
- These skis should be OK for you. (**He takes some skis from the ski-rack.**) They're short, so they're easier to control.
- Can you stand up **a sec**, please? (**Sally stands next to the skis.**) Yes, that's fine. Right. I need your ski-boots, so I can **fit** them to the skis.
- Here you are. (**She gives him the boots.**) **Perfect.** (**He fits the boots to the skis.)** You'll have to **fill out** this form and I need to **swipe** your credit card?
- Yes, here you are…

**Glossary**
- to rent
- vb
- to pay money in order to use something for a limited period of time
- tight
- adj
- if clothing is “tight”, it is very close to your body
- to try on
- phr vb
- to put on clothing to see if it is the right size
- to fit
- vb
- if clothes “fit” you, they are the right size for you
- to fill out
- phr vb
- to complete
- to swipe
- vb
- if you “swipe” a credit card, you put it in a machine that reads its details
See if you can find the following winter-sports words in the wordsearch.

Answers on page 44

Skiing

- Boots
- Chairlift
- Resort
- Goggles
- Gloves
- Mountain
- Snow
- Ice
- Fog
- Foggy
- Skis
- Sticks
- Poles
- Hat
- Scarf
- Slope
- Run
- Pass
- Snowboard
- Snowboarding
- Skiing
- Skating
- Skates
- Skater
- Jacket
- Balaclava
- Skier
- Mogul
- Slalom
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Exercise
See if you can do this matching exercise. Look at the list of things (1 to 13), and the photos (A–M). Write a letter next to the name of each thing in the list below. Answers on page 44.

1. A pickle  
2. A thumb  
3. A tongue  
4. A crocodile  
5. A cup of coffee  
6. An ostrich  
7. A neck  
8. Tuna fish  
9. A dream  
10. A tribe  
11. Beer  
12. A flea  
13. A football pitch  

A  B  C  D  E  F  G  H  I  J  K  L  M
This is another part in our mini-series on strange facts. Who ever thought the world was so unusual?

John Lennon’s first girlfriend was called Thelma Pickles.

Bob Dylan’s real name is Robert Zimmerman.

Some tribes protect their babies from disease by washing them in beer. Anyone for a beer bath?

The average human dream lasts between 2 and 3 seconds.

Your thumb is the same length as your nose.

A crocodile can’t stick its tongue out.

Kangaroos are excellent swimmers.

Greece’s national anthem has 158 verses.

A flea can jump 350 times its body length. That is more or less the same as a human jumping the length of a football pitch.

Even after shouting for 8 years, 7 months and 6 days, you will have only produced enough sound energy to heat one cup of coffee.

A mile on the ocean and a mile on land are not the same distance. A nautical mile is 6,080 feet (1,853 metres); and a land mile (also known as a statute mile) is 5,280 feet (1,609 metres).

The largest bird in the world is a species of ostrich known as Struthio camelus. And the North African subspecies is the tallest of all the ostriches. The average height of these birds is around 2 metres, but some males can be 2.74 metres tall. The head and neck alone can be 1.4 metres long.

During their lives, tuna fish swim at a steady rate of 14 kilometres per hour for an indefinite period of time – and they never stop moving. That means that a fifteen-year-old tuna has probably travelled about two million kilometres in its lifetime.

Glossary:
- a pickle: a piece of vegetable that is preserved in vinegar
- a tribe: a group of people of the same race, religion, language, customs – often from a developing country
- a thumb: the thickest finger on your hand
- to stick out: if something is “sticking out”, it is further forward than other things
- to heat: to make warm
- a neck: the part of your body that joins your head to your body
Dear Steam Engine,

Of course, I would be delighted to help you. OK, here goes. “May she rest in peace”, means “I hope she rests in peace” or “Please let her rest in peace”. This is a formal expression, but one that is used in specific circumstances. Other typical expressions with this construction are the following:

a) May you both be very happy! = I hope that you are both happy.
b) May God be with you!
c) May the force be with you! (from the film Star Wars).
d) May the devil never use your bones for drumsticks!

The Irish have a lot of great toasts that use this same structure. You can read some of them in the green box. May you understand them all!

Well, Steam Engine, I hope that has helped you.

Yours, Dr Fingers.

Please send your questions or stories to: clinic@hotenglishmagazine.com

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Expressions with “may” and Irish toasts.

Irish Toasts

May the wind be always at your back!
May you have warm words on a cold evening!
May you live to be a hundred years, with one extra year to repent!
May you be in heaven half an hour before the devil knows you’re dead!
May you have troubles as few and as far apart as my grandmothers teeth!
May the best day of your past be the worst day of your future!
May there always be work for your hands to do!
May your purse always hold a coin or two!
May God bring good health to the enemies of your enemies!
May you never forget what is worth remembering, or remember what is best forgotten!
May your neighbours respect you, troubles neglect you, the angels protect you, and heaven accept you!
May your troubles be less and your blessings be more, and nothing but happiness come through your door!
May those who love us, love us! And for those who don’t love us, may God turn their hearts! And if he cannot turn their hearts, may he turn their ankles, so we may know them by their limping.

Glossary

- tombstone: a stone object that marks where a dead person is buried. It often has the person’s name, dates of birth/death, and a small message.
- drumsticks: long thin pieces of wood that are used to play the drums; a chicken leg.
- a toast: if you drink a “toast” to someone, you say good things about them just before drinking. “Let’s drink a toast to Charles. To Charles!” (and now you drink some of your drink)
- to repent: to ask someone (a god) to forgive you for something bad you did in the past.
- a coin: a small, round piece of metal that is used for money.
- to neglect: to ignore; not to pay attention to; to leave alone.
- a blessing: something good that happens to you; something that makes your life better.
- an ankle: the part of your body that connects your leg to your foot.
- to limp: to walk with difficulty/pain because your foot or leg is hurt/injured.

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Here’s another part in our series on good, bad and funny criminals.

Clean Nose
Woman charged for unusual crime.
Charleen Newman is the first woman to be charged with a very unusual crime: cleaning her nose on a police officer’s shirt. It all happened after police in West Virginia were called out to deal with a domestic dispute. Officer Elliott was the first to arrive. He found a woman outside the house shouting at a man who was in the kitchen. The man refused to open the door, claiming that he was frightened that the woman was going to hit him. So, the police arrested Ms Newman, 36, after she refused to calm down. However, as they were walking her to the police car, Ms Newman allegedly wiped her nose on the back of the police officer’s shirt. Ms Newman was charged with battery on a police officer. This crime is defined as “intentionally making physical contact of an insulting or provoking nature against an officer”. So now you know.

Speed Camera Anger
Have you ever experienced road rage? There are often stories of vicious arguments on the motorway, of people attacking other people’s vehicles or of motorists attacking one another. There are also stories of violence against speed cameras. They have been beaten, burned and torn down by angry motorists but this is the first time that one has been shot. Apparently, the speed camera was shot three times with a high-powered rifle. Police in Tennessee were on routine patrol in the early hours when they heard gunfire. They searched the area and saw a man in a car behaving “very suspiciously”. When the officers stopped and searched the van, they found a high-calibre hunting rifle on the floor of the vehicle. When the driver, Chad Clark, 47, was questioned about this, he said that he “didn’t want to say what he was doing there because he didn’t want to get into trouble”. Later, the police found a camera that had been hit with three high-calibre rounds. Clark was charged with vandalism.

Glossary

- **to deal with** vb: to resolve or take care of a problem or situation.
- **domestic dispute** n: a conflict or argument between people in their home.
- **to refuse** vb: if you “refuse” to do something, you say you will not do that thing.
- **to wipe** vb: if you “wipe” your nose, you clean it with a cloth or tissue.
- **battery** n: the crime of attacking someone or touching someone in an offensive manner.
- **road rage** exp: extreme anger experienced by someone who is driving.
- **speed camera** n: a special camera used by police to see how fast you are driving.
- **beaten** adj: hit and damaged by a person, usually with a hard object.
- **to tear down** phr vb: to demolish, to violently remove from a place.
- **battery** n: a long gun that is very strong/powerful.
- **on routine patrol** exp: if a police officer is “on routine patrol”, he/she is driving/walking in an area generally (not investigating a crime).
- **the early hours** exp: the first few hours of the morning, when it is still dark outside.
- **gunfire** n: the loud sound that a gun makes.
- **to search** vb: to inspect an area carefully trying to find something.
- **a high-powered rifle** n: the ammunition used in a high-powered rifle (see previous entry).
**Call I - The Hamster**

Operator: Police. Can I help you?
Caller: Yes, hello. I was just calling about my hamster.
Operator: Your what?
Caller: My hamster.
Operator: This is an emergency phone line. How could your hamster possibly be related to a life and death situation?
Caller: No, it's just that I think he's trapped behind the wardrobe.
Operator: And?
Caller: Well, I just wanted to know if anyone could come and help me. He's quite old now and...
Operator: We don't deal with pet emergencies. Try contacting the RSPCA, or perhaps get a friend to help you move the wardrobe.
Caller: Oh, OK. Do you think he'll be all right behind there?
Operator: I don't know. Goodbye.
Caller: Goodbye. And thanks.

**Call II - The Firework Display**

Operator: Police. Can I help you?
Caller: Hello, is that the police?
Operator: Yes, this is the emergency number.
Caller: Oh, right, I'm not sure if I'm through to the right place, but I was wondering what time the local firework display started.
Operator: This is an emergency line. You need to speak to the local council.
Caller: But I wanted to know if it would be safe to take my 14-year-old child.
Operator: We really can't answer questions of that nature. As I said, you'll have to phone the local council.
Caller: OK. Just one last thing, do you happen to know where the firework display will be held?
Operator: Phone the local council. Thank you for your call. Goodbye.
Caller: Oh, OK. I'll phone the local council then.

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**Recipe**

Here's another recipe for you to try at home. This month: Apple Crisp.

**APPLE CRISP**

Bake at about 175ºC for 30 minutes.

**Ingredients**
- 8 red apples (approximately, depending on size).
- 1 cup of flour (237 ml).
- 1 cup of brown sugar (237 ml).
- 1 stick of margarine or butter melted (100 grams of butter).
- 5-10 ml of cinnamon (to taste).
- A pinch of salt.
- 10-15 ml white sugar.
- 22 X 30 cm baking dish (standard size).

**Method**
- Peel and thinly slice apples. Place them evenly into the baking dish.
- Sprinkle with cinnamon, salt, and white sugar.
- Combine the flour, brown sugar, and melted butter in a bowl. Mix well.
- Sprinkle the flour/brown sugar/butter mixture over the apples evenly.
- Bake in the oven for 30 minutes.
- Best served warm with whipped cream or a scoop of vanilla ice cream, but it tastes good at room temperature too. Makes 8 to 12 servings.
- Enjoy!
In this month’s grammar fun section we’ll be looking at some future passives with the “going to” construction.

We form this type of future with the verb “to be” + “going” + an infinitive with “to”. We often use “going to” to refer to future plans or intentions. For example:

A: We’re going to play tennis tomorrow.
B: They’re going to leave early.
C: She’s going to take the book with her.
D: I’m going to help you later.

We can also use “going to” to make predictions based on evidence. For example:

A: Look at that black cloud. It is going to rain.
B: Stop running so fast – you are going to fall.
C: If you carry on annoying the dog, it’s going to bite you.

We form the negative by placing “not” after the verb “to be”; and we form questions by placing the verb “to be” at the start of the question. Notice the contracted forms “isn’t / aren’t”. For example:

A: She isn’t going to eat it.
B: We aren’t going to like it.
C: Are they going to take it?
D: Is he going to buy it?

Passive forms of “going to” are formed with the verb “be going” + “to be” + a past participle. For example:

A: All the food is going to be eaten.
B: The work is going to be finished.
C: The table is going to be made.
D: The room is going to be cleaned.
E: The article is going to be written.
F: The film is going to be made.
G: The drinks are going to be prepared.
H: The e-mail is going to be sent.
I: The shoes are going to be thrown away.
Four amazing discoveries

Several amazing discoveries have been made over the past 100 years. Check out some of the most fascinating and important archaeological finds of the 20th century.

**Pharaoh Findings**

It’s the autumn of 1922, in exotic Egypt, the Valley of the Kings. English archaeologist Howard Carter makes a remarkable discovery. He’s found the tomb of a very famous young Pharaoh of Ancient Egypt’s New kingdom Period (1500 to 1070 BC) King Tutankhamen spent over 3,000 years in his hidden tomb, surrounded by treasures of gold. His death is marked by mystery; many think he was murdered. Rumour has it that there is a terrible curse on his gold. In his diary, Carter describes his amazing findings, “…details of the room within emerged slowly from the mist, strange animals, statues and gold – everywhere the glint of gold…”

His tomb and treasures have come to symbolise the Ancient Egyptian civilization, although it looks like King Tut took the secret of his curse to the grave.

**Frozen Fritz**

Along the border between Austria and Italy, a brutal crime occurred – around 3300 BC. Two German tourists discovered the body of a frozen man in September 1991. At first, scientists thought the corpse was from modern times. But forensic testing proved Ötzi (named after the region, and also known as “Frozen Fritz”), was actually several thousand years old. We now know that he was either a murder victim, or a victim of ritual sacrifice. Buried with hunting tools and travelling provisions, Frozen Fritz is “Europe’s oldest natural mummy,” and helps us understand the lives of Europeans of the Copper Age.

**The Lost City, found!**

Lost to the world after the Spanish conquest of the Inca Empire in the 16th century, the Inca city Machu Picchu was not re-discovered until 1911. American archaeologist Hiram Bingham brought this symbol of the great Inca civilization to light once again. Machu Picchu (“Old Peak” in the Incan language) is 700 metres above the Urumbada river in Peru’s Andes Mountains. No one is really sure what it was for, but some think it may have been a secret ceremonial city, others say it could be an astronomical observatory, and others say it may have been a sacred place to worship the Incan gods.

**Till Death Do Us Part**

Think the Great Wall of China is impressive? In 1974, farmers near Xi’an, China, discovered an entire army of soldiers – underground. The army stands outside an entire subterranean city, which serves as a tomb for Emperor Qin Shi Huangdi. This emperor ruled over the Qin province and then all of China from 247 to 210 BC. The Terracotta (clay) army has about 7,000 soldiers, 130 chariots with 520 horses, and 150 cavalry horses. Some of the figures stand over 1.5 metres tall. Apparently, the architects and builders of the original enormous mausoleum were buried inside the tomb to guard the secrets of the treasures and entrance forever.

Glossary

marked adj if a person or event is “marked” by something, it is famous or remembered for that thing

to bring (something) to light phr vb to make something public; to uncover or make something visible

tomb n a special place where a dead person is buried. Part of the “tomb” is a monument and is often above ground and with a lot of decoration

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Irregular past tense verbs are used all the time in English. Practise pronouncing these common irregular past tense verbs. And do our little exercise to help you learn them.
[This is part I of a two-part series. The verbs in brackets are (in order): the main verb; the past tense; the past participle.]

1. (be, was/were, been) She was at __________ last night.
2. (beat, beat, beaten) We beat them by __________ points.
3. (become, became, become) She became a __________ after graduating.
4. (begin, began, begun) The football match began at __________ in the afternoon.
5. (bite, bit, bitten) The dog bit me on my __________ leg.
6. (break, broke, broken) He broke the living room __________.
7. (bring, brought, brought) We brought some __________ for lunch.
8. (build, built, built) They built a house next to a __________.
9. (burn, burnt, burnt*) The fire burnt all __________.
10. (buy, bought, bought) He bought some food for __________.
11. (catch, caught, caught) I caught a cold and couldn’t go to __________.
12. (choose, chose, chosen) We chose the __________ one because it was cheaper.
13. (come, came, come) They came back home late at __________.
14. (cost, cost, cost) It cost more than __________.
15. (cut, cut, cut) She cut her finger on the piece of __________.
16. (dig, dug, dug) We dug a __________.
17. (do, did, done) I did the washing up after __________.
18. (draw, drew, drawn) They drew a picture of a __________.
19. (dream, dreamt, dreamt*) I dreamt about a famous __________ last night.
20. (drink, drank, drunk) She drank three bottles of __________.
21. (drive, drove, driven) I drove home in the __________.
22. (eat, ate, eaten) We ate in a lovely __________ restaurant.
23. (fall, fell, fallen) They fell down in the __________.
24. (feed, fed, fed) She fed the __________ in the morning.
25. (feel, felt, felt) We felt good after the __________.
26. (fight, fought, fought) They fought for control of the __________.
27. (find, found, found) I found my shoes under the __________.
28. (fly, flew, flown) She flew to Chicago last __________.
29. (forget, forgot, forgotten) They forgot to bring the __________.
30. (get, got, got*) We got a present for her __________.
31. (give, gave, given) We gave her the money for the __________.
32. (go, went, gone) They went to Brighton for the __________.
33. (grow, grew, grown) He grew some plants in the __________.
34. (hang, hung, hung*) He hung up the __________ outside.
35. (have had had) We had a __________ for lunch.
36. (hear, heard, heard) I heard the __________ on the radio.
37. (hide, hid, hidden) She hid the present under the __________.
38. (hit, hit, hit) I hit the ball with the __________.
39. (hold, held, held) I held the __________ with both hands.
40. (hurt, hurt, hurt) The __________ hurt a bit.
41. (keep, kept, kept) We kept the __________ under the bed.
42. (know, knew, known) I knew the answer to the __________.
43. (learn, learnt, learnt*) She learnt how to use the computer __________.
44. (leave, left, left) They left the __________ at 9pm.
45. (lend, lent, lent) I lent her my __________.
When you think of adventurous explorers, who comes to mind? Indiana Jones, of course.

Harrison Ford first played the character back in the 1981 film, *Raiders of the Lost Ark*. That film was set in 1938. *Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom* appeared in cinemas in 1984, and *Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade* in 1989. The final film in the series was *Indiana Jones and the Kingdom of the Crystal Skull*.

This film was set in the 1950s. Indiana is a little older and wiser in this movie, but the film still had all the elements of a classic Indiana Jones adventure, including exciting archaeological discoveries and incredible stunts.

The star of all the Indiana Jones films is Henry “Indiana” Walton Jones, Jr. He is a professor of archaeology and an adventurer, and he's famous for his whip, hat, leather jacket and fear of snakes. The character of Indiana Jones was created by Steven Spielberg and George Lucas. It was originally named after a dog that Lucas owned in the 1970s called Indiana Smith. However, Spielberg disliked the name “Smith” and so Lucas suggested “Jones” as an alternative. The general appearance for the character of Indiana Jones was chosen before any actor was cast for the role. He is a combination of several characters, including treasure hunter Fred C. Dobbs (as played by Humphrey Bogart in *The Treasure of the Sierra Madre*) and adventurer Harry Steele (as played by Charlton Heston in *Secret of the Incas*).
Harrison Ford
American actor.
Born 13th July 1942.
Starred in the Star Wars and Indiana Jones franchises.

Of all the characters he has played, Ford has said several times that Indiana Jones is his favourite. Ford was born in Chicago to an Irish father and Russian-Jewish mother. He was not a very good student, but he attended a drama class at college and discovered that he liked acting. Ford dropped out of college and was signed up by Columbia. His first Hollywood film roles were only very minor. Disillusioned, he turned to carpentry as a profession. He returned to acting a few years later, and soon after became famous for the role as Han Solo in Star Wars.

In 2001, Ford was reported to be the richest actor alive. However, despite being one of the most financially successful actors of his generation, Ford has received only one Oscar nomination. He has been married twice and has five children. He is currently married to actress, Calista Flockhart (from the series Ally McBeal). He is a supporter of environmental causes and sits on the board of directors of Conservation International. In his free time, he enjoys piloting planes and helicopters. One of his latest films is Star Wars: The Force Awakens (2015).

Glossary:
- to set: if a film is "set" in 1938, the story appears to happen in 1938
- wiser: adj; with more experience of life; maturer; more intelligent
- a stunt: an exciting or dangerous action in a film, usually including acrobatics or explosions
- a professor: a teacher in a university
- an adventurer: someone who likes adventure and discovering new things
- a whip: a long, thin piece of leather with a hard handle; typically used for managing animals
- to be cast: if you are "cast", you are chosen to be the actor/actress for a specific role
- a role: a part in a film
- to drop out: phr. vb; to stop doing something; to stop being part of a group or organisation; to leave school/university
- to be signed up: phr. vb; if you are "signed up" by an organisation, you sign a contract with that organisation
- disillusioned: adj; if you are "disillusioned", you are sad because something wasn’t as good as you expected/hoped
- carpentry: working with wood; making or building things out of wood
- environmental: adj; things that are related to nature: the air, the mountains, the water, etc.
Sex and the City was a hugely successful TV series. There were also two films based on the series. So, why was it so successful?

Sex and the City was an extremely popular TV series. It was broadcast from 1998 until 2004. A lot of people found that they could connect with at least one of the characters: confident Samantha, dreamy romantic Charlotte, pragmatic Miranda, and quirky Carrie. On top of that, each of the women had incredible fashion sense; every character was always perfectly dressed and accessorised.

Sex and the City is based on the book of the same name by Candace Bushnell. The story is set in New York City. It is about three unmarried women who are best friends. All of the women have very different personalities. And they confide in each other about their confusing love lives. Carrie Bradshaw, played by Sarah Jessica Parker, is the main character. She is a charming, petite sex columnist, and often the narrator of the story. She writes on things that have an impact on modern women’s sex lives. In love, Carrie tries almost everything but is constantly disappointed. And she always seems to return to a certain Mr Big. In the movie, Carrie is now a successful book writer. And she has her own assistant, played by Jennifer Hudson.

Miranda is a red-haired lawyer. She is determined to find a like-minded, professional man. But her only faithful lover is an insecure nerd. Charlotte is from a prestigious, super-rich family, with old-fashioned moral standards. She is charming but also insecure. She is always looking for a socially-acceptable partner. But, unfortunately, it is almost impossible for any lover to live up to her standards. Finally, Samantha is every feminist’s hero. She is a successful PR agent and an unashamed man-eater. She can flirt with almost any man. There were two successful films: Sex and the City (2008) and Sex and the City 2 (2008). Both films were commercially successful.
Sarah Jessica Parker
American actress and producer.
Born 25th March 1965.
Starred in Ed Wood, The Family Stone, Sex and the City.

Sarah Jessica Parker was born in Ohio in 1965 and received singing and ballet training. As a young girl she was cast in several Broadway productions. And she attended a variety of acting and dance schools, including the School of American Ballet. Since the early 1980s, Parker had been in several films. But it wasn't until she starred in Sex and the City in 1998 that she became a high profile celebrity.

Parker has also become very influential in the fashion world. In 2000, she hosted the MTV movie awards and changed outfit no less than 15 times. She is the face of many leading brands including Garnier. She also has her own clothing line, and perfume called “Lovely”. She is married to the actor Matthew Broderick and has three children. She is currently a UNICEF Goodwill Ambassador for the United States.

**The Family Stone**
One of Sarah Jessica Parker’s best films is the 2005 film The Family Stone.

**Stone Cold**
Uptight Meredith Morton (Sarah Jessica Parker) is dating successful businessman Everett Stone (Dermot Mulroney). Everett brings Meredith home to Massachusetts to spend Christmas with his lively family. Personalities clash, as Meredith is completely out of place with the more laid-back Stones. She is judgmental, awkward, and talks too much. She has nothing in common with Everett's four brothers and sisters: there is pothead brother Ben (Luke Wilson); sister Susannah (Elizabeth Reaser) with one child and another on the way; deaf and gay brother Thad (Tyrone Giordano); and rebellious sister Amy (Rachel McAdams) who already knows and dislikes Meredith. The parents (Sybil – played by Diane Keaton; and Kelly – played by Craig T. Nelson) don’t like Meredith either. In addition, there is added tension as Sybil is keeping a terrible secret (she has breast cancer).

**Family Feud**
Meredith is uncomfortable and unable to relate to the family members. Desperate, she calls her younger and more social sister Julie (Claire Danes) to come rescue her. Everett is attracted to Julie from the start. Troubles come to a head on Christmas Eve, after Meredith offends the entire family. Unable to cope, she runs away, crashing her car. Ben comes to her rescue, and the two end up at a bar where Meredith relaxes and enjoys herself for the first time. The next morning she wakes up in bed with Ben, and is forced to decide between the two brothers. At the same time, romance blooms between Everett and Julie, causing even more chaos at the Stone house.

**New Beginnings**
Christmas morning brings both catastrophe and surprises to the Stone family. The storm hits, and all problems finally come to light. Meredith and Everett have both found true love, when they least expected. The film closes with scenes from the following Christmas celebration at the Stone house. Sybil is missing, but Ben and Meredith alongside Everett and Julie are together and happy.

Sarah Jessica Parker shines in a role quite different from the confident Carrie Bradshaw in Sex and the City. She brings style and warmth to an insecure young woman who discovers herself. From New York City cool to uptight snob, Parker really shows her range of talent in this story about love, acceptance, and family ties.

**GLOSSARY**
- **dreamy** adj unrealistically positive
- **pragmatic** adj practical, realistic, interested in basic causes and results
- **quirky** adj peculiar, eccentric, someone who does strange/unusual things
- **to have “accessories”** (bags, jewellery, sunglasses, etc)
- **to confide in** phr vb to have faith in, someone, you talk to them about important personal things
- **charming** adj enchanting, with a very pleasing or attractive personality
- **petite** adj a short, slim woman
- **disappointed** adj disappointed, if you are disappointed, things are worse than you expected/hoped
- **like-minded** adj if two people are like-minded, they have similar opinions and ideas
- **prestigious** adj socially important, socially respected or distinguished
- **to live up to** phr vb to meet or fulfil the expectations or criteria of others
- **unashamed** adj without shame, if you are unashamed, you do not feel bad about what you have done
- **a man-eater** exp a seductive/attractive woman who often leads men into bad situations
- **a Broadway production** exp a play that is performed on the street Broadway in New York City
- **uptight** adj conventional and conservative; often tense or nervous
- **laid-back** adj the opposite of upright, very relaxed and usually open to change
- **judgmental** adj with strong opinions (usually moral) about other people
- **awkward** adj socially uncomfortable, saying or doing strange things that make others uncomfortable
- **pothead** exp a person who smokes a lot of “pot” (marijuana)
- **to shine** exp to do very well at a specific role or activity
- **a snob** exp a person who believes that they are socially superior to others
- **family ties** (connections and relationships between members of the same family)
Bad sleep!

Pre listening
Match the expressions to the definitions.
1. to sleep over
2. a nightmare
3. to daydream
4. to fall asleep
5. to have a good night’s sleep

a. a bad dream
b. to sleep really well and continuously
c. to start to sleep
d. to stay at someone’s house and to sleep there
e. to think about the nice things you want to happen

Listening I
You are going to listen to an article about sleeping. Do you think they will say people sleep badly or well on a Sunday night? Discuss your ideas with a partner. Then, listen and check your ideas.

Listening II
Listen again and write down:
1. Two factors which affect people’s sleep.
2. Two effects of poor sleep.

Audio script - Your worst night’s sleep – revealed

Do you sleep well on a Sunday night? A new study of 3,500 adults found that nearly 60% of workers have their worst night of sleep on a Sunday while as many as 80% of people sleep soundest on a Friday night. So, why is this? As you would imagine, it’s all to do with our body clock. “Having lie-ins and late nights, and not doing much physical or mental activity on a Sunday change our sleep patterns,” said Dr Neil Stanley, a doctor from the Norfolk and Norwich Hospital. Furthermore, for some people the dread of going to work the next day to give an important presentation or missing work deadlines can also lead to disrupted sleep on Sunday night.

The effects of poor sleep can be terrible. It has been blamed for a lack of concentration at work, increased irritability, and even for falling asleep at the desk. Dr Stanley advised that the best way to combat insomnia was to be awake and active on Sunday in order to keep sleep patterns fairly constant.
Little Jokes

Match each joke beginning (1 to 8) with its ending (A–H). Then, listen to check your answers. Answers on page 44.

1. What kind of beans never grow in a garden? ☐
2. Which temperature is faster – hot or cold? ☐
3. What do monsters make with cars? ☐
4. Why did the pony cough? ☐
5. What did one candle say to the other candle? ☐
6. Why can’t your nose be 12 inches long? ☐
7. Why did the man run around his bed? ☐
8. What starts with a “p”, ends with an “e”, and has a million letters in it?
   A: Because he was a little hoarse. 
   B: The “Post Office”. 
   C: Because then it would be a foot. 
   D: Jelly beans. 
   E: Traffic jam. 
   F: To catch up on his sleep. 
   G: Let’s go out tonight. 
   H: Hot – you can catch a cold.

A: Jelly beans. 
B: Because he was a little hoarse. 
C: The "Post Office". 
D: A small object made of wax with a string in the centre. When it burns, it produces light. 
E: A unit of measuring length; 1 inch is about 2.5 centimetres. 
F: A traffic jam. 
G: To sleep a lot because you have not slept much recently; to "catch up" is also when you are running behind someone and you try to reach them. 
H: A small horse.

Glossary:
- a pony: a small horse
- to cough: to push air rapidly out of your mouth/throat; when you are sick or your throat hurts, you "cough"
- a candle: a small object made of wax with a string in the centre. When it burns, it produces light.
- an inch: a unit of measuring length; 1 "inch" is about 2.5 centimetres.
- hoarse: if you are "hoarse", your voice is very quiet and your throat usually hurts.
- a foot: a unit of measuring length; 3 feet are equal to a metre (more or less). There are 12 "inches" in a foot.
- a traffic jam: when there are lots of cars on the road and they can't go anywhere; "jam" is also the sweet fruit paste that you put on toast (strawberry jam, raspberry jam, etc).
- to catch up on sleep: to sleep a lot because you have not slept much recently; to "catch up" is also when you are running behind someone and you try to reach them.
- to go out: to leave home and go to a bar or restaurant; if a candle "goes out", the fire disappears.
- to catch a cold: if you "catch a cold", you suddenly have a cold and are sick; if someone is running away from you, you can try to "catch" them.

And why are you late for class?

I'm sorry. It's just that there was this man who had lost a 50 euro note.

Oh, that's nice. Were you helping him look for it?

No...

...I was standing on it.

HAPPINESS CAN'T BUY YOU MONEY.

LOST: ONE SCIENCE TEACHER AFTER LAST THURSDAY'S EXPERIMENT.

JUST WHEN I WAS GETTING USED TO YESTERDAY, ALONG CAME TODAY.

OLD ACCOUNTANTS NEVER DIE, THEY JUST松 THEIR BALANCE.

Glossary:
- to get used to: to become accustomed to something; if you are "used to" something it seems normal.
- to lose balance: to fall because you become unsteady; in finance, the "balance" is the amount of money to be paid or an amount that remains after part of the money has been spent.
Bear Soldier

He liked a cigarette. He liked a bottle of beer. And he fought in the army. His name was Voytek and, incredibly, he was a bear. Known as the Soldier Bear, Voytek ended his days at Edinburgh Zoo. He spent much of his life in Scotland after fighting in World War II. And now there's a campaign to build a permanent memorial to him. Voytek was adopted in the Middle East by Polish troops in 1943. But eventually, he became much more than a mascot. The Polish troops trained him to carry heavy mortar rounds. But when they were sent to Europe, the only way to take the bear with them was to "enlist" him. So, the bear was given a name, rank and number and took part in the Italian campaign. He saw action at Monte Cassino before being sent to an army camp in Scotland. "He was just like a dog – nobody was scared of him," said Polish veteran Augustyn Karolewski. Voytek was a major attraction at the zoo until his death in 1963.

Glossary

- **army**: soldiers who form part of the armed forces of a country
- **campaign**: if there is a "campaign" for a certain idea, people are promoting that idea
- **memorial**: an object (often made of stone) that helps people remember an important person or event
- **mascot**: an animal, person or thing that represents a group or organization
- **mortar rounds**: heavy pieces of ammunition, like small bombs
- **enlist**: if you "enlist" in the army, you join the army
- **see action**: to be involved in military fighting/ action
- **Monte Cassino**: a battle in World War II in Italy, south of Rome
- **veteran**: a person who was in the military in the past

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HAPPY ANNIVERSARY
A monthly look at things from the month.

JANUARY

Come and celebrate January with us in our series on anniversaries. This month: January. By Mark Pierro.

January 1st 1999
The euro, the official currency of the European Union, was introduced in most countries, with the UK being one of the big exceptions. Why do they always have to be so different?

January 3rd 1521
An angry Pope Leo X excommunicated Martin Luther from the Roman Catholic Church after Luther refused to retract 41 of his 95 theses. The Protestant church was born.

January 6th 1907
Maria Montessori opened her first school and day-care centre for working-class children in Rome. Since then, her methods have been used to teach children all over the world, including the author of this magazine.

January 7th 1558
The Duke of Guise (a Frenchman) captured Calais, England’s last continental possession. It was a sad day for England, but a very happy one for France.

January 9th 1768
Philip Astley staged the first modern circus in London. Although the British Parliament had been doing an excellent job of entertaining English people for hundreds of years previously (and since).

January 11th 1964
US Surgeon General Luther Leonidas Terry issued the warning that smoking “may” be dangerous for one’s health, and was largely responsible for the smoking ban a few decades later.

January 15th 1943
Construction of the world’s largest office building, the Chrysler Building, was completed. Construction was resumed in 2001 after some nasty terrorists tried to destroy it.

January 16th 1547
Ivan the Terrible was crowned Tsar of Russia. Was he really so terrible?

January 17th 1893
In a spectacular coup in Hawaii, the Citizens’ Committee of Public Safety (led by a certain Lorrin A. Thurston) overthrew the government of Queen Liliuokalani of the Kingdom of Hawaii. But, can a public safety committee really overthrow a government?

January 19th 1883
Apple Computer introduced the Apple Lisa, their first commercial personal computer. It had 1 MB of RAM, and cost about $9,000. Would anyone like to admit to buying one of those?

January 22nd 1879
Zulu forces of King Cetshwayo armed with shields managed to annihilate a British force of more than 1,000 troops armed with guns and cannons at the Battle of Isandlwana.

January 28th 1521
The Diet of Worms was convened to discuss Martin Luther and the Protestant Reformation in the Holy Roman Empire. A “Diet of Worms”? I’d rather eat my hat.

January 29th 1886
Karl Benz applied for a patent for the first successful gasoline-driven automobile. Now let’s see if the Germans can invent a more environmentally-friendly car soon.

January 30th 1649
King Charles I was beheaded in front of the Banqueting House in London during the English Civil War. Can a king really be found guilty of treason? And, beheading a king at a banqueting house is not very good table manners, surely.

January 31st 1961
A chimpanzee called Ham travelled into outer space aboard Mercury-Redstone 2. Many more human Americans have followed him since.

Glossary
- to excommunicate: to reject someone from a church
- to stage: to register a new invention as yours
- to retract: to define what you have said/done, you say that you did not mean it
- a day-care centre: a place where parents can leave their children to be looked after during the day
- overthrew: the government
- a prohibition on smoking: horrible, not nice
- to overthrew: if a government is “overthrown”, it loses power, often because of violence
- a spear: a weapon that consists of a long piece of wood with a piece of sharp metal at the end
- a shield: a round piece of metal that is used to protect your body while fighting
- to behead: to cut someone’s head off
- high treason: the crime of betraying your country, often by helping your country’s enemies

Events for January 2015
- January 1st – New Year’s Day
- January 7th – Martin Luther King Day in the United States
- January 9th – Old New Year (Orthodox)
- January 19th – Christmas (Orthodox)
- January 22nd – Martin Luther King Day in the United States
- January 26th – Australia Day in Australia
- January 30th – Australia Day in Australia
- January 31st – Australia Day in Australia

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Recently, a spate of action heroes have made a comeback to the silver screen, including Indiana Jones and John McClane (played by Bruce Willis) of Diehard. Two of the most famous, Rocky Balboa and John Rambo, both played by Sylvester Stallone, have been part of the renaissance of action movie returns. But who’s the hardest?

John Rambo
Rambo first appeared in the cinema in the film First Blood. John Rambo was a veteran of the Vietnam War who had become a vagrant, travelling from place to place. He got on the wrong side of a town sheriff (played by actor Brian Dennehy) who put him in jail. Rambo escaped and fled up a mountain, pursued by the police. He eventually had to be enticed to come down by his commander from Vietnam and went to jail. In Rambo II, he returns to Vietnam where he frees many American POWs and kills a lot of communists. The same happens in Rambo III but this time he’s in Afghanistan helping the Mujahideen who, ironically, are now the sworn enemies of America (otherwise known as the Taliban). In his latest film, John Rambo, Rambo kills over 300 people in Burma trying to save hostages.

Rocky Balboa
Rocky was the typical all-American hero. This man, a rags-to-riches boxer, usually gets beaten senseless by a psychopathic opponent, such as Mr. T in Rocky III. But Rocky would always come back to beat his opponents in the final round with guidance from his best friend and trainer, Mickey. His original nemesis, Apollo Creed, became his friend and was killed by an evil communist in Rocky IV. Rocky had to save democracy and teach the evil commie a lesson; and by Rocky V he was training other boxers. In the latest instalment Rocky Balboa, the boxer, now 60, beats up a younger opponent to prove himself as the greatest movie boxer ever.

Conclusion
This fight is almost too close to call. Rambo is an insane especial forces soldier, trained to kill without remorse. But Rocky has great fighting spirit, and he has the ability to come back against the odds. And so, our verdict is Rambo 8 / 10, Rocky 9 / 10.

Glossary
- a spate of  (esp) a lot of
- an action hero  (n) a film character who does dangerous things
- to make a comeback  (esp) to return after a period away from something
- the silver screen  (n) the cinema
- renaissance  (n) a return of interest in something within a culture
- the hardest  (esp) the most difficult
- a vagrant  (n) a person who doesn’t live anywhere and travels from place to place
- to get on the wrong side of someone  (esp) to make someone angry
- a sheriff  (n) the leader/chief of police in a town (often an American town)
- to pursue  (vb) to chase; to follow someone and try to catch them
- to entice  (vb) to convince/persuade someone to do something by giving them hope of a reward
- a sworn enemy  (n) your worst enemy
- all-American  (exp) representative of the typical aspects of American culture (an “all-American” family, etc)
- from rags to riches  (exp) from being poor to being rich
- to beat senseless  (exp) to hit someone until they are unconscious
- guidance  (n) advice or instructions
- a nemesis  (n) an enemy that cannot be beaten or defeated
- a commie  (vb) a Communist (often negative/derogatory)
- an instalment  (n) an episode; one part of a long series of something
- to beat up  (vb) to attack and hit many times
- too close to call  (exp) very equal
- remorse  (vb) if you have “remorse” you feel sorry about something you have done against the odds  (exp) if something is “against the odds”, it is probable that it will not happen/”succeed
When it comes
By Garrett Wall
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Let's get out of here before we start,
Telling each other we won't break our respective hearts,
I swear to you that we won't stand a chance,
If we succumb to what we pray will be some blind romance,
All I want is to be clear, now is that too much to ask?
If all I am is not enough, then there's no more to be said.

When it comes to love who cares?
It's never up to and however unfair,
It's directed,
But you can't always live knowing where
unexpected,
Love comes along it might come
But when it comes to love who cares?
It won't wait for you and you must pay
must respect it,
you sure as hell
Like a big freight train
unexpected,
When love comes along it might come
Like a long lost friend you can't make
feel rejected,
It might come too late and it's so unfair,
Loves comes along it might come unexpected,
Should it be so hard you see that's the problem we have to solve.

Let's spend the night and see what morning brings,
Just don't make promises we're better off
without those things,
I've seen it all and I'd say I'd been and gone,
But there's no substitute for learning
No to have wasted them on what would have been me and you,
We might be thankful in a year or two,
Now to the fare,
Not to have the sensation that you are
dangerous
without those things,
we're better off
Just don't make promises
without those things,
we're better off
If all I am is not enough, then there's no more to be said.

When love comes along it might come unexpected,
Like a big freight train you sure as hell
must respect it,
It won't wait for you and you must pay
the fare,
But when it comes to love who cares?

Love comes along it might come unexpected,
But you can't always live knowing where
it's directed,
It's never up to and however unfair,
When it comes to love who cares?

Let's get out of here before we start,
Telling each other we won't break our respective hearts,
I swear to you that we won't stand a chance,
If we succumb to what we pray will be some blind romance,
All I want is to be clear, now is that too much to ask?
If all I am is not enough, then there's no more to be said.

Glossary
respective adj relating to individuals who are part of a pair/group
swear vb to make a strong promise, to say that you are certain of something
won't stand a chance exp if you “won't stand a chance”, there is no possibility that you will succeed
succumb vb to submit or consent to something that is more powerful than you
pray vb to hope; (religious) to ask a god for something
blind romance exp strong feelings of love that are illogical or irrational
feel rejected exp to feel happy about something you receive or about something good that happens to you
waste vb to spend time, money, etc doing useless things that don't produce results

dare vb if you “dare” to do something, you do it even though it is difficult or dangerous
feel rejected exp to have the sensation that you are not wanted, loved, or cared for
be better off without exp if you are “better off without something”, your life is better if you do not have that thing
freight train exp a train that carries large quantities of commercial products or cargo
as hell exp an expression used to emphasis an adjective (i.e. fast as hell, cold as hell, etc)

Have you ever been ordered off a train or a bus? Just recently, Dani Graves, 25, and his fiancée, Tasha Maltby, 19, were told to get off a bus in Yorkshire, England. The black-clad couple said they had been told to leave one bus and prevented from boarding another. “We were just minding our own business, when this bus driver suddenly says that we have to get off. It was totally out of order,” Graves explained. But a spokesperson for the bus company said they were invited to leave the bus for health and safety reasons as the girl had a dog leash around her neck. Apparently, the Goth couple often walk around with Dani guiding Tasha with the leash. “We've been doing it for years. She [Tasha] doesn't mind,” Graves explained. But a spokesperson from the bus company said, “For us, safety comes first. Other passengers could be put at risk if the bus braked sharply. Our primary concern is passenger safety and while the couple are very welcome to travel on our buses, we are asking Miss Maltby to remove her dog leash before boarding the bus.” The company said it was writing to Mr Graves “to apologise for any distress caused by the way this matter was handled.”

Glossary
fiancée exp a person who is going to marry
black-clad exp wearing lots of black clothes
out of order exp unexpected and without reason
spokesperson exp a person who talks in public to represent a group
dog leash exp a rope connected to a dog's collar so it cannot run away
brake sharply exp to stop a vehicle quickly and suddenly
board vb to enter or get on a bus, train, airplane or boat
distress exp a feeling or sensation of anxiety and/or sadness

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Learn some useful words and expressions to talk about bands.

**Recording studio** – a place with lots of musical instruments and electronic equipment where you record music to make a CD.

**Rehearsal studio** – a place where you go to practise music before you record it on a CD.

**Fan** – if you are a “fan” of something, you like that thing very much.

**Supporting act** – the person or group that performs/sings before the primary/main group.

**Manager** – a person who organises concerts, and controls the finances, etc of a group or singer.

**Album** – a group of songs (usually about 12) recorded and published together on a CD.

**Music download** – a song that is taken from the internet and put onto your computer.

**Pirated copy** – an illegal copy of something; a copy that you do not pay for or have permission to make.

**Tour** – a series of similar concerts in lots of different cities.

**Record label/company** – a company that manages music groups and does the recording, marketing, advertising, etc.

**Recording contract** – a contract/agreement between a music artist and a record label to record an album.

**Album cover/sleeve** – a piece of paper that covers a CD and has information about the artist, songs, label, etc.

**Music critic** – a person who writes reviews of concerts, songs, etc.

**Music producer** – a person who supervises and controls the recording of a CD.

**Songwriter** – a person who writes and creates songs (often another person sings their songs).

**Singer-songwriter** – a person who writes and sings/plays songs.

**Group / band** – a group of people who play/sing music together.

**Solo artist** – a person who sings/perform alone (without a group of other singers).

**Bodyguard** – a person who is paid to protect another (usually famous or important) person.

**Talent scout** – a person who searches for new musical artists that are good; usually works for a record label.

**Charts** – an official list that says how popular a song is at a certain time (Hot 100, Top 40, etc).

**Number-one hit** – a song that is number one on any of the official charts.

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**VOCABULARY THE BAND PART II**

In this conversation, Stella, the lead singer of the band Broken Wings, is having a meeting with the band’s manager, Rob Rock. They are discussing plans for the following year.

**Stella:** It’s freezing in here. Turn the heating up. This fur coat is useless.

**Rob:** But it’s 20 degrees in here.

**Stella:** Just do it.

**Rob:** OK. (He turns up the heat.) Good news: the dates for the tour have been confirmed. Four concerts over four nights.

**Stella:** Four? I thought we had twelve dates.

**Rob:** We’ve had to cancel a few. Ticket sales were slow.

**Stella:** Slow? Why?

**Rob:** There wasn’t enough publicity.

**Stella:** I told you. I told you.

**Rob:** The new album isn’t selling very well either. It’s dropped six places to number 47. I think it’s already peaked.

**Stella:** Peaked? Peaked? Are they playing the song on the radio?

**Rob:** Not much. No. We should offer it as a free download.

**Stella:** A download? Are you mad?

**Rob:** That’s how they do things these days.

**Stella:** No way! These free downloads eat into my sales.

**Rob:** OK. Next point. The question of security for the tour. We can’t afford to have six bodyguards.

**Stella:** I need them. I am a target. There are people out there who want to assassinate me.

**Rob:** You’re being paranoid.

**Stella:** Who’s the supporting act for the tour?

**Rob:** The band “Ten’s Up”.

**Stella:** I want a bad band. A bad band. I don’t want them showing me up or anything.

**Rob:** We’ll make sure the sound quality isn’t as good as yours.

**Stella:** (She sees a bowl of M&Ms on the desk.) What’s this?

**Rob:** Your bowl of M&Ms.

**Stella:** There are RED M&Ms in the bowl. Red! Red! You know I hate the red ones.

**Rob:** I’m sorry.

**Stella:** This is TYPICAL! TYPICAL of your attitude towards me. NO… RED… M&Ms. How many times do I have to tell you?

**Rob:** I’m sorry. We’ll get rid of them.

**Stella:** No more red ones! I hate them! I hate them! (She throws the bowl of M&Ms across the room.)

---

**GLOSSARY**

- to drop vb: to decrease; to go down; if a song “drops” on the charts (the list of the most popular songs), it is less popular.
- to peak vb: to reach the highest point possible.
- no way! exp: a surprised or emphatic expression for saying “no” or “that’s impossible”.
- to eat into sales exp: if something “eats into your sales”, it reduces your sales.
- to target vb: to murder/kill a very important person, often for political reasons.
- to be paranoid exp: to have unrealistic fear; to be scared/afraid of unrealistic things.
- to show up exp: if you “show someone up”, you do something better than them.
Here are some more useful and interesting expressions for you to learn. This month we are looking at some expressions to describe the act of stopping.

**Change hands**
When a business/company/shop, etc “changes hands”, there is a new owner. “This restaurant has changed hands three times over the past six months.”

**Call it a day**
To stop doing something because it is obviously not going to be successful. “I’ve had enough of all this stress. Let’s call it a day and go home.”

**Have a change of heart**
To decide to do something differently; to change your mind. “She originally said that she wanted to join our band, but since then she has had a change of heart.”

**Kick the habit**
To stop doing something; to give up something (often a bad habit). “I hate smoking and I’ve been trying to kick the habit for ages.”

**Here today, gone tomorrow**
If something is “here today, gone tomorrow”, it only exists for a very short period of time. “She had quite a few boyfriends, but they were always here today, gone tomorrow.”

**Give up the ghost**
To stop doing something because you know that it won’t be successful. “She’s never going to marry you. Why don’t you just give up the ghost and move on with your life?”

**It’s curtains for someone/something**
Someone/something is finished; Someone/something is going to die. “They found out that Jim was a police informer, so it’s curtains for him.”

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In the mid-nineteenth century, the British Empire stretched far across the world. There were colonies on all the continents and the resources of each colony flowed back to London. India, one of the largest of the Empire’s colonies was rich in products such as tea and opium. But in 1857 Indians attacked the British, and for a while, it seemed as if Britain was going to lose her colony.

At the time, Britain ruled India through the Honourable East India Company. There was no major competition as the French had been defeated many years before. The company was an independent corporation with its own army, which was even bigger than the regular British Army. Although most of the army’s troops were native Indians, the officers were all British.

For many years, things were working well; but during the mid-19th century, there were rumblings of discontent. The British had been in India for about 200 years and their Asian possessions stretched from the Khyber Pass (on the Afghan border) to Burma. Indians were suspicious of Christian missionaries who showed little respect for the ancient culture and traditions of the subcontinent, and laws concerning inheritance caused anger among the natives. On top of this, people started to talk about a prophecy. It said that 100 years after the Battle of Plassey (1757), the rule of the company would come to an end. But how?

The cause of the rebellion was a rifle. The British soldiers were using the Enfield rifle. In the 19th century, the rifle was modernised so that it could be easily loaded. To help the process the cartridge was greased with animal fat. Muslim and Hindu sepoys were outraged when they heard that this was a mixture of cow and pig fat as they had to touch the grease. The cow was sacred to the Hindus, and the pig was considered unclean by Muslims. The British realised their mistake, and told the soldiers to use the grease of their choice but the incident had gone too far already. Nobody trusted the Brits by now.

In Meerut, 85 soldiers were court-martialled and sentenced to 10 years hard labour for refusing to handle the offending cartridges. To make matters worse, the British publicly humiliated these soldiers, stripping them of their uniforms and chaining them as they took the men to prison. A riot ensued and local Indians went on the rampage, killing any Europeans they could find. The Indians then fled to Delhi.

Delhi didn’t have many troops and any British that the rebels found were killed. The local Indian leader, the Moghul Bahadur Shah, was unwilling to help but took leadership when no British help arrived. The British marched on Delhi, murdering anyone disloyal on the way and met the rebels outside the city. The British won but they didn’t destroy the resistance, who retreated back to the heavily protected city.

Soon after, the British organised a column of Sikhs to march against Delhi. They were reinforced by regiments from the regular British Army who had arrived from the Crimean War, and the Gurkhas had also joined the force. The British eventually took Delhi and arrested the Moghul. Later, an officer, William Hodson, murdered the Moghul’s three sons. Hodson,
The Indian Mutiny

by the way, was the son of a clergyman. The Moghul was spared, but was sent into exile in Rangoon, where he died in 1862.

The next major confrontation was at Cawnpore. The general in this town naively thought his troops were loyal to him but they joined forces with an Indian nobleman, Naha Sahib who led them in a siege of the town fortress. After many days, and with the British inside the fortress starving and thirsty, a deal was struck: the people inside the fortress could leave. The pathetic column of British men, women and children left the fortress, but when they got to the river, things went horribly wrong. For some reason, the British opened fire on the Indian boatmen. In return, the rebels also opened fire, then took the women and children hostage. Later, they were killed in cold blood. This caused an outrage in Britain, and the British responded violently. Naha Sahib escaped, never to be seen again.

Lucknow was the last major hope of victory for the rebels. The British had barricaded themselves into a compound within the city. The siege, which lasted about five months, was defeated when Highlanders arrived to help the British residents.

In the months that followed, the British took back what they had lost and went on the rampage across northern India. They killed and looted entire villages and many British families became rich because of this. This time of attacks became known as “The Devil’s Wind”. Anything the rebels did was repeated many more times by the British.

As a result of all this, the British government decided to form a government department to rule India. It was too big a colony for a private company, so the India Office was created. Eventually, India won its freedom in 1947 because of the successful independence movement led by the great Mahatma Gandhi. Ironically, the prophecy about the end of the East India Company’s rule came true, even though it was a hundred years later.

SACRED COWS

Hindu groups against the government over a cow.

As you know, the cow is sacred for Hindus. It cannot be killed, it cannot be hurt and it certainly cannot be eaten. Just recently, British Hindu groups were concerned over the killing of a cow named Gangotri by the RSPCA (the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals). The cow was being kept at the Bhaktivedanta Manor Temple in Hertfordshire, England. On 13th December 2007, RSPCA inspectors and a government vet arrived at the temple and gave the cow a lethal injection. The cow had damaged her back legs and could not stand. Hindus were furious. The RSPCA claimed that the cow was killed to prevent further suffering. However, Temple officials claim that the cow was being treated by vets, and was being cared for specially. The temple was donated in 1973 by ex-Beatle George Harrison. Staff at the temple run the Cow Protection Project where cows and bulls are allowed to die naturally.
That was the best seafood dinner we ever had," said a young couple after they found a rare purple pearl in their food. Simon and Leslie Brock were eating clams when they made the discovery. Halfway through the meal at the restaurant Pete's Last Resort, Mr Brock bit on something hard. "I pulled it out of my mouth and discovered a beautiful purple pearl. I couldn't believe my luck," Mr Brock said. Experts say the pearl could be worth thousands of dollars. "I've never seen anything like it," said gemmologist Antoinette Matlins. "I think they have found something precious and lovely and valuable," she added. Purple pearls are most commonly found in large New England "quahogs" (clams known for the violet colouring on the inside of their shells). "The dinner cost us 20 dollars, but it was worth a lot more than that," Mr Brock said. "We'll definitely be coming back to this restaurant." 

Some parents were shocked, but others applauded the measure. "In a way, you would think a nun would shy away from something like that, but she's very open with the children, very clear in her messages," said Margaret Loache, one of the parents. Mrs Loache's son was there when Sister Montfort read the list of banned words. "When I asked my son to give me a sample of the words, he said, 'Oh, no, I can't say those words,' I thought it was great," she added. 

We were just sitting in assembly, when Sister Montfort started saying all these swear words," said Kylie Nichols, 9, who was describing an incident that occurred at a Catholic school. The children were shocked when the head nun read out a list of banned swear words. Sister Montfort told the students that she had a zero-tolerance policy for cursing. And just in case anyone was not sure what she was talking about, she read a list of the words and phrases that she was banning. 

"I couldn't believe my luck," Mr Brock said. Experts say the pearl could be worth thousands of dollars. "The dinner cost us 20 dollars, but it was worth a lot more than that," Mr Brock said. "We'll definitely be coming back to this restaurant." 

A couple discover more than they expected in their dinner. 

Dream Meal 

Swearing Nun 

Children in shock after nun swears at them. 

No F#$%&*$$ Swearing Please!
**Deadlines**
This month, Tori and Ann are talking about deadlines.

**Tori:** Oh Ann, I’ve done it again. I’ve left everything until the last minute.

**Ann:** What have you left?

**Tori:** I’ve got this psychology university assignment to hand in next Wednesday and I’ve had six weeks to complete it in. And I’ve left it to the very last weekend before I’m due to hand it in. And why have you left it?

**Ann:** Because I’m an idiot! I’m just… I always put things off until the last minute. I just can’t seem to organise my time well enough or organise myself to… to get things done when I should get them done. I just keep saying, “I’ll do it tomorrow. I’ll start it next weekend. I’ll start it the following weekend.” And I just put it off and off until it’s too late. I’ve got, what, five days to do it in, now, and I’ve had six weeks.

**Ann:** So, you find it difficult to kind of self-impose a deadline. It’s easier probably if somebody else imposes a deadline.

**Tori:** Completely. Well, in this case the university has… has given me a deadline, but because I’ve had such a long time to do it in I haven’t been able to sit myself down at a desk when I get in from work and make myself do it. I just think, “Oh, I’ll have a cup of tea then I’ll watch a film. Oh, I’ll see my friends tomorrow.” And I’ve just put off the work, and put it off until it’s just too late.

**Ann:** It’s funny isn’t it, because I do exactly the same thing. And I remember when I was at the university they’d say, for example, “Hand in your essay on the 21st of June at 5:00.” And at two minutes to five, I’d be running through the door. [Panting] Kind of like panting, handing in my essay. You know having stayed up all night, having drunk 25 cups of black coffee. You know…

**Tori:** That’s what I used to do, completely.

**Ann:** It’s ridiculous isn’t it?

**Tori:** Take caffeine pills. I used to take caffeine pills.

---

**Scary Movies**
This month, Jenna and Melissa are talking about a frightening film.

**Jenna:** Could you make mine a double? I didn’t sleep at all last night.

**Melissa:** Why? What on earth happened?

**Jenna:** Well, I saw this really scary movie. Have you seen What Lies Beneath?

**Melissa:** Yeah, but I didn’t really think it was that scary.

**Jenna:** Are you serious?

**Melissa:** Well, ok to be honest there were two girls, my friends, sitting next me and they were screaming at the movie screen the entire time. “Don’t go upstairs! Can’t you hear the music? Run away!” So I was laughing. I… it was hilarious.

**Jenna:** I don’t know why people shout at scary movies, it’s not interactive.

**Melissa:** Well, you know they just got all wrapped up and everything and they just… they just start screaming.

**Jenna:** I know, but what am I going to do? I… I kept the lights on last night and I’ll probably keep them on tonight. I… what… what do I do?

**Melissa:** No, I have the same problem when I watch a scary movie. My imagination runs wild, and I keep the lights on; I lock every door. Mmm… I don’t know, maybe something else you should watch something else tonight.

**Jenna:** Yeah maybe Full House is on or something for children.

**Melissa:** That should definitely put you to sleep.

**Jenna:** I hope so.
Here are some more crazy laws from the US. (US English spelling)

You cannot eat a doughnut and walk backwards on a city street. (Ohio)

Your duck may not be paraded down Ohio Avenue. (Ohio)

It is against the law to roller skate without notifying the police. (Ohio)

It’s illegal for a woman to strip off her clothing while standing in front of a man’s picture. (Ohio)

No person may own more than two adult cats. (Oklahoma)

It is unlawful to put any hypnotized person in a display window. (Oklahoma)

No one may walk backwards downtown while eating a hamburger. (Oklahoma)

The mayor may not go on strike. (Oklahoma)

Dogs must have a permit signed by the mayor in order to congregate in groups of three or more on private property. (Oklahoma)

Oklahoma will not tolerate anyone taking a bite out of another’s hamburger. (Oklahoma)

Fish may not be contained in fishbowls while on a public bus. (Oklahoma)

To parade vb if you “parade” a duck, you walk with it in public.

To strip off phr vb to take off your clothing.

To quiet vb to cause a person, animal or thing to stop making sound.

To run out of phr vb if you “run out of something”, you don’t have any more of that thing.

A taxi cab n a car driven by a taxi driver; you pay him/her to take you where you want to go.

To congregate vb if a group of people “congregate”, they join together in a group in the same place.

To take a bite out of exp to eat a part of something using your teeth.

To whale vb to try to catch a whale (a really big mammal) in the sea.

Hind legs n the legs on the back part of an animal.

Hypnotized adj if you are “hypnotized”, someone else controls your thoughts and actions.

Display window n a window in a shop where you can see the things that are for sale.

To go on strike exp to refuse to work until you receive something you want, usually more money.

GLOSSARY

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According to new research stress is a killer. The report shows that a stressful job has a direct biological impact on the body, raising the risk of heart disease. The study focused on more than 10,000 British civil servants. Those under 50 who said their work was stressful were nearly 70% more likely to develop heart disease than the stress-free ones.

A researcher from University College London, said, “During 12 years of follow-up, we found that work stress was associated with CHD (coronary heart disease) and this association was stronger both among men and women aged under 50.” The team are now confident they understand the biological mechanisms that link stress and disease, a connection widely held to exist but which has been difficult to prove. Stress appeared to upset both the neuroendocrine system and the part of the nervous system which controls the heart.

Audio script -
Direct link found between work stress and heart disease

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Pre listening
Put the causes of stress in order of most common to least common. Which factors affect people the most? Why?

1 Divorce
2 Bereavement
3 Health
4 Work
5 Moving house
6 Family/friend relationships

Listening I
You are going to listen to an article about stress. Listen once. What is the main cause of stress?

Listening II
Choose the correct option (a, b). Then listen again to check your answers.

1. A stressful job has a direct biological impact on the body, raising the risk of…
   a) heart disease.
   b) brain tumours.

2. The study investigated…
   a) British civilians.
   b) British civil servants.

3. The study found that people under 50 who suffered from stress were…
   a) 70% more likely to have health problems.
   b) 60% more likely to have health problems.

4. In the report they interviewed a researcher from…
   a) Loughborough University.
   b) University College London.

5. He found that stress was associated with…
   a) CHP (chronic hip placement).
   b) CHD (coronary heart disease).
Here we've got some examples of how to say things in different situations.

**Situation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Formal</th>
<th>Relaxed</th>
<th>Informal</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A friend asks if she can sleep at your house.</td>
<td>May I rest my weary head at your abode tonight?</td>
<td>Can I sleep at your house tonight?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A friend loves going out and enjoying herself in bars at night.</td>
<td>She adores the pleasures of the night.</td>
<td>She loves going out at night and having fun.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone is touching you. You tell that person to stop.</td>
<td>Please desist from making any physical contact with me.</td>
<td>Please stop touching me.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>You ate a lot of ice cream. You tell a friend.</td>
<td>We consumed large quantities of ice cream.</td>
<td>We ate a lot of ice cream.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>A friend smoked some marijuana.</td>
<td>He partook of a cigarette that contained an illegal substance.</td>
<td>He smoked some marijuana.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Someone you know is a bit wild, and sometimes does things that put himself or others in danger.</td>
<td>He is somewhat mentally unhinged.</td>
<td>He's crazy!</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answers**

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Banning tourists! page 7

How to leave a message page 8

Wordsearch page 14

Trivia Matching page 16

How to say 45 irregular

past tense verbs! Page 24

Little Jokes page 31

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Answers

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How to say 45 irregular
**Make yourself at home**

This expression is often used as a way of welcoming someone to your house and telling them to behave in a relaxed way – as if it were their own home.

"Sit down and make yourself at home, while I make the tea."

**Bring something home to someone**

To make someone understand something much more clearly than they did before – often something unpleasant.

"The report brought home the terrible reality of the situation in the war zone."

**Do your homework**

If you "do your homework", you prepare something carefully and investigate it so you know as much about it as you can.

"If she'd done her homework, she would have known that the director's last film hadn't done well at all, and he didn't want to talk about it."

**At home**

If something is "at home" in a particular place, it's suitable for that place and it looks right there.

"This photo would look more at home in an art gallery rather than stuck in someone's living room."

**At home with/in something**

If you are "at home with something", you feel comfortable with it because it's familiar to you and you know how to deal with it.

"By the end of the week, she was beginning to feel more at home with her new job."

**Drive/Hammer something home**

To say something very clearly and with a lot of force, often repeating it several times so that you're sure that people understand it.

"We really had to drive home the message that drinking and driving in this country is a serious offence."
Director Brian de Palma's film *Redacted* caused a stir when it was released. De Palma, whose movies aren't for the faint hearted, was the target of the American Right and television presenters such as Fox News' Bill O'Reilly. So, what was all the fuss about?

Brian de Palma's best-known film is *Scarface*. The film stars Al Pacino as a deranged gangster. This film is extremely violent and, in general, Brian de Palma's films have the recurring themes of violence and the dark side of humanity. Brian de Palma got into trouble in the 1980s with feminists because of his film *Dressed to Kill*, and he has also been branded a traitor for his Vietnam War film *Casualties of War*. *Redacted* has similar subject matter to *Casualties of War* but the reaction to the movie was much stronger.

For example, the sole purpose of the website, BoycottRedacted.com was to attack the film. As a result, the film didn't do well at the box office. In fact, when it was released in American cinemas in 2007, only 15 places showed it.

The storyline is based on the rape and murder of a 14-year-old Iraqi girl by American soldiers in 2006. The soldiers then murdered her younger sister and parents. In the film, there is a lot of violence, including the beheading of a soldier by militants, and roadside bombs. This film is not for the faint hearted. Everything in the film was based on fact. But what had changed? Americans didn't want to see this film. *Casualties of War* had the same theme: a young Vietnamese girl is raped and murdered by American soldiers, but that film was quite successful. So, what was the difference? Some think that the problem was the timing of the film given that the war in Iraq was still going on. *Casualties of War* was released in 1989, about 15 years after the end of the Vietnam War. But it seems that people don't want to see a film about a war that's actually going on. But that was the point of the movie, according to De Palma. Especially as the corporate media refused to show the true picture. The word "redacted" itself means "changed" or "edited" so that it is suitable for release.

The main theme of the film is the same as many other war films: war is pointless, it is brutal and it solves nothing. The soldiers themselves are poor and are manipulated by politicians. But people didn't want to hear about that. Other films about Iraq have also flopped at the box office and the only relatively successful movie similar to it, *The Kingdom*, was successful because it was an action movie. Despite its dismal performance in the cinema, Brian De Palma did win a prestigious award for the film at the Venice Film Festival, the Silver Lion Award for Best Director.

It seems that many people don't want to see true images of war, especially if it's a war that's still going on. This, according to De Palma, is the paradox.
PHRASAL VERB THEMES: SPORT

This month we are looking at some phrasal verbs you can use to talk about sport.

Warm Up
If you “warm up” before doing a sport, you do some gentle / light exercise.

“You should always warm up before doing any sport.”

Work Out
If you “work out” at the gym, you do some exercise there.

“She works out at the gym three times a week.”

Knock Out
To eliminate from a competition.

“As usual, England were knocked out of the competition in the first round.”

Pull Ahead
To get in front of another person in a race.

“Marta and Jane were running at the same speed for most of the race until the last 200 metres when Marta pulled ahead.”

Burn Off (Fat)
If you “burn off” fat, you eliminate fat, often by doing some exercise.

“A few sessions down at the gym should burn off any excess fat you’ve acquired over the Christmas period.”

Send Off
To tell a player to leave the pitch because he/she has done something “illegal”.

“He was sent off for shouting at the referee.”

Go Through (To the Next Round)
If you “go through” to the next round in a competition, you pass one stage and go to the next one.

“A few sessions down at the gym should burn off any excess weight you’ve acquired over the Christmas period.”

Go For
If you “go for” something, you try to achieve it, even though it’ll be hard.

“She’s going for gold.”

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Located in the Great Smoky Mountains in Pigeon Forge, Tennessee, Dollywood is an unusual theme park. Co-owned by entertainer Dolly Parton, the attractions of the park center on traditions and history from the Appalachian region of the United States. Of course the park has the roller coasters and the cotton candy and the water rides, but it also has a special something that puts Dollywood in a category all of its own.

The minute you walk through the turnstile at Dollywood, you are transported to another world. There is bluegrass music, the sound of an old-fashioned sewing machine, the knocking of a blacksmith’s hammer, the smell of popcorn and open coal fires roasting almonds. For food, there’s Dollywood’s homemade ice cream, fried green tomatoes, and freshly-baked cinnamon bread. But before filling up on food, it is best to get in line for the rides. The Tennessee Tornado is a must-do at Dollywood. Situated in the mountains, this upside down rollercoaster drops about 40 meters at 80 kph. The coolest part about this ride is that while you are dropping, someone takes your photo, which is for sale at the end of the ride. Another highlight at the park is the Blazing Fury, an indoor rollercoaster. Warning: prepare to get wet!

In between riding the rides, there are numerous shows, activities and shops to enjoy. At Ashley’s Photorium, you can choose a costume from the 1880s and get your picture taken. At the Bat Cart, baseball lovers can buy a custom-made engraved bat. There are holiday shows and plays throughout the year at Dollywood, and one of their biggest festivals is the Festival of Nations. This season, the festival includes traditional songs and dances from Ireland, Ecuador, and Zambia.

Dollywood is a wonderful place to go for those looking for something distinctly American. It captures the essence of the Appalachian region of the United States, and is guaranteed to be an unforgettable experience.
DOLLY PARTON

Singer, actress, songwriter, and philanthropist… there isn’t much that Dolly Parton hasn’t done. Already in her 70s, Dolly has an impressive “body of work”, and is showing no signs of stopping. Her latest album “Blue Smoke” was released in 2014 and was accompanied by a world tour. Dolly has spent her lifetime showing America and the rest of the world that talent can withstand the test of time. Of course, her success did not come to be overnight.

While many of us can instantly recall Dolly’s trademark “physical attributes”, there is more to this woman than meets the eye. For many reasons, she is the perfect example of the American Dream. She was born into less-than-modest conditions, and is now a self-made millionaire with an amusement park named after her. The fourth of twelve children, Dolly grew up in a one-room cabin with no running water in the Appalachian Mountains in East Tennessee. When interviewed about her childhood, she says that her family was “dirt poor”. One of her most famous songs “Coat of Many Colors” talks about her humble childhood. The line, “One is only poor only if they choose to be” captures the poise and the class that Dolly has always shown in the face of hardship.

When she was 18, Dolly moved to Nashville and focused her efforts fully on her music career. Starting out as a songwriter in the 1960s, she wrote hits for country legends such as Hank Williams and Skeeter Davis. Before being labeled a country legend herself, she started out singing pop songs, which gained her minor success. When interviewed about her music career. Starting out as a songwriter in the 1960s, she wrote hits for country legends such as Hank Williams and Skeeter Davis. Before being labeled a country legend herself, she started out singing pop songs, which gained her minor success. In fact, it took her years of failed attempts to find her footing in the music business, but with unwavering determination and perseverance, she has now published nearly 600 songs, she has won 7 Grammy Awards and has had over 40 Grammy nominations. In 2011, she was awarded the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award.

Dolly has also stretched herself beyond the music business into other entertainment fields. She has been on numerous variety shows, has made lots of guest appearances, and has even graced the silver screen in feature films such as Straight Talk and 9 to 5. With all of her success, one of the more impressive facets of Dolly’s character is her philanthropic spirit. Dolly’s charity, Imagination Library, mails one children’s book to a youngster every month from the time they are born up until they start kindergarten. This charity has gained tremendous momentum, and has caught on across The United States, Canada and Europe.

Dolly is famous for saying, “It takes a lot of money to look this cheap.” However, she is living proof that it also takes a lot of strength and heart to have contributed so much to the entertainment business. With all her success, she still feels humble, even though she’s doing so well.

GLOSSARY

- **a roller coaster**: a ride in an amusement park that looks like a train and that goes really fast
- **cotton candy**: a soft, light, sweet substance that looks and feels like cotton and that you can eat. It is often pink or blue.
- **a water ride**: a ride/attraction in an amusement park that goes through water.
- **a turnstile**: a mechanical barrier at the entrance to a zoo, football ground, etc.
- **bluegrass music**: a type of fast, traditional country music from the southern United States with guitars and banjos.
- **a blacksmith**: a person who makes things out of metal, usually the metal “shoes” for horses.
- **a must-do**: something that others advise you to do or see because it is very important/good, etc.
- **to drop**: to fail withstand the test of time: to last/survive for a really long time without becoming bad
- **more to (something) than meets the eye**: something/somebody has more qualities or characteristics than what you see/notice at first.
- **less-than-modest conditions**: a polite expression to say that a person or place is not of a high quality/standard.
- **a one-room cabin**: a small house in the country, usually built of wood, that only has one room.
- **running water**: water that comes into your house through pipes and that comes out through taps.
- **to find your footing**: to become comfortable in a place so you can move forward/further.
- **unwavering**: that does not vary.
- **Grammy Awards**: the official national music awards in the United States, like the “Oscars”, but for music.
- **a variety show**: a show with music, comedy, acting, etc.
- **a facet**: a part or aspect of something or someone.
- **philanthropic spirit**: if you have a “philanthropic spirit”, you do lots of good things for other people.
- **kindergarten**: a type of pre-school for children between the ages of 4 and 6.
- **to catch on**: to become popular.
- **humble**: modest; with no ideas of superiority.
CROSSWORD

BAND (PART II)

See if you can do this crossword on “band” words.

Across

6. A person who searches for new musical artists that are good; usually works for a record label = a talent sc_______.
8. A person who writes and sings/plays songs = a s_______-songwriter.
10. A group of people who play/sing music together = a ba_______.
11. A person who writes reviews of concerts, songs, etc = a music c_______.
13. A place with electronic equipment where you record music to make a CD = a re_______ studio.
14. If you are one of these, you like something/someone/a group, etc very much = a f_______.
16. A person who supervises and controls the recording of a CD = a pro___________.
17. A place where you go to practise music before you record it or do a concert = a reh__________ studio.
18. A series of similar concerts in lots of different cities = a t_______.
20. A song that is taken from the internet and put onto your computer = a music do_______.
21. The person or group that performs/sings before the primary/main group = a sup___________.

Down

1. An official list that says how popular a song is at a certain time (Hot 100, Top 40, etc) = the ch_______.
2. A person who sings/performs alone (without a group of other singers) = a so_______.
3. A song that is number one on any of the official charts = a number-one h_______.
4. A company that manages music groups and does the recording, marketing, advertising, etc = a record l_______.
5. A person who organises concerts, and controls the finances, etc of a group or singer = a man_______.
7. A piece of paper that covers a CD and has information about the artist, songs, label, etc = an album c_______.
9. An illegal copy of something; a copy that you do not pay for or have permission to make = a pi_______.
10. A person who is paid to protect another (usually famous or important) person = a bod_______.
12. A person who writes and creates songs (often another person sings their songs) = a son_______.
15. A contract/agreement between a music artist and a record label to record an album = a recording co_______.
19. A group of songs (usually about 12) recorded and published together on a CD = an al_______.

Answers on page 44
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Expression of the month: This month’s word is “sleaze”.

**Sleaze**

“Sleaze” is often used to describe corruption and scandals in a government. Basically, anything involving sex, drugs, backhanders or cronynism would be described as sleaze if it involves members of government or high-ranking politicians. It is used widely by the tabloid press to sensationalise news stories or events surrounding high profile members of public life.

The original sensationalised sleaze story in the British press was the Profumo Affair in the 1960s. A member of the Tory government, John Profumo had an affair with a showgirl called Christine Keeler. Events were made worse when it was reported that Keeler was also sleeping with a Soviet agent thereby breaching national security of the UK. Christine Keeler became even more famous a few weeks later when she posed for some semi-erotic photos. A Hollywood film Scandal was made about the affair starring Joanne Whalley. Another infamous example of sleaze involved another Tory MP, Neil Hamilton. He was involved in the Cash for Questions scandal. This was when Hamilton and another MP supposedly accepted bribes from the owner of Harrod’s, Mohammed al-Fayed, to ask questions for him in parliament. Hamilton’s political career was ruined but he later became a television personality because of it.

One of the most infamous political scandals involved ex-president of the United States Bill Clinton when he had affairs with several White House interns. The best known of these was a girl called Monica Lewinsky. Clinton was impeached for lying about the affair. His wife, Hillary, punished him by making him sleep on the sofa for a while.

**Glossary**

- backhander: money given to a government in return for a favour
- cronynism: giving jobs and preference to your friends or people who pay you a sum of money
- high-ranking: with a very important job
- sensationalise: to make something seem more important or sensational than it really is
- MP: a Member of the British Conservative Party
- embed: to make a dancer in an erotic club
- national security: to endanger/break the security of a country
- infamous: famous for negative reasons
- MP: a Member of the British parliament
- bribery: a sum of money given to an official in return for a favour
- Harrod’s: a large department store in London
- impeach: to prosecute an American president in a trial for doing something illegal

**What is Hot English?**