

The BEST of **English Banana.com**

Free Printable Worksheets: 2003 to 2009

A personal selection by the author

Matt Purland



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Free Printable Worksheets: 2003 to 2009



English Banana.com

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The BEST of **English Banana.com**

Free Printable Worksheets: 2003 to 2009

Introduction

Hello there!

Welcome to **The Best of English Banana.com Free Printable Worksheets!** After more than seven years online, we feel that the time is now right for a compilation book, spanning all of the worksheets and books published since we began in 2003, right up to now (January 2010).

This is a personal selection – I've chosen worksheets that I like the best. These are the materials that always seem to work well in the classroom – stand-bys, old faithfuls! Many of these worksheets brought back memories for me as I was sorting through them, either from when I was writing them, or trying them out on an unsuspecting class, or of particular students who inspired different ideas and activities. Whether you've been using our materials for a long while, or you're relatively new to English Banana, I hope that this book will bring back some happy memories for you too!

This compilation includes materials from all of the English Banana.com publications – all of the books and collections of worksheets – as well as two brand new, never-before-published worksheets about State Verbs (pp.19-20). What is my favourite English Banana.com worksheet ever? It's a hard question, for sure, because I like them all. I know that some of the worksheets are really practical and useful, like some of the grammar ones and list-based ones, but I wouldn't be able to say that they're my favourites. I enjoy the role plays from Talk a Lot, a lot (in fact, I **love** writing the Talk a Lot materials, end of story!) and also the reading comprehension puzzles from the Big Activity Book, but if I had to keep only three favourite worksheets from this book, and bin the rest, I would maybe choose: 49, 59, and 74. (Ask me again next week, though, and the answer might be completely different!)

This book is arranged using the same layout as the very earliest English Banana.com books – with the worksheets ordered firstly by skill (Grammar, Vocabulary, Spelling, Reading, etc.), and then by level – from Elementary up to Intermediate and through to Advanced. If you look at the contents pages you can also choose worksheets by the year in which they were published, and by source – which book or collection of materials they were first published in.

Where are the answers? You may well ask! This compilation book doesn't contain the answers to any of the worksheets, but in the contents pages we show you where you can find and download each worksheet (for free!), including full answers and notes for use. The idea behind this is that we want you to go online to our website and find and download books and worksheets that you maybe haven't found before. This book is a taster book then, but also a kind of celebration of seven years of free printable worksheets and books from English Banana.com. Remember, there's **so much more for you to discover online** – more than 1,500 free printable worksheets, covering all levels and skills! On the next page you can find a handy list of the links where you can access each set of resources.

Don't forget that all English Banana.com materials are covered by our unique free licences. Over the next few pages you can read our Free Copying Licence and Free Licence to Run Courses. We want you to **make money** with English Banana.com materials! This taster book could be an ideal book to have printed and either sell or give away to your students. The PowerPoint presentation on the page below provides an in-depth introduction to our innovative free licences:

<http://www.englishbanana.com/make-money-with-english-banana-free-licences.html>

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Free Printable Worksheets: 2003 to 2009

That's about it then for this introduction. If this is a "Greatest Hits" for English Banana.com free printable worksheets (which it kind of is for me, because it contains all of my favourite materials from the past seven years) does that mean that the band is splitting up? No, of course not! We hope that English Banana.com will continue to go from strength to strength in 2010 and onwards! We've got loads of plans for new materials that we hope to bring you soon, including the finished version of Talk a Lot Elementary Book 3 – with all ten units completed and compiled into one easy-to-download .pdf file.

Watch this space – and keep learning English with English Banana.com!

All the best!

Matt Purland

*Founder and Writer, English Banana.com
Ostróda, Poland (7th January 2010)*

Where to Access and Download English Banana.com Materials (including full answers and notes for use)

Big Grammar Book

<http://www.englishbanana.com/big-grammar-book-english-worksheets.html>

Big Activity Book

<http://www.englishbanana.com/big-activity-book/big-activity-book-english-worksheets.html>

Big Resource Book

<http://www.englishbanana.com/big-resource-book-english-worksheets.html>

Check It Again! (Book One)

<http://www.englishbanana.com/check-it-again-1-index.html>

Better English Lessons – Volume 1

<http://www.englishbanana.com/better-english-lessons-volume-1-index.html>

Elementary English Worksheets

<http://www.englishbanana.com/free-elementary-english-worksheets.html>

Intermediate English Worksheets

<http://www.englishbanana.com/free-intermediate-english-worksheets.html>

Advanced English Worksheets

<http://www.englishbanana.com/free-advanced-english-worksheets.html>

English Banana.com Schools

<http://www.englishbanana.com/how-to-run-your-own-english-course.html>

Talk a Lot Elementary Book 1

<http://www.englishbanana.com/talk-a-lot-elementary-book-1/index.html>

Talk a Lot Elementary Book 2

<http://www.englishbanana.com/talk-a-lot-elementary-book-2/talk-a-lot-elementary-book-2-index.html>

Talk a Lot Elementary Book 3

<http://www.englishbanana.com/talkalot/talkalot-elementary-book-3-index.html>

Talk a Lot Elementary Handbook

<http://www.englishbanana.com/talkalot/talkalot-complete-elementary-handbook.html>

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Free Printable Worksheets: 2003 to 2009

Test Your Grammar Skills:

Page:	Worksheet Title:	Level:	Skill:	Source:	Page / Section:	Year:
1	Daily Routines	E	G	BGB	69	2003
2	How to get from Bed to Work in 27 Easy Steps! – Past Simple Verbs (Page 1)	E	G	ELEM	Elementary	2004
3	How to get from Bed to Work in 27 Easy Steps! – Past Simple Verbs (Page 2)	E	G	ELEM	Elementary	2004
4	Trace the Letters of the English Alphabet – Blank Page with Narrow Lines	E	G	BEL 1	Grammar	2007
5	Trace the Letters of the English Alphabet – Without Lines	E	G	BEL 1	Grammar	2007
6	Common Prefixes and What they Indicate	E	G	TALE HB	14.1	2009
7	Suffixes and Word Stress	E	G	TALE HB	15.4	2009
8	300 Common Compound Nouns – Ordered by Same First Word	E	G	TALE HB	16.1	2009
9	Troubling Tenses – Mixed Tenses 2	I	G	BAB	7	2004
10	The Funny Noise – Irregular Verbs in the Past Simple Tense	I	G	BAB	8	2004
11	'-able' or '-ible'?	I	G	BRB	55	2005
12	Adjective Pairs – '-ing' and '-ed' Adjectives	I	G	INT	Intermediate	2006
13	80 Opposite Adjectives – Complete the Table	I	G	BEL 1	Grammar	2007
14	Really Useful List of 100 Irregular Plural Nouns in English	I	G	BEL 1	Grammar	2007
15	Mistakes that English Native Speakers Make 2	I	G	BEL 1	Grammar	2007
16	Using Present Perfect Continuous – have/has been + -ing	I	G	BEL 1	Grammar	2007
17	School Variety Show – Who Did What? (Passive Voice) (Page 1)	I	G	INT	Intermediate	2008
18	School Variety Show – Who Did What? (Passive Voice) (Page 2)	I	G	INT	Intermediate	2008
19	Comprehensive List of State Verbs in English	I	G	INT	Intermediate	2009
20	State Verbs in English – Matching Game 1	I	G	INT	Intermediate	2009
21	A Boring/Fascinating Worksheet About Adjectives	A	G	ADVAN	Advanced	2006

Key:

Levels:

E = Elementary
I = Intermediate
A = Advanced

Skills:

G = grammar
V = vocabulary
SP = spelling
R = reading
S & L = speaking and listening
RES = research

Sources (click to open in browser):

BGB = [Big Grammar Book](#)
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EBS = [English Banana.com Schools](#)
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TALE 3 = [Talk a Lot Elementary Book 3](#)
TALE HB = [Talk a Lot Elementary Handbook](#)

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Free Printable Worksheets: 2003 to 2009

Test Your Vocabulary Skills:

Page:	Worksheet Title:	Level:	Skill:	Source:	Page / Section:	Year:
22	Personal Details - Completing Forms	E	V	BGB	4	2003
23	Basic English Written Test	E	V	BGB	5	2003
24	Alphabet Fun 1	E	V	ELEM	Elementary	2003
25	Family Words – Male or Female?	E	V	ELEM	Elementary	2003
26	Read > Cover > Write > Check > Correct No.6 – Food and Drink	E	V	ELEM	Elementary	2004
27	How to Tell the Time – Blank Clocks Template	E	V	BEL 1	Vocabulary	2007
28	Expressing Likes and Dislikes	E	V	BEL 1	Vocabulary	2007
29	Understanding Quantities 2	I	V	BAB	23	2004
30	My Relatives	I	V	BAB	27	2004
31	Units of Time	I	V	BRB	97	2005
32	Make or Do 1	I	V	INT	Intermediate	2006
33	The Perfect Job 1	I	V	INT	Intermediate	2006
34	100 Great English Oxymorons – Phrases that Contradict Themselves!	A	V	BEL 1	Vocabulary	2007

Test Your Spelling Skills:

Page:	Worksheet Title:	Level:	Skill:	Source:	Page / Section:	Year:
35	Writing the Alphabet 2	E	SP	BGB	3	2003
36	Dolch Basic Sight Vocabulary – in Order of Decreasing Frequency	E	SP	BEL 1	Spelling	2007
37	Spot the Anagram – Dolch Spelling Test 4	E	SP	BEL 1	Spelling	2007
38	Find a Small Word Inside a Bigger Word 2	E	SP	BEL 1	Spelling	2007

Key:

<p><u>Levels:</u></p> <p>E = Elementary I = Intermediate A = Advanced</p>	<p><u>Skills:</u></p> <p>G = grammar V = vocabulary SP = spelling R = reading S & L = speaking and listening RES = research</p>
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Free Printable Worksheets: 2003 to 2009

Test Your Reading Skills:

Page:	Worksheet Title:	Level:	Skill:	Source:	Page / Section:	Year:
39	Complete the Sentences 6	E	R	BGB	75	2003
40	Initial Assessment – Reading & Writing – Page 1	E	R	EBS	N/A	2007
41	Initial Assessment – Reading & Writing – Page 2	E	R	EBS	N/A	2007
42	Past Events – The Life of Captain James Cook	I	R	BGB	85	2003
43	Good Advice 3	I	R	BGB	100	2003
44	Any Answers 4	I	R	BAB	51	2004
45	Reading Comprehension 6 – How Much Money Do They Have?	I	R	BAB	58	2004
46	Reading Comprehension 7 – When's Your Birthday?	I	R	BAB	59	2004
47	Reading Comprehension 10 – What's the Right Time?	I	R	BAB	62	2004
48	Reading Comprehension 11 – Car Park Query	I	R	BRB	56	2005
49	Reading Comprehension 12 – Working out the Bill	I	R	BRB	57	2005
50	Map of Melton Park	I	R	BRB	61	2005
51	Giving Directions	I	R	BRB	62	2005
52	Exercise 1	I	R	CIA 1	1	2006
53	Exercise 21	I	R	CIA 1	21	2006
54	Exercise 56	I	R	CIA 1	56	2006
55	Exercise 60	I	R	CIA 1	60	2006
56	Any Answers 2 – Intermediate Level	I	R	BEL 1	Reading	2007
57	Complete the Sentences 4 – Intermediate Level	I	R	BEL 1	Reading	2007
58	Reading Job Advertisements 1	I	R	BEL 1	Reading	2007
59	Home Security – Dos and Don'ts	I	R	BEL 1	Reading	2007

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Free Printable Worksheets: 2003 to 2009

Test Your Speaking and Listening Skills:

Page:	Worksheet Title:	Level:	Skill:	Source:	Page / Section:	Year:
60	Quick Quiz Template	E	S & L	BAB	68	2004
61	Alphabet Quiz 2	E	S & L	BAB	70	2004
62	The Amazing Maze Game	E	S & L	BRB	81	2005
63	Find Somebody Who... 1 – Icebreaker Game	E	S & L	BEL 1	Speaking & Listening	2007
64	Sound-Alike Words 4	E	S & L	BEL 1	Speaking & Listening	2007
65	Role Plays – Family	E	S & L	TALE1	49	2008
66	Discussion Questions – Crime	E	S & L	TALE 2	34	2008
67	Information Exchange – Colours and Numbers – Best Sofa Deals	E	S & L	TALE 2	51	2008
68	Discussion Questions – Learning English	E	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
69	Connected Sentence Cards – Template	E	S & L	TALE HB	3.2	2009
70	Discussion Words – Template	E	S & L	TALE HB	5.4	2009
71	Talk a Lot Bingo! – Statements	E	S & L	TALE HB	5.31	2009
72	Big Word Game – Question List (Mixed)	E	S & L	TALE HB	5.15	2009
73	Weak Forms – Information Sheet	E	S & L	TALE HB	17.1	2009
74	The 48 Sounds of English with the International Phonetic Alphabet	E	S & L	TALE HB	18.6	2009
75	Spelling and Sounds – 250 Common Magic “e” Words (Ordered by Final Consonant)	E	S & L	TALE HB	18.65	2009
76	List of Words Using the Unvoiced “th” Sound in English /θ/ (Page 1)	E	S & L	TALE HB	18.72	2009
77	List of Words Using the Unvoiced “th” Sound in English /θ/ (Page 2)	E	S & L	TALE HB	18.73	2009
78	List of Words Using the Voiced “th” Sound in English /ð/	E	S & L	TALE HB	18.74	2009
79	Translate Signs and Notices from the IPA 1	E	S & L	TALE HB	19.9	2009
80	IPA Test 1	E	S & L	TALE HB	19.17	2009

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Test Your Speaking and Listening Skills (continued):

Page:	Worksheet Title:	Level:	Skill:	Source:	Page / Section:	Year:
81	Discussion Words – Places in the UK	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
82	Discussion Words Question Sheet – Places in the UK	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
83	Agree or Disagree? – Learning English	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
84	Role Plays – Films	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
85	Role Plays – Hospital	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
86	Multi-Purpose Text (p.1) – Books	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
87	Multi-Purpose Text (p.2) – Politics	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
88	Information Exchange – Airport – Who would you look for first?	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009
89	Information Exchange – Money – Who is the Richest?	I	S & L	TALE 3	N/A	2009

Test Your Research Skills:

Page:	Worksheet Title:	Level:	Skill:	Source:	Page / Section:	Year:
90	Wordsearch Fun	E	RES	BAB	72	2004
91	How to Make Your Own Board Game (instructions)	E	RES	BEL 1	Research	2007
92	Design a Game – Game Board 1	E	RES	INT	Intermediate	2003
93	Holidays and Special Days in the UK	I	RES	BAB	84	2004
94	Calculator Code Words 2	I	RES	BRB	66	2005
95	How to Make a Chocolate Cake	I	RES	BRB	73	2005
96	Holidays and Special Days in the UK	I	RES	BAB	84	2004
97	More Interesting Place Names 1	I	RES	BRB	99	2005
98	Nonsense Quiz 1	I	RES	INT	Intermediate	2003
99	At What Age Can I Legally... in the UK?	I	RES	BEL 1	Research	2007
100	Mixed-up Monarchs – Kings and Queens of England to 1603	A	RES	BEL 1	Research	2007
101	English Banana.com's Really Motivational Page of Encouraging Thoughts	A	RES	BEL 1	Research	2007

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Daily Routines

A) Complete the sentences below using a present simple verb:

- I _____ the newspaper at 8.00am.
- I _____ a coffee break at 10.30am.
- I _____ a shower at 7.30am.
- I _____ a bus to work at 8.30am.
- I _____ up at 7.15am.
- I _____ work at 9.00am.
- I _____ lunch at 1.00pm.
- I _____ to my friend on the phone at 2.30pm.
- I _____ an email at 2.40pm.
- I _____ up at 7.05am.
- I _____ breakfast at 7.45am.
- I _____ home at 5.00pm.
- I _____ my guitar at 9.00pm.
- I _____ dinner at 6.00pm.
- I _____ to bed at 11.10pm.
- I _____ football at 7.00pm.
- I _____ a book at 10.00pm.
- I _____ to the radio at 10.40pm.
- I _____ TV at 8.30pm.
- I _____ the dishes at 6.30pm.
- I _____ to sleep at about 11.20pm.

B) Write the sentences in the order that they happen.

C) Next: write about **your** daily routine.

For more fun worksheets, games and quizzes log onto www.englishbanana.com now!

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Test Your Grammar Skills

How to Get from Bed to Work in 27 Easy Steps! – Past Simple Verbs

Write the sentences again, changing each underlined verb from the present simple to the past simple tense:

- 1) I wake up at 6.50am when I hear the alarm clock.
- 2) I jump out of bed and switch it off before it wakes up all the neighbours.
- 3) I switch on the light and the heater, because it's cold in my room.
- 4) I use the bathroom; then look for a clean shirt to wear.
- 5) I go into the kitchen and put the kettle on.
- 6) I get dressed and brush my hair.
- 7) I have a shave and then pack my bag ready for work.
- 8) The kettle boils so I make a cup of tea; then I watch TV for a few minutes.
- 9) I open all the curtains in my house and pick up my sandwiches from the fridge.
- 10) I put on my shoes and coat; then check that I haven't forgotten anything.
- 11) I leave on the light in the hall because I know it will be dark when I get home.
- 12) I unlock and open the front door; then I go outside.
- 13) I lock the front door and walk a few metres to my car.
- 14) I get into the car and turn the key in the ignition.
- 15) I put on a tape and turn up the volume.
- 16) I look in my mirrors; then reverse up the drive and onto the road.

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This worksheet can be photocopied and used without charge

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Test Your Grammar Skills

How to Get from Bed to Work in 27 Easy Steps! – Past Simple Verbs

- 17) I drive for five miles until I reach a traffic-jam.
- 18) I sit in the traffic-jam for twenty minutes; I drive forward slowly, a few metres at a time.
- 19) I change the tape in my car stereo, and tap my fingers on the steering wheel.
- 20) I put on the radio and listen to the news, followed by the weather forecast.
- 21) The radio plays one of my favourite songs, so I sing along loudly.
- 22) I turn right into the road where I always leave my car. I park and turn off the engine.
- 23) I get out and shut the door. I lock my car door and then walk for about twenty minutes.
- 24) I buy a newspaper and a sandwich at the newsagent; then I head for work.
- 25) As I enter the building I say "Hi" to the people I work with.
- 26) I get to my desk at about 8.50 am and put down my bag.
- 27) I'm ready for another cup of tea and to ~~have a long nap~~ start the day!

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This worksheet can be photocopied and used without charge

English Banana.com

Test Your Grammar Skills

Trace the Letters of the English Alphabet – Blank Page with Narrow Lines

The page contains ten sets of horizontal lines for tracing. Each set consists of a solid top line, a dashed middle line, and a solid bottom line, providing a guide for letter height and placement.

For more fun tests, quizzes and games log onto www.englishbanana.com now!

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Trace the Letters of the English Alphabet – Without Lines

AAaa BBbb CCcc DDdd

EEee FFff GGgg HHhh

IIii JJjj KKkk LLll MMmm

NNnn OOoo PPpp QQqq

RRrr SSss TTtt UUuu

VVvv WWww XXxx YYyy

ZZzz 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 0

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Talk a Lot

Focus on Connected Speech

Common Prefixes and What they Indicate

- A prefix comes at the beginning of a word. It is sometimes **stressed** and sometimes **unstressed**.
- Prefixes give information about the meaning of the word.

<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Meaning</u>	<u>Example</u>	<u>Literally</u>
a-	common verbs/adverbs/prepositions/adjectives (e.g. annoy/again/above/awake)		
ante-	before	antenatal	before birth
anti-	against	anti-depressants	against depression
auto-	self	autobiography	a self-written biography
bi-	two	bicycle	two wheels
co-	with	cooperate	work with somebody
counter-	against	counter-culture	against the culture
de-	remove	declassify	remove classification
dis-	not	disapprove	not approve
equi-	equal	equidistant	at an equal distance
ex-	former	ex-wife	a former wife
fore-	before	forefather	relative before your existing family
homo-	same	homophones	words with same sounds/spellings
hyper-	extremely	hypersensitive	extremely sensitive
il-	not	illogical	not logical
ill-	badly	ill-prepared	badly prepared
im-	not	immature	not mature
in-	not	incomplete	not complete
inter-	between	international	between nations
kilo-	thousand	kilometre	one thousand metres
mal-	badly	malfunctioning	functioning badly
mega-	million	megawatt	one million watts
mini-	small	minibus	a small bus
mis-	wrongly	mispronounced	wrongly pronounced
mono-	one	monotone	one tone
multi-	many	multimedia	many different kinds of media
neo-	new	neoclassical	new classical style
non-	not	non-member	not a member
out-	separate / do better	outdoors/out-bid	not indoors/a higher bid
over-	too much	overachiever	one who achieves too much
post-	after	postgraduate	after graduation
pre-	before	prearrange	arrange something before now
pro-	supporting	pro-change	supporting change
pseudo-	false	pseudonym	false name (nym = name)
re-	again	review	look at again
self-	about the self	self-taught	taught by oneself
semi-	half	semi-circle	half a circle
sub-	below	submarine	below the sea
super-	above	supervisor/superstar	above others/above other stars
sur-	above	surcharge	an extra charge
tele-	remote	television	pictures sent from far away
trans-	across	trans-continental	across continents
tri-	three	triathlon	three athletics events in one
ultra-	beyond	ultrasound	high frequency sound waves
un-	not	uninteresting	not interesting
under-	below	underwear	under your clothes

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Talk a Lot

Focus on Connected Speech

Suffixes and Word Stress

- Suffixes are **usually** unstressed.
- Words with the following suffixes are usually* stressed on **the syllable before the suffix** (shown in bold):

Suffix	Example #1	Example #2	Example #3	Example #4
-able	unbeliev-able	incon ceiv -able	unforgiv-able	accept-able
-age	advant-age	discour-age	percent-age	remarri-age
-ance	assist-ance	annoy-ance	reappear-ance	import-ance
-ancy	account-ancy	expect-ancy	redund-ancy	discrep-ancy
-ed	consult-ed	inflict-ed	present-ed	unexpect-ed
-ency	depend-ency	absorb-ency	complac-ency	inconsist-ency
-ent	independ-ent	insuffici-ent	correspond-ent	incandesc-ent
-eous	outrag-eous	courag-eous	simultan-eous	advantag-eous
-ial	colon-ial	bicentenn-ial	financ-ial	artific-ial
-ian	optic-ian	amphib-ian	mathematic-ian	vegetar-ian
-ible	incred-ible	collect-ible	incomprehens-ible	undigest-ible
-ic	encyclo ped -ic	micro scop -ic	fantast-ic	problematic
-ical	illog-ical	econom-ical	philanthrop-ical	stereotyp-ical
-ify	overident-ify	demyst-ify	electr-ify	object-ify
-ious	rebell-ious	industr-ious	unostentat-ious	conscient-ious
-ity	commun-ity	believabil-ity	incomprehensibil-ity	respectabil-ity
-ment	content-ment	entertain-ment	engage-ment	underachieve-ment
-raphy	geog-raphy	biog-raphy	callig-raphy	photog-raphy
-sion	apprehen-sion	dimen-sion	incomprehen-sion	supervi-sion
-tion	infla-tion	interven-tion	informa-tion	contradic-tion
-ual	unus-ual	noncontract-ual	intellect-ual	multiling-ual

Exceptions to the rule

Words with the following suffixes are usually* stressed **on the suffix** (shown in bold):

Suffix	Example #1	Example #2	Example #3	Example #4
-ee	trust- ee	attend- ee	interview- ee	guarant- ee
-eer	ballad- eer	auction- eer	volunt- eer	engin- eer
-ese	journal- ese	Vietnam- ese	Portugu- ese	Canton- ese
-esque	Chaplin- esque	statu- esque	pictur- esque	Ruben- esque
-ess	steward- ess	lion- ess	poet- ess	manager- ess
-ette	launder- ette	usher- ette	kitchen- ette	maison- ette
-phobia	claustro- phobia	arachno- phobia	techno- phobia	xeno- phobia
-phobic	claustro- phobic	arachno- phobic	techno- phobic	xeno- phobic

* Note: there will be some exceptions, as with any rule in English!

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Talk a Lot

Focus on Connected Speech

300 Common Compound Nouns – Ordered by Same First Word

Word stress falls on the **first syllable** of each word. Notice common first words, e.g. “school-”, “sun-”, and “water-”.

airforce airmail airport	footprints fortnight friendship gamekeeper gateway girlfriend granddaughter grandfather grapefruit graveyard greengrocer greenhouse guidebook guideline gunpowder hailstones	nightdress nightlife nothing oatmeal offspring	shortbread shorthand showroom shrinkage sideshow slapstick	toothpaste toothpick tracksuit troublemaker troubleshooter turnout typewriter undertaker underwear uprising upturn videotape viewfinder viewpoint volleyball
anteater anybody backpack baseball basketball bathroom birthday blackmail bookshelf boyfriend breadbin breadknife bridesmaid broadcast butterfly campsite carpet carseat cavewoman checkout cheesecake chequebook childcare childhood chopsticks cliffhanger climbdown cocktail collarbone countryside cupboard darkroom dashboard daybreak daytime deadline doorbell doorway drainage drainpipe	hairbrush haircut hairstylist	outback outbreak outline paintbox paintbrush pancake paperback paperwork passport pawnbroker payday peanut penknife pickpocket pigeonhole pinball pineapple	snowball snowdrift snowfall snowman softball somebody someone something	waistband waistcoat waistline walkway wallpaper wardrobe warehouse warhog washroom wasteland watchdog
handbag handbrake handcuffs	headlights headline heartache hedgehog homecoming homework iceberg jackpot junkyard keyboard knighthood knockout lampshade	playground playroom playtime ponytail popcorn postwoman printout pushchair quarterback quicksand racehorse racetrack railway	spaceship speedboat sportswoman spreadsheet springboard staircase stalemate starfish statesperson stepdaughter stepmother stopover stopwatch storeroom strawberry stronghold summerhouse summertime	waterfall waterfront watermelon waterworks wavelength
landmark landmine landowner landscape	lifeboat lifestyle locksmith lunchtime marketplace mealtimes milkman milkshake moonlight	rainbow raincoat rainforest rooftop roundabout runway	sunbathing sunblock sunglasses sunlight sunset sunshine suntan supermarket supermodel superstore	webcam webmaster website wheelbarrow wheelchair wheelclamp
dustbin dustman dustpan	motorbike motorboat motorway	salesman salesperson saleswoman sandbox sandcastle sandpaper sandpit	sweatshirt sweatshop sweetcorn sweetheart switchboard tabletop taxpayer teacup teammate teamwork teapot teardrop teatime textbook thunderstorm timetable tomcat	whiplash whirlwind whitewash wildlife willpower windbreak windmill windowsill windscreen windshield windsurfing
earrings eggcup eggshell	motorbike motorboat motorway	scarecrow schoolboy schooldays schoolgirl schoolteacher scrapbook screenplay screenwriter scriptwriter	supermarket supermodel superstore	wonderland woodland woodpecker woodworm
everybody everyone everything	mountainside namedropper namesake necklace network	schoolboy schooldays schoolgirl schoolteacher scrapbook screenplay screenwriter scriptwriter	supermarket supermodel superstore	workbench workman workshop
eyelash fingerprints fireman fireplace flatmate flatshare flowerbed	newsagent newspaper newsreader	shopkeeper shoplifter shoplifting	supermarket supermodel superstore	wristwatch yardstick
footage football	nickname nightclub		toothache toothbrush	

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Troubling Tenses – Mixed Tenses 2

Complete each sentence using either **yesterday** or **tomorrow**:

1. The Prime Minister gave a long speech about the economy _____ . It was pretty boring!
2. When I saw you _____ I forgot to tell you that the conference won't be finishing until _____ night.
3. Sal should've told me _____ that she won't be able to pay us _____.
4. I could've had a lie in _____, if you weren't leaving so early.
5. Was it busy in town _____?
6. I'll be sorry to see you go when you leave _____.
7. If I can get a day off work _____, I'll be able to spend a bit of time with you.
8. If I could've bought you a birthday present _____ I would've done.
9. We're going on holiday to Venice _____.
10. I've never really liked Mexican food, but I really enjoyed the meal _____.
11. You must have rung the wrong number _____, because I was at home all morning.
12. Can you do the washing up that's been sitting here since _____, please?
13. We were gardening for about two hours _____ morning.
14. Could I have a go on your new computer game when I come round _____?
15. I think it should be quite sunny _____.

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Test Your Grammar Skills

The Funny Noise – Irregular Verbs in the Past Simple Tense

a) Read the letter below from Alan to his friend Ethel. All the **irregular** verbs have the wrong ending – a **regular** '-ed' ending! Underline each one.

b) Write the letter again, using the correct past simple form of each irregular verb.

Dear Ethel

I'm writing to tell you about something that happened yesterday. I getted up at the usual time - about 10am - haved a shower and maked breakfast. I eated a big bowl of cereal and some toast and watched TV for a while. Then I goed into the kitchen where I heard a funny noise. I thinked it comed from behind the cooker. I getted my tool box and moved the cooker out of the way.

The noise getted louder but I couldn't see anything. I ringed my uncle to ask his advice. He sayed that he thinked it could be a gas leak. When I heard this I just panicked! I putted the phone down, runned outside, getted in my car and drived to the local police station. I telled them about my gas leak but the constable losed his patience with me. He sayed that I should have phoned the gas company. He writed his report, then ringed the gas company for me.

Then I remembered that my house doesn't have gas - only electricity! I feeled really stupid and knowed that the constable would be angry with me for wasting his time, so I runned out of the police station while he ised still on the phone. I goed home to try to find out what the noise ised. On the way I buyed a newspaper and I readed about an escaped llama that breaked out of the city safari park last Wednesday.

When I getted home I putted my key in the door, turned it, goed inside and straight away heard that funny noise again. I holded my breath and opened the door slowly. Guess what? I finded the llama hiding in my cupboard! I letted him stay and he sleeped in my garden last night. The snoring ised so loud! This morning I taked him back to the safari park. They areed really pleased to see him again and gived me a reward of £50!

Hope you are well. Write soon and let me know how you are. Your friend,

Alan

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Test Your Spelling Skills

'-able' or '-ible'?

Complete the spelling of each word below by adding either '-able' or '-ible':

- | | | | |
|-------------|-------|---------------|-------|
| 1. abomin | _____ | 21. insens | _____ |
| 2. admiss | _____ | 22. insuffer | _____ |
| 3. aud | _____ | 23. invis | _____ |
| 4. achiev | _____ | 24. knowledge | _____ |
| 5. believ | _____ | 25. laugh | _____ |
| 6. comfort | _____ | 26. leg | _____ |
| 7. compat | _____ | 27. memor | _____ |
| 8. consider | _____ | 28. notice | _____ |
| 9. debat | _____ | 29. poss | _____ |
| 10. excit | _____ | 30. prefer | _____ |
| 11. fashion | _____ | 31. question | _____ |
| 12. feas | _____ | 32. reli | _____ |
| 13. flex | _____ | 33. respons | _____ |
| 14. forgett | _____ | 34. sens | _____ |
| 15. gull | _____ | 35. suit | _____ |
| 16. illeg | _____ | 36. terr | _____ |
| 17. incred | _____ | 37. unaccept | _____ |
| 18. ined | _____ | 38. unsuit | _____ |
| 19. inevit | _____ | 39. vis | _____ |
| 20. infall | _____ | 40. wash | _____ |

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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

Adjective Pairs – ‘-ing’ and ‘-ed’ Adjectives

verb form:	‘-ing’ adjective:	‘-ed’ adjective:
<i>positive words:</i>	<i>It was:</i>	<i>I was:</i>
amuse	amusing	amused
encourage	encouraging	encouraged
fascinate	fascinating	fascinated
interest	interesting	interested
intrigue	intriguing	intrigued
please	pleasing	pleased
reassure	reassuring	reassured
relax	relaxing	relaxed
satisfy	satisfying	satisfied
stun	stunning	stunned
surprise	surprising	surprised
thrill	thrilling	thrilled
welcome	welcoming	welcomed
<i>negative words:</i>	<i>It was:</i>	<i>I was:</i>
alarm	alarming	alarmed
amaze	amazing	amazed
annoy	annoying	annoyed
astonish	astonishing	astonished
bore	boring	bored
confuse	confusing	confused
damage	damaging	damaged
depress	depressing	depressed
disappoint	disappointing	disappointed
discourage	discouraging	discouraged
disgust	disgusting	disgusted
distress	distressing	distressed
disturb	disturbing	disturbed
embarrass	embarrassing	embarrassed
exhaust	exhausting	exhausted
frustrate	frustrating	frustrated
insult	insulting	insulted
intimidate	intimidating	intimidated
irritate	irritating	irritated
overwhelm	overwhelming	overwhelmed
puzzle	puzzling	puzzled
shock	shocking	shocked
terrify	terrifying	terrified
threaten	threatening	threatened
tire	tiring	tired

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Test Your Grammar Skills

80 Opposite Adjectives – Complete the Table

Complete the table below with the most suitable adjectives:

Adjectives (Group 1):	Opposite Adjectives (Group 2):
1.	calm
bad	good
beautiful	2.
big	small
3.	sweet
clean	4.
clever	5.
common	uncommon
6.	incomplete
dangerous	7.
early	late
8.	difficult
excellent	9.
exciting	10.
11.	obscure
12.	slow
fat	13.
14.	unfortunate
funny	15.
happy	16.
17.	dishonest
hot	18.
long	short
19.	dated
nice	20.
patient	impatient
21.	noisy
perfect	imperfect
rich	22.
rough	smooth
23.	overweight
24.	normal
strict	lenient
sure	25.
26.	unsurprising
tall	short
usual	27.
wide	28.
29.	foolish
young	30.

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Really Useful List of 100 Irregular Plural Nouns in English

You've got one tomato and I've got two tomatos. Right? Wrong! I've got two tomatoes!

Although we usually add an -s to a noun to make it plural (one egg, two eggs, etc.), some nouns in English have irregular plural endings. We've put together a really useful list in alphabetical order of some common nouns which have irregular plural endings:

<u>Singular:</u>	<u>Plural:</u>	<u>Singular:</u>	<u>Plural:</u>	<u>Singular:</u>	<u>Plural:</u>
abyss	abysses	hoof	hooves	story	stories
alumnus	alumni	index	indexes	syllabus	syllabi
analysis	analyses	iris	irises	tax	taxes
aquarium	aquaria	kiss	kisses	thesis	theses
arch	arches	knife	knives	thief	thieves
atlas	atlases	lady	ladies	tomato	tomatoes
axe	axes	leaf	leaves	tooth	teeth
baby	babies	life	lives	tornado	tornadoes
bacterium	bacteria	loaf	loaves	try	tries
batch	batches	man	men	volcano	volcanoes
beach	beaches	mango	mangoes	waltz	waltzes
brush	brushes	memorandum	memoranda	wash	washes
bus	buses	mess	messes	watch	watches
calf	calves	moose	moose	wharf	wharves
chateau	chateaux	motto	mottoes	wife	wives
cherry	cherries	mouse	mice	woman	women
child	children	nanny	nannies		
church	churches	neurosis	neuroses		
circus	circuses	nucleus	nuclei		
city	cities	oasis	oases		
cod	cod	octopus	octopi		
copy	copies	party	parties		
crisis	crises	pass	passes		
curriculum	curricula	penny	pennies		
deer	deer	person	people		
dictionary	dictionaries	plateau	plateaux		
domino	dominoes	poppy	poppies		
dwarf	dwarves	potato	potatoes		
echo	echoes	quiz	quizzes		
elf	elves	reflex	reflexes		
emphasis	emphases	runner-up	runners-up		
family	families	scarf	scarves		
fax	faxes	scratch	scratches		
fish	fish	series	series		
flush	flushes	sheaf	sheaves		
fly	flies	sheep	sheep		
foot	feet	shelf	shelves		
fungus	fungi	son-in-law	sons-in-law		
half	halves	species	species		
hero	heroes	splash	splashes		
hippopotamus	hippopotami	spy	spies		
hoax	hoaxes	stitch	stitches		

Write some more examples below:

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Mistakes that English Native Speakers Make 2

Believe it or not, English native speakers sometimes make mistakes when using their own language! To find them, simply read a daily newspaper regularly or check out some of the leaflets at an English Tourist Information Centre or library! Identify one mistake in each sentence below and write the letter of the category that it belongs to out of the following:

- | | | |
|----------------------|-------------|---------------------------|
| A. apostrophes | B. articles | C. capital letters |
| D. clumsy style | E. commas | F. extra or missing words |
| G. spelling mistakes | | |

1. Its worth asking about our amazing offers!
2. This ticket is valid for any friday or Saturday in December.
3. A few months a go I was earning £650 per month for 30 hours per week. Since then my salary has doubled.
4. Have you read Bridget Jones Diary?
5. Jennifer Jameson, our accountant is due to retire at the end of next month.
6. Do you know how many Eurpean countries have signed up to the single currency?
7. He's a spy, a con-man, a lover and a theif. Now he's back for another gripping adventure.
8. The new Ford Focus is in a different class from all the former ones which have gone before it.
9. You are welcome to join us in church for a Easter celebration.
10. The information about Richard and Tina's originated from reliable sources.
11. Every monday night is party night at McCoy's.
12. Become a teaching assistant and make a real difference to a childs life.
13. You can find us on St. Johns Street, near the post office.
14. Children under 8 years old must be with accompanied by an adult.
15. SALE! Robbie William's latest album is half-price for a limited time only.
16. We will be open allday on Sunday.
17. Our stores are now open everyday of the week.
18. You are what you et, or so they say.
19. Half of the managers were the proposals and half were against. It was an even split.
20. This car has got the lot – Style, speed and a dazzling array of extras.

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Using Present Perfect Continuous – have/has been + -ing

All of the residents of The Pine Trees Nursing Home in Orlando Avenue have gathered in the lounge for their weekly residents' meeting. The duty manager asks them what they have been doing all morning.

A) Complete the gaps below using the following words:

drying chatting washing visiting putting waiting throwing
 feeding clearing knitting staring watching doing sitting
 watering playing writing reading having trying on

1. Jack says, "I've been _____ the plants in my room."
2. Mabel says: "I've been _____ the dishes in the kitchen."
3. Dolly says: "I've been _____ a letter to my great grand-daughter."
4. Arif says: "I've been _____ a quiz programme on TV."
5. Austin says: "I've been _____ the breakfast table."
6. Dorothy says: "I've been _____ the Guardian crossword."
7. Barry says: "I've been _____ the budgies."
8. Les says: "I've been _____ out of the window."
9. Harjinder says: "I've been _____ some new clothes."
10. Patrick says: "I've been _____ to my friends."
11. Gracie says: "I've been _____ photos in my photo album."
12. Maria says: "I've been _____ a sweater for my great niece."
13. Thora says: "I've been _____ in my armchair having a little sleep."
14. Hermione says: "I've been _____ my hair."
15. Jemima says: "I've been _____ my sister-in-law in hospital."
16. Barney says: "I've been _____ an argument with my daughter."
17. Samson says: "I've been _____ to have a go on the computer."
18. Luka says: "I've been _____ an interesting book about Russia."
19. Jonathan says: "I've been _____ pool with one of the nurses."
20. Thomas says: "I've been _____ food at people I don't like."

B) Ask and answer questions about the residents. For example: "What has Jack been doing?"

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Test Your Grammar Skills

School Variety Show – Who Did What?

Passive Voice – Future (with will) and Past Simple

1. SHOW > **DIRECT** > BEN (MR. BRAHMS)
2. SONGS > **COMPOSE AND SING** > ALISON WATTS (MEGAN WATTS)
3. SCRIPT > **WRITE** > GRAHAM (GOK)
4. COSTUMES > **MAKE** > BARBARA'S MOTHER (MRS. PARSONS + TEAM)
5. SET > **BUILD** > TOM AND BEN (MR. ARTHUR AND BIG DAN)
6. SKETCHES > **PERFORM** > THE PETERSON TWINS (CARLY AND BEN)
7. SOUND > **OPERATE** > MIKE B. (GORDON RIDSDALE)
8. STAGE > **SWEEP** > CARLY (BIG DAN)
9. PROGRAMMES > **PRINT** > SCHOOL SECRETARY (TOM'S DAD)
10. CHAIRS > **PUT OUT** > OWEN (SCHOOL SECRETARY)
11. VENUE > **BOOK** > MR. BRAHMS (LOUISE CHIVERS)
12. MAKE UP > **DO** > SANDRA'S MOTHER AND MRS. WHELK (OLIVE)
13. EVENT > **FILM FOR DVD** > JOCELYN WHISPERS
(SILVER SCREEN PRODUCTIONS)
14. COFFEES AND TEAS > **MAKE** > MRS. PARSONS + TEAM
(MR. PARSONS + TEAM)
15. PIANO > **PLAY** > GOK (MIKE B.)
16. CURTAIN > **RAISE AND LOWER** > BIG DAN (LITTLE DAN)
17. DANCE SEQUENCES > **CHOREOGRAPH** > LOUISE CHIVERS (GOK)
18. SCENERY > **PAINT** > MR. ARTHUR AND BIG DAN
(THE PETERSON TWINS)
19. SHOW > **SPONSOR** > GLOVER INSURANCE (GLOBAL TRAVEL)
20. PROPS > **PROVIDE** > CARLY'S UNCLE CLIVE (LOUISE'S DAD)

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Comprehensive List of State Verbs in English

State verbs are a small group of verbs in English **which don't usually have continuous forms**, but use only simple verb forms. They are sometimes called "stative" verbs or "non-progressive verbs". For example:

We say:	"Annie likes frozen peas."	<i>not</i>	"Annie is liking frozen peas."
We say:	"I saw a bird sitting on a branch."	<i>not</i>	"I was seeing a bird sitting on a branch."
We say:	"Sue is nearly forty years old."	<i>not</i>	"Sue is being nearly forty years old."

State verbs are different from **active verbs** (also called dynamic verbs), which describe deliberate physical actions, e.g. **run, eat, put**, etc. They fall into three main groups:

1. Things that I do in my head – with my mind:

These thoughts are already continuous – or permanent – without using a continuous tense

a) general thought processes:

believe
know
notice
realise
recognise
remember
understand
want
forget *
judge *
think *
wish *

b) negotiations with other people:

accept
agree
disagree
doubt
impress
mean
need
promise
refuse
suspect
mind (care about) *
suppose *
trust *

c) likes and dislikes:

like
dislike
love
hate
fancy
prefer
loathe

2. Things that I do involuntarily – that I can't help doing:

We use our senses all the time when we're awake – whether we want to or not! So these actions are already continuous, without using a continuous tense

a) senses:

hear
smell
feel *
see *
sense *
taste *

** These verbs can be both state and active, depending on the context in which they're being used, e.g.*

State meaning: "I **have** two garages." (general state of ownership) *not*: "I'm **having** two garages."

Active meaning: "We're **having** dinner at Emily's house." (deliberate action)

3. States which are either continuous or permanent:

These states are already continuous – or permanent – without using a continuous tense

a) general states of being:

deserve
last (duration)
matter
seem
sound
be *
keep (continue) *
fit (clothes) *
involve *
lie (position) *

b) possession:

belong
own
possess
have *
owe *

c) contents:

consist of
contain
include *

d) measurement:

measure *
weigh *

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Test Your Grammar Skills

State Verbs in English – Matching Game 1

State verbs are a small group of verbs in English **which don't usually have continuous forms**, but use only simple verb forms. They are different from **active verbs** – like run, eat, put, etc. – which describe deliberate physical actions. Some verbs are only state verbs, but other verbs can be both state and active, depending on the context in which they're used.

Look at the **continuous form** sentences below. All of them use state verbs. Ten of them use state verbs correctly, and ten incorrectly. Separate the sentences into **correct** and **incorrect**, and correct the mistakes.

1. Jack is being silly in the garden.	11. Have you been smelling the pizzas in the oven? Delicious!
2. I was feeling awkward because it was my first day in class.	12. I'm wishing it would snow for Christmas!
3. Are you trusting me?	13. We're seeing the new film by Clint Eastwood tomorrow night.
4. I'm keeping the door closed because I don't want my dog to get out.	14. Are you realising what will happen if you leave?
5. I'm believing in Father Christmas.	15. We're trusting you to look after the house while we're away.
6. We're having dinner at Emily's house.	16. After watching it for eleven years, I'm still loving Coronation Street.
7. "You're forgetting something, John." "What?" "I love you!"	17. Which book are you meaning?
8. We're involving you in the discussion because you work for this company.	18. We're thinking about moving to Ireland.
9. Megan is really wanting to get married.	19. I was weighing the parcel on the scales, when my dog barked.
10. She is owing me five pounds.	20. It is seeming that you aren't very happy in this job.

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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

A Boring/Fascinating Worksheet About Adjectives

Choose the best adjective out of the two given in each question below:

1. Sammi didn't have time to finish the whole exam, so some of her answers were *incomplete/deficient*.
2. My father's new car is really *rapid/fast*.
3. The weather forecast wasn't very *accurate/truthful*, because they said it would rain and it's been fine all day.
4. The noticeable dearth of goal-scoring opportunities means that these are *annoying/worrying* times indeed for Danby United.
5. My little brother is so *greedy/eager*. He's just finished his fourth banana!
6. We gave a donation to the charity, partly because the children on their poster looked so *precious/vulnerable*.
7. When we got married my husband promised that he would always be *dependable/faithful* to me.
8. I like the new cushions on your sofa, they're *lovely/lovable*.
9. I believe if you want something in life badly enough you should be *powerful/persistent* and never give up until you've reached your goal.
10. This isn't the finished version of my essay. I always write a *rough/clean* draft first.
11. Some critics haven't enjoyed Spielberg's later films, such as *The Terminal* and *AI*, finding them a little too *sentimental/extreme*.
12. James proposed to Maria at Gina's party on Saturday. He got down on one knee and everything! It certainly made for a *spectacular/memorable* evening.
13. When I told my boss that I needed two weeks off to visit my sick grandmother in Mexico, she wasn't very *sympathetic/acceptable*. Probably because she knows I don't have any relatives in Mexico.
14. Jenna doesn't like her *curly/floppy* hair, but she's too lazy to straighten it.
15. "Jas, that skirt is horrendous! No one will ever find you remotely *pleasant/attractive* if you go outside wearing that!" counselled Jas's best friend, Mandy.

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Essential English

Personal Details - Completing Forms

Practise writing your personal details with this form:

Please use capital letters

Mr/Mrs/Miss/Ms: _____

First Name: _____

Surname: _____

Address: _____

Post Code: _____

Telephone Number: _____

Mobile Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Age: _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____

Nationality: _____

Occupation: _____

Marital Status: _____

Number of Children: _____

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Essential English

Basic English Written Test

Name: _____

Date: _____

Days of the week:

Months of the year:

Numbers 1-30:

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

5. _____

6. _____

7. _____

8. _____

9. _____

10. _____

11. _____

12. _____

13. _____

14. _____

15. _____

16. _____

17. _____

18. _____

19. _____

20. _____

21. _____

22. _____

23. _____

24. _____

25. _____

26. _____

27. _____

28. _____

29. _____

30. _____

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Test Your Writing Skills

Alphabet Fun 1

Which letter is in the wrong place? Put a circle around it and write the correct letter:

1. o p q l s t

2. m n o p q y

3. a b o d e f

4. k l n m o p

5. u v w h y z

6. d e f p h i

7. n o y q r s

8. q r s t o v

9. c d a f g h

10. h i g k l m

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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

Family Words – Male or Female?

Write these words in the correct boxes below to show whether they mean somebody male, female or can mean either:

son	husband	daughter	father-in-law
aunt	grandfather	brother	relative
sister	uncle	grandmother	wife
cousin	partner	ex-husband	mother-in-law
nephew	father	mum	mother
dad	sister-in-law	grandson	brother-in-law
ex-wife	child	niece	granddaughter

male –

female –

either (can be male or female) –

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Test Your Spelling Skills

Read > Cover > Write > Check > Correct

No. 6 – Food and Drink

To improve your spelling, read a word, cover it with your hand, then write it on the first line. Check your spelling. If it's wrong, write it out again on the second line:

rice	_____	_____
eggs	_____	_____
fruit	_____	_____
chocolate	_____	_____
chips	_____	_____
beer	_____	_____
tea	_____	_____
lamb	_____	_____
crisps	_____	_____
wine	_____	_____
pasta	_____	_____
vegetables	_____	_____
water	_____	_____
margarine	_____	_____
coffee	_____	_____
potatoes	_____	_____
butter	_____	_____
milk	_____	_____
cheese	_____	_____
chicken	_____	_____

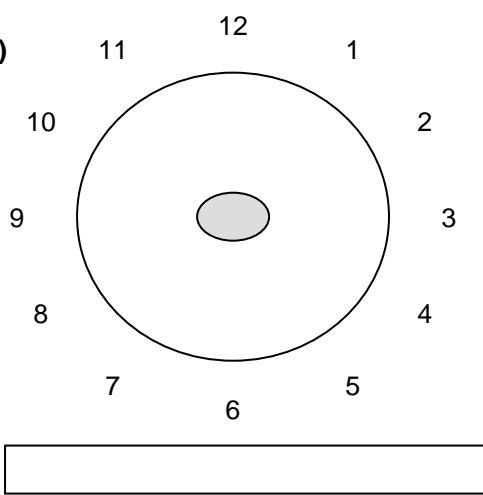
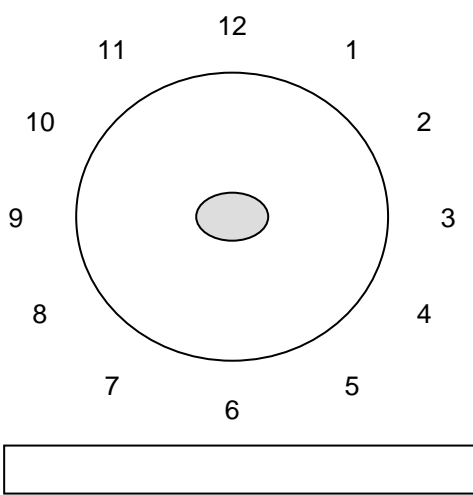
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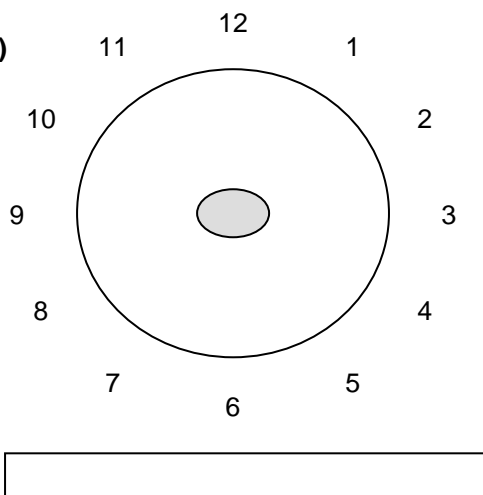
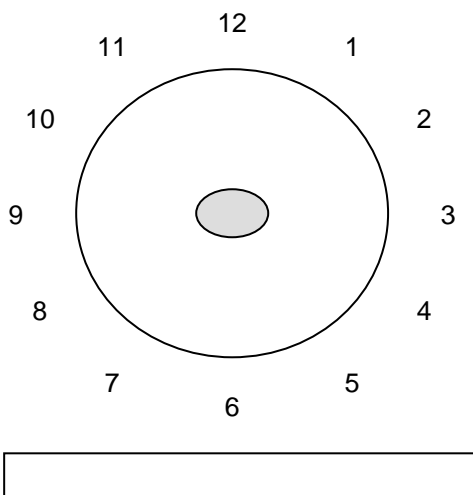
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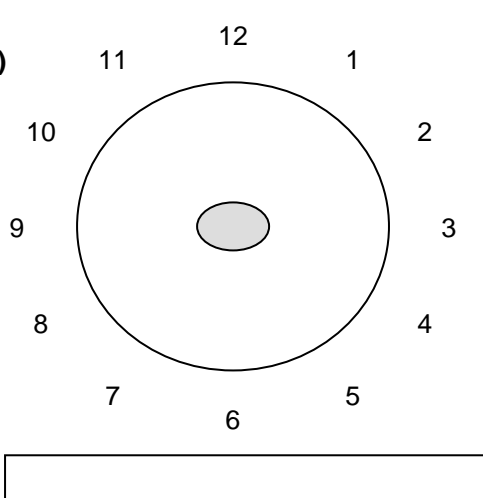
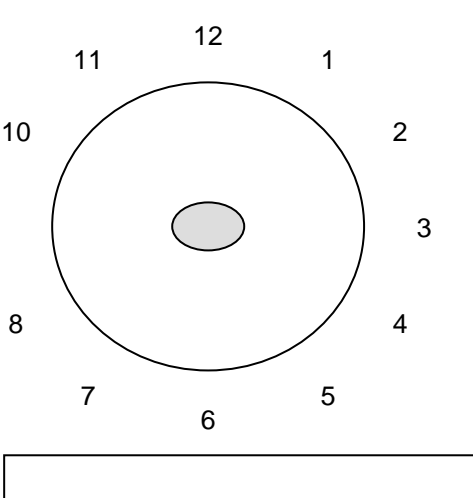
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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

How to Tell the Time – Blank Clocks Template

A)  B) 

C)  D) 

E)  F) 

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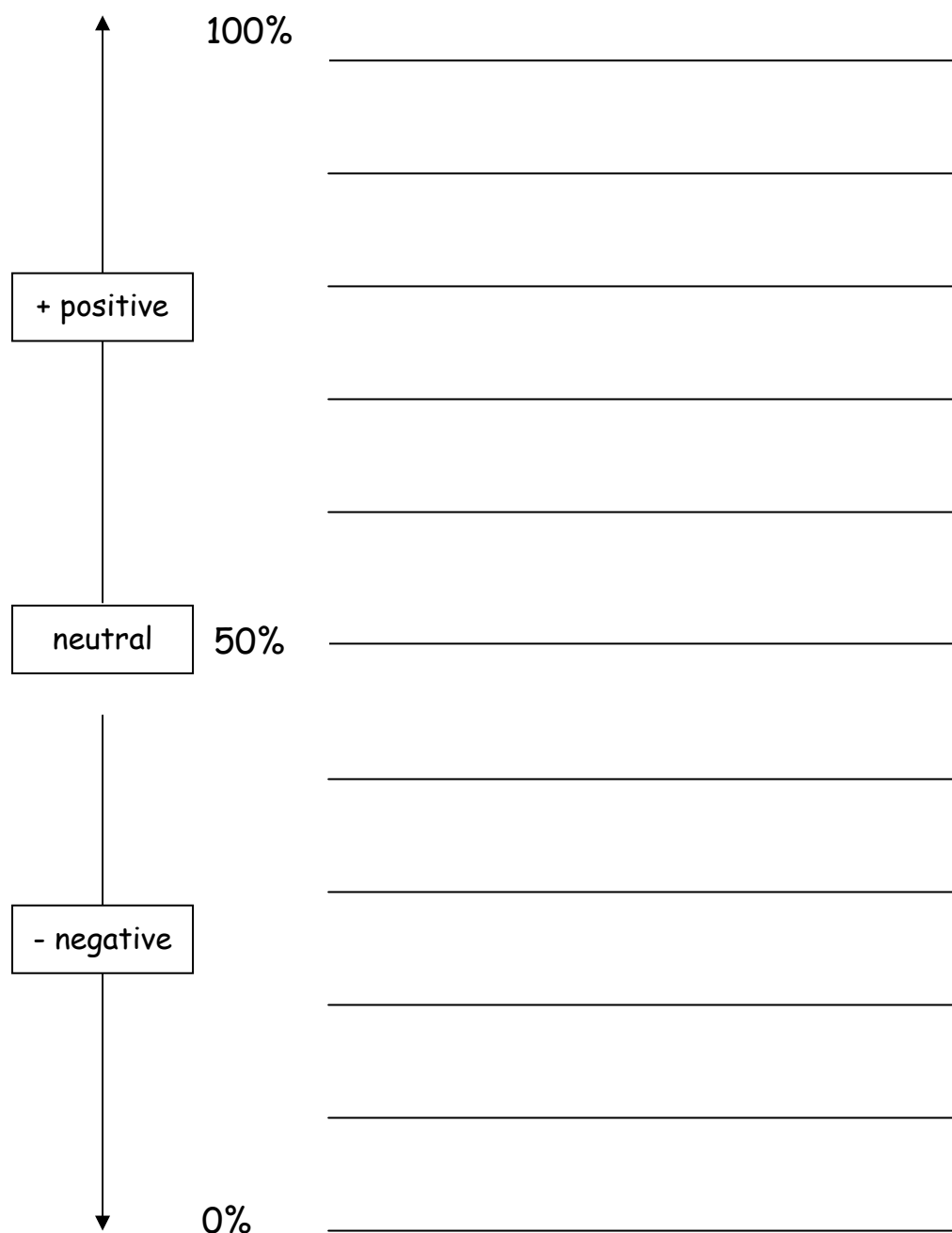
Test Your Vocabulary Skills

Expressing Likes and Dislikes

Write these phrases in the correct order on the chart below to express likes and dislikes:

I don't like I really like I quite like I really love I don't mind

I hate I really don't like I like I don't really like I really hate I love



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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

Understanding Quantities 2

Add an appropriate noun to each phrase:

- | | |
|------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1) A bar of _____. | 19) A collection of _____. |
| 2) A cup of _____. | 20) A chunk of _____. |
| 3) A glass of _____. | 21) A bowl of _____. |
| 4) A loaf of _____. | 22) A bouquet of _____. |
| 5) A piece of _____. | 23) A handful of _____. |
| 6) A bottle of _____. | 24) A carton of _____. |
| 7) A pint of _____. | 25) A box of _____. |
| 8) A litre of _____. | 26) A can of _____. |
| 9) A bag of _____. | 27) A gallon of _____. |
| 10) A packet of _____. | 28) A pool of _____. |
| 11) A ball of _____. | 29) A barrel of _____. |
| 12) A jar of _____. | 30) A jug of _____. |
| 13) A lot of _____. | 31) A tank of _____. |
| 14) A plate of _____. | 32) A bundle of _____. |
| 15) A slice of _____. | 33) A pack of _____. |
| 16) A dish of _____. | 34) A drop of _____. |
| 17) A pair of _____. | 35) A pot of _____. |
| 18) A group of _____. | 36) A tin of _____. |

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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

My Relatives

Fill in the gaps below with the correct family word:

1. My grandma's granddaughter is my _____.
2. My son's grandmother is my _____.
3. My son's wife is my _____.
4. My mother's son is my _____.
5. My nephew's sister is my _____.
6. The man I'm married to is my _____.
7. My brother's wife is my _____.
8. The person I live with as if I'm married to them is my _____.
9. The man I used to be married to is my _____.
10. My grandfather's wife is my _____.
11. My mother's sister is my _____.
12. My father's father is my _____.
13. My cousin's father is my _____.
14. The boy I gave birth to is my _____.
15. My daughter's son is my _____.
16. The woman I married is my _____.
17. My son's sister is my _____.
18. My aunt's daughter is my _____.
19. My sister's husband is my _____.
20. My brother's father is my _____.

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Test Your Research Skills

Units of Time

Use a library or the internet to find the answers to the following questions:

1. Which is faster, a nanosecond or a millisecond?
2. Which is faster, a millisecond or a microsecond?
3. How many milliseconds are there in a second?
4. How many seconds are there in five minutes?
5. How many minutes are there in a quarter of an hour?
6. How many seconds are there in two hours?
7. How many minutes are there in a day?
8. How many hours are there in a day?
9. How many hours are there in a weekend?
10. How many hours are there in one week?
11. How many minutes are there in a fortnight?
12. How many days are there in a calendar month?
13. How many days are there in a lunar month?
14. How many days are there in a standard year?
15. How many days are there in a leap year?
16. How many hours are there in a leap year?
17. How many years are there in a generation?
18. How many years are there in four decades?
19. How many years are there in a couple of centuries?
20. How many years are there in a millennium?

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Make or Do 1

Complete each gap below with either **make** or **do**:

- | | |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. _____ a bet | 21. _____ a favour |
| 2. _____ a job | 22. _____ a man of you |
| 3. _____ the dishes | 23. _____ a profit |
| 4. _____ a skirt | 24. _____ an error |
| 5. _____ the cleaning | 25. _____ the washing |
| 6. _____ your hair | 26. _____ your nails |
| 7. _____ believe | 27. _____ do |
| 8. _____ amends | 28. _____ well in something |
| 9. _____ some damage | 29. _____ a promise |
| 10. _____ a home | 30. _____ some practice |
| 11. _____ fifty press ups | 31. _____ a reservation |
| 12. _____ some yoghurt | 32. _____ a mess |
| 13. _____ a fortune | 33. _____ your duty |
| 14. _____ a model | 34. _____ ends meet |
| 15. _____ a noise | 35. _____ an effort |
| 16. _____ your best | 36. _____ your own thing |
| 17. _____ the washing up | 37. _____ an enquiry |
| 18. _____ an application | 38. _____ some money |
| 19. _____ some work | 39. _____ waves |
| 20. _____ some harm | 40. _____ eyes at someone |

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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

The Perfect Job 1

*By pure coincidence, each person below has a job that matches his or her name.
Can you say what each one does for a living?*

1. Laura Whiteboard is ...
2. Krzysztof Perm is ...
3. Jonathan Script is ...
4. Lewis Mains-Switch is ...
5. Simone Receipt is ...
6. Clark Gnome is ...
7. Helga Words-Per-Minute is ...
8. Olivier Letterbox is ...
9. Jemima Toothbrush is ...
10. Orlando Tripod is ...
11. Sukvinder Emergency is ...
12. Godfrey Vintage is ...
13. Sally U Bend is ...
14. Gareth Limousine is ...
15. Dorothy Catwalk is ...

Choose one of these jobs for each person:

- | | |
|-------------------|--------------------------|
| a) an actor | i) a photographer |
| b) a dentist | j) a teacher |
| c) a typist | k) a gardener |
| d) a chauffeur | l) a plumber |
| e) a postman | m) a hairdresser |
| f) a model | n) an ambulance driver |
| g) a wine taster | o) a checkout supervisor |
| h) an electrician | |

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Test Your Vocabulary Skills

100 Great English Oxymorons – Phrases that Contradict Themselves!

absolutely unsure	lower inflation
accurate estimate	minor disaster
active retirement	minor miracle
act naturally	modern history
advanced beginner	never again
all alone	new tradition
almost always	non-alcoholic beer
awfully nice	non-working mother
bad health	nothing much
bad luck	numbing sensation
boxing ring	open secret
calculated risk	one hundred and ten percent
civil disobedience	one size fits all
civil war	only choice
classic rock & roll	organized chaos
clean toilet	original copy
clear as mud	partially completed
cold sweat	passive aggressive
common courtesy	peacekeeping force
completely destroyed	perfectly normal
conservative liberal	permanent substitute
consistently inconsistent	personal computer
controlled chaos	practice test
criminal justice	pretty ugly
crisis management	pure 100% orange juice from concentrate
critical acclaim	real polyester
deafening silence	recent history
definite maybe	relative stranger
eloquent silence	required donation
essential luxury	resident alien
fatally injured	retired worker
foreign national	safe bet
free credit	safety hazard
friendly fire	same difference
genuine imitation	school holiday
graduate student	science fiction
great depression	second best
group of individuals	seriously funny
half full	short distance
home office	single copy
homework	social outcast
humanitarian invasion	student teacher
ill health	think out loud
incomplete cure	toll free
incredibly dull	tough love
initial conclusion	unbiased opinion
intense apathy	unfunny joke
last initial	virtual reality
limited freedom	working party
liquid gas	young adult

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Essential English

Writing the Alphabet 2

A a B b C c D d E e F f G g

H h I i J j K k L l M m N n

O o P p Q q R r S s T t

U u V v W w X x Y y Z z

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Test Your Spelling Skills

Dolch Basic Sight Vocabulary – in Order of Decreasing Frequency

The Dolch Basic Sight Vocabulary is a list of 220 words that appear frequently in written English. By learning this list students will gain a good foundation for developing their reading skills. On this page the list goes in columns from left to right in order of decreasing frequency, i.e. "the" is the word that appears most frequently and "laugh" is the word that appears least frequently:

the	did	know	never	ate
to	what	right	seven	full
and	so	put	eight	those
he	see	too	cold	done
a	not	got	today	use
I	were	take	fly	fast
you	get	where	myself	say
it	them	every	round	light
of	like	pretty	tell	pick
in	one	jump	much	hurt
was	this	green	keep	pull
said	my	four	give	cut
his	would	away	work	kind
that	me	old	first	both
she	will	by	try	sit
for	yes	their	new	which
on	big	here	must	fall
they	went	saw	start	carry
but	are	call	black	small
had	come	after	white	under
at	if	well	ten	read
him	now	think	does	why
with	long	ran	bring	own
up	no	let	goes	found
all	came	help	write	wash
look	ask	make	always	slow
is	very	going	drink	hot
her	an	sleep	once	because
there	over	brown	soon	far
some	yours	yellow	made	live
out	its	five	run	draw
as	ride	six	gave	clean
be	into	walk	open	grow
have	just	two	has	best
go	blue	or	find	upon
we	red	before	only	these
am	from	eat	us	sing
then	good	again	three	together
little	any	play	our	please
down	about	who	better	thank
do	around	been	hold	wish
can	want	may	buy	many
could	don't	stop	funny	shall
when	how	off	warm	laugh

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Test Your Spelling Skills

Spot the Anagram – Dolch Spelling Test 4

Look at the original word then look at the four mixed-up words (a, b, c and d). One of them is an anagram of the original word, which means that it contains all of the same letters as the original word. All of the original words are taken from the Dolch Basic Sight Vocabulary of 220 English words that appear frequently in written material.

Underline the mixed-up word (a, b, c or d) that contains all of the same letters as the original word.

- | | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|-----------|-------------|------------|
| 1. clean | a) leano | b) cleon | c) anlec | d) olean |
| 2. sleep | a) aleep | b) plses | c) seple | d) sleeq |
| 3. over | a) orev | b) pver | c) owar | d) uver |
| 4. must | a) musi | b) sumt | c) nost | d) most |
| 5. because | a) ceusebo | b) becuas | c) cuaseseb | d) subacee |
| 6. tell | a) teel | b) lelt | c) tall | d) tel |
| 7. again | a) aagln | b) aqaln | c) agaln | d) giana |
| 8. why | a) vhy | b) wyh | c) ywn | d) wlhy |
| 9. will | a) liwl | b) liwll | c) vvill | d) wil |
| 10. their | a) there | b) rhtie | c) righte | d) tlneir |

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Test Your Spelling Skills

Find a Small Word Inside a Bigger Word 2

Did you know that sometimes you can find small words hiding inside bigger words? Look at the words below. Inside each one you will find a smaller word. Underline the smaller word. We've done the first one for you as an example:

- | | |
|----------------------|-----------------|
| 1. <u>bro</u> adcast | 11. feature |
| 2. husband | 12. environment |
| 3. whisker | 13. vegetable |
| 4. village | 14. opportunity |
| 5. laboratory | 15. excellent |
| 6. parties | 16. origin |
| 7. prescription | 17. skeleton |
| 8. nothing | 18. prosecute |
| 9. octopus | 19. telegram |
| 10. newspaper | 20. microwave |

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Complete the Sentences 6

Write the sentences and complete them by choosing the best option below:

1. We never even said . . . a) hello. b) good afternoon. c) see ya. d) goodbye.
2. My hands were . . . a) taken. b) clean. c) serious. d) looked.
3. My husband's name is . . . a) Derek. b) Emma. c) Charlotte. d) father.
4. The piano is too heavy to . . . a) be. b) got. c) advise. d) move.
5. That girl looks . . . a) hurrah. b) ridiculously. c) silly. d) really.
6. Let's try to save the . . . a) travel. b) impossible. c) planet. d) recycle it.
7. That was 20p cheaper in . . . a) this shop. b) that way. c) this piece. d) her own.
8. Can you speak a bit . . . a) up a bit? b) please? c) more time? d) louder?
9. The coffee is over . . . a) then. b) there. c) taken. d) where.
10. Then he told us a . . . a) long. b) time. c) place. d) story.
11. I don't believe . . . a) in. b) if. c) it. d) is.
12. Who wants to go . . . a) first. b) second time? c) that? d) first?
13. It was only a . . . a) agree. b) fun. c) joke. d) good.
14. Give me a . . . a) egg. b) ring. c) apple. d) ring me.
15. We don't know what to . . . a) think. b) thought. c) wished. d) did.
16. It was chucking it . . . a) in. b) down. c) with. d) up.
17. Can I help at . . . a) the morning? b) with you? c) all. d) all?
18. My mum sent me a . . . a) shopping. b) present. c) Letter. d) blue.
19. We didn't enjoy . . . a) camping. b) camped. c) the curtains. d) us.
20. I live in . . . a) bristol. b) Bristol? c) Bristol. d) BristolL.

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Schools

Initial Assessment – Reading & Writing – Page 1

1. a) Write your full name: _____ (½ mark)

b) Write today's date: _____ (½ mark)

2. Write the alphabet:

Capital letters: A B C ...

(2 marks)

Small letters: a b c ...

(2 marks)

3. Write these numbers in words (2 marks):

1 _____ 2 _____ 3 _____ 4 _____ 5 _____

6 _____ 7 _____ 8 _____ 9 _____ 10 _____

4. Complete the days of the week (3 marks):

Monday Tuesday _____ Thursday _____ Saturday _____

5. Choose the best word to complete each sentence (4 marks):

a) Hello. My name [is] [it] James. c) I would like a [sandwich] [bread] .

b) How are [your] [you] ? d) What's the [time] [watch] ?

6. Write these words in alphabetical order (2 marks):

kitchen, bathroom, kettle, sink, bath, garden, step, house, stairs, carpet, window, fridge

7. Put the words in the right order to make questions (2 marks):

a) what mum's is name your _____

b) are how you old _____

8. Write the opposite to each adjective (2 marks):

hot small thin wet happy long rich late clever old

Name: _____ Date: _____ Total This Page: / 20

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Schools

Initial Assessment – Reading & Writing – Page 2

1. Write your full address, including postcode (1 mark):

2. Write the 12 months of the year (2 marks):

3. Write these numbers in words (2 marks):

11 _____ 12 _____ 13 _____ 14 _____ 15 _____

20 _____ 30 _____ 87 _____ 141 _____

1469 _____

4. Complete each gap with a past simple verb (5 marks):

Yesterday I a) _____ up at 6.00 am. I b) _____ into the bathroom and c) _____ a shower. I d) _____ dressed and e) _____ breakfast. I f) _____ the house at 7.45 am and g) _____ to work in my car. I h) _____ at work at about 8.25 am. I i) _____ late because I usually start work at 8.15 am. My manager j) _____ me to be on time tomorrow.

5. Write the name of each punctuation mark (2 marks):

a) .

b) '

c) ?

d) ,

e) ;

f) -

6. Underline the words that are spelt incorrectly in each line (2 marks):

a) earrings shoos coat jeens jumper skirt glasses jackit dress trousers

b) cleverley early quickly tommorow completely somtimes neerly never offen whenever

7. Put the words in the right order to make questions (2 marks):

a) train you from how the get here to station do _____

b) tonight going at to are Sally's the party you _____

8. Write 30 words about your family (4 marks):

Name: _____ Date: _____ Total This Page: / 20

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Past Events - The Life of Captain James Cook

Complete the sentences below using one of these verbs:

**saw landed arrived joined married crossed stayed born met left
buried worked became returned promoted murdered departed hit**

1. James Cook was _____ on 27th October 1728.
2. He first _____ as an apprentice to a shopkeeper in Staithes, N. Yorkshire.
3. He _____ the Royal Navy in 1755, aged 26 years old.
4. He _____ Elizabeth Batts on 21st December 1762.
5. He _____ from his first voyage to Newfoundland as a surveyor in November 1763.
6. He was _____ to the rank of lieutenant in the Royal Navy in 1768.
7. He _____ from Plymouth in the *Endeavour* on 26th August 1768.
8. The *Endeavour* _____ at Tahiti on 11th April 1769.
9. Cook and his men _____ at Botany Bay (in Australia) on 28th April 1770.
10. The *Endeavour* _____ a coral reef, causing great problems, in June 1770.
11. Cook and his wife _____ with his father in Yorkshire in December 1771.
12. Cook _____ Plymouth in the *Resolution* for his second round-the-world voyage on 13th July 1772.
13. The *Resolution* _____ the Antarctic Circle for the first time in January 1773.
14. Cook _____ ill as the expedition neared Easter Island in February 1774.
15. When he arrived back in England in the summer of 1775 he _____ King George III.
16. Cook _____ the west coast of North America on 6th March 1778.
17. He was _____ in Hawaii on Valentine's Day 1779.
18. The remains of Cook's body were _____ in Kealakekua Bay on 22nd February 1779.

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Test Your Grammar Skills

Good Advice 3

Match the question on the left to the good advice given on the right:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1. Do you like looking good? | a) Take off your jumper! |
| 2. Do you like jam? | b) Go to Panama! |
| 3. Are you dirty? | c) Move to a smaller one! |
| 4. Have you got long hair? | d) Buy a cow! |
| 5. Do you always wake up late? | e) Buy a better one! |
| 6. Do you hate your job? | f) Make yourself a jam sandwich! |
| 7. Is your house too big? | g) Go to the Sahara Desert! |
| 8. Do you like drinking fresh milk? | h) Why not get it cut? |
| 9. Do you enjoy swimming? | i) Go to a birthday party! |
| 10. Do you like penguins? | j) Go to a carpet shop! |
| 11. Are you too hot? | k) Join a tennis club! |
| 12. Are you too cold? | l) Buy some big shoes! |
| 13. Do you like long canals? | m) Buy an alarm clock! |
| 14. Do you like sand dunes? | n) Become a model. |
| 15. Do you like birthday cake? | o) Go to the South Pole! |
| 16. Do you like getting wet? | p) Put a warm coat on! |
| 17. Do you need a new carpet? | q) Go on a boat trip and jump in! |
| 18. Do you like playing tennis? | r) Have a bath! |
| 19. Do you have big feet? | s) Apply for a different one! |
| 20. Is your mobile phone rubbish? | t) Throw away your umbrella! |

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Test Your Reading Skills

Any Answers 4

Put a circle around the letter of the **best answer** to each question or comment below:

1. What do you want for dinner?

- | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|
| a) A potato and a cabbage. | c) A bowl of cereal. |
| b) Egg and chips. | d) A cup of tea. |

2. When does this lesson finish?

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| a) It hasn't finished. | c) Quarter past. |
| b) Tomorrow. | d) It's two hours long. |

3. Your brother has been caught speeding.

- | | |
|------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| a) It's his own fault. | c) He should drive to work every day. |
| b) What time? | d) Why were you speeding? |

4. I'd like two first class stamps, please.

- | | |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------------|
| a) What's your destination? | c) That's fifty six pence, please. |
| b) Two pounds, please. | d) I can't find any. |

5. Can I take your order?

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------|
| a) No, thank you. | c) No, we're next. |
| b) Non-smoking, please. | d) No, we haven't decided yet. |

6. It's my birthday on Wednesday.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------|
| a) How old are you? | c) How old were you? |
| b) Well done. | d) You must be very old. |

7. What time do you usually go to bed?

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| a) I'm not tired. | c) It varies. |
| b) I get up at about half past six. | d) I need at least eight hours' sleep. |

8. I need a new car.

- | | |
|---------------------|--------------------------------|
| a) Why not? | c) Have you tried Sainsbury's? |
| b) It's a good car. | d) I'll help him to find one. |

9. Have you seen my keys?

- | | |
|---|---|
| a) It's in the kitchen next to the radio. | c) They're in the kitchen with the radio. |
| b) It's on the kitchen table. | d) They're on the kitchen table. |

10. You're too late – the train's just gone!

- | | |
|------------|---------------------|
| a) Oh no! | c) Where? |
| b) Oh yes! | d) What time is it? |

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Test Your Reading Skills

Reading Comprehension 6 – How Much Money Do They Have?

Use only the following information to find the answers:

Tim has £3.47.

He gives £2 to **John**, who already had £10.75.

Tim's sister, **Clare**, takes £20 out of the bank and gives half to **Lisa**.

Lisa spends £4.99 on a t-shirt and gives the rest back to Clare, who then lends £2.50 to **Jalal**.

Jalal owes a pound to **his brother**, so he gives him three quarters of that.

John gives £5.58 to **Keith**, who needs it because he owes a fiver to **Kathy**.

She puts it with the 68p that she already has in her pocket, then withdraws £60 from a cashpoint and gives a quarter of that to **Laurie**, who spends a third and shares the rest equally between her cousins, Jalal and **Ruby**.

How much money does each person have now?

1. Tim has _____
2. John has _____
3. Clare has _____
4. Lisa has _____
5. Jalal has _____
6. Jalal's brother has _____
7. Keith has _____
8. Kathy has _____
9. Laurie has _____
10. Ruby has _____

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Test Your Reading Skills

Reading Comprehension 7 – When's Your Birthday?

Use the information below to find the date of each person's birthday:

Joe was born on the twenty-third day of the fifth month.

His wife **Colette**'s birthday is two days after that, which is five days before their wedding anniversary.

Conor's birthday is six days before Joe's.

Laura's birthday is three days before Christmas Day.

May's birthday is on the nineteenth day of the eighth month.

Sarah's birthday is exactly four weeks and one day later.

Leanne's birthday is on the day before Valentine's Day, while **her husband**'s birthday is four days after May's.

Tom's birthday is exactly a fortnight after Colette and Joe's anniversary, while **Mohammed** celebrates his birthday on the forty-second day of the year.

1. Joe's birthday is on _____.
2. Colette's birthday is on _____.
3. Conor's birthday is on _____.
4. Laura's birthday is on _____.
5. May's birthday is on _____.
6. Sarah's birthday is on _____.
7. Leanne's birthday is on _____.
8. Leanne's husband's birthday is on _____.
9. Tom's birthday is on _____.
10. Mohammed's birthday is on _____.

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Test Your Reading Skills

Reading Comprehension 10 – What's the Right Time?

Graham is telling his friend Marco about what happened yesterday:

"I woke up yesterday morning and looked at my alarm clock. It said 2.15pm! I couldn't believe it. I thought I was late for work, so I jumped out of bed and ran into the bathroom. The clock on the wall in there was two and a half hours ahead of the one in the bedroom. It was very confusing! I had a shower then went downstairs. The clock in the hall was an hour behind the one in the bathroom. When I went into the kitchen I looked at the clock on the microwave, which was three and a quarter hours ahead of the one in my bedroom. I found out later that day that my flatmate, Gordon, had changed all the clocks in my house for a joke. He thought it was very funny. In the living room the clock on the video said it was 3.30am, while in the guest bedroom the clock on the wall next to the window was two hours and twenty-five minutes slower than that. I went into the study and picked up my watch. It was eight hours ahead of the one in the kitchen. I was due at work at 8.30am and didn't want to be late. I went outside into the garden and looked in at the window of my shed. The clock on the wall in there was three hours behind my alarm clock. There was a postman walking past, but he didn't know the time. He said that when he left the sorting office an hour or two ago he thought it was about six o'clock. In the end I phoned my brother Alan in Toronto, Canada, and he was really annoyed because I'd woken him up, along with his whole family. He said it was 2.44 in the morning their time. I had forgotten that in Toronto they're five hours behind us. That's how I finally found out what time it was!"

What time was it... (use either 'am' or 'pm')

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. ...in the study? | _____ |
| 2. ...in the living room? | _____ |
| 3. ...in the guest bedroom? | _____ |
| 4. ...in the hall? | _____ |
| 5. ...in Toronto, Canada? | _____ |
| 6. ...in the shed? | _____ |
| 7. ...in the bedroom? | _____ |
| 8. ...in the kitchen? | _____ |
| 9. ...in the bathroom? | _____ |
| 10. ...at the end of the story? (the right time!) | _____ |

More questions...

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 11. What is Graham's friend called? | _____ |
| 12. What time did Graham have to be at work? | _____ |
| 13. Who changed the clocks in Graham's house? | _____ |
| 14. Where does Graham's brother live? | _____ |
| 15. Why was he angry with Graham? | _____ |

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Test Your Reading Skills

Reading Comprehension 11 – Car Park Query

John works at a printer's. He is showing Mike, his new boss, which employee holds each of the ten spaces in the car park (see picture). Read or listen to what John says and complete the table below:

	1	2	3	4	5	
	6	7	8	9	10	

space: employee name: make of car: colour:

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.
- 7.
- 8.
- 9.
- 10.

Car makes: Seat Toyota Renault Ford Hyundai Peugeot



John:

"Well, your Renault Clio is over there on the end, next to number two, where there's another blue Clio, which, I think, belongs to Narinder, our HR Manager. Rob has parked his Ford – the red one – opposite yours. Three spaces along from Rob's there's a green Peugeot 206. That's Lisa's. She normally parks next to Tanya's silver Hyundai, which is on the end. The black Ford Focus opposite the Peugeot is Barbara's. She's a trainee. The white Toyota next to Rob's car belongs to Carrie, and Graham usually parks in between Narinder and Barbara. He's out today, but you'll normally see a red Seat there. On the right of the Ford Focus there's another car like Graham's, but newer – a brown one. I don't know who it belongs to. It was there yesterday as well. Your guess is as good as mine! My car's an Espace. I park in the other space. It's at the garage today because of the fan belt, so I had to come on the bus. I always have Renaults. They're so reliable, aren't they? It's the same colour as yours, by the way, but a bit darker."

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Test Your Reading Skills

Reading Comprehension 12 – Working out the Bill

Six friends – Amélie, Julia, Jan, Adam, Wai Ching, and Kevin – have just finished a fabulous meal at 'Jake's Pizzeria'. A waiter brings them their shared bill. After seeing the total, they decide to leave a gratuity of £9.00. Work out how much they all need to pay, including an equal share of the gratuity:

Kevin says:

"So, Amélie and Julia shared a medium margherita pizza, which was eleven pounds. Jan had the Classic Vegetable Tagliatelle, which was three pounds and a penny cheaper, and Wai Ching had an individual pizza – er, the Scrumptious Seafood – which was £6.99. Me and Adam both had the individual chicken thin crust pizza, which was the same price as Wai Ching's. I had extra cheese on mine, and Wai Ching had extra olives and extra tomatoes. The extra toppings were £1.49 each. No one had any side dishes, did they? Oh, I forgot; Julia and Adam had garlic bread, which costs £2.49. Amélie had a bottle of mineral water and Jan had lemonade. Wai Ching and Julia both had two bottles of beer. I had a vodka and orange, while Adam had a glass of wine. The soft drinks were £1.99 and the alcoholic drinks were a pound more, apart from the vodka, which was an extra 65p on top of that. We didn't have teas or coffees. They would have been £1.49 each, wouldn't they? Only four of us had desserts. Adam and Jan had the Fantastic Fudge Cake and Wai Ching had the strawberry cheesecake. Oh yes, I had the Death by Chocolate. How could I forget that? All the desserts were £3.99 each, apart from the cheesecake, which cost 50p less. Oh, hang on a minute! I haven't included Amélie and Julia's coffees."

Adam should pay:

Amélie should pay:

Julia should pay:

Jan should pay:

Wai Ching should pay:

Kevin should pay:

Total bill (including gratuity):

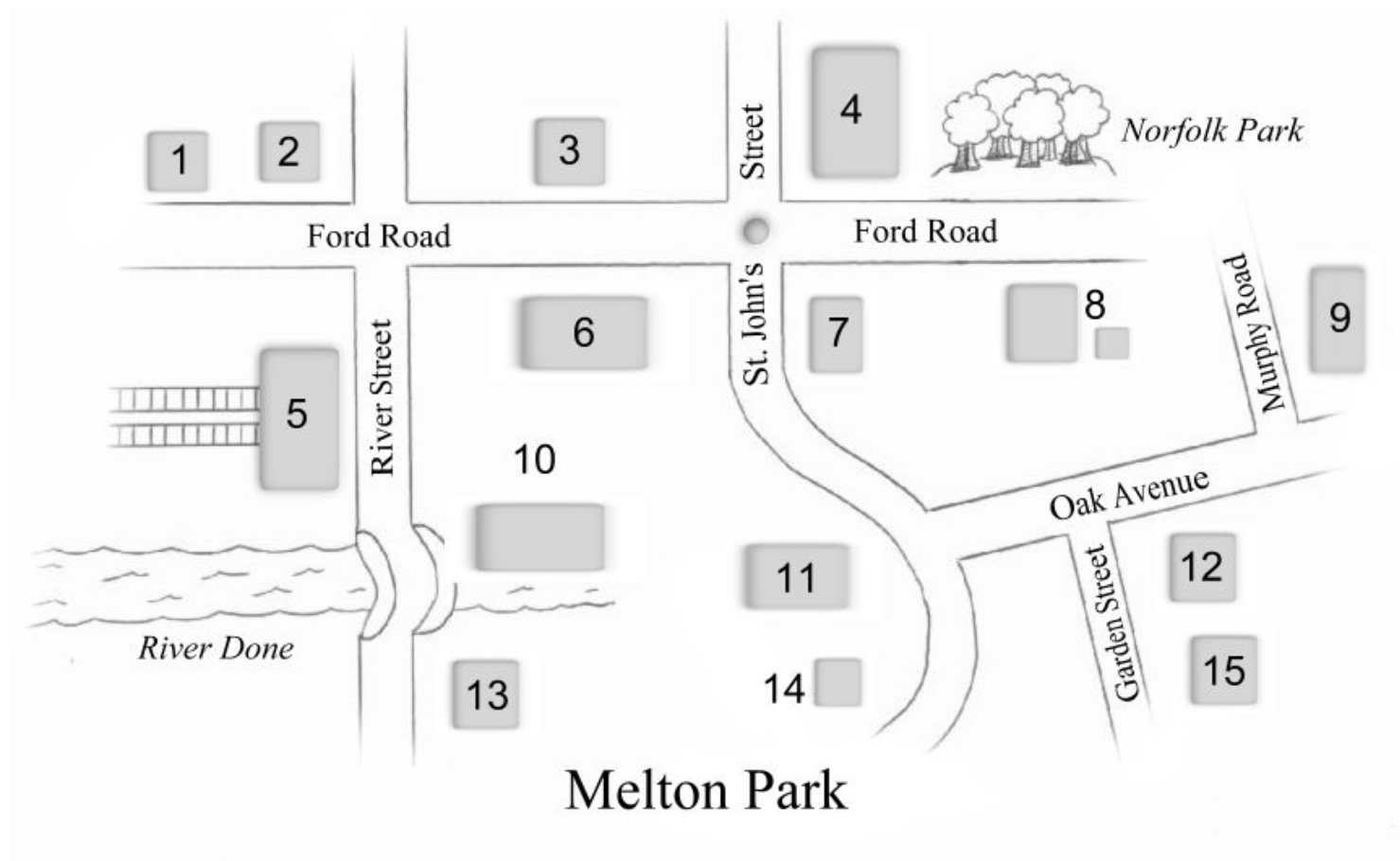
**Average cost of meal
(round up to the nearest penny):**

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Test Your Reading Skills

Map of Melton Park



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Test Your Reading Skills

Giving Directions

Read the sentences below and look at the map of Melton Park. Write a number next to each of these places:

bank	_____	newsagent	_____
bookshop	_____	playing field	_____
clothes shop	_____	post office	_____
hospital	_____	school	_____
leisure centre	_____	supermarket	_____
Margaret Hart's house	_____	surgeries	_____
Mrs. Simon's house	_____	train station	_____
museum	_____		

The **museum** is next to the park.

The **playing field** is opposite the **station**.

To get to **Mrs. Simon's house** go past the station and over the bridge. It's on the left.

The **clothes shop** is on the corner of Ford Road and River Street.

The **surgeries** is next door to the clothes shop.

The **leisure centre** is on Murphy Road.

The **hospital** is opposite the park.

To get to the **bank** from the station, turn left and walk up River Street. Turn right onto Ford Road. The bank is halfway down the road on your left.

The **supermarket** is opposite the bank.

To get to the **post office** from the leisure centre, turn left and then right onto Oak Avenue. Go to the end of the road until you see the **school**. Turn left again onto St. John's Street. Cross over the road. The post office is near the school, on the same side of the road.

To get to **Margaret Hart's house** from the surgeries, walk up Ford Road to the roundabout. Turn right onto St. John's Street. Walk past the **bookshop**, then turn left onto Oak Avenue. Turn first right onto Garden Street and walk past the **newsagent**. Margaret's house is next to the newsagent.

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Enjoy your job?

Client Liaison Executives £19K

Living for the weekend? Life's too short for clock-watching. If you've got a lot offer, we want to hear from you today.

Benson Medical Group Ltd.

(Extract adapted from a job advert from an international financial organisation)

What kind of mistake do you see? (Tick one)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> apostrophes | <input type="checkbox"/> articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't make sense | <input type="checkbox"/> punctuation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> singular / plural | <input type="checkbox"/> spelling |

Write your corrected version below:

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**Special Offer - Hurry While Stocks Last!
12 months half price line rental***



**Terms and conditions apply*

(Extract adapted from a catalogue produced by a major high-street store)

What kind of mistake do you see? (Tick one)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> apostrophes | <input type="checkbox"/> articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't make sense | <input type="checkbox"/> punctuation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> singular / plural | <input type="checkbox"/> spelling |

Write your corrected version below:

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‘Ello Jeff.

Want to buy a new laptop for £449.99?

Blue Danube Technology

(Extract adapted from a national newspaper advert produced by an international company)

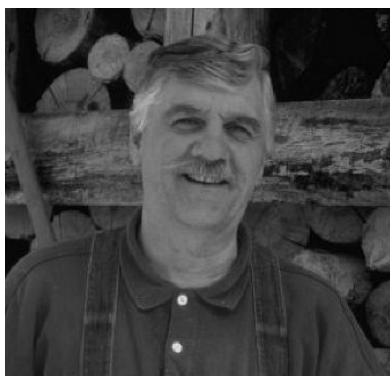
What kind of mistake do you see? (Tick one)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> apostrophes | <input type="checkbox"/> articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't make sense | <input type="checkbox"/> punctuation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> singular / plural | <input type="checkbox"/> spelling |

Write your corrected version below:

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Owen keeps us grooving in the aisles!



Owen Williams – showman

REVIEW

Birmingham NEC

Fans at his sellout show in Birmingham gave Owen Williams an ecstatic response last night as he rolled back the years and treated us to a rock 'n' roll spectacular *par excellence*. It was like 1982 all over again as Williams sprinted energetically through all his memorable hits, as well as some superb new tunes. Sales of his latest release, *Never Be Lonely (When You've Got A Friend)*, have now past the 2 million mark in the UK alone.

(Extract adapted from a promotional brochure by a national company)

What kind of mistake do you see? (Tick one)

- | | |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> apostrophes | <input type="checkbox"/> articles |
| <input type="checkbox"/> doesn't make sense | <input type="checkbox"/> punctuation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> singular / plural | <input type="checkbox"/> spelling |

Write your corrected version below:

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Test Your Reading Skills

Any Answers 2 – Intermediate Level

Put a circle around the letter of the **best answer** to each question or comment below:

1. I need a new pair of headphones.

- a) What's wrong with it?
 b) I have broken them.
 c) There's nothing like them in the store.
 d) We can get some at the weekend.

2. We get a lot of ants on our patio.

- a) It's annoying, isn't it?
 b) I'm annoying, aren't I?
 c) Why do you get them?
 d) Nobody wants to get any ants.

3. I never knew you liked classical music.

- a) The reason why I didn't like it is not obvious.
 b) I've liked it for ages.
 c) I buy it most weekends.
 d) There's no reason why he didn't accept me.

4. Have you got any stamps?

- a) No thanks.
 b) There's one in my purse.
 c) The shop closed over an hour ago.
 d) Please let me have one.

5. When was the Battle of Trafalgar?

- a) It was in 21st October 1805.
 b) What was the date?
 c) I can't remember.
 d) It wasn't very warm.

6. Who left the light on in the kitchen?

- a) No, I don't.
 b) I have done.
 c) I do not.
 d) I didn't.

7. Michelle and Alyson will meet you at the bus stop at four.

- a) That's pleasant.
 b) That's kind of them.
 c) That's so good for my life.
 d) That's not enough.

8. Do you want to see the photos of Melanie's baby's christening?

- a) Can I have a look at him?
 b) Ah – he looks so cute.
 c) Why was Melanie at the christening?
 d) What a nice person you are.

9. Switch off the TV and go and do your homework please.

- a) No!
 b) No thanks.
 c) Yes!
 d) Where is the off switch?

10. Do you know how to cut and paste using Microsoft Word?

- a) Yes, we did it at college next year.
 b) No, we haven't done it for a while.
 c) Yes, we did it at college last year.
 d) No, but I will show you if you like.

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Test Your Reading Skills

Complete the Sentences 4 – Intermediate Level

Choose the best option – a), b), c) or d) – to complete the gap in each sentence below:

1. A day return to Nottingham _____.
a) thanks b) please c) certainly d) actually
2. Jamie spent the whole morning _____ the 'net.
a) running b) playing c) walking d) surfing
3. The greenhouse effect is having a _____ impact on the environment.
a) hard b) positive c) damaging d) negligent
4. My sister _____ ten GCSEs last summer.
a) sit b) passed c) showed d) made
5. Did you buy any milk _____ the supermarket?
a) with b) in c) at d) for
6. _____ is my favourite jacket.
a) they b) those c) this d) their
7. When we got there the coffee shop _____ shut.
a) is b) will c) has d) had
8. Brad was off work because of a chest _____.
a) illness b) infection c) infliction d) soreness
9. Our company will need to win more orders if redundancies are to be _____.
a) kept b) hoped for c) completed d) avoided
10. What would you prefer for _____?
a) breakfast b) eating c) meal d) snack

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Test Your Reading Skills

Reading Job Advertisements 1

Read the following extracts from job advertisements. Complete the gaps using the words below, then match each extract (1-10) to a sentence (a-j):

agencies £11,995 effectively OTE flexible
situations pension ref. no. interview experience

1. You will be a confident team player who can communicate _____ in all situations.
2. Circa _____.
3. _____ Wanted.
4. _____ date: Tuesday 14th March.
5. You will have at least one year's relevant _____ within a Marketing department.
6. No _____.
7. Please write quoting _____ 402-12906.
8. We offer excellent working conditions, including a contributory _____ scheme.
9. 37 hours a week, _____ hours – includes some shift work (evenings and weekends).
10. 25k _____ – Company Pension Scheme – Life Assurance.

- We do not need the help of other companies to find employees.
- We want someone who works well with others and can get their ideas across.
- This is a good place to work, partly because you will be able to join our retirement fund.
- If successful, your salary will be about this amount.
- This is when we would like to discuss the job with you.
- This is when we would like you to work. You must be willing to work outside of office hours.
- When you contact us please include this job reference number.
- Benefits of the job include the opportunity to earn a good salary with on target earnings and join our retirement fund.
- You need to have done this job before for a minimum of twelve months.
- List of people who are looking for a job, stating what type of job they would like to do.

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Test Your Reading Skills

Home Security – Dos and Don'ts

Photocopy this page, cut out the sentences and mix them up. Students read each sentence and decide in small groups whether they belong in the "DOS" list or the "DON'TS" list:

1. Close all the windows before going out.
2. When someone you don't know comes to the door, ask to see their ID.
3. Learn a martial art so that you can deal with burglars effectively if they break into your home.
4. Don't tell anyone your address, even your family and friends.
5. Ask a friend to call round a couple of times to check the house while you are away on holiday.
6. Fit several large locks to the inside of the front door.
7. Leave a spare key under a flowerpot outside near the front door.
8. Lock the front door when you leave the house.
9. Stay in all day and all night, just in case.
10. Leave on a radio or the TV when you go out at night.
11. Keep all tools and garden equipment safely locked in the shed.
12. Have a spare front door key cut and give it to a trusted friend, in case you lose your own key.
13. Tell everyone you know that you're going on holiday and for how long the house will be empty.
14. Leave a tall ladder in the garden leaning up against the wall near an open bathroom window.
15. Make sure that you have enough home contents insurance cover for all of your possessions and valuables, in case your house is burgled.
16. Put an address label on the key fob that has your house key on it.
17. Leave the front door unlocked when you go to bed at night.
18. Cancel the milk and papers for the period when you are away on holiday.
19. Close all the curtains before leaving the house.
20. Build an eight metre high metal perimeter wall around your property and land.

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Test Your Research Skills

Quick Quiz Template

Try making your own quick quiz (for team or individual use) with this handy template:

1. What is the capital city of...? (e.g. France)
2. What colour is...? (e.g. milk)
3. Write five different... (e.g. nouns, adjectives, adverbs, prepositions)
4. Write five different things that you can find... (e.g. at a cinema)
5. What can you do at...? (e.g. a museum)
6. Write five different things beginning with the letter... (e.g. 'r')
7. A geography question (e.g. 'Name a river in Africa')
8. A question using ordinal numbers (e.g. 'What is the fourth letter of the alphabet/day of the week/month of the year?' etc.)
9. How many years has 'x' been married...? Or how old is 'x'...?
(Make up a person and their date of birth or the date when they got married and ask how long ago it was from today's date)
10. A question about the animal kingdom, or about transport (e.g. 'Name an animal that lives underground' or 'How many wheels does a car have?')
11. In which room of your house can you...? (e.g. have a bath)
12. Numbers – add together 'x', 'y' and 'z'... (or subtract, multiply, divide, etc.)
13. Numbers – is 'x' an odd or an even number? (e.g. '5' is an odd number and '6' is an even number)
14. Write this time in words... (e.g. '4.15pm' in words is 'four fifteen pm' or 'quarter past four pm')
15. Write this number in words... (e.g. '2,310' in words is 'two thousand, three hundred and ten')
16. A general knowledge, history or arts question (e.g. 'What did Van Gogh do for a living?')
17. How many...? (e.g. 'How many people are there in this room?')
18. Spell the word... (e.g. 'entertainment')
19. What is the opposite of...? (e.g. the opposite of 'hot' is 'cold')
20. Who is the... person in your team? (e.g. oldest, richest, nicest, etc.)

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Test Your Research Skills

Alphabet Quiz 2

All the answers begin with successive letters of the alphabet in this fun team quiz:

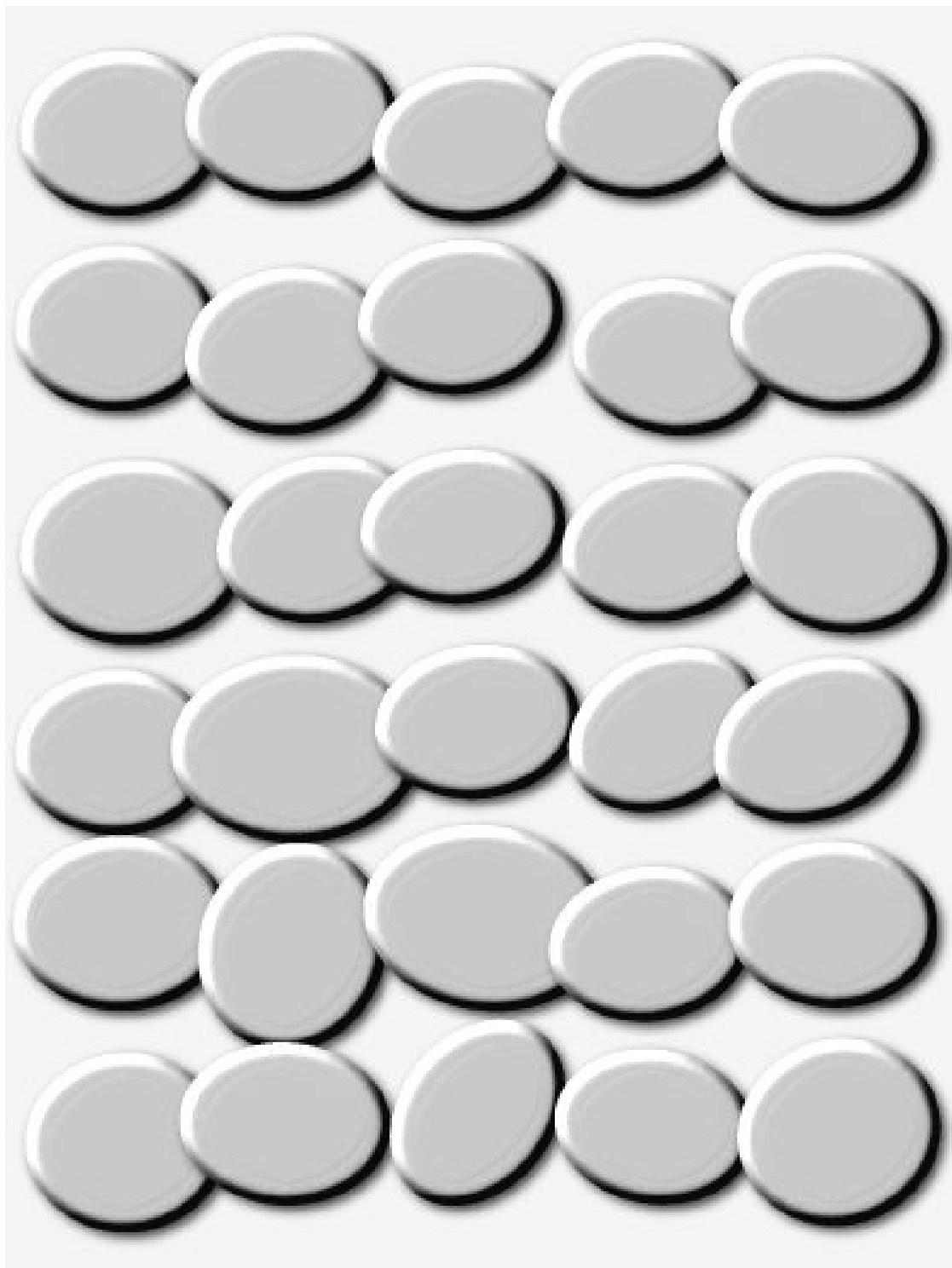
- A** A foreigner, or someone who comes from another planet.
- B** A place where you can deposit money.
- C** A family pet who might chase birds and mice.
- D** A large port in the south-east of the UK.
- E** A popular soap opera broadcast on BBC1.
- F** The last day of the working week.
- G** The opposite of 'rough'.
- H** You need this to pump blood around your body.
- I** A European country. Its capital city is Rome.
- J** Trousers; usually made of denim.
- K** You use this to boil water in the kitchen to make a cup of tea.
- L** This is what you get when you borrow money from the bank.
- M** Pork, beef, chicken and ham are all types of this.
- N** Preposition. The opposite of 'far'.
- O** The first number.
- P** Something that you open at Christmas or on your birthday.
- Q** You stand in this when you wait in line at a supermarket.
- R** A colour that symbolises the Communist party.
- S** The name of woolly animals who love to eat grass.
- T** Mr, Mrs, Ms, Dr, and Rev are all examples of this.
- U** How to describe someone who is not attractive.
- V** A city in Italy that is famous for its canals.
- W** A season. In England it is cold and frosty.
- X** You have this if you have a special quality that is indescribable.
- Y** Something you say to agree with people.
- Z** A black and white animal.

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Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

The Amazing Maze Game



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Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Find Somebody Who... 1 – Icebreaker Game

Talk to your classmates and find somebody who... Think about what question forms you will need to use. Write down the name of the person who matches what you're looking for!

1. can sing _____
2. can tell a joke _____
3. can type quickly _____
4. doesn't own a watch _____
5. has been in a hot air balloon _____
6. has been to a museum recently _____
7. has broken their leg _____
8. has climbed a mountain _____
9. has got a picture of their family in their bag or purse _____
10. has got long hair _____
11. has made a video call with their mobile phone _____
12. has never been to a wedding _____
13. has never used a computer _____
14. has recently celebrated their birthday _____
15. has seen a ballet at the theatre _____
16. has used a payphone in the past two weeks _____
17. has visited countries in three or more different continents _____
18. has watched a football match at a football stadium _____
19. has won money in a lottery _____
20. is good at maths _____
21. is happy with their mobile phone contract _____
22. is the same age as you _____
23. is tired _____
24. is wearing trainers _____
25. knows the address of their bank _____
26. likes dark chocolate _____
27. likes eating cabbage _____
28. likes reading detective stories _____
29. lives near you _____
30. loves jazz _____

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Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Sound-Alike Words 4

Words which sound the same as each other but have different spellings and meanings are called **homophones**. Read the sentences below. Underline the incorrect word in each sentence and write a sound-alike word (a word that sounds the same but which fits the sentence) in the space provided:

1. At first we road our bikes side by side, then Kay went in front. _____
2. For sail: portable colour TV – £45 o.n.o. _____
3. We sore Westlife in concert last summer in Dublin. _____
4. I might be late for dinner; I'll be tide up until about half past six. _____
5. Caitlin was looking for a good novel to reed on holiday. _____
6. After lunch Mikhail and his grandson went for a walk by the see. _____
7. Make us a nice cup of tee, will you? _____
8. You've really caught the son, haven't you? _____
9. Your daft dog never stops chasing his tale, does he? _____
10. Everybody at the office Christmas party had a wail of a time. _____
11. Their's something I've been meaning to tell you. _____
12. Some people are never satisfied with they're jobs. _____
13. The Japanese flag is white with a read circle in the middle. _____
14. It's to late to say you're sorry. The whole wedding's ruined! _____
15. My brother's too children are coming to stay for the weekend. _____

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Talk a Lot

Family

Role Plays:

1. “You did that on purpose!”

- Place: Your cousin’s wedding
 Time: 2.35pm
 Characters: You and the bride-to-be
 Situation: With the wedding due to start at 3pm you are talking to your cousin’s bride-to-be, trying to calm her down because she is very nervous. She was your girlfriend ten years ago in high school but you are over her now
- Scenes: i) The bride makes you laugh and you accidentally spill your glass of red wine all over her dress
 ii) You try to clean up the dress. The bride-to-be is in tears and very angry. She accuses you of being jealous that she is getting married to your cousin and says that you ruined her dress on purpose
 iii) After a moment, you and the bride-to-be realise that you are still madly in love with each other. Will the wedding be cancelled?

If there are three people in the group the third character could be:

- a) Your cousin
- b) The mother of the bride-to-be

2. “A mean man whose wallet rarely opened!”

- Place: The funeral of your late Uncle Charles
 Time: 2.30pm
 Characters: You and Charles Jnr. – Uncle Charles’s son
 Situation: You have been chosen to read a speech at your uncle’s funeral. All of your family are there. They are all upset because Uncle Charles was much loved and will be greatly missed. You have just flown in from Fiji for the funeral and have been very busy with work lately, so you let your cousin, Charles Jnr., write the speech for you
- Scenes: i) Before the funeral Charles Jnr. gives you the speech moments before the funeral begins. You don’t have time to read it before going up to the front
 ii) You read out the speech but as you do so it becomes clear, from the offensive language used in it, that Charles Jnr. hated his father because he had excluded him from his will. You see that the family are very offended by the speech and that your life may now be in danger
 iii) Later on you confront Charles Jnr., who explains why he wrote the speech

If there are three people in the group the third character could be:

- a) A family member at the funeral, who is horrified by the speech
- b) Auntie Gladys – Uncle Charles’s wife

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Talk a Lot

Crime

Discussion Questions:

1. Think of ten different crimes and make a table like the one below:

Serious Crimes:	Petty Crimes:

2. Which crime(s) are you most afraid of? Why? What can society do to fight crime?

3. Would capital punishment solve the problem of prison overcrowding? Why? / Why not?

4. Have you or a friend / family member ever been a victim of crime? What happened? How did you / they feel? Was justice done in the end?

5. Which activities are illegal in your country but legal in other countries?

6. How should society help victims of crime?

7. Do you enjoy watching TV programmes and films about crime, or reading books about crime? Which ones? Why is crime such a popular subject for entertainment? Should it be?

8. What would you do if you were accused, tried, found guilty, and sent to prison for a crime that you didn't commit?

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Talk a Lot

Colours and Numbers – Best Sofa Deals

Student A:

Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps. The same items are for sale in different stores. Put them in order of price from the lowest to the highest. Which store(s) will you go to? Why?

	JUST RELAX	WORLD OF SOFAS
dark blue leather sofa	£495.99	
red and white striped fabric sofa		£10.38/month x 24 payments
brown and grey double sofabed	£679 (free delivery)	
small green and orange footstool		£159
black leather recliner	£1,499 £899	
yellow wicker armchair		£185.95
luxury purple fabric chair		£855 £570 (OVER 1/3 OFF!)
medium-sized pink cushions (x4)	£99	

	REST EASY	EXOTIC SOFAS
dark blue leather sofa		£655.95 £385.95
red and white striped fabric sofa	£499 (+ £14.95 delivery)	
brown and grey double sofabed		£479.95 (free delivery)
small green and orange footstool		£169.95 £129.95
black leather recliner	£1,229	
yellow wicker armchair		£8.75/month x 24 payments
luxury purple fabric chair	£895 (SUPER PRICE!)	
medium-sized pink cushions (x4)		£99 (BOGOF = x8 cushions)

Student B:

Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps. The same items are for sale in different stores. Put them in order of price from the lowest to the highest. Which store(s) will you go to? Why?

	JUST RELAX	WORLD OF SOFAS
dark blue leather sofa		£549 £419.95
red and white striped fabric sofa	£499 £299	
brown and grey double sofabed		£479 (+ £9.95 delivery)
small green and orange footstool	£169	
black leather recliner		£18.72/month x 48 payments
yellow wicker armchair	£195.99 (free delivery)	
luxury purple fabric chair	£689	
medium-sized pink cushions (x4)		£99 £49 (HALF PRICE!)

	REST EASY	EXOTIC SOFAS
dark blue leather sofa	£695.99 (free delivery)	
red and white striped fabric sofa		£229.95 (free delivery)
brown and grey double sofabed	£799 (+ £14.95 delivery)	
small green and orange footstool	£5.28/month x 36 payments	
black leather recliner		£1,229.95 £1,109.95
yellow wicker armchair	£195.99	
luxury purple fabric chair		£16.35/month x 48 payments
medium-sized pink cushions (x4)	£119.99	

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Talk a Lot

Learning English

Discussion Questions

1. Why are you learning English?

Have you got any qualifications in English? Would you like to achieve a qualification? Which one(s)? Are you self-motivated, or do you *have to* study English?

2. When did you start learning English?

Who was your first teacher? What did you do in your first lesson? How did you feel about it?

3. Who is your favourite English teacher, past or present?

Why? How have they helped you? Describe a typical lesson.

4. Have you ever been to the UK?

Tell me about it. Do you think you need to spend time in the UK or an English-speaking country to learn English well? Why? / Why not?

5. What kind of learner are you? Are you a **kinetic learner**, who learns by physically doing something practical; a **language-orientated learner**, who thinks in words and enjoys reading and listening; a **visual learner**, who thinks in pictures, and learns best by visualising concepts; or a **logical learner**, who thinks in terms of patterns and sequences, and enjoys puzzles and maths?

6. Do you use English outside the classroom?

Do you...

a) speak in English with friends and relatives; b) watch English-language TV shows with subtitles; c) listen to music with English lyrics; d) use the internet in English, e.g. social-networking sites, Skype, etc.? If not, why not?

7. Tell me about the other students in your English class. Who is your best friend in the class? Describe them. Who don't you get on with? Why not?

8. What do you think about your level of English? Are you happy with it? What do you need to improve? Why? How will you achieve your goal?

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Talk a Lot

Topic: _____

Connected Sentence Cards – Template

□	□	□	✂	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□
□	□	□	□	□	□	□	□

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Talk a Lot

Topic: _____

Discussion Words – Template

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Talk a Lot

Big Word Game

Talk a Lot Bingo! – Statements

TALK A LOT BINGO! – STATEMENTS:

1. This word is a place.
2. This word has seven or more letters.
3. This word has an adjective form.
4. This word is a concrete noun.
5. This word has four or more vowels in its spelling.
6. This word ends with a vowel sound.
7. This word has a verb form.
8. This word has three or more syllables.
9. This word has four or fewer letters.
10. This word has three or fewer consonants in its spelling.
11. This word has the strong stress on its first syllable.
12. This word does not contain any vowel clusters.
13. This word contains the letter “k”.
14. This word begins with a consonant sound.
15. This word has three or fewer sounds.
16. This word is an abstract noun.
17. This word begins with a consonant sound.
18. This word is an object.
19. This word has one or two syllables.
20. This word has five or more sounds.
21. This word begins with a vowel sound.
22. This word has the strong stress on its fourth syllable.
23. This word begins with a vowel sound.
24. This word does not contain any double letters.
25. This word has only one vowel in the spelling.
26. This word does not contain the letter “a”.
27. This word has six or more consonants in its spelling.
28. This word does not contain the schwa sound: /ə/
29. This word comes before “milk” in the dictionary.
30. This word has a regular plural form.
31. This word has an irregular plural form.
32. This word contains the letter “l”.
33. This word does not contain any consonant clusters.
34. This word contains double letters.
35. This word has the strong stress on its third syllable.
36. This word does not contain the letter “t”.
37. This word comes after “milk” in the dictionary.
38. This word is a person.
39. This word contains a suffix.
40. This word is a countable noun
41. This word has the strong stress on its second syllable.
42. This word contains the schwa sound: /ə/
43. This word is an uncountable noun.
44. There is a smaller word hidden within this word.
45. This word ends with a consonant sound.

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Talk a Lot

Big Word Game

Question List (Mixed)

#:	Question Category:	Question:
1.	WORD	Say any word that comes before this word and after it in the dictionary.
2.	ASSOCIATION	Tell me a person that you associate with this word.
3.	COLLOCATION	Tell me an adjective that can go before this word.
4.	SOUNDS	Say only the consonant sounds in this word.
5.	PRONUNCIATION	Does this word have any silent letters? If yes, what are they?
6.	SOUNDS	Tell me a word that rhymes with this word, or that sounds similar.
7.	COLLOCATION	Tell me a verb that can go before this word.
8.	MEANING	Describe this word using exactly four words.
9.	DRAWING	Draw the shape of this word.
10.	SPELLING	Are there more than four letters in this word?
11.	WORD	Does this word have an adjective form?
12.	SYLLABLES	How many syllables does this word have?
13.	MEANING	Tell me a word or a phrase that means the same as this word.
14.	ASSOCIATION	Tell me a place that you associate with this word.
15.	SOUNDS	How many individual sounds does this word have?
16.	WORD	Does it have a colour? If yes, what colour is it usually?
17.	MEANING	Could I buy this thing? If yes, where could I buy it? How much would it cost?
18.	SOUNDS	Say only the vowel sounds in this word.
19.	SPELLING	How many vowels are there in the spelling of this word?
20.	DRAWING	Draw this word with your eyes closed.
21.	SOUNDS	Tell me the third sound in this word.
22.	ASSOCIATION	Tell me an object that you associate with this word.
23.	SOUNDS	What is the vowel sound on the stressed syllable in this word?
24.	WORD	Does this word contain a suffix? If yes, what is it?
25.	SOUNDS	What kind of sound does this word begin with and end with – vowel or consonant?
26.	SPELLING	What is the second letter of this word?
27.	MEANING	Is this word a person, place, or thing?
28.	SYLLABLES	Which syllable is stressed in this word?
29.	SPELLING	How many vowel clusters does this word contain?
30.	SOUNDS	Does this word contain a weak stress schwa sound? /ə/
31.	DRAWING	Your partner has to draw this word from your instructions.
32.	SPELLING	How many consonant clusters does this word contain?
33.	WORD	Is it a phrase or a word?
34.	ASSOCIATION	What's the first thing you think of when you hear or see this word?
35.	DRAWING	Draw a picture of this word without lifting your pen from the paper.
36.	SPELLING	Does the spelling of this word contain any double letters?
37.	WORD	Is this word a countable or uncountable noun?
38.	SPELLING	Are there any smaller words hidden within this word?
39.	SPELLING	How many consonants are there in the spelling of this word?
40.	WORD	Is this noun concrete or abstract?
41.	PRONUNCIATION	Say the letters of this word out loud.
42.	QUESTION FORMS	Write a wh- question that includes this word.
43.	WORD	Translate this word into your language. Is there any similarity or link?
44.	PRONUNCIATION	Say this word broken up into its different syllables.
45.	QUESTION FORMS	Write a yes/no question that includes this word.
46.	SPELLING	Write this word using the IPA.
47.	PRONUNCIATION	Say this word very quickly.
48.	SPELLING	Tell me the plural form of this word.
49.	SPELLING	Say the letters of this word out loud backwards.
50.	PRONUNCIATION	Say this word very slowly.

Note: questions 1-40 are for the competitive games, whilst questions 41-50 (in blue type) are only for the non-competitive activities. These questions cannot be used during the competitive games because the answers would reveal the identity of the word!

Talk a Lot

Focus on Connected Speech

Weak Forms – Information Sheet

Notes:

- The weak forms of many function words are commonly used in **spoken English** instead of strong forms (in Standard Pronunciation, dialects, and accents).
- All words that have weak forms usually act as function words.
- All words that have weak forms have only one syllable – they are monosyllabic (apart from “any”).
- Most of the weak forms use the vowel sound **schwa** /ə/.
- If we use strong forms when we should use weak, we sound overly **formal** and it's harder for people to understand us, because the sentence stress is incorrect (see p.12.1). Communication is reduced.
- If a function word comes at the end of a sentence we usually use its strong form, e.g. “What are you looking for?” /fɔː/ or, “Who are you writing to?” /tuː/
- If we want to show emphasis or contrast, we can vary intonation by using strong forms where we would normally use weak forms, e.g. “Where've you been all day?” /biːn/

	<u>weak</u>	<u>strong</u>		<u>weak</u>	<u>strong</u>
<u>articles & determiners</u>			<u>conjunctions</u>		
a	/ə/	/eɪ/	and	/ən/ or /ənd/	/ænd/
an	/ən/	/æn/	but	/bət/	/bʌt/
any	/'ə.ni/	/'en.i/	than	/ðən/	/ðæn/
some	/səm/	/sʌm/	that	/ðət/	/ðæt/
such	/sətʃ/	/sʌtʃ/			
the	/ðə/ or /ði/	/ðiː/	<u>prepositions</u>		
			as	/əz/	/æz/
			at	/ət/	/æt/
			for	/f/ or /fə/	/fɔː/
			from	/frəm/	/frɒm/
			of	/əv/	/ɒv/
			to	/tə/ or /tu/	/tuː/
<u>be & auxiliary verbs</u>			<u>pronouns</u>		
am	/əm/	/æm/	he	/i/ or /hi/	/hiː/
are	/ə/	/ɑː/	her	/ə/ or /hə/	/hɜː/
be	/bi/	/biː/	him	/ɪm/	/hɪm/
been	/bɪ/ or /bɪn/	/biːn/	his	/ɪz/	/hɪz/
is	/z/ or /s/	/ɪz/	me	/mi/	/miː/
was	/wəz/	/wɒz/	she	/ʃɪ/	/ʃiː/
were	/wə/	/wɜː/	them	/ðəm/	/ðem/
do	/də/ or /du/	/duː/	their	/ðə/	/ðeə/
does	/dəz/	/dʌz/	us	/əs/	/ʌs/
had	/əd/ or /həd/	/həd/	we	/wi/	/wiː/
has	/əz/ or /həz/	/hæz/	you	/jə/ or /ju/	/juː/
have	/əv/ or /həv/	/hæv/	your	/jə/ or /jɜː/	/jɔː/
can	/kən/	/kæn/			
could	/kəd/	/kʊd/			
must	/mst/	/mʌst/			
shall	/ʃəl/	/ʃæl/			
should	/ʃd/	/ʃʊd/			
would	/wd/	/wʊd/			

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Talk a Lot

Learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

The 48 Sounds of English with the International Phonetic Alphabet

23 Vowel Sounds (8 short) (5 long) (10 diphthongs)

1. /ɪ/	dish	/dɪʃ/	8. /iː/	three	/θriː/
2. /æ/	bat	/bæt/	9. /ɑː/	star	/stɑː/
3. /ɒ/	sock	/sɒk/	10. /ɔː/	ball	/bɔːl/
4. /ʊ/	pull	/pʊl/	11. /uː/	shoot	/ʃuːt/
5. /ə/	shoulder	/'ʃəʊl.də/	12. /ɜː/	shirt	/ʃɜːt/
6. /e/	leg	/leg/	13. /ʌ/	cup	/kʌp/
7. /i/	happy	/'hæp.i/			

10 Diphthongs

14. /eɪ/	plane	/pleɪn/	19. /əʊ/	home	/həʊm/
15. /aɪ/	time	/taɪm/	20. /aʊ/	cow	/kaʊ/
16. /ɔɪ/	toy	/tɔɪ/	21. /ɪə/	here	/hɪə/
17. /eə/	pear	/peə/	22. /ʊə/	pure	/pjʊə/
18. /aɪə/	hire	/haɪə/	23. /aʊə/	power	/paʊə/

25 Consonant Sounds (15 voiced) (10 unvoiced)

24. /b/	bag	/bæg/	37. /r/	road	/rəʊd/
25. /g/	glass	/glɑːs/	38. /w/	week	/wi:k/
26. /v/	van	/væn/	39. /j/	yoghurt	/'jɒg.ət/
27. /t/	taxi	/'tæks.i/	40. /m/	music	/'mjuzɪ.zɪk/
28. /d/	dice	/daɪs/	41. /n/	nurse	/nɜːs/
29. /θ/	thousand	/'θaʊ.zənd/	42. /ŋ/	ring	/rɪŋ/
30. /ð/	brother	/'brʌð.ə/	43. /l/	lake	/leɪk/
31. /p/	pig	/pɪg/	44. /f/	frog	/frɒg/
32. /k/	kit	/kɪt/	45. /z/	zip	/zɪp/
33. /s/	snow	/snəʊ/	46. /ʒ/	revision	/rɪ'vɪʒ.ən/
34. /ʃ/	shop	/ʃɒp/	47. /dʒ/	jam	/dʒæm/
35. /tʃ/	cheese	/tʃiːz/	48. /x/	loch	/lɒx/
36. /h/	head	/hed/			

Notes:

- The syllable that follows this mark has strong stress: /' /
- This mark denotes a division between syllables: /./
- We write sounds and words using the IPA between forward slashes: / / . We don't use punctuation marks.

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Talk a Lot

Learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

Spelling and Sounds – 250 Common Magic “e” Words (Ordered by Final Consonant)

In one-syllable words that end with an “e”, the other vowel is almost always long and sounds the same as it does in the alphabet. This is known as the magic “e” rule. Note: the “e” is not pronounced – it is a silent letter.

a /eɪ/	Jane lane mane pane plane lace pace race space trace	i /aɪ/	prise rise wise	atone bone cone drone hone phone stone throne tone	
bade crusade fade lemonade made shade trade	ape escape nape tape chase contemplate crate fate gate grate hate Kate late mate plate state Tate template	ice lice mice nice twice vice abide beside bide chide hide pride provide ride side tide wide knife life strife wife bike hike like Mike pike trike	bite ignite kite mite nite polite quite site trite white write arrive Clive five hive jive live prize size	cope elope hope mope rope chose close nose rose suppose those dote mote note promote vote wrote	
brake cake fake forsake lake make rake shake snake stake take wake bale exhale gale hale inhale male pale sale stale tale whale	behave cave Dave gave grave knave nave pave rave shave craze faze gaze haze laze maze	compile file mile pile rile smile tile while chime clime dime lime prime sublime	o /əʊ/	globe lobe probe robe code explode implode lode mode node rode bloke broke choke Coke coke joke poke smoke stoke woke	u /ju:/ or /u:/
came fame frame game lame same shame tame cane Dane	e /i:/	brine dine fine line mine nine pine shine time wine pipe	hole mole pole sole stole whole dome home	cube Danube tube huge refuge Luke puke mule rule Yule flume fume legume abuse use brute chute cute	

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Talk a Lot

Learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

List of Words Using the Unvoiced "th" Sound in English /θ/

Nouns:

anthem
atheism
atheist
athlete
authenticity
author
authority
bath
bathroom
birth
birthday
breadth
breath
broth
brothel
cathedral
death
depth
earth
enthusiasm
epithet
ether
ethics
faith
froth
growth
health
hearth
length
lethargy
lithium
mammoth
mathematics
method
methyl
month
moth
mouth
myth
north
panther
path

pith
python
sheath
sleuth
sloth
smith
south
stealth
strength
sympathy
teeth
thane
thanks
thaw
theatre
theft
theme
theme park
theologian
theology
theory
therapy
thesaurus
thicket
thief
thigh
thing
thirst
thong
thorn
thought
thread
threat
thrift
thrill
throat
throne
throng
throw
throw in
thug
thumb
thump
thunder

tooth
truth
undergrowth
wealth
width
worth
wrath
wreath
youth
zenith

Verbs:

enthuse
froth
lengthen
thank
thatch
thaw
think
thread
threaten
thrill
thrive
throng
throw
throw away
throw out
throw up
thud
thump

Adjectives:

authentic
earthy
enthusiastic
ethnic
faithful
frothy
Gothic
healthy
lengthy

lethal
lethargic
mythical
pathetic
pithy
ruthless
stealthy
thankful
thatched
theoretical
therapeutic
thermal
thick
thin
thirsty
thorough
thoughtful
threatening
thrifty
thrilling
thriving
throwaway
truthful
uncouth
wealthy
wrathful

Adverbs:

authentically
earthily
enthusiastically
faithfully
frothily
healthily
lethally
lethargically
pathetically
pithily
stealthily
thankfully
theoretically
therapeutically
thickly

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Talk a Lot

Learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

List of Words Using the Unvoiced "th" Sound in English /θ/

thinly	twelfth	Ethan	Thompson
thirstily	thirteenth	Jonathan	thyme
thoroughly	fourteenth	Matthew	
thoughtfully	fifteenth	Seth	<u>"th" was</u>
threateningly	sixteenth	Theo	<u>a common suffix on</u>
thriftily	seventeenth		<u>Old English</u>
thrillingly	eighteenth	<u>Surnames:</u>	<u>verbs:</u>
truthfully	nineteenth	Hathaway	eateth
wrathfully	twentieth	Luther	goeth
	thirtieth	Smith	saith
Pronouns:	fortieth	Steerforth	watcheth
anything	fiftieth	Thackeray	etc.
both	sixtieth	Thatcher	
everything	seventieth		<u>When "th" is spelled</u>
nothing	eightieth	<u>Place Names:</u>	<u>but not pronounced:</u>
something	ninetieth	Athens	asthma
	hundredth	Grantham	
Function Words:	thousandth	Southampton	<u>In compound</u>
forth	millionth	Thetford	<u>nouns "th" can</u>
through	billionth	Thurso	<u>occur in the</u>
	Proper Nouns:		<u>spelling</u>
Cardinal Numbers:	<u>Female First Names:</u>	<u>Miscellaneous:</u>	<u>accidentally</u>
thirteen	Agatha	Goths	<u>when two words</u>
thousand	Bertha	Macbeth	<u>meet together.</u>
three	Beth	Othello	<u>The "th"</u>
	Catherine	Thanksgiving	<u>phonemes are</u>
Ordinal Numbers:	Cathy	Thor	<u>not pronounced:</u>
third	Dorothea	Thursday	hothouse
fourth	Dorothy		knighthood
fifth	Ethel	Some Curiosities:	lightheaded
sixth	Judith	<u>When "th" spelling</u>	lighthouse
seventh	Kath	<u>produces /t/</u>	pothead
eighth	Kathleen	<u>sound:</u>	sweetheart
ninth	Ruth	apartheid	
tenth	Thelma	Esther	
eleventh	Thora	Thailand	
	<u>Male First Names:</u>	Thames	
	Arthur	Thandie	
		Theresa	

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Talk a Lot

Learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

List of Words Using the Voiced “th” Sound in English /ð/

<p>Nouns:</p> <p>algorithm bathing suit booth bother brethren brother clothes farthing father feather heather lathe leather logarithm mother rhythm scythe smithereens swathe teething tether tithe weather wherewithal zither</p> <p>Verbs:</p> <p>bathe breathe clothe dither loathe mither scathe scythe seethe sheathe slither soothe teethe</p>	<p>tithe wither withhold withstand wreathe writhe</p> <p>Adjectives:</p> <p>blithe lithe northern smooth southern swarthy worthy</p> <p>Adverbs:</p> <p>blithely farther further nevertheless nonetheless rather (than) smoothly then there thereafter therefore together worthily</p> <p>Pronouns:</p> <p>their theirs them themselves they</p>	<p>Contractions:</p> <p>they're they've</p> <p>Articles:</p> <p>the</p> <p>Determiners:</p> <p>either neither other that these this those</p> <p>Prepositions:</p> <p>with within without</p> <p>Conjunctions:</p> <p>although than (e.g. “better than me”) though whether</p> <p>Proper Nouns:</p> <p>Carruthers Heather Netherlands Northern Lights</p>	<p>Rutherford Smithers Southern... Wetherspoon Worthington</p> <p>Archaisms:</p> <p>hither thee thence thereafter therein thereupon thine thither thou thus thy whither</p> <p>Nouns with /θ/ Sound where the Plural Form Uses /ð/:</p> <p>baths mouths oaths paths truths youths</p>
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Talk a Lot

Learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

Translate Signs and Notices **from** the IPA 1

Translate the signs and notices below **from** the International Phonetic Alphabet.
(See next page for answers.)

1. /'fɪf.ti pə'sent of/ _____
2. /baɪ wʌn get wʌn friː/ _____
3. /kləʊzd/ _____
4. /dɪ'seɪ.blɪd/ _____
5. /faɪə 'ek.sɪt/ _____
6. /'əʊ.pən/ _____
7. /kɪːp aʊt/ _____
8. /'ek.sɪt/ _____
9. /'tɔɪ.ləts/ _____
10. /nəʊ dɒg.zə'laʊd ek'sept ɡaɪ dɒgz/ _____
11. /nəʊ 'paɪ.kɪŋ/ _____
12. /aʊt əv 'ɔː.də/ _____
13. /pʊʃ/ _____
14. /'peɪ.jən dɪs'pleɪ/ _____
15. /pliːz peɪ hɪə/ _____
16. /nəʊ 'sməʊ.kɪŋ/ _____
17. /'paɪ.kɪŋ prəʊ'hɪb.ɪt.d/ _____
18. /kjuː hɪə/ _____
19. /saɪl/ _____
20. /stɑːf 'əʊn.li/ _____

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Talk a Lot

Learn the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA)

IPA Test 1

1. Write your first name using the IPA: _____

2. Write two words in English that contain the same vowel sound:

a) /ɪ/ _____

b) /æ/ _____

3. Write two words in English that contain the same diphthong:

a) /eɪ/ _____

b) /əʊ/ _____

4. Write two words in English that contain the same consonant sound:

a) /θ/ _____

b) /tʃ/ _____

5. Translate the following sentences into English:

a) /nə'tæʃ.ə 'dʌz.ən wɒn 'ten.i 'sɒs.ɪdʒ.əz/

b) /aɪ ni:d ə 'kʌp.l əv nyu: ʃɜ:ts/

6. Write the following sentences using the IPA (include stress marks):

a) Can I have a drink, please? _____

b) My brother's name is Phil. _____

c) He wants me to go to the theatre. _____

d) There isn't any coffee. _____

7. Write these words in your first language, then translate the results into the IPA:

a) bread _____

b) newspaper _____

c) friend _____

d) shoulder _____

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Talk a Lot

Places in the UK

Discussion Words

Snowdonia	Skegness	Giant's Causeway	Edinburgh
Scotland	Oxford	Manchester	York
Llandudno	Hathersage	Wimbledon	Norwich
Hadrian's Wall	Brick Lane	English Channel	United Kingdom
Aberdeen	Bristol	England	Cardiff
Bournemouth	Norfolk Broads	Alton Towers	London
John o'Groats	Stonehenge	Sherwood Forest	Greenwich
Great Britain	Orkney	Cardigan Bay	Cambridge
Belfast	Lake District	Wales	Clumber Park
Loch Ness	Northern Ireland	Land's End	Stratford-upon-Avon

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Talk a Lot

Places in the UK

General Questions

1. Are there any places that you don't know? Find out more about them.
2. Take some cards. Describe the place on a card without saying it.
3. How many places have... a) 1 syllable, b) 2 syllables, c) 3 syllables, d) 4 syllables, e) 5 syllables, f) 6 syllables?
4. Put places with more than one syllable into groups according to where the strong stress falls.
5. Put the places into alphabetical order.
6. Put together places that have the same number of letters.
7. Find places that... a) begin with a vowel sound, b) end with a vowel sound, c) begin with a consonant sound, d) end with a consonant sound. Put them into sound groups.
8. Find places which contain silent letters (letters which are not pronounced).
9. How many places can you remember when they are all turned over?
10. Put places that contain the same sounds into groups, using the IPA.

Lesson Questions

1. Which place sounds like... a) porridge, b) sales, c) pistol, d) banned send, e) path?
2. a) Find all of the countries in the UK and put them together with their capital cities.
b) Which of these countries form Great Britain?
3. Which place is a homophone with a group of the largest sea mammals?
4. Find a place where you can... a) watch a match, b) hunt a monster, c) check the time.
5. Find a place which has a weak stress schwa sound /ə/ on the... a) 1st syllable, b) 2nd syllable, c) 3rd syllable, etc. ii) Do any places *not* have a schwa?
6. Put the countries of the UK into order of size, from the one with the biggest population to the one with the smallest. (Have a guess, if you're not sure!)
7. Put into groups all of the... a) cities, b) tourist attractions, c) places of cultural interest, d) places of outstanding natural beauty, e) historical sites.
8. Put into groups all of the places in... a) Wales, b) Scotland, c) Northern Ireland, d) England.
9. Find... a) a monument, b) a street, c) a village, d) a theme park, e) a suburb, f) a country, g) a border, h) a seaside resort, i) an archipelago, j) a mountain range.

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Talk a Lot

Learning English

Agree or Disagree?

Do you agree or disagree with these statements? Say why. Find out what your partner thinks, and mark the boxes with ✓ for agree and ✗ for disagree:

	Me:	My Partner:
1. English is the most important language in the world.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2. Learning English is boring.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3. My English is getting better all the time.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4. <i>"The roots of education are bitter, but the fruit is sweet."</i> – Aristotle	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5. I don't like my English teacher.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
6. I'm one of the best students in my class.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
7. <i>"Education is the movement from darkness to light."</i> – Allan Bloom	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
8. I prefer group discussion activities to working on my own.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
9. It's easier to learn English than my language.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
10. I never forget to do my homework.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
11. <i>"The foundation of every state is the education of its youth."</i> – Diogenes	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
12. I feel confident enough to speak to strangers in English.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
13. Life would be easier if everybody spoke the same language.	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
14. I will never get beyond this level of English!	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
15. <i>"Education is what survives when what has been learned has been forgotten."</i> – B. F. Skinner	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
16. English grammar just doesn't make sense!	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

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Talk a Lot

Films

Role Plays

1. "Cut!"

- Place: A beautiful stately home in the country, which is the set of a high-budget film – a costume drama set in the 1860s
- Time: 11.40am
- Characters: You are a film extra; the other student is a famous actor
- Situation: The famous actor is filming some emotional scenes. You are supposed to be in the background, keeping quiet and unnoticed
- Scenes:
- i) Shooting a scene: the actor's character's lover has left them for another man/woman. There is a dramatic argument. Suddenly your mobile rings. You answer it. The actor has to restart the scene. This happens a few times
 - ii) Later, during a different scene, the actor's character is plotting revenge on their former lover. You are supposed to be in the background, up a ladder, cleaning a window. You lose your balance and fall off. This happens a few times; the final time you actually fall through the window. The actor is cross
 - iii) At the end of the day, you go to the actor's dressing room and apologise. Try to get their autograph for yourself, and then for your mum, dad, sister, brother, cousin, Auntie Dotty, etc.!

If there are three people in the group, the third character could be:

- a) *The upper-class director of the film, called Nigel*
- b) *Another film extra, who is jealous of your screen time with the actor...*

2. "Your world is confusing to me!"

- Place: A DVD rental store
- Time: 3.30pm
- Characters: You work in the store; the other person is an alien from the planet Sproot
- Situation: The alien comes into the store to complain about his rental. It wouldn't play...
- Scenes:
- i) You check the DVD on your player. It works fine. The alien explains that it wouldn't fit in the slot. He (or *she*, or *it*) had been trying to put it into a video recorder. He chooses a different DVD
 - ii) The next day, the alien returns to complain that the DVD is damaged. It wouldn't play. This time it went in the slot OK, but all the power in his flat went off. He had been trying to put it into a toaster. He rents a different DVD
 - iii) The next day, the alien comes back with the DVD and a microwave oven. Both are badly damaged. He is banned from the DVD rental store for life

If there are three people in the group, the third character could be:

- a) *The alien's equally confused friend / commander / overlord*
- b) *The store manager, who is drunk*

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Talk a Lot

Hospital

Role Plays

1. “You won’t feel a thing!”

Place: A busy hospital on the edge of a large city
 Time: 10.20 am
 Characters: You are a patient; the other student is a nurse
 Situation: You’re staying in hospital for a few days. Your doctor has sent you to the blood clinic to have a routine blood test. You are terrified of needles and can’t stand the idea of anyone sticking a syringe in your arm. However, your treatment cannot continue without the results of the blood test...

Scenes: i) You go to the blood clinic; you’re very nervous, but try to remain calm. When the nurse produces the syringe you run screaming from the room
 ii) A few minutes later, you return to the clinic. You try to compose yourself. The nurse says that it will only take a second, and won’t hurt. You try to think about something pleasant, but at the last minute you see the syringe coming towards you and flee the room, gibbering as if you’ve seen a ghost
 iii) Evening of the same day. The doctor needs the blood test results. You must have the blood test, no matter what. The nurse must convince, cajole, entice, or otherwise persuade you to have the blood test

If there are three people in the group, the third character could be:

- a) *The doctor – who has an important appointment with some golfing chums*
- b) *Another patient, who seems to love having blood tests*

2. “We need a place to smoke!”

Place: The grounds and car park area of a large hospital in the UK
 Time: 11.35 am
 Characters: You are a very conscientious security guard; the other student is a patient
 Situation: Whilst patrolling the grounds you find somebody smoking behind a bike shed. The hospital has a “zero tolerance” policy on smoking, which means that smoking is not allowed anywhere on the hospital site – inside or outside

Scenes: i) You confront the offender and remind them of the hospital’s policy. The patient makes up an excuse. Tell them that if you see them smoking again you will be forced to issue a fine of £100
 ii) A few hours later, you catch the patient smoking again. This time you issue the fine. The patient tries to bribe you with some cheap cigarettes...
 iii) In the final scene you and the patient are running an unofficial smoking area behind the bike shed, where other tense patients and relatives can smoke in safety without fear of prosecution – for £5 per cigarette!

If there are three people in the group, the third character could be:

- a) *A nervous patient who can’t get through the day without twenty cigarettes*
- b) *Another security guard, who finds out what’s going on and threatens to report you*

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Talk a Lot

Books

Multi-Purpose Text

Christmas Presents (Original Text)

Line

1 It was nearly 8pm on a late night shopping night, two weeks before Christmas.
 2 Maggie was in Harold's Bookshop in Derby with her little cousin Darren. "What about
 3 this for Auntie Kathleen?" He produced a copy of 'Dolphins of the World'. "No, I've
 4 got just the thing for mum," said Maggie, "She loves languages." And she popped a
 5 copy of 'Go Italia!' into her basket. "What about for my dad?" asked Maggie. Darren
 6 held up a copy of 'Flipper: The Authorised Biography'. "I'm not buying that!" squealed
 7 Maggie. "Try and help me, Dazza! Ah, dad'll like this – 'Steam Engines of the 1840s'."
 8 "Boring," said Darren, opening a pop-up book about killer whales. Maggie paid for the
 9 books and they went outside into the cold.
 10 "We've forgotten Dennis!" cried Darren. "He wants a car manual," replied
 11 Maggie, "About BMWs. They didn't have it in the last shop." "What about here", said
 12 Darren, pointing at World of Books, which was next to the market. They hurried in,
 13 but they couldn't find it. Books For U didn't have it either. Just when they were about
 14 to give up, they found Dennis's present in a tiny independent bookshop near the
 15 station, called The Bookworm. They felt so pleased. On the bus home, as the snow
 16 danced around outside, Darren was puzzled. "Why did you buy books for
 17 everybody?" "Because you should always give the kind of present that you'd like to
 18 receive yourself," replied Maggie. Darren thought for a moment. "So which book do
 19 you want them to get you?" "I'll have a book token," declared Maggie decisively, "So
 20 that I can choose my own present!"
 (272 words)



Christmas Presents (Text with 20 Differences)

It was nearly **1. 9pm (8pm)** on a late night shopping night, two weeks before Christmas.
 Maggie was in Harold's Bookshop in **2. Manchester (Derby)** with her little cousin Darren.
 "What about this for Auntie Kathleen?" He produced a copy of 'Dolphins of the World'. "No,
 I've got just the thing for **3. her (mum)**," said Maggie, "She loves languages." And she
 popped a copy of 'Go Italia!' into her basket. "What about for my dad?" asked Maggie. Darren
 held up a copy of 'Flipper: The Authorised **4. Story (Biography)**'. "I'm not buying that!"
 squealed Maggie. "Try and **5. tell (help)** me, Dazza! Ah, dad'll like this – 'Steam Engines of
 the 1840s'." "Boring," said Darren, opening a pop-up book about **6. really big (killer)**
 whales. Maggie paid for the **7. shopping (books)** and they went outside into the cold.
 "We've forgotten Dennis!" cried Darren. "He wants a car **8. book (manual)**," replied
 Maggie, "About BMWs. They didn't have it in the **9. past (last)** shop." "What about here",
 said Darren, **10. looking (pointing)** at World of Books, which was next to the
11. car park (market). They hurried in, but they couldn't find it. Books For U didn't have it
12. neither (either). Just when they were about to give up, they **13. discovered (found)**
 Dennis's present in a tiny **14. friendly (independent)** bookshop near the station, called
 The Bookworm. They felt so pleased. On the bus home, as the snow **15. passed (danced)**
 around outside, Darren was puzzled. "Why did you buy **16. them (books)** for everybody?"
 "Because you should always give the kind of present that you'd like to **17. get (receive)**
 yourself," replied Maggie. Darren thought for a **18. minute (moment)**. "So which book do
 you want them to get you?" "I'll have a **19. cheque (book token)**," declared Maggie
 decisively, "So that I can **20. use (choose)** my own present!"

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Talk a Lot

Politics

Multi-Purpose Text

Tough at the Top (Gap-Fill – Nouns)

After school on Monday, Maggie had another meeting of the “Magic Holidays 1. _____”, which she chairs. The aim of the committee is to raise 2. _____ for school trips for less-privileged 3. _____. Malcolm, the main fundraiser, made some astonishing allegations about Tim, the treasurer, announcing that Tim had stolen forty pounds from committee 4. _____. Tim denied it, but by Tuesday afternoon Malcolm had given Maggie an 5. _____: “Either he goes or I quit!” Maggie was under intense 6. _____ because Malcolm was a very good fundraiser. What’s more, she couldn’t believe that Tim would steal from them. Besides, she knew that Malcolm had been trying to get the treasurer’s 7. _____ for a few months. Malcolm continued to threaten, but Maggie kept a cool 8. _____, and demanded evidence of misconduct. On Thursday Tim unexpectedly resigned from his post and Maggie’s 9. _____ sank. She heard from Kim, a trusted colleague on the committee, that Malcolm had discovered 10. _____ proving that Tim *had* unlawfully taken committee money for his own use. By close of play on Friday Maggie had heard a full 11. _____ from Tim, who claimed that he had only *borrowed* the cash “...to help my sister pay back her student loan 12. _____.” Tim was sacked from the committee and Kim was voted into the role. Malcolm said for the record that he had only acted in the 13. _____ of the committee and he stayed on as main fundraiser. Maggie felt a weight lifting when the weekend finally got underway. “It’s true what they say, mum,” she told Kathleen on Friday evening after a long 14. _____, “A week really *is* a long time in 15. _____!”



Tough at the Top (Multiple Choice – Use of English)

After school on Monday, Maggie had 1. **a) first, b) another, c) the** meeting of the “Magic Holidays Committee”, which she chairs. The aim 2. **a) for, b) to, c) of** the committee is to raise money for school trips 3. **a) for, b) and, c) the** less-privileged pupils. Malcolm, the main fundraiser, made 4. **a) a, b) an, c) some** astonishing allegations about Tim, the treasurer, announcing that Tim had stolen forty pounds from 5. **a) committee, b) its, c) those** funds. Tim denied it, but by Tuesday afternoon Malcolm had given Maggie 6. **a) a, b) an, c) her** ultimatum: “Either he goes or I quit!” Maggie was under intense pressure 7. **a) while, b) because, c) 'cos** Malcolm was a very good fundraiser. What’s more, 8. **a) I, b) She, c) she** couldn’t believe that Tim would steal from them. Besides, she knew that Malcolm had been trying to get the treasurer’s job for a 9. **a) few, b) little, c) several** months. Malcolm continued to threaten, but Maggie kept a cool head, and 10. **a) demand, b) demanded, c) demanding** evidence of misconduct. On Thursday Tim unexpectedly resigned from his post and Maggie’s heart sank. She heard 11. **a) that, b) from, c) with** Kim, a trusted colleague on the committee, that Malcolm had discovered documents proving that Tim *had* unlawfully taken committee money for his own use. By close of play 12. **a) on, b) at, c) in** Friday Maggie had heard a full confession from Tim, who claimed that he had only *borrowed* the cash “...to help my sister pay 13. **a) out, b) up, c) back** her student loan debt.” Tim was sacked from the committee and Kim was voted into the role. Malcolm said for the record that he had only 14. **a) helped, b) acted, c) begun** in the interests of the committee and he stayed on as main fundraiser. Maggie felt a weight lifting when the weekend finally got underway. “It’s true what they say, mum,” she told Kathleen on Friday evening after a 15. **a) full, b) cold, c) long** bath, “A week really *is* a long time in politics!”

Talk a Lot

Airport – Who would you look for first?

Student A

Four passengers have been reported lost at a large airport near London, where you work as a customer service assistant. The time is 6.49 pm. Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about each person. Who would you look for first? Why?

	Passenger #1	Passenger #2
Name / Age		Mr. P. MacNaulty / 42 y.o.
Destination / Check-in closes	Madrid / 19.25	
Flight no. / Airline		A303 / Scot Air
Departs / Gate No.	19.55 / 46	
Travelling with / Last seen	parents / 18.40	
Wearing		long brown jacket, black hat, grey shoes
Nationality / More information	English / first time abroad	
Reason for travelling		family reunion

	Passenger #3	Passenger #4
Name / Age	Claudia Estobar / 34 y.o.	
Destination / Check-in closes	Santiago / 19.15	
Flight no. / Airline		B916 / Overseas
Departs / Gate No.		20.10 / 35
Travelling with / Last seen	colleague / 18.07	
Wearing		new charcoal grey suit, red tie, buttonhole
Nationality / More information	Chilean / registered epileptic	
Reason for travelling		honeymoon

-----✂-----
Student B

Four passengers have been reported lost at a large airport near London, where you work as a customer service assistant. The time is 6.49 pm. Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out information about each person. Who would you look for first? Why?

	Passenger #1	Passenger #2
Name / Age	Rosie Cooper / 14 y.o.	
Destination / Check-in closes		Aberdeen / 19.00
Flight no. / Airline	M458 / Fly Me	
Departs / Gate No.		19.30 / 13
Travelling with / Last seen		brother / 17.52
Wearing	shorts, blue t-shirt, pink sandals	
Nationality / More information		Scottish / tall, glasses, curly hair, big nose
Reason for travelling	holiday	

	Passenger #3	Passenger #4
Name / Age		David Morgan (Lord) / 88 y.o.
Destination / Check-in closes		Bahamas / 19.40
Flight no. / Airline	S284 / Condor Airways	
Departs / Gate No.	19.45 / 1	
Travelling with / Last seen		new bride / 18.15
Wearing	floral print dress, white sandals	
Nationality / More information		Welsh / bald, red cheeks, has pacemaker
Reason for travelling	business trip	

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Talk a Lot

Money – Who is the Richest?

Student A

Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out what each person did with their money last Monday. Who do you think is the richest? Why?

	ERIC	CARL
PAY IN (bank)	£700	£25
GIVE (charity)		
WITHDRAW (cashpoint)	£300	nothing
ENQUIRE (post office)		
LEND (amount / person)	nothing	£10 / cousin Rolf
BORROW (amount / person)		
CHANGE CURRENCY	£1400 into Euros	
BUY (item / method)		bread, light bulb / cash

	WENDY	KASIA
PAY IN (bank)	nothing	
GIVE (charity)	£10 by direct debit	£3,500 by cheque
WITHDRAW (cashpoint)		
ENQUIRE (post office)		cheap calls abroad
LEND (amount / person)	nothing	£20 / neighbours Jan and Tim
BORROW (amount / person)		
CHANGE CURRENCY	\$US80 into pounds sterling	
BUY (item / method)		cinema tickets / debit card



Student B

Ask and answer questions to complete the gaps, and find out what each person did with their money last Monday. Who do you think is the richest? Why?

	ERIC	CARL
PAY IN (bank)		
GIVE (charity)	nothing	£5
WITHDRAW (cashpoint)		
ENQUIRE (post office)	passport	home contents insurance
LEND (amount / person)		
BORROW (amount / person)	£50 / wife	nothing
CHANGE CURRENCY		nothing
BUY (item / method)	x2 flights / credit card	

	WENDY	KASIA
PAY IN (bank)		£228.50
GIVE (charity)		
WITHDRAW (cashpoint)	£30	£10
ENQUIRE (post office)	personal loan	
LEND (amount / person)		
BORROW (amount / person)	£250 / sister	nothing
CHANGE CURRENCY		€18,000 into pounds sterling
BUY (item / method)	leather sofa / interest free credit	

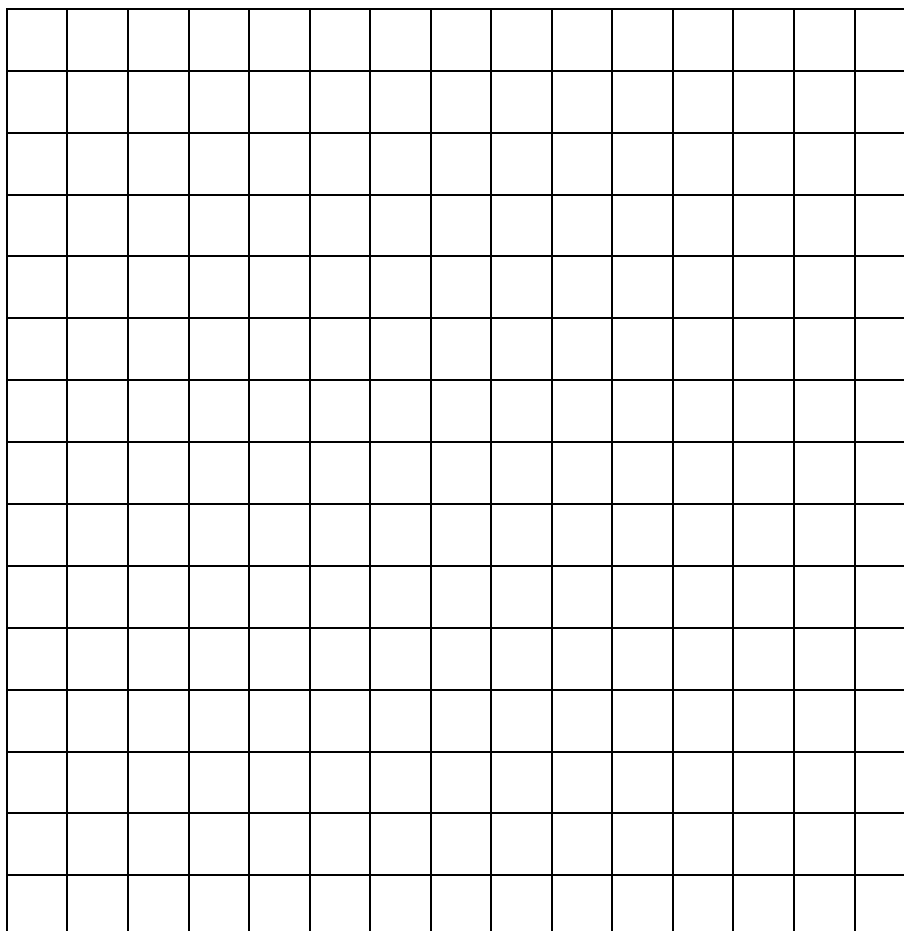
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Test Your Research Skills

Wordsearch Fun

Title: _____



- | | |
|-----------|-----------|
| 1. _____ | 11. _____ |
| 2. _____ | 12. _____ |
| 3. _____ | 13. _____ |
| 4. _____ | 14. _____ |
| 5. _____ | 15. _____ |
| 6. _____ | 16. _____ |
| 7. _____ | 17. _____ |
| 8. _____ | 18. _____ |
| 9. _____ | 19. _____ |
| 10. _____ | 20. _____ |

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Test Your Research Skills

How to Make Your Own Board Game (instructions)

Playing board games is a great way for students to unwind and have a chance to practise their English in an informal environment. They can be even more valuable to students if they're allowed to design and make their own board game from scratch! Follow our simple instructions and your students will be busy in small groups making the next Monopoly® in no time:

Firstly, think of a name and theme for your game, e.g. animals, cars, sport, etc.

You will need to find:

- A die.
- Some counters (decide the minimum and maximum number of players).
- A game board – use our ready-to-play template or design your own using one of our blank templates.

The game board should have a mix of different types of spaces:

- Some positive spaces, e.g. go forwards x spaces, or go to space no. x (forwards).
- Some negative spaces, e.g. go back x spaces, miss a turn, go to space no. x (backwards), or go back to the start.
- Some spaces where if you land on them you have to do a forfeit/party piece or answer a general knowledge question (see below).

Finally, think of some special rules that are unique to your board game, e.g. you must throw a six to start or you must throw the right number to finish.

Examples of board game forfeits:

- Whistle or sing your national anthem
- Say the alphabet backwards
- Count from 30 or 50 down to 1 in English
- What is the correct time now in your country?
- Talk for one minute about... e.g. your favourite place, your school, your family.
- What is the total number if you add together all the numbers in your phone number?
- What is the combined age of everyone in the room?
- What is the address/phone number/email address of your school?
- What would you do if...? E.g. if you lost your bag, or if you won the lottery, etc.
- **Try to think of some more forfeits that fit your chosen theme!**

Types of general knowledge questions:

- In which country is... e.g. Edinburgh? (It's in Scotland, by the way!)
- Name 5 things which have... e.g. wheels, wings, feathers, etc.
- Name five different... e.g. colours, animals, vegetables, clothes, jobs, furniture, etc.
- What is your favourite... e.g. type of music, or season... and tell us why
- Complete the sentence, e.g. "If I were Prime Minister I would..."
- Spell a word... e.g. "appointment"
- Maths equation, e.g. what is 60 divided by 4. (It's 15!)
- **Try to think of some more questions that fit your chosen theme!**

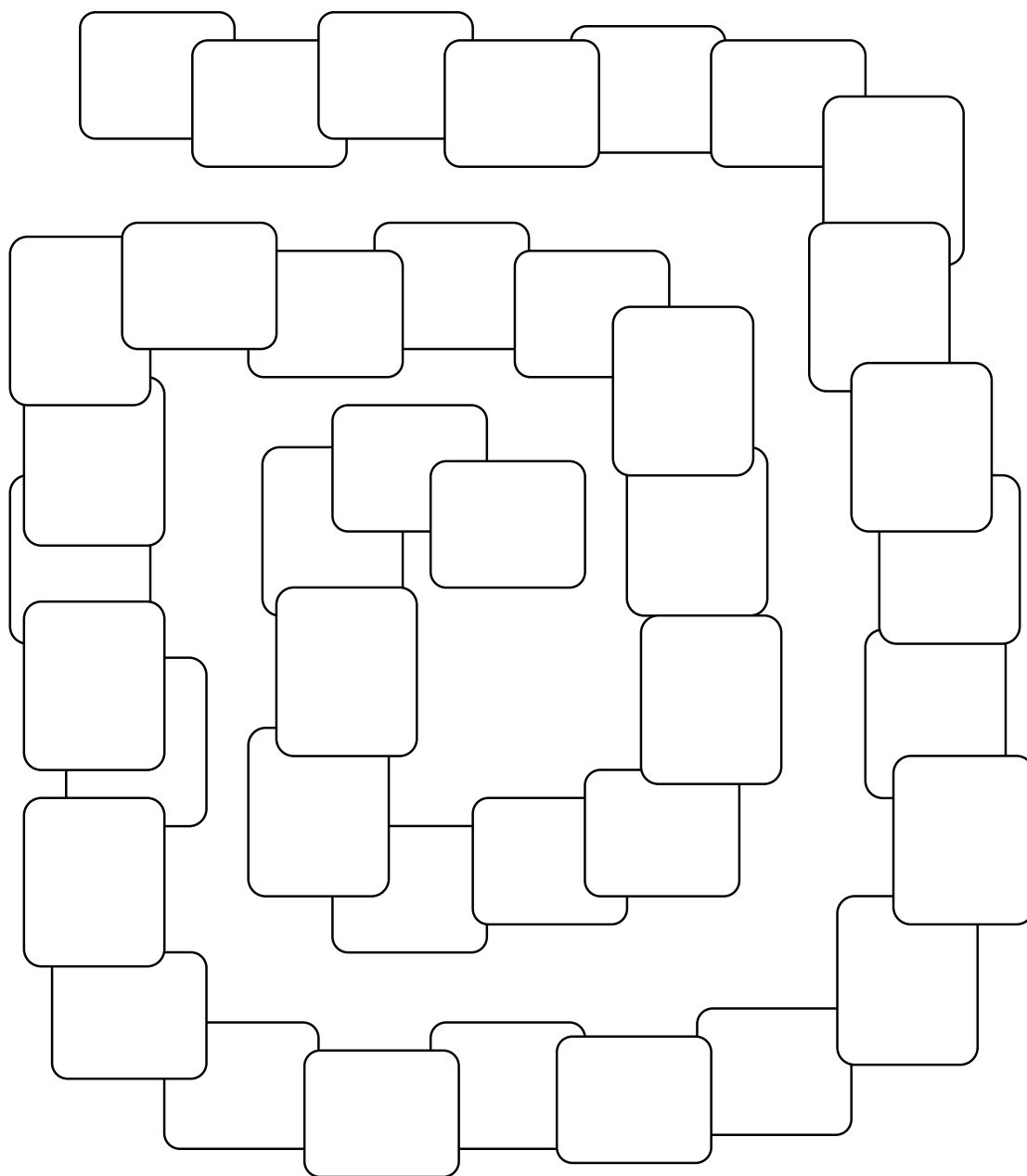
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Design a Game

Game Board 1



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Test Your Research Skills

Holidays and Special Days in the UK

Below is a list of holidays and special days that are celebrated in the UK each year. Work with a partner to find the correct dates and find out what is special about each day:

Holiday or Special Day:	Date:
New Year's Day	_____
St Valentine's Day	_____
St David's Day	_____
Pancake Day (Shrove Tuesday)	_____
St Patrick's Day	_____
Mother's Day	_____
British Summer Time Starts	_____
Good Friday	_____
Easter Sunday	_____
Easter Monday Bank Holiday	_____
St George's Day	_____
May Day Bank Holiday	_____
Spring Bank Holiday	_____
Father's Day	_____
Longest Day (Summer Solstice)	_____
August Bank Holiday	_____
British Summer Time Ends	_____
Hallowe'en	_____
Bonfire Night	_____
Remembrance Sunday	_____
Shortest Day (Winter Solstice)	_____
Christmas Eve	_____
Christmas Day	_____
Boxing Day	_____
New Year's Eve	_____
My birthday	_____
My friend's birthday	_____
My teacher's birthday	_____

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Test Your Reading Skills

Calculator Code Words 2

☞ . 7734

Solve each equation using a calculator, then turn the calculator upside down and match the word you see with one of the clues below:

Equations:

- Twelve multiplied by one thousand two hundred and fifty-three ... multiplied by two ... plus four thousand nine hundred and thirty-five equals ...
- One thousand three hundred and thirty-four and a half multiplied by four equals ...
- Four thousand five hundred and eighty-nine plus sixty-two ... plus three thousand two hundred ... minus seven hundred and forty-six equals ...
- Two thousand and one multiplied by quarter of a century ... plus half of sixteen thousand ... minus three hundred and seven equals ...
- Fifty and a half multiplied by sixteen equals ...
- One thousand seven hundred and seventy-one minus eight hundred and five ... divided by sixty-nine equals ...
- Two twenty-fives plus half of a thousand and four ... plus two hundred and nineteen equals ...
- One tenth of a million minus two twenty-two thousand four hundred and sixty-twos equals ...
- Three million seven hundred and forty-eight thousand five hundred and forty-nine divided by seven equals ...
- Six hundred multiplied by four ... multiplied by two ... minus two hundred and four ... plus sixteen ... plus six ... plus one and a half ... minus four and a half equals ...

Clue:	Word:	Equation e.g. a)
1) I didn't want matt paint, I wanted ...	_____	_____
2) There's a lot of this in your garden.	_____	_____
3) You might do this when you are fed up.	_____	_____
4) "It was only a ... arrangement."	_____	_____
5) "I'm afraid that the company has made heavy ... "	_____	_____
6) Can go before Dylan, Hope and the Builder.	_____	_____
7) "I wasn't well yesterday. I was ... "	_____	_____
8) They collect pollen by buzzing around flowers.	_____	_____
9) Unfortunately, they just keep on coming!	_____	_____
10) "My brother told me to say ... to you for him!"	_____	_____

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Test Your Reading Skills

How to Make a Chocolate Cake

Gradually _____ in the margarine and eggs.

_____ the mixture with a wooden spoon until it is smooth.

Let the cakes _____ on a wire tray for a few minutes until they are cool.

Using a sieve, _____ the flour, cocoa powder and baking powder together into a large mixing bowl.

_____ the oven to 180°C or Gas Mark 4.

_____ the cakes from the tins using a spatula.

When the cakes are cool, _____ plenty of jam onto one of them, then put the other cake on top.

Use a little margarine to _____ the bottom of two 23cm cake tins.

_____ the tins into the oven, placing them on the middle shelf.

Allow the cakes to _____ for approximately 30 minutes.

Put your feet up and _____ the fruits of your labours with a nice cup of tea.

Wash your hands thoroughly.

_____ the outside of the cake with icing, sweets or lots of melted chocolate.

_____ both tins with greaseproof paper.

_____ equal amounts of the mixture into each cake tin.

_____ the cakes out of the oven.

Ingredients:

110g self-raising _____
 110g soft _____
 2 large eggs
 1 tablespoon _____ powder
 1 teaspoon _____ powder
 ½ jar raspberry jam
 Sweets and _____ for decoration (optional)

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Test Your Research Skills

Holidays and Special Days in the UK

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Easter Sunday	_____
Easter Monday Bank Holiday	_____
St George's Day	_____
May Day Bank Holiday	_____
Spring Bank Holiday	_____
Father's Day	_____
Longest Day (Summer Solstice)	_____
August Bank Holiday	_____
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Hallowe'en	_____
Bonfire Night	_____
Remembrance Sunday	_____
Shortest Day (Winter Solstice)	_____
Christmas Eve	_____
Christmas Day	_____
Boxing Day	_____
New Year's Eve	_____
My birthday	_____
My friend's birthday	_____
My teacher's birthday	_____

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Test Your Research Skills

More Interesting Place Names 1

Below is a list of towns and villages in England, Scotland and Wales.

However, among the real place names there are up to ten fake names. Using an atlas of Great Britain, find any fake names and put a tick next to them:

Angle

Paul

Six Mile Bottom

Old Deer

Pieces O' Eight

Jeff

Red Roses

Wormelow Tump

Hospital Farrowes

Tempest Waters

Over Hampton

Shop

Bare

Little Wallace

Field Lane End

Home

Jeffreyston

Great Heck

Air

Henley Overcoat

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Test Your Patience!

Nonsense Quiz 1

Warning: this quiz does not make any sense!

1. Why did the chicken cross the road?
2. How many beans make five?
3. If I have twelve sweets and give Tom four, how many sweets does Tom have?
4. What is the capital of Australia?
5. When is a door not a door?
6. How do you make a sausage roll?
7. Why was the piece of toast in a bad mood?
8. What is black and white and red all over?
9. What have eyes but cannot see?
10. What has ears but cannot hear?
11. What has a heart that cannot beat?
12. What has wings but cannot fly?
13. What is Father Christmas' wife called?
14. What sport do oranges play?
15. What do short sighted ghosts wear?
16. What has legs but cannot walk?
17. What runs but never gets anywhere?
18. What is the coldest vegetable in the world?
19. What do you call a cat with eight legs that lives underwater?
20. Why did the tomato cross the road?

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Test Your Research Skills

At What Age Can I Legally... in the UK?

Tick one of the age boxes for each question to show when a person is old enough to do something in the UK:

At what age can I legally...?

1. get married with my parent or carer's consent	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
2. have a part-time job	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
3. buy cigarettes and tobacco	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
4. buy and drink alcohol in a pub	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
5. have a full-time job	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
6. place a bet in a bookmakers	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
7. join the army with my parent or carer's agreement	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
8. apply for a passport	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
9. pilot a plane	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
10. open a bank account without my parent or carer's signature	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
11. have an abortion without my parent or carer's consent	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
12. make a will	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
13. have sex	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
14. live on my own	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
15. vote in a general and local election	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
16. go into a pub but not buy/drink alcohol	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
17. have a tattoo	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
18. ride a moped of a maximum 50ccs	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
19. have a driving licence for a car	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]
20. change my name	[13]	[14]	[16]	[17]	[18]

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Test Your Research Skills

Mixed-up Monarchs – Kings and Queens of England to 1603

It seems as if my friend Stanley Baker has swallowed a history book! He has been telling me all sorts of historical facts about England's past. But I think that he's got some of his facts wrong. Take this answerphone message that he left me recently, for example:

"These royals are an interesting lot, you know. I've been finding out all about when they reigned and all that. Let's start with the best king of all. Now then ... King Alfred the Great ruled England before King John, who ruled England before King Stephen, who ruled England after King Canute, who ruled England after King Edward the Confessor, who ruled England before King Henry IV, who ruled England before Queen Mary I, who ruled England after King Richard the Lionheart, who ruled England after King Edward II, who ruled England before King Athelstan, who ruled England before King Edmund I, who ruled England after King William II, who ruled England after King Alfred the Great. Have you got all that?"

How many mistakes has Stan made? _____

Are the following statements true or false?

1. King Alfred the Great ruled England before King John.
2. King John ruled England before King Stephen.
3. King Stephen ruled England after King Canute.
4. King Canute ruled England after King Edward the Confessor.
5. King Edward the Confessor ruled England before King Henry IV.
6. King Henry IV ruled England before Queen Mary I.
7. Queen Mary I ruled England after King Richard the Lionheart.
8. King Richard the Lionheart ruled England after King Edward II.
9. King Edward II ruled England before King Athelstan.
10. King Athelstan ruled England before King Edmund I.
11. King Edmund I ruled England after King William II.
12. King William II ruled England after King Alfred the Great.

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Test Your Research Skills

English Banana.com's Really Motivational Page of Encouraging Thoughts

Match the first half (1-20) of each proverb and saying with the second half (a-t). Then talk to your partner about the meaning of each one. Which is your favourite proverb or saying and why?

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1. You can please all of the people some of the time, and some of the people all of the time, but you can't... | a) while the sun shines. |
| 2. Many hands make... | b) how you deal with it that counts. |
| 3. Rome wasn't built... | c) can only make you stronger. |
| 4. Life is a marathon, ... | d) a problem to be solved. |
| 5. It's not what happens to you in life but... | e) in a day. |
| 6. All good things come to... | f) you make it. |
| 7. Into each life... | g) a little rain must fall. |
| 8. You can't win... | h) either know to be useful or believe to be beautiful. |
| 9. Make hay... | i) nobody's watching. |
| 10. A change is... | j) the spice of life. |
| 11. Life is a mystery to be lived, not... | k) breaking some eggs. |
| 12. Dance like... | l) soonest mended. |
| 13. The best way to dispose of an enemy is to... | m) please all of the people all of the time. |
| 14. Least said... | n) not a sprint. |
| 15. Have nothing in your home that you do not... | o) 'em all! |
| 16. Whatever doesn't kill you... | p) light work. |
| 17. Variety is... | q) nothing gained. |
| 18. Nothing ventured, ... | r) as good as a rest. |
| 19. You can't make an omelette without... | s) become their friend. |
| 20. Life's what... | t) those who wait. |

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