

SPOTLIGHT

9

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MENNTAMÁLASTOFNUN

Spotlight 9

Textbook

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Bók þessa má ekki afrita með neinum hætti, svo sem með ljósmyndun, prentun, hljóðritun eða á annan sambærilegan hátt, að hluta eða í heild, án skriflegs leyfis höfundar og útgefanda.

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Unit 1

All You Need is



About Kisses and Kissing

You burn 26 calories in a one minute kiss.

The average person spends two weeks of their life kissing.

Eskimos, Polynesians and Malaysians rub noses instead of kiss.

The longest kiss so far: James Belshaw, age 26, Sophia Severin, age 23 kissed for 31 hours, 30 minutes and 30 seconds, July 11, 2005.

Love

There is more hunger for love and appreciation in this world than for bread.

Mother Teresa

- * More than just friends – is there a limit between deep friendship and love?
- * Does love change over time?
- * Teenage pregnancy – catastrophe or ... ?
- * Do parents need love as well?
- * Boy or girl – does it matter when you are in love?

Read the following unit to find out the answers to some of these questions.

average
rub
appreciation
limit
pregnancy

TEXT A

More Than Just Friends

- Dad** You're looking smart Alex, where are you off to?
- Mum** You smell good too. I could smell you from the living room.
- Alex** I'm meeting Zad.
- Mum** Who is Zad?
- Alex** You know, Parizad. The girl who was here last week.
- Dad** And the week before that too!
- Mum** Oh yes! Are you two getting quite serious or are you just friends?
- Alex** Umm, I don't really know what "quite serious" means in your world, but we're more than "just friends".
- Mum** So where is Parizad from Alex?
- Alex** She was born in Birmingham.
- Mum** You know what I *meant* Alex! Where do her parents come from?
- Alex** Her mum's from India and her dad's from Iran. Anything else?
- Mum** That's an unusual combination! So you have been to her house yet?
- Alex** All these questions! Yes, I've been to her house.
- Mum** So it is quite serious then I imagine. Is that right Alex?
- Alex** Whatever.
- Mum** Are they quite religious?
- Alex** No, not really. They're about as religious as you are.
- Mum** What is that supposed to mean?
- Alex** It means they celebrate all the big holidays with traditional foods and that's about it.

smart
get serious
unusual
imagine
quite religious
celebrate
that's about it



Dad What do her parents do?

Alex What is this?! A police inquiry? Does it matter what they do? If I said her dad swept the floors at Heathrow, would you like her less? And if I said her mother was a surgeon, would you like Zad more?

Mum Oh calm down now Alex. Why can't you just give us a straight answer? We're not snobs. We're just trying to figure out who she is, and what kind of family she's from.

inquiry
less
surgeon
calm down
straight
figure out

- Alex** Why?
- Mum** Well, we don't want you doing anything that will upset her family. Some cultures are very "protective" of their daughters.
- Alex** What are you trying to say? Aren't you protective of your daughter?
- Dad** Of course we are, but in a different way. Come on Alex, we're not racists and you know your friends are *always* welcome here.
- Alex** Yeah, I know Dad, so what's the big deal about Parizad then?
- Mum** This is different. Feelings are involved, romance ...
- Alex** Romance? All I said was that we were more than just friends.
- Dad** We know, just be careful Alex – OK?
- Alex** *Careful?* What do you think I'm going to do?
- Dad** Nothing Alex. Just go and have a good time.
- Alex** Thanks Dad, I will.
- Dad** What time will you be back?
- Alex** Around twelve.
- Mum** And try not to wake us up when you come in.
- Alex** Hey, why don't I just sleep over at Parizad's then, so I don't wake you up?
- Mum** *Don't even think of it!*
- Dad** Ha ha! Take it easy Beth, he's just pulling your leg. Aren't you, Alex?
- Alex** Sure!

upset
 protective
 big deal
 involved
 pull somebody's leg



TEXT B

You Can't Control Love

They had been in the same class since fourth grade, and Sophie had been in love with him ever since. His name was Julian and he had blue eyes and olive colored skin. Even though he only wore jeans and a t-shirt most of the time, Sophie thought he was the most handsome guy she had ever laid eyes on.

Now they were in the ninth grade, and Julian was one of the cool kids in school. He thought he was the king. That meant he was a real jerk most of the time – talking back to teachers, making disrespectful gestures at everyone and everything, and ditching class now and then. He pretended like he didn't care about anything, and Sophie pretended like she most definitely didn't care about him.

grade
ever since
handsome
lay (laid) eyes on
jerk
disrespectful
gesture
ditch class
pretend



But she couldn't help herself! The butterflies in her stomach fluttered every time he entered the classroom. She had known him ever since he came over to play at her house after school when they were kids. He used to draw little hearts on pieces of paper and give them to her. It was hard to imagine it, but she knew that deep down he was the same nice guy. Unfortunately, they had barely spoken for the last three years.

butterfly
flutter
used to
imagine
unfortunately
barely
mean

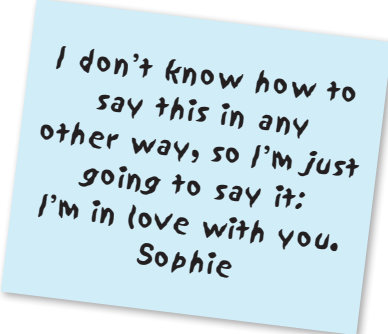
The biggest problem was that Sophie's friends didn't understand her at all – what did she see in that mean and snobbish guy? And Sophie tried to forget about him, tried to see him through the eyes of her friends and the rest of the school. But she couldn't stop herself from thinking of him every second of the day.

As Sophie was getting ready for the last day of their senior year, she was nervous. She knew she had to say something to Julian – it was now or never. They were going to different schools next year, and they definitely didn't plan on keeping in touch.

As she walked to school that morning she rehearsed in her head what she would say to Julian. *Hey, you wanna hang out sometime?* No, that would be too ordinary. *I like you, do you like me?* What if he answered no then? That would be horrible! *I love you, will you marry me?* No, no, no. That would only prove she was crazy. Her head was blank – what the heck was she going to say? Hopefully it would fall into place when she faced him ...

The day passed quickly. Sophie passed Julian in the hallway a couple of times, but she didn't have the guts to stop him. He was always surrounded by his loud and laughing friends. How small Sophie felt in comparison.

During the last class of the day they ended up next to each other. Her mind raced – this was her last chance. She would pass him a note! Quickly she scribbled down the first thing that popped up in her head. She folded the piece of paper and wrote his name on the outside in big letters: JULIAN. As she reached for his desk, she accidentally dropped the piece of paper on the floor. Before she knew it her teacher stood beside her with a stern look, unfolded the note and read out loud:



I don't know how to say this in any other way, so I'm just going to say it: I'm in love with you.
Sophie

senior year
keep in touch
rehearse
ordinary
prove
blank
what the heck
face
guts
loud
in comparison
mind
raced
scribble
pop up
fold
accidentally
stern
unfold

Sophie's face turned red and she felt like she was going to faint. She couldn't believe what had just happened. She also realized how stupid her note sounded when it was read out loud like that. The class laughed, while the teacher mumbled an apology before seeing everyone off for the last time. Sophie stared straight ahead, the last thing she wanted to see was Julian's smug grin.

Sophie hurried home, she was glad school was over and she didn't have to see everyone again. She had embarrassed herself enough for a lifetime! Julian was probably at this moment laughing with his friends at her and her little stunt. She was angry at herself for giving that self-righteous jerk something to joke about. Plus all the time she had wasted thinking about him! It was all over now.

Sitting in front of the TV that night, Sophie was interrupted by a knock on the door. On the doorstep stood Julian. They exchanged an awkward hello. Then Julian asked:

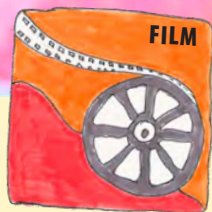
"Hey, I just wanted to see if you ... maybe wanted to hang out sometime?"

Sophie stood paralyzed, but this time it was Julian who looked embarrassed. Maybe she wasn't the only one who had tried to hide her feelings all this time.

faint
realize
mumble
apology
see somebody off
smug
grin
embarrass
stunt
self-righteous
interrupt
exchange
awkward
paralyzed

COOL READS

– *All You Need is Love*



Juno

The Canadian film *Juno*, starring Ellen Page and Michael Cera, premiered in Sweden in 2007. It's a warm, funny and intelligent comedy about teenage pregnancy and abortion and about making life changing decisions.

Page 16



The Mum Hunt

Esmie's mum died when Esmie was only a tiny baby. Now she lives with her dad, her big brother Matthew and their French au pair, Juliette. But Esmie thinks her dad is lonely. So she decides to take action – she's going to find her dad a girlfriend.

Page 18



Annie on My Mind

It can be hard to tell someone you love her face to face. A letter can be an easier way to show your feelings. That's how Annie expresses her feelings to Liza.

Page 20



Am I Blue?

Vincent is a young 16-year-old who has been wondering if he is gay or not for quite some time. After getting gay bashed by a boy named Butch, just for looking at him, Vincent meets a man named Melvin. He learns that Melvin is an angel who was killed at the age of 30 by gay bashers.

Page 23



Ellen Page and Olivia Thirlby in the film *Juno* in 2007.



Juno

This film won the hearts of viewers all over the world and was even voted best movie at the Stockholm Film Festival in 2007. The following is a brief summary.

On a typical autumn morning, Juno MacGuff lingers on her friend Paulie Bleeker's front lawn. She has something important to tell him. Juno reveals that she is pregnant – and the baby is his. Bleeker is shocked. What are they going to do? They are in no way ready to have a baby!

Juno is like any other teenager who occasionally fights with her parents and enjoys hanging out with her friends. She likes to spend most of her time riding around on her bike and watching horror movies.

Bleeker is the typical “boy next door”. Juno and Bleeker play in the same band and he runs with his track team

starring
 pregnancy
 abortion
 life changing
 decision
 was voted
 brief
 linger
 lawn
 reveal
 shocked
 occasionally
 track team

almost every day. Even though they only have sex once, Juno gets pregnant. After this, Juno still only thinks of Bleeker as a friend. However, Bleeker is obviously in love with Juno.

Since Juno and Bleeker are only 16 and still in high school, Juno thinks the best thing to do is get an abortion. But on her way to the women's clinic to get it done she changes her mind.

As a child, Juno was abandoned by her mother. The only time Juno hears from her mom is once a year on Valentine's Day when her mother sends her a cactus. This makes Juno eager to find the perfect mother to adopt her own baby. She decides to have her baby and give it up for adoption to a couple that can't have children on their own.

Eventually, Juno finds Mark and Vanessa in an ad in the paper. They want to adopt her baby. She thinks they are the right parents for her child and they even *look* perfect in the black and white picture in the paper.

With the help of her best friend Leah, her loving and supportive father and stepmother, and of course Bleeker, Juno goes through with the pregnancy. As Juno's stomach keeps getting bigger, it's clear that it's harder than she imagined. For one thing, it really bugs her that the kids at school always stare at her stomach. And it is hard because she can't live her normal teenage life anymore. She now has to be a more responsible person.

There are also other things that change and make Juno's life difficult. She discovers that Vanessa and Mark may not really be the perfect parents after all. And she wonders if it is going to be too tough to give up her baby. Plus she gets really jealous when Bleeker decides to take another girl to the school dance. Now she realizes that she may actually be in love with her irreplaceable friend ...

still
obviously
women's clinic
change one's mind
was abandoned
eager
adopt
couple
eventually
ad
supportive
bug
stare
responsible
discover
give up
jealous
irreplaceable



The Mum Hunt

How hard can it be to find the perfect spouse for your dad? Esmie has taken action but the result is not what she expected.

Matty came flying in through the front door the following afternoon with the Saturday paper in his hand, looking like he'd just won the lottery. 'It's here! In the 'Men Seeking Women' column. Fourth from the bottom! Look! *Dishy detective with dire daughter seeks -*

'Matthew!' I screamed at him.

He laughed. 'Only joking! Don't worry. I rewrote your stupid advert. Look ... It starts with the word, *singing*.' He thrust the newspaper at Juliette, grinning.

'Singing?' I glared at Juliette. 'What did I tell you? He's changed everything!'

But Juliette had already started to read the advert out loud. 'Singing (in the bath) detective seeks soul mate to join him under the soapsuds. 43, tall, dark with hairy legs, into classical music and practising his French. GSOH essential ...' She started to laugh.

'This is very good! But what is G...S...O...H...?'

'Good sense of humour,' Matty and I supplied in unison.

Matthew was looking really pleased with himself. 'Do you really think it's good?'

tiny
au pair
take action
spouse
expect
column
the bottom
dishy
dire
rewrite
advert
thrust
grin
glare
soul mate
soapsuds
practise
essential
supply
in unison

... and collecting ...
Call 0904 245 0245 Voicebox

... 57, blue eyes, medium
travel, theatre, dining, red
interesting, affectionate,
share life. Surrey/Home
0245 0245 Voicebox 47395

... 60s gent, tall, articulate
secure, n/s, gsoh, wltm
good times together. SE
0245 0245 Voicebox 61724

... BRAZILIANS rely on
Relationship Test to
successful and perfect
able in the UK. For
offer 'Increase Your
0870 486 1943 or visit
RelationshipTest.com

... HESSMAN, 5ft10, 52, fit,
acting, theatre, visual arts,
wltm tall, very slim,
... who likes France and is

... wicked son and ability to kiss appreciated. L.
Anglia/Ldn/anywhere. Call 0904 245 0245
Voicebox 85377

... ATTRACTIVE, TALL MALE, 6ft3, 50, slim,
good-looking, professional, intelligent, sociable and
arts loving, seeks compatible female for
friendly ...
0904 245

... **SINGING (IN THE BATH) DETECTIVE,**
seeks soul mate to join him under the soap-
suds. 43, tall, dark with hairy legs, into
classical music and practising his French.
GSOH essential ...

... CARING ...
cinema, theatre, travel, seeks caring, gentle lady
for a fulfilling relationship. Bath/Bristol. Call
0904 245 0245 Voicebox 16730

... CARING, LOYAL, HONEST, widower, 69,
gsoh, easy-going, enjoys cricket, gardening,
theatre and cruising, wltm slim lady, 58+, for
friendship, ltr and to share a passion for cricket.
Sussex. Call 0904 245 0245 Voicebox 47421

... music, with a sophisticated
and ltr. Anywhere. Call 0904
84364

... GENTLEMAN, 71, JAZZ
tall, kind, spiritual, urbane, a
warm, feminine, slender, into
new era of joyful living, love
France/SE. Call 0904 245 02

... GENUINE, ATTRACTIVE
youthful 46, gsoh, no baggage
female, n/s. No children. Call
0245 Voicebox 80093

... GENUINE, GENEROUS,
athletic, optimistic, quirky, d
outdoors, keen sailor, wltm
outlook and a love of the out
seripous ltr. Hants. Call 0904
80275

... GOOD-LOOKING AND R
65, n/s, tall businessman, wltm
enjoys walking, travel, ballie
attractive, loving lady, 55-60
special Warwicks. Call 0904

Juliette patted his shoulder. 'It is the best advert in the paper! We will get lots of replies from this I think!'

I felt tears come into my eyes though I turned my head so they couldn't see. It wasn't fair! My advert had been just as good as his!

'Great!' I said, sarcastically. 'Now we're going to get some real weirdo who just wants to come round and get in the bath and start singing with Dad!'

'Come on, Esmie!' Juliette laughed. 'No more disaster stories, please! This is a funny advert! Maybe we will get some funny people answering back!'

I gritted my teeth. 'They'll be funny all right!'

'Let's listen and see if there are any messages before your father gets back,' Juliette said. Dad had just left for Sainsbury's.

'Why don't you listen to them with *Matthew!*' I snapped. 'Since you seem to be doing this with him now!'

I stomped upstairs. It wasn't fair! The lonely-hearts idea had been Juliette's and mine. It had been our special secret together. And now she had let Matty take it over, as if it was *his* plan with Juliette and not mine.

On my way to my bedroom I looked into Dad's room. The upstairs telephone extension was sitting by his bed. I paused. I had a right to hear those messages too! Ever so quietly, I tiptoed in and picked up the phone. Matthew and Juliette were already listening. So far there were four messages. Luckily you could press a button on the phone at any time if you didn't want to listen to the whole message and it beeped and moved on to the next one.

'Hello. I'm thirty. My name's Bianca. I'm a single mum. I like classical music too. I've got four kids aged -' BEEP!

pat
reply
fair
sarcastically
weirdo
disaster
grit
message
Sainsbury's
snap
since
stomp
extension
tiptoe
button
beep



Annie on My Mind

A somewhat awkward meeting turns into something else.

It was cold and very damp outside, as if it were going to snow, but it was warm in Annie's room. She had some quiet music on her old-fashioned phonograph, and her hair was in two braids, which by now I knew usually meant she hadn't had time to wash it or that she'd been doing something active or messy, like helping her mother clean.

We just looked at each other for a minute there in the doorway of her room, as if neither of us knew what to say or how to act with each other. But I felt myself leave Sally and school and everything behind me, the way a cicada leaves its shell when it turns from an immature grub into its almost grown-up self.

Annie took my hand shyly, pulled me into her room, and shut the door. "Hi," she said.

I felt myself smiling, wanting to laugh with pleasure at seeing her, but also needing to laugh out of nervousness, I guess. "Hi".

Then we both did laugh, like a couple of idiots, standing there awkwardly looking at each other.

And we both moved at the same time into each other's arms, hugging. It was just a friendly hug at first, an I'm-so-glad-to-see-you hug. But then I began to be very aware of Annie's body pressed against mine and of feeling her heart beat against my breast, so I moved away.

"Sorry," she said, turning away also.

I touched her shoulder; it was rigid. "No – no, don't be."

"You moved away so fast –."

"I – Annie, please."

"Please what?"

"Please – I don't know. Can't we just be ..."

"Friends?" she said, whirling around. "Just friends – wonderful stock phrase, isn't it? Only what you said on the beach was – was ..." She turned away again, covering her face with her hands.

"Annie," I said miserably, "Annie, Annie. I – I do love

face to face
express
awkward
damp
phonograph
braid
messy
neither
act
cicada
shell
immature
grub
shyly
pleasure
awkwardly
hug
aware
beat
rigid
whirl
stock phrase
cover
miserably



you, Annie.” There, I thought. That’s the second time I’ve said it.

Annie groped on her desk-table and handed me an envelope. “I’m sorry,” she said. “I didn’t get any sleep last night and – well, I couldn’t tell you a single thing anyone said in school today, even at rehearsal. I’m going to wash my face.”

I nodded, trying to smile at her as if everything was all right – there’s no reason, I remember thinking, why it shouldn’t be – and I sat down on the edge of Annie’s bed and opened the letter.

grobe
rehearsal
nod
reason
edge

Dear Liza,

It's three-thirty in the morning and this is the fifth time I've tried to write this to you. Someone said something about three o'clock in the morning being the dark night of the soul – something like that. That's true, at least for this three o'clock and this soul.

Look, I have to be honest – I want to try to be, anyhow. I told you about Beverly because I knew at that point that I loved you. I was trying to warn you, I guess. As I said, I've wondered for a long time if I was gay. I even tried to prove I wasn't, last summer with a boy, but it was ridiculous.

I know you said on the beach that you think you love me, and I've been trying to hold on to that, but I'm still scared that if I told you everything about how I feel, you might not be ready for it. Maybe you've already felt pressured into thinking you have to feel the same way, out of politeness, sort of, because you like me and don't want to hurt my feelings. The thing is, since you haven't thought about it – about being gay – I'm trying to tell myself very firmly that it wouldn't be fair of me to – I don't know, influence you, try to push you into something you don't want, or don't want yet, or something.

Liza, I think what I'm saying is that, really, if you don't want us to see each other any more, it's okay.

Love,
Annie

soul
honest
at that point
prove
ridiculous
pressured
politeness
firmly
fair
influence
push
yet
jealous
mention
startled

I stood there holding the letter and looking at the word “Love” at the end of it, knowing that I was jealous of the boy Annie'd mentioned, and that my not seeing Annie any more would be as ridiculous for me as she said her experiment with the boy had been for her.

Could I even begin an experiment like that, I wondered, startled; would I?

Am I Blue?

Melvin is an angel who teaches and protects gay people and people who are undecided. He comes to help Vincent and says that he is a “fairy godfather”. Melvin gives Vincent “gaydar”: the magical ability to see who is gay and who is not.



“We used to imagine what it would be like if every gay person in the country turned blue for a day.”

My eyes went wide. “Why?”

“So all the straights would have to stop imagining that they didn’t know any gay people. They would find out that they had been surrounded by gays all the time, and survived the experience just fine, thank you. They’d have to face the fact that there are gay cops and gay farmers, gay teachers and gay soldiers, gay parents and gay kids. The hiding would finally have to stop.”

He looked at me for a moment. “How would you like to have the sight?” he asked.

“What?”

“How would you like to have gaydar for a while? You might find it interesting.”

“Does this count as a wish?” I asked suspiciously.

“No, it’s education. Comes under a different category.”

“All right,” I said, feeling a little nervous.

“Close your eyes,” said Melvin.

After I did as he requested, I felt him touch each of my eyelids lightly. My cheeks began to burn as I wondered if anyone else had seen.

“Okay,” he said. “Open up, big boy, and see what the world is really like.”

I opened my eyes and gasped.

About a third of the people in the café – including the guy Melvin had winked at – were blue. Some were bright blue, some were deep blue, some just had bluish tint to them.

“Are you telling all those people are gay?” I whispered.

“To some degree or other.”

“But so many of them?”

bash
learn
protect
undecided
fairy
magical ability
straight
imagine
surrounded by
survive
experience
face
cops
hiding
count as
wish
suspiciously
request
eyelid
cheek
gasp
wink
bluish
tint
to some degree

“Well, this isn’t a typical place,” said Melvin. “You told me the theater crowd hangs around in here.” He waved his hand grandly. “Groups like that tend to have a higher percentage of gay people, because we’re so naturally artistic.” He frowned. “Of course, some bozos take a fact like that and decide that everyone doing theater is gay. Remember, two thirds of the people you’re seeing aren’t blue.”

“What about all the different shades?” I asked.

“It’s an indicator of degree. The dark blues are pretty much excluding queer, while the lighter ones are less committed – or maybe like you, trying to make up their minds. I set it up so that you’ll see at least a hint of blue on anyone who has had a gay experience.

Come on, let’s go for a walk.”

It was like seeing the world through new eyes. Most of the people looked just the same as always, of course. But Mr. Alwain, the fat guy who ran the grocery store, looked like a giant blueberry – which surprised me, because he was married and had three kids. On the other hand, Ms. Thorndyke, the librarian, who everyone knew was a lesbian, didn’t have a trace of blue on her.

“Can’t tell without the spell,” said Melvin. “Straights are helpless at it. They’re always assuming someone is or isn’t for all the wrongs reasons.”

We were in the library because Melvin wanted to show me some books. “Here, flip through this,” he said, handing me a one-volume history of the world.

My bluevision worked on pictures, too!

“Julius Caesar?” I asked in astonishment.

“Every woman’s husband, every man’s wife,” said Melvin. “I met him at a party on the other side once. Nice guy.” Flipping some more pages, he said, “Here, check this one out.”

“Alexander the Great was a fairy!” I cried.

“Shhhhhh!” hissed Melvin. “We’re in a library.”

All right, I suppose you’re wondering about me – as in, was I blue?

The answer is, slightly.

grandly
tend to
percentage
artistic
frown
bozo
shade
indicator of
excluding
queer
less committed
make up one’s mind
hint of
grocery store
surprise
librarian
spell
assume
flip
astonishment
Every woman’s husband,
every man’s wife
slightly



When I asked Melvin to explain, he said, “The Magic Eight Ball says, ‘Signs Are Mixed.’ In other words, you are one confused puppy. That’s the way it is sometimes. You’ll figure it out after a while.”

Watching the news that night was a riot. My favorite network anchor was about the shade of a spring sky – pale blue, but very definite. So was the congressman he interviewed, who happened to be a notorious Republican homophobe.

The Magic Eight Ball
confused
puppy
figure out
riot
network anchor
definite
congressman
notorious
Republican

“Hypocrite,” I spat.

“What brought that on?” asked Dad.

“Oh, nothing,” I said, trying to figure out whether I was relieved or appalled by the slight tint of blue that covered his features.

Don’t get the idea that everyone I saw was blue. It broke down pretty much the way the studies indicate – about one person in ten solid blue, and one out of every three or four with some degree of shading.

I did get a kick out of the three blue guys I spotted in the sports feature on the team favored to win the Superbowl.

But it was that congressman who stayed on my mind. I couldn’t forget his hypocritical words about “the great crime of homosexuality” and “the gay threat to American youth”. I was brushing my teeth when I figured out what I wanted to do.

“No,” I whispered, staring at my bluish face in the mirror. “I couldn’t.”

For one thing, it would probably mean another beating from Butch Carrigan.

Yet if I did it, nothing would ever be the same.

Rinsing away the toothpaste foam, I whispered Melvin’s name.

“At your service!” he said, shimmering into existence behind me. “Ooooh, what a tacky bathroom. Where was your mother brought up, in a Kmart?”

“Leave my mother out of this,” I snapped. “I want to make my second wish.”

“And it is?”

“Gay fantasy number three, coast to coast.”

He looked at me for a second, then began to smile.

“How’s midnight for a starting point?”

“Twenty-four hours should do the trick, don’t you think?” I replied.

He rubbed his hands, chuckled, and disappeared.

I went to bed, but not to sleep. I kept thinking about what it would mean when the rest of the world could see what could be seen today.

hypocrite
spit (spat)
relieved
appalled
features
solid
spot
sports feature
favour
Superbowl
threat
beating
rinse
toothpaste foam
service
shimmer into existence
tacky
Kmart
snap
rub
chuckle

I turned on the radio, planning to listen to the news every hour. I had figured the first reports would come in on the one-o'clock news, but I was wrong. It was about twelve thirty when special bulletins started announcing a strange phenomenon. By one o'clock every station I could pick up was on full alert. Thanks to the wonders of modern communication, it had become obvious in a matter of minutes that people were turning blue from coast to coast.

It didn't take much longer for people to start figuring out what the blue stood for. The reaction ranged from panic to hysterical denial to dancing in the streets. National Public Radio quickly summoned a panel of experts to discuss what was going to happen when people had to go to work the next day.

"Or school," I muttered to myself, which was when I got my next idea.

"Melvin!" I shouted.

"You rang?" he asked, shimmering into sight at the foot of my bed.

"I just figured out my third wish." I took a deep breath. "I want you to turn Butch Carrigan blue."

He looked at me for a moment. Then his eyes went wide. "Vincent," he said, "I like the way you think. I'll be back in a flash."

When he returned he was grinning like a cat.

"You've still got one wish left, kiddo," he said with a chuckle. "Butch Carrigan was already blue as a summer sky when I got there."

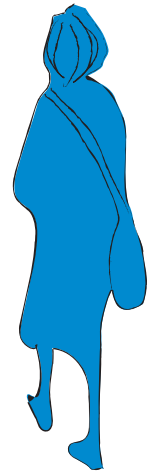
If I caused you any trouble with Bluesday, I'm sorry. But not much. Because things are never going to be the same now that it happened. Never.

And my third wish?

I've decided to save it for when I really need it – maybe when I meet the girl of my dreams.

Or Prince Charming.

Whichever.



bulletin
announce
phenomenon
full alert
obvious
range
denial
summon
breath
in a flash
grin
cause

Unit 2

Canada is Gigantic!

Canadian Travel Spots

A visit to Canada is usually done by going to the east or the west. This is because it is hard to travel everywhere without buying a bunch of plane tickets or driving for many hours. Most people who travel on a budget will start in Vancouver or perhaps Toronto.

Once you arrive, there are many things to do on either side of the country. Remember though that if you want to see the whole country, you will need lots of time and money for flights! Even if you only went to Quebec, you could drive your car north for more than twenty hours and still not reach the top! Here are some cool things to see in some parts of the country:

1 Vancouver, British Columbia

In Vancouver British Columbia you are right next to the Pacific Ocean, close to the Rocky Mountains and many beautiful islands, beaches and extreme wilderness. The city itself has great museums, shopping centers, and a very large China Town. From Vancouver, you can also take a ferry to Vancouver Island and visit the city of Victoria. This very large island also has areas where you can surf, hike, camp, fish and really enjoy nature.

2 Niagara Falls, Ontario

Niagara Falls is the second largest waterfall in the world after Victoria Falls in Africa. This amazing waterfall is gigantic and rises 58 meters high. Anywhere between 113,000 and 170,000 cubic meters of water fall down every 60 seconds! The rim of this natural wonder is 670 meters across. Many people come here for their honeymoon. Some crazy people try to go over the falls in a barrel! In 1901 the first person went over the falls like this! She was a school teacher named Annie Taylor. Annie took her cat, got in a large wooden barrel and went over the falls and survived!

WHISTLER

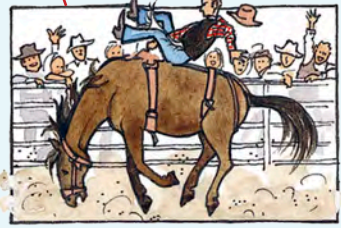




3 Whistler, British Columbia

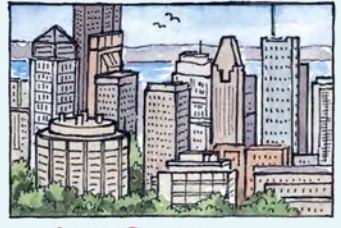
Whistler is a great alpine ski hill and regional park two hours north of Vancouver. It is in the Rocky Mountains and the site of the 2010 winter Olympics. In the summer you can hike, camp, swim and do many outdoor sports. The winter is for snowboarding and skiing. It is one of the greatest places to ski in all of North America. And the natural beauty and sights are incredible.

6 BANFF NATIONAL PARK
7 CALGARY



THE CALGARY STAMPEDE

2 NIAGARA FALLS
4 QUEBEC CITY
OTTAWA
TORONTO



MONTREAL

THE ATLANTIC
5 PEGGY'S COVE
NOVA SCOTIA

4 Montreal, Quebec

Montreal is a must see if you visit Canada. It is over 350 years old and was settled by a French military officer before Canada was even a country. The city is modern and also has a section called Old Montreal or “Vieux Montréal” in French.

Here you can see beautiful old French European architecture, look at the port and sit on a “terrasse” and eat in the summer. There are many museums, shopping centers and a big China Town too.

Montreal has many festivals and events all summer long including: The Comedy Festival, The Jazz Fest, The Grand Prix, a film festival and many more. While you are here you can speak English but most people speak French as a first language. Montreal also has many parks, an amusement park and The Biodome. The Biodome is like a museum with many different environments inside. You can walk in an indoor jungle there and also see other kinds of nature.



Rue Saint Paul in Montreal.

5 Peggy’s Cove, Nova Scotia

This beautiful fishing village is in Nova Scotia and is a very popular place to go on Canada’s east coast. There are rocky beaches and shores and a very famous lighthouse. It is a calm place to go and relax and see some very beautiful natural sites. It is about 40 kilometers from the modern city of Halifax.



Lake Louise in Banff National Park.

6 Banff National Park, Alberta

Banff National Park is in the province of Alberta and right in the Canadian Rocky Mountains! Mountain climbers, campers, skiers and hikers like to go here. This national park is one of the most wonderful places to visit in Canada. There are 6,641 km of lakes, mountains and forest all in the untamed wilderness. Many wild animals can be seen and eagles fly above. Very clean water flows into the rivers here from thousands of surrounding glaciers.

7 The Calgary Stampede

The Calgary Stampede is a big festival and rodeo. It takes place in Calgary, Alberta. Every summer for ten days in July the Calgary Stampede is celebrated and is the world’s largest rodeo. On opening day there is a big parade and usually about 350,000 people show up. Now that’s a big party!

There are rodeo events, concerts, chuck wagon races and stage shows here to enjoy. The aboriginals or “First Nations” peoples have exhibits to look at and pancake breakfasts are served all over the city. The event is so big that in 2006 over one million people attended!

The wordlist is on page 131 in this book.

What About Canada?

The capital city of Canada is Ottawa in the province of Ontario. Canada became a country in 1867 and Canada Day is celebrated every July 1st. Most Canadians live close to the US border because it is too cold and dark in the north. The biggest cities in Canada are close to the USA for this reason.

Canada has 10 provinces and 3 territories. Territories are governed differently than provinces. They also have smaller populations than provinces and are all in the far north.

Although Canada is very big it does not have a large population. There are about 33.5 million Canadians. Over 50% of Canadians live in Quebec and Ontario – so most people live in the east. These people mostly have European ancestors. Most people who live in Canada were born there. Twenty percent of Canadians were born in another country and Canada has many immigrants. This makes Canada a very interesting place for its culture and society.

Languages

Canada has two official languages. English and French are used by the government, businesses and at schools. TV shows, newspapers and other media are in English in most of Canada and French in Quebec.



Canada Day Celebrations in Ottawa.

Quebec is 80% French speaking with 20% speaking English and other languages.

The original “Quebecers” came from France more than 400 years ago because of Jacques Cartier. Cartier is the French sailor who arrived here in 1534 and claimed the land for France.



province
govern
ancestors
immigrant
society
government
original
because of
claim

Ice skating on Rideau Canal in Ottawa.



Resting hikers in Mount Assiniboine Provincial Park in British Columbia.

Nature

Canada's wilderness has huge mountain ranges, large and deep lakes, forests that go on forever, islands, waterfalls and many beautiful wild animals, birds and fish. You can watch whales swim in the St. Lawrence River and seals swim near the shores of the Pacific Ocean. In the woods you may see raccoons, owls, beavers or groundhogs. In some regions there are bears, wolves and even caribou! Once you leave a Canadian city and travel a few hours, you find yourself in the vast wild! The country is gigantic and considered the second largest country



Seal pup at the Gulf of St. Lawrence.

in the world after Russia. It is so huge that it would take a person more than one week to drive a car from the east coast to the west coast! The Atlantic Ocean is on one side, the Pacific on the other and the southern border is with the USA.

In the far north, Canada reaches up to the Arctic Ocean, the Beaufort Sea and Greenland! This means that some Canadians have the midnight sun, the aurora borealis and winter almost all year. Other people live in modern cities like Toronto, Vancouver and Montreal and have four seasons: summer, fall, winter and spring.



Inuit children at a hunter's camp site in Baffin Island.

Some aboriginal people of the North such as the Inuit live in igloos. And some people in Vancouver live right next to a sandy beach! There is even a *rain forest* in British Columbia with some of the biggest and oldest trees in the world.

Also, apples, pears and other fruits and vegetables can grow in the south but in the north you will only see icebergs, arctic tundra and few animals such as polar bears, wolves and arctic hares. So Canada is hot, warm, and cold – it depends where you are and what season it is!

wilderness
huge
mountain range
go on
shore
raccoon

groundhog
caribou
vast
in the wild
consider
second

reach
aurora borealis
aboriginal
arctic tundra

Aboriginals: The land's first people!

Although the aboriginal or native people only make up about 2% of the population; they have lived here longer than anyone. They are called "First Nations" people and not "Indians" anymore. This land was first lived on by Inuit (no longer called Eskimo), Cree, Mi'kmaq, Iroquois, Squamish and many other groups. The largest group of aboriginals in Canada is the Cree with over 200,000 people.

This "First Nation" has many smaller tribes within it. These people have relatives in the US and often tribes live in both the US and Canada because they have lived here since before the US and Canada were made into countries by European colonialists. In this way the aboriginals "discovered" the continent of America and *not* Christopher Columbus.

While they have lived here for *thousands* of years; Canada is not even 200 years old! These people were treated badly by the Canadian government and before that the British and French monarchies. In 2008 the prime minister of Canada made an official apology. Thankfully, in 1993 Nunavut Territory was created. This is very good because the Inuit govern this land themselves.

Culture

Canada is a multicultural country with people from Asia, Africa and the Middle East. If you visit Toronto, Montreal or Vancouver you will see people from many cultures and ethnic backgrounds. People also speak many other languages at home and you can



An Inuit hunter.

eat food from all over the world in Canadian cities. All religions are practiced freely in Canada and all cultures are accepted. It is against the law to be racist.

make up
tribe
colonialist
treat
prime minister
apology

thankfully
multicultural
ethnic background
practice
freely

Interesting Facts

- ◆ Canada does not have the death penalty.
- ◆ Canada is a peaceful nation – it is *illegal* to own or carry a hand gun *publicly* and nobody is forced to join the military.
- ◆ There is a free Medicare system and so you can go to the doctor for free!
- ◆ Canadians can practice any religion.
- ◆ Everyone has the right to free education until the age of 18; all children must go to school until the age of 15.
- ◆ Gay people can get married and are not discriminated against by law.
- ◆ Canada allows any person to move here if they are threatened by their country or government: this is called *political asylum*.



death penalty
illegal
carry
publicly
force
right
discriminate against
allow
threaten

Hockey is Canada's Sport

Hockey is very important to most Canadians and the fans are very serious about watching their home team compete in the NHL. It is Canada's official winter sport and children all over Canada often start playing hockey at a young age.

There are local amateur hockey teams in most towns and suburbs, high schools, colleges and universities. The biggest cities have professional NHL teams like: The Toronto Maple Leafs, The Montreal Canadiens, The Calgary Flames and The Edmonton Oilers. The Canadian women's Olympic hockey team does very well in competitions.

Hockey developed from older sports like bandy that was played by British soldiers. These soldiers played a similar game in Halifax, Nova Scotia and it is said that this is how the idea for the game came to Canada.

The sport was then invented in Canada and the first official rules for the game were published in the mid 1800's in The Montreal Gazette newspaper. Also, some of the first organized clubs such as the Montreal Victorias started here. The very first organization to deal with the official development of hockey started in 1886 and was called the Amateur Hockey Association of Canada.

Hockey was an amateur sport up until 1904. The National Hockey League (NHL) was created in 1917 and the first NHL game was played on Dec. 17 of this year.

The famous Stanley Cup which is the trophy won in the NHL each year is named after the English Governor General to Canada. His name was Lord Stanley of Preston. In 1892 he bought a silver bowl with a gold interior and today this cup is still awarded to the best NHL team.



Fernando Pisani in a match in the NHL, April 2010.

compete
suburb
do well
develop
similar
rule
publish
organized
development
up until
trophy
buy (bought)
interior
award

The River

In this story about Brian we read about how he returns to the Canadian wild. In his first dangerous adventure, he survived alone in the forest with nothing but a hatchet. Now he is being asked to do it again ...

Brian opened the door and stood back. There were three men, all in dark suits, standing on the front porch. They were large but not fat, well built, with bodies in decent shape. One of them was slightly thinner than the other two.

‘Brian Robeson?’

Brian nodded. ‘Yes.’

The thin man smiled and stepped forward and held out his hand. ‘I’m Derek Holtzer. These other two are Bill Mannerly and Erik Ballard. Can we come in?’

Brian held the door open to let them come in. ‘Mother isn’t home right now ...’

‘It’s you we want to see.’ Derek stopped just in the entryway and the other two did the same. ‘Of course, we’ll wish to speak to your mother and father as well, but we came to see you. Didn’t you get a call about us?’

Brian shook his head. ‘I don’t think so. I mean, I know I didn’t, but I don’t think Mother did either. She would have said something.’

‘How about your father?’

‘He doesn’t live here. My parents are divorced.’

‘Oh. Sorry.’ Derek truly looked embarrassed. ‘I didn’t know.’

‘It happens.’ Brian shrugged, but it was still new enough, just over a year and a half, to feel painful. He mentally pushed it away and had a sudden thought of his own foolishness. Three men he did not know were in the house. They did not look threatening, but you never knew.

‘What can I do for you?’

‘Well, if you don’t know anything about any of this, maybe we should wait for your mother to come home. We can come back.’

Brian nodded. ‘Whatever you want ... but you could tell me what it’s about, if you wanted to.’

hatchet
stand back (stood)
suit
porch
well built
decent
shape
slightly
nod
hold (held)
wish to
shake (shook, shaken)
divorced
truly
shrug
new
mentally
sudden
foolishness



‘Maybe I’d better check on you first. Are you the Brian Robeson who survived alone in the Canadian woods for two months?’

‘Fifty-four days,’ Brian said. ‘Not quite two months. Yes – that’s me.’

‘Good.’

‘Are you from the press?’ For months after his return home, Brian had been followed by the press. Even after the television special – a camera crew went back with him to the lake and he showed them how he’d lived – they stayed

survive
crew

after him. Newspapers, television, book publishers – they called him at home, followed him to school. It was hard to get away from them. One man even offered him money to put his face on a T-shirt, and a jeans company wanted to come out with a line of Brian Robeson Survival Jeans.

His mother had handled them all, with the help – through the mail – of his father, and he had some money in an account for college. Actually, enough to complete college. But it had finally slowed down and he didn't miss it.

At first it had been exciting, but soon the thrill had worn off. He was famous, and that wasn't too bad, but when they started following him with cameras and wanting to make movies of him and his life it got a little crazy.

He met a girl in school, Deborah McKenzie. They hit it off and went on a few dates, and pretty soon the press was bugging her as well and that was too much. He started going out the back door, wearing sunglasses, meeting Deborah in out-of-the-way places, and sliding down the hallways in school. He was only too glad when people stopped noticing him.

And here they were again. 'I mean, are you with television or anything?'

Derek shook his head. 'Nope – not even close. We're with a government survival school.'

'Instructors?'

Derek shook his head. 'Not exactly. Bill and Erik are instructors, but I'm a psychologist. We work with people who may need to survive in bad situations – you know, like downed pilots, astronauts, soldiers. How to live off the land and get out safely.'

'What do you want with me?'

Derek smiled. 'You can probably guess ...'

Brian shook his head.

'Well, to make it short, we want you to do it again.'

● *To be continued on the CD.*

publisher
line
handle
account
thrill
wear off (wore, worn)
hit it off
bug
out-of-the-way
slide down
notice
may
downed pilots
live off
get out (got, got/gotten)
probably
short

Canadian Trivia

Here are some neat things to know about Canada:

- ◆ The United Nations says that Canada is one of the best countries in the world to live in along with Norway, Iceland, Australia, Ireland, Sweden, Japan and the United States.
- ◆ Canada grows a large amount of wheat, produces a lot of wood and also has a very big fishing business. This country also produces a lot of hydro electricity because of the many lakes and rivers here.
- ◆ Canada produces the most maple syrup in the world. There is also a maple leaf on the Canadian flag. You can imagine that Canada has many maple trees!
- ◆ Quebec city is the oldest city in all of North America. It is older than Canada and the US because it was settled by the French and used to be a part of New France. The city celebrated its 400th birthday in 2008.
- ◆ Avril Lavigne, Celine Dion, Bryan Adams, Leonard Cohen, Shania Twain, Oscar Peterson and Neil Young are all famous Canadian musicians.
- ◆ Pamela Anderson, Keanu Reeves, Jim Carey and Kiefer Sutherland are famous Canadian actors.
- ◆ The AM radio was invented by a Canadian named Guglielmo Marconi!
- ◆ The telephone was invented by a Canadian named Alexander Graham Bell!
- ◆ Hockey and basketball were invented in Canada.



Avril Lavigne



Maple syrup on French toast.

along with
wheat
hydro electricity
maple
syrup
settle
AM radio
invent

Leonard Cohen: Famous Canadian Musician

Leonard Cohen is a singer/songwriter, poet, and novelist from Montreal, Quebec. He was born on September 21st, 1934. For over forty years now Cohen has been playing his songs and publishing poetry and novels. His music is loved by many and his songs tell us stories about feeling alone, romance, love and religion.

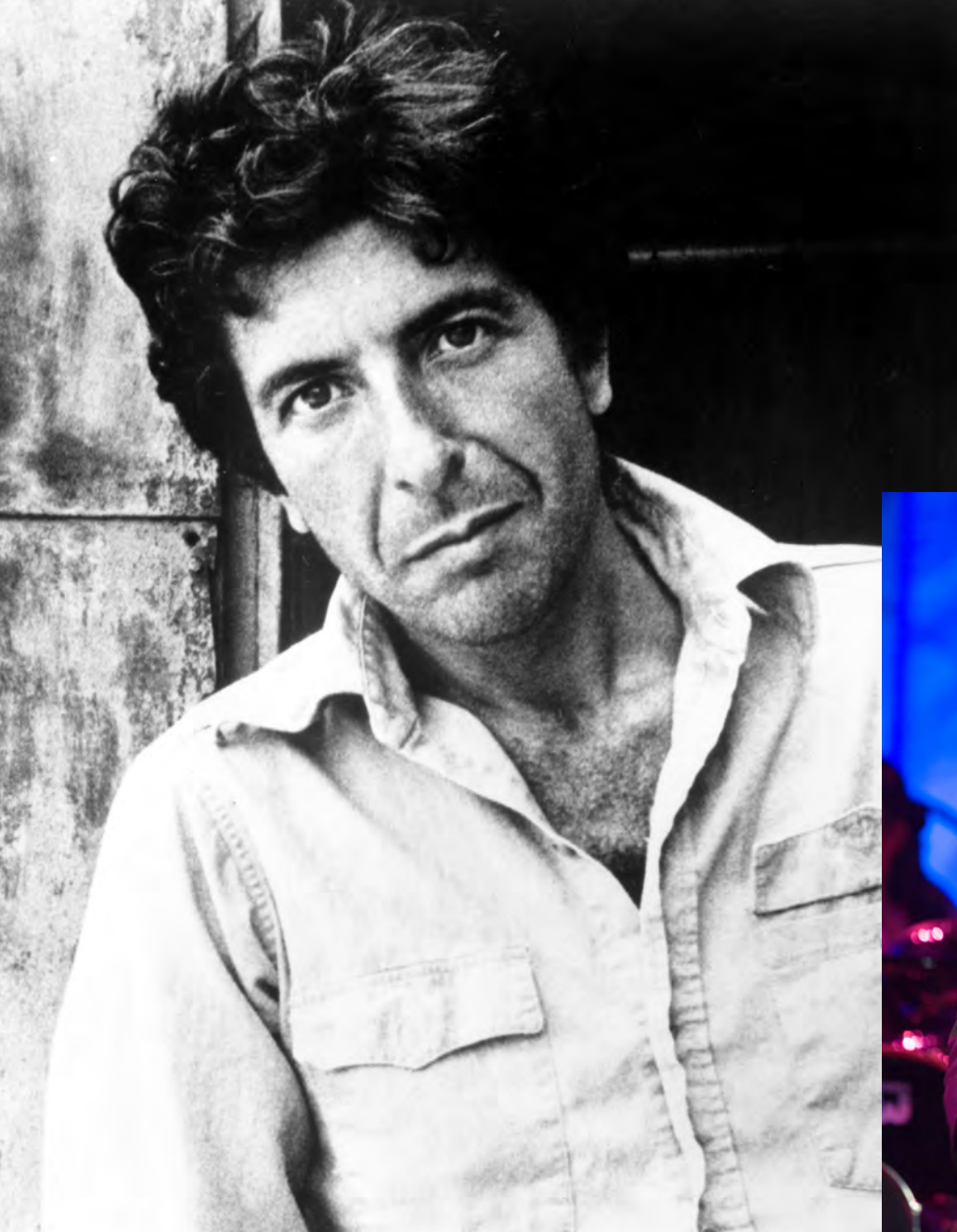
Before Cohen became a musician he studied poetry at McGill University in Montreal. When he was a teenager he learned to play the guitar and started a country-folk band called the Buckskin Boys at the age of 17. His father was a wealthy clothes maker and his grandfather was a Jewish scholar and Rabbi.

Although Cohen is from a Jewish family, he is *also* a Zen Buddhist. He has studied Buddhism for more than thirty years with his teacher Roshi. He also lived in a Zen monastery on Mount Baldy in Los Angeles from 1994 to 1999. He decided to go to the monastery to be alone because he was drinking too much alcohol and did not feel well. He officially became a Zen Buddhist monk in 1996 and was given his monk name: Jikhan. Jikhan means “silence”.

In 1997, Stina Lundberg Dabrowski – a well known Swedish reporter – visited the monastery. Stina did a TV interview with Cohen about his life and why he went to live alone. When he left Mount Baldy after six years, he felt much better. After this, he began to do concerts again and make new music.

His first album called *The Songs of Leonard Cohen* came out in 1967 and in 2004 he put out his 17th recording called *Dear Heather*. Some of his most well known songs are *Hallelujah* (1984), *Bird on a Wire* (1969), *Suzanne* (1967) and *So Long Marianne* (1967).

novelist
poetry
wealthy
clothes maker
Jewish
scholar
Rabbi
monastery
monk
recording
internationally
perform



Leonard Cohen in 1970.

In concert in Budapest 2009.



As a world famous musician, Cohen has played concerts internationally. During his 2008 World Tour he performed in places like: England, France, Sweden, Romania and Canada.

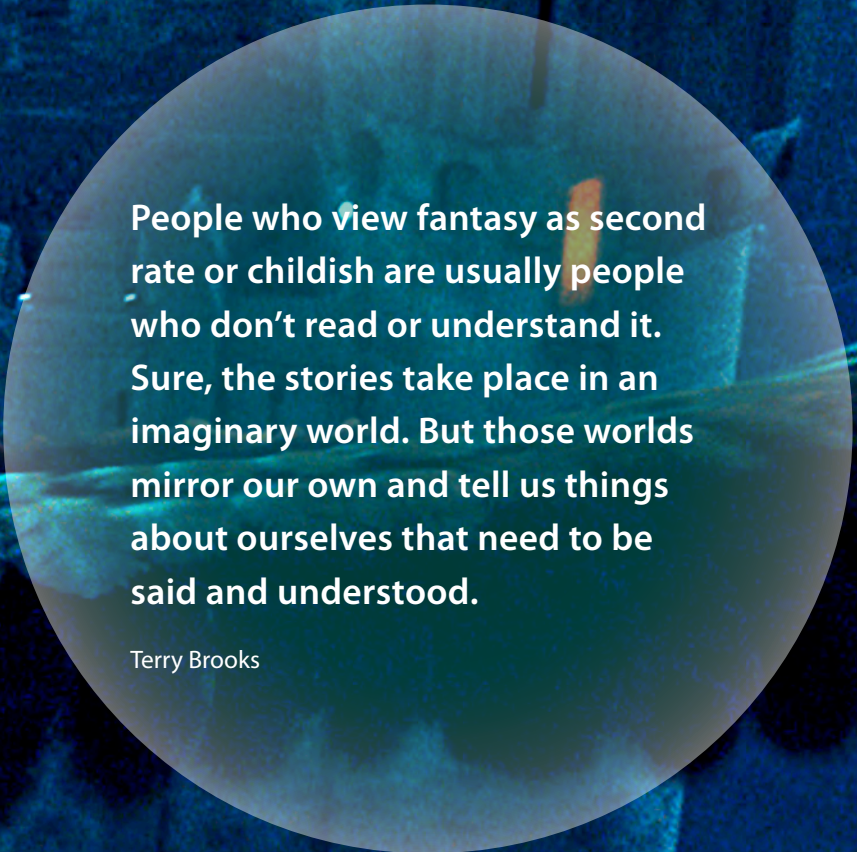
Also in 2008, at the age of 73, Leonard Cohen was named to the US Rock Hall of Fame along with Madonna. He is also in the Canada Songwriters Hall of Fame and has won many other awards.

named
Hall of Fame

The background image is a dark, moody scene. It features a person in a dark, hooded cloak, possibly a thief or a character from a fantasy story, looking down. In the foreground, there is a large, furry creature, possibly a dog or a bear, looking towards the camera. The lighting is very low, with some highlights on the textures of the cloak and the creature's fur. The overall atmosphere is mysterious and cinematic.

Unit 3

Fantasy and Myth



People who view fantasy as second rate or childish are usually people who don't read or understand it. Sure, the stories take place in an imaginary world. But those worlds mirror our own and tell us things about ourselves that need to be said and understood.

Terry Brooks

- * Can fantasy books and games help you make new friends?
- * Can games develop your ability to chat or make decisions?
- * Who are the inhabitants of the world of fantasy?
- * Do vampires make friends?
- * Can a magical stone be useful?

Read the following unit to find out the answers to some of these questions.

second rate
imaginary
mirror
develop
ability

The Magic Castle: A Great Fantasy Store!

Mia and Marcus go to the same school and are great fans of fantasy books, games and movies. One day after school, they decide to visit The Magic Castle – a store that specialises in fantasy books, games, cards and other fun hobby items.

Mia Wow, I really think *The Magic Castle* is a great fantasy store! They have everything here. Hey Marcus, check out these Dungeons and Dragons books. My brother Benjamin plays. Did you ever get into it?

Marcus Sure, I play Dungeons and Dragons! I have the books, dice and some maps. Three friends from my street and I play. My character is an elf magic user. His name is Alron and he is level fifteen. I like the monster manual book the best. Look at it! Do you see all the different fantasy creatures they have? It's so cool!

Mia I never played but I'd like to try it. Hey yeah, look at the creepy picture of that witch – pretty neat artwork! Do you want to look at the figurines over there? I collect small wizards and dragons. My dad likes to help me paint them.

Marcus Sure OK. Hey, here are some nice dragons and look at that big troll! There are mostly plastic figurines now, but I think it is easier to paint the metal ones. I have about twelve figurines so far. I painted five elves, three dwarves and I still have four left to paint. Do you want to buy any today?

Mia Nahh. I think I want to buy a new book to read. They have the Terry Pratchett series, Tolkien's books, *The Chronicles of Narnia* and a bunch more. But I want to read *Eragon* – the book was written

dungeon
dice
elf – elves
creature
creepy
neat
figurine
wizard

by that kid who was fifteen when he started it. I saw the movie but I want to see if the book is any different. Hmmm, ah here it is. Great!

Marcus Yeah, *Eragon* was a great film. I just watched *Prince Caspian* which is the second story in *The Chronicles of Narnia*. Do you see those books anywhere? Maybe I'll get the next story. It's called *The Voyage of the Dawn Trader*.

Mia Yep, there it is on the top shelf to the left. You see it?

Marcus Yeah, great. OK so what do you want to look at next? My brother told me they also have crystal balls here that light up like a lamp. Imagine if you had a real crystal ball, then you could look into it and see the future. That would be so awesome. I'd find out what the winning numbers to the next lottery would be! Then we could buy the whole store! What would you do?

Mia I don't know. Maybe I would like to know what job I will have in the future or if people will ever live on other planets!

Marcus Well, those are neat questions. Say Mia, do you remember where they keep the computer games? I think *World of Warcraft* has a third part to it now. And I read in *PC Gamer Magazine* that *Warhammer Online* is pretty good too. I love fantasy computer games but I'm tired of playing *Guild Wars*.

Mia Oh yes! I remember where the games are, just over there to the left near that poster of Gandalf from *The Lord of the Rings*. You see them? The third part to *World of Warcraft* is called *Wrath of*



voyage
dawn trader
shelf
find out
warhammer
guild
wrath



Anna Popplewell starring in *The Chronicles of Narnia* in 2008.

the Lich King. It came out in November, 2008. I never tried it yet. I heard it's pretty fun. Come on let's go look.

Marcus Uhhh, these games are way too expensive for me. I think I'll just get my book and maybe a pack of *Warhammer* magic cards. What about you?

Mia Yes, I'm fine with this book and getting stickers or cards is a good idea too. Maybe they have some *Eragon* stickers or collecting cards from the film at the cash. Are you ready to go then?

Marcus Yes, I am. Say you wanna rent a movie after this? I never saw *The Golden Compass*. It's supposed to have some great magic in it. And the people have funny pets too!

Mia OK, sure. Well let's hurry up then. It's almost four and I gotta get home by six thirty for dinner!



stickers
collecting cards
cash
rent

TEXT B

World of Warcraft: King of Fantasy Games

World of Warcraft (WoW) is an online fantasy computer game. It is currently the most popular game of this type with over 11 million players.

In WoW you must decide which side you want to play on: Horde or Alliance. Once you settle on which side to play, you pick an avatar, a class, and race. You decide if your avatar is male or female, name it, select its looks and level it from 0–80. Your avatar is a cartoon character that you use to play the game. For example, you can be a female Alliance character that is a dwarf priest. Or a male Horde character that is a troll warrior.

There are several races and classes to choose from. Each class has special armour, unique spells and numerous weapons to use. For example, warriors use the strongest armour but cannot cast spells. Mages cannot use tough armour but have potent magical spells. It takes an exceptionally long time to reach the highest level.

To reach level eighty, you must go on many quests that gain you experience points. When you get enough points you go up one level. There are also other ways to obtain experience points such as battles against other players and adventuring in dungeons to fight enormous “boss” monsters! Raiding cities in large groups will also increase one’s experience.

The world in WoW allows you to move your character (avatar) around like in real life. You can walk, jump, ride horses and other animals, fly, swim and so much more. There are many landscapes to adventure in. You will see small villages, huge castles, caves and many types of animals, flowers and of course monsters!

currently
settle
warrior
choose (chose, chosen)
armour
spell
numerous
cast spells
potent
exceptionally
quest
gain
experience
obtain
battle
raid
increase
allow





Players communicate with each other by using a chat window to type in. You may also join other players to quest or visit a dungeon with. Some of the battles in WoW have more than twenty people on each team fighting against each other! Horde players fight against Alliance players in these small wars. But there is more to do than just fight! You can fish, cook, do first aid and learn special professions. Every Sunday there is a fishing tournament where one wins prizes like a magical fishing hat that allows you to breathe under water.

type
first aid
profession
breathe
add
update

World of Warcraft is a gigantic magical game. The game never really ends and even at level eighty, there are still things to do and see. The game also changes because new areas and things to do are added from time to time in game updates.

COOL READS

– *Fantasy and Myth*



The Inhabitants of the World of Fantasy

Elves, dwarves, vampires, trolls, witches, dragons and wizards – their history and powers are amazing.

Page 50



A Mysterious Man with Golden Eyes

This is the story about Bella Swan and her boyfriend Edward Cullen, a strange young man with golden eyes.

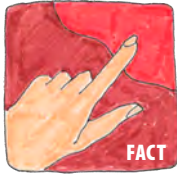
Page 59



Discovery

Eragon is a young farm boy who finds a mysterious object in the woods. This is the beginning of a series of events that forces Eragon to join a group of rebels who fight an evil ruler.

Page 61



The Inhabitants of the World of Fantasy

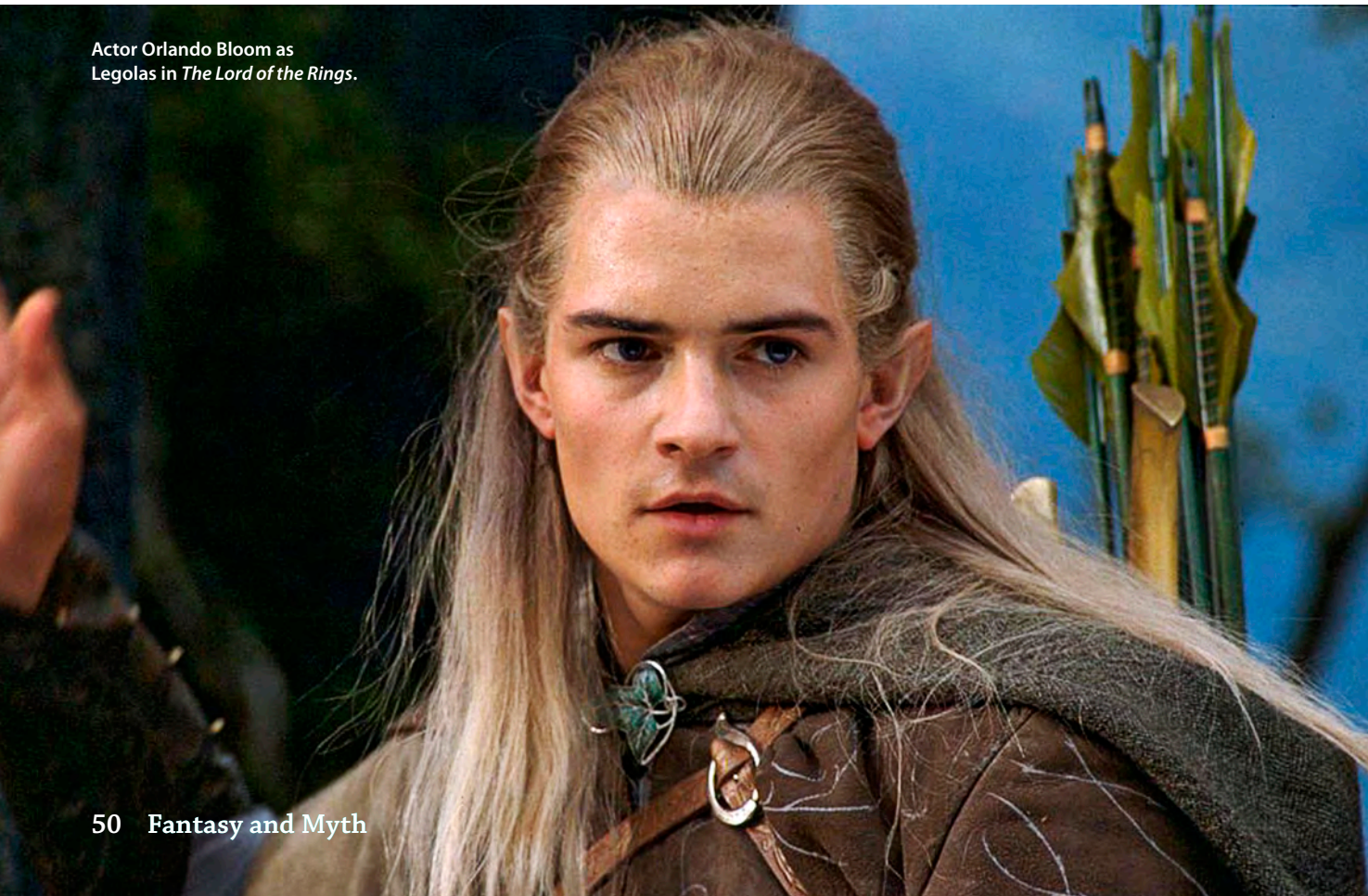
Elves: Beautiful, Wise and Fantastic!

Elves are thin creatures with fine features such as high cheek bones and narrow looking eyes. They have pale skin, fair coloured hair and their eyes can be green, amber, blue or hazel. Their ears are longer than humans and they are usually pointed upwards. They speak their own language of course! And they live for hundreds of years.

This is the image we have of the elf since the publication of J.R.R. Tolkien's famous trilogy: *The Lord of the Rings*. You may have seen Legolas in the movies made about these books played by the actor Orlando Bloom. Legolas is a famous elf who fights against the evil forces of Mordor.

feature
cheek bones
narrow
pale
fair
amber
hazel
pointed

Actor Orlando Bloom as
Legolas in *The Lord of the Rings*.



Ancient Elves

The history of the elf, an ancient magical creature, can be traced back to Scandinavia and what is now Germany. In a story called *The Saga of Thorstein* there was a magical land called *Álfheim* (“Elf Home” in English) and this place is actually where the Swedish province Bohuslän and the Norwegian province Østfold are today! We learn that the kings of this land had elven blood and that this made them better looking than ordinary people!

J.R.R. Tolkien took the name “Gandalf” for the famous wizard in *The Lord of the Rings* from these old stories. In Old Norse the word “gand” means “wand” and the word “alf” means “elf”. So “Gandalf” means “Wand Elf” from the Old Norse language.

What are Elves?

Elves are said to be intelligent, magical healers and able to see in the dark. They usually live in magically protected forests. An elf has a natural ability to sense danger, can use a bow, sword and scimitar very well and is closer to nature than a human.

Elves do not like to live with humans or other creatures. They believe that all others are less intelligent and also greedy for power and riches. There are many types of elves and all of them fight on the side of good against evil except for one. The Dark Elves or Drow are evil and live in the dark far below the ground. These elves cannot bear the light and hate all other elves.

The most famous of all Dark Elves is Drizzt Do’Urden who appears as the main character in many books written by R.A. Salvatore. Drizzt runs away from his evil world called the Underdark and becomes a good elf. He leaves his world because he does not like to murder and kill for no reason. And he does not think like his family does. He fights against evil with his magical black panther Guenhwyver. You can read about him in Salvatore’s books *The Dark Elf Trilogy*.

ancient
trace back to
province
Norse
wand
healer
protected
ability
sense
bow
scimitar
greedy
riches
bear
appear
main

The Dwarves: Short but Tough

The dwarves of modern day fantasy date back to Norse and Germanic mythology. What we learn from the old myths is that dwarves had much in common with elves and especially the dark elves who live underground. A dwarf is short (about 90–120 cm in height), very strong, usually has a long beard, and lives a long life in an underground kingdom. Unlike the beautiful elves, dwarves are mostly ugly and stunted. But they are also very wise and brilliant craftsmen.

Dwarves are often great miners and blacksmiths. They love to mine for gold and gems and they use the metals to create powerful and often magical swords, hammers and axes. They like to hoard or hide their money. Also, as they live in caves that they dig out, they can see better in the dark than humans. In the fantasy game *Dungeons and Dragons* this magical power is called “infravision”.

Dwarves also like to drink ale and mead. You will often see a dwarf with a flagon (mug) of ale in his hand. In many stories they become braver and stronger in battle because of drinking alcohol. They are courageous in war and loyal to their friends.

Dwarves in Books

The stories about dwarves are many. Most people know about Walt Disney’s *Snow White and the Seven Dwarves*. They have also been written about by two very important English fantasy writers, C.S. Lewis and J.R.R. Tolkien. These two British men were actually friends and it is believed that they often spoke about the fantasy stories they wrote. C.S. Lewis wrote *The Chronicles of Narnia* which are now being made into films. The dwarves in his stories are born out of stone. Tolkien’s dwarves appear in his books: *The Hobbit* and the trilogy *The Lord of the Rings*. The most famous dwarf in Tolkien’s books is Gimli who becomes friends with the elf Legolas.

The great Swedish author Pär Lagerkvist, who won the

date back to
in common
unlike
stunted
craftsman
miner
blacksmith
gem
axe
horde
dig
ale
mead
mug
courageous

Nobel Prize for literature in 1951, wrote a book called *The Dwarf* (Dvärgen). It is a fantastic story about a dwarf who is a very angry servant for a royal family. He hates all people except for his prince. We learn much about how dishonest and foolish people can be through this dwarf's story.

servant
except
dishonest
foolish
through

Dwarves in Games

If you play online games you will find dwarves in many of them. *Warhammer Online*, *World of Warcraft*, *Runescape*, *Guild Wars* and *Dungeons and Dragons* are only some of the games where dwarves appear. They are one of the most popular fantasy creatures!

Peter Dinlage and Warwick Davis are the dwarves in *The Chronicles of Narnia*.





Vampires: Creatures of Darkness

Vampires do not all look alike. Some of them wear black suits or gowns and look smart while others dress like you and me. Vampires are people who can live forever and they do not age in appearance. They are afraid of sunlight because if they go out during the day; they will burn and turn into dust! Therefore, vampires must sleep in dark graves or coffins during the day and be awake at night.

Dracula, Lord of Darkness, was created by the author Bram Stoker and is still the most famous vampire in the world. In this book we learn that vampires cannot be seen in mirrors because they have no souls!

Vampires live on a diet of fresh blood. If you get bitten by a vampire you become one if the vampire feeds you his or her own blood. Vampires must keep drinking blood to survive. They can drink fresh blood from animals but to be healthy and very strong; they need to feed on humans. Blood gives them their strength and supernatural powers. Vampires can climb walls like lizards, move very quickly and even control people with their voices! Some are able to become bats and fly.

alike
gown
smart
age
appearance
turn into
dust
coffin
diet
fresh
keep
feed on
supernatural
climb
lizard
bat

In some legends, vampires cannot enter a house unless they are invited inside. This is what happens in the novel *Let the Right One In* by the Swedish author John Ajvide Lindqvist, when Oskar – a 12-year-old boy – invites Eli who lives next door into his room. Eli is a 200-year-old vampire. She never looks older than twelve because at this age she was frozen in time.

enter
unless
invite
novel
next door

Trolls: Large Troublemakers!

Trolls are magical creatures that have the same shape as humans. But trolls are giants in size compared to people; they are very tall and have fat bellies. Their eyes are usually quite small and their ears and noses very large. Trolls like to cause trouble and are not usually kind or polite. Often they make mischief for people and bring them harm. It is said that the troll is a dangerous beast who likes to hide in caves and live under hills. They hide treasure, gems and gold – which they like very much!



Swedish painter John Bauer became well known for his trolls and beautiful princesses in the early 20th century.

troublemaker
shape
size
compared
belly
cause
polite
mischief
bring
harm
beast
treasure

story
invisible
abduct
sneak
exchange
original
tale

Old stories say that trolls can turn invisible, ride on the wind or even change into the shape of a dog, a cat or a fallen tree. Some trolls like to steal or “abduct” people and use them as slaves. They can steal the food off your plate while you eat, sneak into your house and take your things and some say they even steal babies and leave their own child troll in exchange!

The original stories about these creatures started in Scandinavia and come from ancient Norse tales. Many people from Norway, Denmark, and Sweden have written about trolls and made pictures of them. Trolls are so famous in Scandinavia that there is even a huge statue of one in Bergen, Norway on the top of Fløyen Mountain!

Witches: Magical Women

A witch is a woman or a girl with magical powers. She often wears a tall pointed black hat, and flies upon a broomstick. These powerful women who practise magic also have a “familiar”. A “familiar” is an animal that helps the witch with her magic. It can be a black cat, a raven or a crow and sometimes a rat or even a large toad.

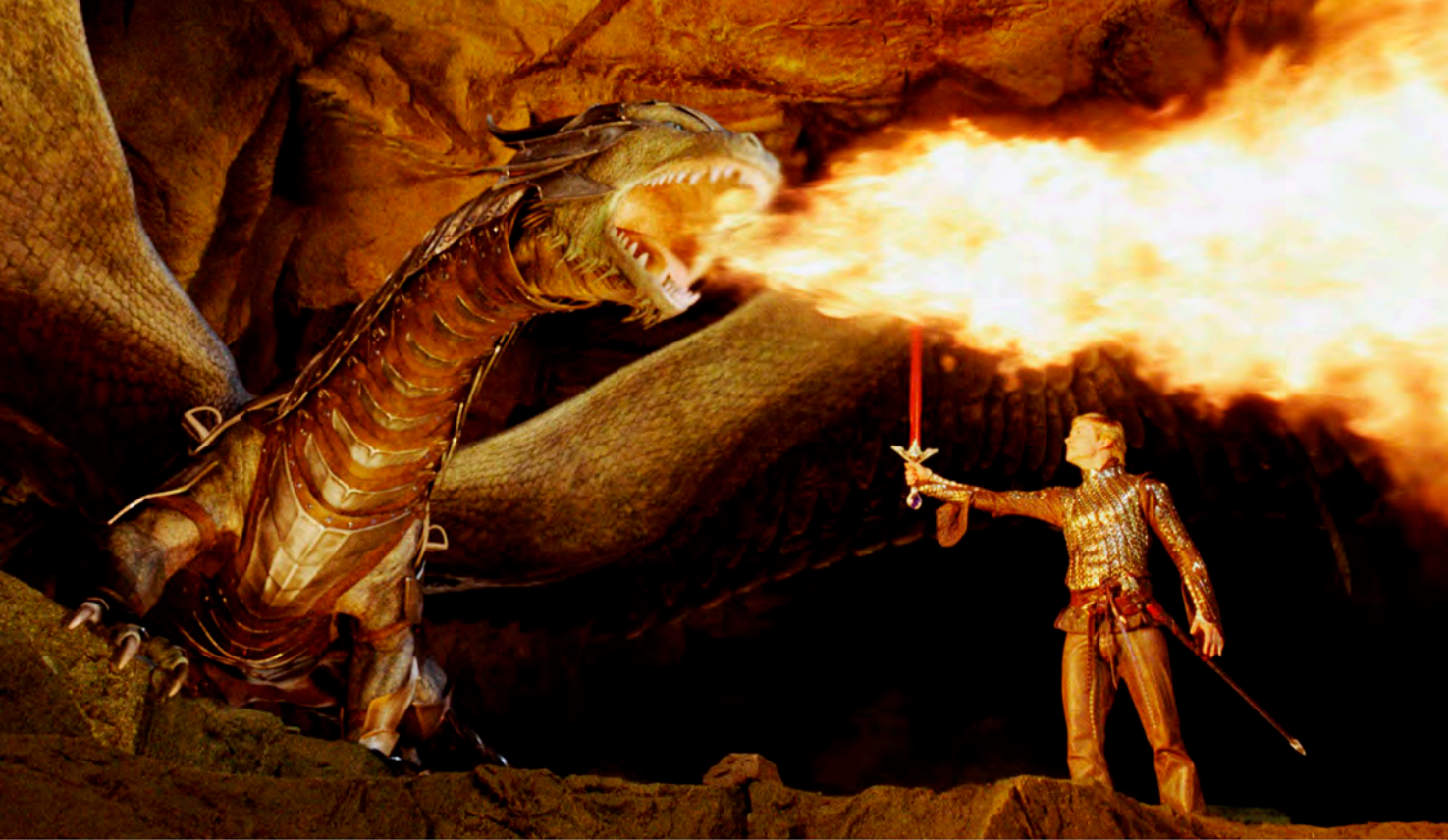
A witch can be good or bad. This means she can use her powers to help people or to destroy them. Witches use big pots called “cauldrons” to mix herbs, plants, roots and parts of animals to create drinks called potions. Some potions make people fall in love, sleep or even turn invisible!

Witches use magical books that have spells in them. The spells can do almost anything. A very strong spell can call upon an evil monster or demon to appear and do whatever the witch says.

Witches have been written about for hundreds of years. Shakespeare writes about them in *Macbeth*. Anne Rice who writes a lot about vampires also has stories about witches. Anne Rice wrote *The Vampire Chronicles*. Her most famous book, *Interview with a Vampire* was made into a film and stars Tom Cruise.



broomstick
practise
raven
crow
toad
destroy
cauldron
herb
potion
call upon



Eragon, in the book with the same name, learns to become a Dragon Rider.

Dragons: Beasts of Fire

The dragon is a large fire breathing lizard as big as a dinosaur. It has large wings and can fly. It has a very long tail and its teeth are huge, pointy and sharp. Dragons live for hundreds and hundreds of years. They often live in big caves called a “den”. A dragon’s den is usually filled with tons of treasure and magical items.

When warriors kill a dragon, they have proven that they are great fighters and heroes. Stories are told about strong men who go off to kill a dragon in the hopes of stealing its treasure. Some of these great beasts are good and fight on the side of humans, dwarves and elves. But when attacked a dragon will eat its victims, burn them with fire and smash them with its gigantic tail.

In the book *Eragon* by Christopher Paolini, a young farm boy finds a shiny blue stone that ends up being a dragon egg! Young Eragon and his dragon Saphira set out on a dangerous trip together where the boy must learn to become a Dragon Rider!

den
tons of
hope
victim
farm boy
end up
trip

Wizards: The Spell Casters

Of all the characters in fantasy, the wizard is truly one of the most powerful and wise. Wizards cast spells to fight in battles, cure wounds, and see into the future. They even use magic to entertain and do pranks. You will see them peer into crystal balls to watch what other people are doing. Wizards usually specialise in one kind of magic, for example: fire, ice, earth or death. The fire wizard can shoot large flames from his or her staff and create huge balls of fire to damage enemies. Spells that use holy magic can: heal people, resurrect them, remove curses and protect friends with shields of light. Wizards can also turn invisible, change into a bird and fly or even create food and drinks out of thin air!

In fantasy movies you will see them wear beautiful robes and carry long wooden staffs or wands. The men usually have long beards and sometimes they are wearing tall pointed hats like witches, and they are always exceptionally smart and know more than other characters in the story. The women are often beautiful with very long hair and deep penetrating eyes.

In old stories about King Arthur we read about Merlin the magician and the famous sword Excalibur. Modern authors took ideas for their own stories from the books about Merlin and King Arthur. Today we can read about Harry Potter. When he first starts using magic, he is not very good at it. This is because it takes practice to become powerful. Harry and his friends learn to use magic during seven years at Hogwarts School of Witchcraft and Wizardry.



spell caster
cure
wound
entertain
prank
peer
specialise
staff
damage
holy
heal
resurrect
curse
shield
out of thin air
robe
penetrating
magician
witchcraft
wizardry

A Mysterious Man with Golden Eyes



In the following text you will read a conversation that Bella Swan and her boyfriend-to-be, Edward Cullen, are having. She knows that something is strange about Edward because her friend Jacob told her “stories” about him and his family: the Cullens.

In this passage, the two of them are driving home from Port Angeles and Edward has just saved Bella from four young guys who tried to attack her. Now Bella is trying to make Edward tell her who he really is!

“How old are you?”

“Seventeen,” he answered promptly.

“And how long have you been seventeen?”

His lips twitched as he stared at the road, “A while,” he admitted at last.

“Okay.” I smiled, pleased that he was still being honest with me. He stared down at me with watchful eyes, much as he had before when he was worried I would go into shock. I smiled wider in encouragement, and he frowned.

“Don’t laugh – but how can you come out during the daytime?”

He laughed anyway. “Myth.”

“Burned by the sun?”

“Myth.”

“Sleeping in coffins?”

“Myth.” He hesitated for a moment, and a peculiar tone entered his voice. “I can’t sleep.”

It took me a minute to absorb that. “At all?”

“Never,” he said, his voice nearly inaudible. He turned to look at me with a wistful expression. The golden eyes held mine, and I lost my train of thought. I stared at him until he looked away.

“You haven’t asked me the most important question yet.” His voice was hard now, and when he looked at me again his eyes were cold.

I blinked, still dazed. “Which one is that?”

“You aren’t concerned about my diet?” he asked sarcastically.

promptly
twitch
admit
watchful
encouragement
frown
coffin
hesitate
peculiar
absorb
inaudible
wistful
train of thought
daze
be concerned about
sarcastically

“Oh,” I murmured, “that.”

“Yes, that.” His voice was bleak. “Don’t you want to know if I drink blood?”

I flinched. “Well, Jacob said something about that.”

“What did Jacob say?” he asked flatly.

“He said you didn’t hunt ... hunt people. He said your family wasn’t supposed to be dangerous because you only hunted animals.”

“He said we weren’t dangerous?” His voice was deeply skeptical.

“Not exactly. He said you weren’t *supposed* to be dangerous. But the Quileutes still didn’t want you on their land, just in case.”

He looked forward, but I couldn’t tell if he was watching the road or not.

“So was he right? About not hunting people?” I tried

to keep my voice as even as possible.

“The Quileutes have a long memory,” he whispered.

I took it as a confirmation.

“Don’t let that make you complacent, though,” he warned me. “They’re right to keep their distance from us. We are still dangerous.”

“I don’t understand.”

“We try,” he explained slowly. “We’re usually very good at what we do. Sometimes we make mistakes. Me, for example, allowing myself to be alone with you.”

“This is a mistake?” I heard the sadness in my voice, but I didn’t know if he could as well.

“A very dangerous one,” he murmured.

murmur
bleak
flinch
flatly
skeptical
even
confirmation
complacent



Kristen Stewart and Robert Pattinson star in the film *Twilight* 2008.



Edward Speleers as Eragon in the film 2006.

Discovery

The following text is from the first part of the popular fantasy book called “Eragon” by Christopher Paolini. He was just 15 years old when he started to write it! The book was made into a film.

In this passage we meet Eragon while he is out hunting in the forest. It is in this first chapter called Discovery that he finds a polished blue stone. What he thinks is possibly a magical stone turns out to be a dragon’s egg!

Eragon knelt in a bed of trampled reed grass and scanned the tracks with a practiced eye. The prints told him that the deer had been in the meadow only a half-hour before. Soon they would bed down. His target, a small doe with a pronounced limp in her left forefoot, was still with the herd. He was amazed she had made it so far without a wolf or bear catching her.

The sky was clear and dark, and a slight breeze stirred the air. A silvery cloud drifted over the mountains that surrounded him, its edges glowing with ruddy light cast from the harvest moon cradled between two peaks. Streams flowed down the mountains from stolid glaciers and glistening snow packs. A brooding mist crept along the valley’s floor, almost thick enough to obscure his feet.

knelt (knelt)
trample
reed
practiced eye
meadow
bed down
target
doe
pronounced
limp
stir
ruddy
harvest moon
cradle
stolid
glisten
brooding
mist

valley's floor
obscure
sheathe
buckskin
yew
wood-frame
tale
boding ill
game
craggy
recess
rapidly
approach
assurance
dusky
stride (stride)
glen
feathery
occasionally
string (strung)
nocked
reveal
motionless
lump
awkwardly
steadying
shatter
bolt
lunge
fiery
surge
slide (slid)
loose
bounding
breadth
hiss
smolder

Eragon was fifteen, less than a year from manhood. Dark eyebrows rested above his intense brown eyes. His clothes were worn from work. A hunting knife with a bone handle was sheathed at his belt, and a buckskin tube protected his yew bow from the mist. He carried a wood-frame pack.

The deer had led him deep into the Spine, a range of untamed mountains that extended up and down the land of Alagaësia. Strange tales and men often came from those mountains, usually boding ill. Despite that, Eragon did not fear the Spine – he was the only hunter near Carvahall who dared track game deep into its craggy recesses.

It was the third night of the hunt, and his food was half gone. If he did not fell the doe, he would be forced to return home empty-handed. His family needed the meat for the rapidly approaching winter and could not afford to buy it in Carvahall.

Eragon stood with quiet assurance in the dusky moonlight, then strode into the forest toward a glen where he was sure the deer would rest. The trees blocked the sky from view and cast feathery shadows on the ground. He looked at the tracks only occasionally; he knew the way.

At the glen, he strung his bow with a sure touch, then drew three arrows and nocked one, holding the others in his left hand. The moonlight revealed twenty or so motionless lumps where the deer lay in the grass. The doe he wanted was at the edge of the herd, her left fore-leg stretched out awkwardly.

Eragon slowly crept closer, keeping the bow ready. All his work of the past three days had led to this moment. He took a last steadying breath and – an explosion shattered the night.

The herd bolted. Eragon lunged forward, racing through the grass as a fiery wind surged past his cheek. He slid to a stop and loosed an arrow at the bounding doe. It missed by a finger's breadth and hissed into darkness. He cursed and spun around, instinctively nocking another arrow.

Behind him, where the deer had been, smoldered a large circle of grass and trees. Many of the pines stood bare of

their needles. The grass outside the charring was flattened. A wisp of smoke curled in the air, carrying a burnt smell. In the center of the blast radius lay a polished blue stone. Mist snaked across the scorched area and swirled insubstantial tendrils over the stone.

Eragon watched for danger for several long minutes, but the only thing that moved was the mist. Cautiously, he released the tension from his bow and moved forward. Moonlight cast him in pale shadow as he stopped before the stone. He nudged it with an arrow, then jumped back. Nothing happened, so he warily picked it up.

Nature had never polished a stone as smooth as this one. Its flawless surface was dark blue, except for thin veins of white that spider webbed across it. The stone was cool and frictionless under his fingers, like hardened silk. Oval and about a foot long, it weighed several pounds, though it felt lighter than it should have.

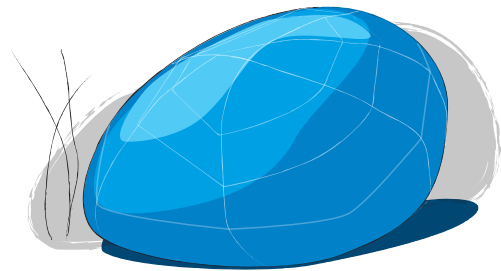
Eragon found the stone both beautiful and frightening. *Where did it come from? Does it have a purpose?* Then a more disturbing thought came to him: *Was it sent here by accident, or am I meant to have it?* If he had learned anything, from the old stories, it was to treat magic, and those who used it, with great caution.

But what should I do with the stone? It would be tiresome to carry, and there was a chance it was dangerous. It might be better to leave it behind.

A flicker of indecision ran through him, and he almost dropped it, but something stayed his hand. *At the very least, it might pay for some food,* he decided with a shrug, tucking the stone into his pack.

The glen was too exposed to make a safe camp, so he slipped back into the forest and spread his bedroll beneath the upturned roots of a fallen tree. After a cold dinner of bread and cheese, he wrapped himself in blankets and fell asleep, pondering what had occurred.

needle
charring
wisp
blast radius
scorched
swirl
insubstantial
tendrils
cautiously
tension
nudge
warily
flawless
vein
frictionless
purpose
caution
flicker
indecision
shrug
tuck
exposed
upturned
ponder
occur



Unit 4

New York, New York

New York City

New York City – *the Big Apple, Gotham, The City That Never Sleeps* – is the most populated city in the United States.

It is located in the state of New York in the United States.

It was an Italian, Giovanni Di Verrazzano, who was the first European explorer to come to the New York City Harbor in 1524. The region was at that time inhabited by Native Americans. European settlement began in 1614 at the southern tip of Manhattan. It was the Dutch who settled on the colony, and they named it “New Amsterdam”. New York got its present name in 1664 when it was colonized by the British.

Just before 1800 the New York Stock Exchange opened on Wall Street, making New York the financial center it still is today. The city had its biggest transformation in the 1800s. The Statue of Liberty greeted millions of immigrants as they came to America during this time.

Today New York City consists of five boroughs: The Bronx, Brooklyn, Manhattan, Queens and Staten Island.

The Bronx is the only part of the city that is on the mainland of the USA. Brooklyn is where most people in the city live. Manhattan is home to famous districts such as Chinatown, Little Italy, Hell’s Kitchen, Chelsea, SoHo, TriBeCa and the Financial District. Queens is the largest borough and the most ethnically diverse county in the United States. Staten Island is the most suburban of the boroughs, and the popular Staten Island Ferry goes from Manhattan over to the island.



The wordlist is on page 131 in this book.

THEATER DISTRICT



EMPIRE STATE BUILDING



FINANCIAL DISTRICT



SOLDIERS' AND SAILORS' ARCH

New York Sights

Listen to the opinions about New York while looking at the photos and the map on pages 65–68.

The wordlist is on page 132 in this book.

1 *The Empire State Building is a 102-storey tall Art Deco skyscraper in New York. It cost approximately 41 million dollars to build, and engaged 3,400 workers. Nearly everyone who comes to New York visits the famous building.*



2 *Park Slope, an attractive neighborhood in Brooklyn is the home of many famous authors. The tree-lined streets are situated close to the Brooklyn Museum, Prospect Park and The Soldiers' and Sailors' Arch at the Grand Army Plaza.*



3 *The 486-meter long Brooklyn Bridge was at the time of its opening the longest suspension bridge in the world. It's a treasured landmark built in 1883, from which you also can enjoy the famous Manhattan skyline.*

4 *New York's Chinatown has the largest concentration of Chinese people in the western part of the world. It is both a residential area and a place for commerce.*





5 Central Park has lakes, running tracks, forest-like areas, the Central Park Zoo, a wildlife sanctuary, baseball fields and many grassy lawns. It is truly an easy get-away from the stressful life of the city. Every day Central Park is filled with people running, biking and playing sports. In the wintertime iceskating is very popular.



6 The New York Subway is often called the MTA New York City Transit. It has 26 train services in the subway system, each one separated by color and letter or number. The busiest station is Times Square – 42nd Street.

7 In Midtown Manhattan lies Times Square and the Theater District. It is an iconic landmark and particularly known for its giant digital advertisements and “jumbotrons”.





Adam Sandler and Don Cheadle in the film *Reign over Me* 2007.

“I ♥ NY”

Director Mike Binder’s film “Reign Over Me” shows New York and some of the after-effects of 9/11. The film was released in 2007.

Imagine New York City at early dawn. The streets are still empty and the pavement wet from the cold night. Most people are still asleep in their warm beds contrary to New York’s nickname: “the city that never sleeps”. A man suddenly appears, gliding across the street on his motor-driven scooter. He wears earphones, all the while listening to his favorite songs. He rides past the UN-building on the east side, past Grand Central Station on the west side, and from side to side on the smaller streets of Soho. He drives everywhere, working his way across the streets of Manhattan – north to south, east to west.

The man on the scooter is Charlie Fineman, aged forty. Charlie used to work as a dentist but he doesn’t anymore. He has no friends that he associates with and spends

imagine
dawn
pavement
contrary
nickname
appear
earphones
UN-building
work one’s way
across
use to
dentist
associate
spend

his days playing video games and driving around on his scooter. His clothes look scruffy and his hair looks like it hasn't been cut in years. Why is a forty-year-old man out riding his scooter in the middle of the night?

One day a man named Alan Johnson bumps into Charlie on the street. It turns out they used to be college roommates and even lived together for two years. Oddly enough, Charlie doesn't seem to recognize Alan. There is something very strange about Charlie Fineman.

* * *

Charlie lost his wife and three daughters during the September 11th attacks. Since then he has shut down and quit work. At first he refused to speak about his family, until the day he completely acted like he never had had one. Not only did he lose his whole family but he also lost himself on that dreadful day. People have tried to help him but he has built a wall around himself that is impossible for anyone to get through.

Many people's lives have been radically changed since the World Trade Center fell. Not only is the appearance of New York different – its famous skyline gone – but the feeling of New York is different as well. On the day of the attacks most people probably wanted to leave Manhattan to get to safer grounds. But all the bridges over to other parts of New York City were closed and so everybody on the island was stuck there. If you've ever visited Manhattan you might recognize the feeling of being a bit trapped, especially on the lower part of the island. That's where the two attacks took place in 2001. The streets are not very wide, and the enormous buildings tower over you. On that day, there was nowhere to run even if you tried.

The feeling of wanting to escape Manhattan has changed very much since then. New Yorkers are holding their ground. Even if their home town reminds them every day of the terrible event, they have to go on with their lives.

Although Charlie hasn't left Manhattan and his life there,

scruffy
bump into
turn out
roommates
oddly enough
recognize
lose (lost)
shut down
refuse
completely
act
dreadful
get through
radically
fall (fell, fallen)
appearance
skyline
as well
safe ground
be stuck
trapped
lower
take place (took, taken)
wide
tower
nowhere
escape
New Yorker
hold one's ground
go on

he sort of has in a way. He has created a world of his own – “Charlie’s World”. His friend Alan understands that you can’t escape reality by playing video games and watching comedies all the time. You can’t pretend that bad things have never happened like Charlie does. Alan tries to talk to Charlie about his family but all he succeeds in doing is to make him angry and frustrated.

Eventually, Charlie agrees to get help. He meets with a psychiatrist named Angela who tells him that he needs to tell her his story to be able to let go. He finally starts to remember but it’s not easy. Sometimes the memories become too much for Charlie and he just puts on his earphones and disappears into his own world for a while. He is lucky to have such good supportive friends. They give Charlie all the time he needs to be able to move on and feel better.

The lives that were lost on 9/11 will forever be mourned. But the New York spirit did not die when the towers fell. The city’s motto “I ♥ NY” is even stronger now than it was before.

sort of
succeed
agree
be able
let go
finally
a while
lucky
supportive
move on
mourn
spirit



Incredibly Close to Disaster

Oskar Schell is a nine-year-old boy who lives in New York. When the story begins it is September 10, 2001. The following day will be a day that changes Oskar's life forever.

“Dad?” “Yeah?” “Could you tell me a story?” “Sure?”
“A good one?” “As opposed to all the boring ones I use to tell.” “Right.” I tucked my body incredibly close into his, so my nose pushed into his armpit. “And you won’t interrupt me?” “I’ll try not to.” “Because it makes it hard to tell a story.” “And it’s annoying.”

The moment before he started was my favorite moment.

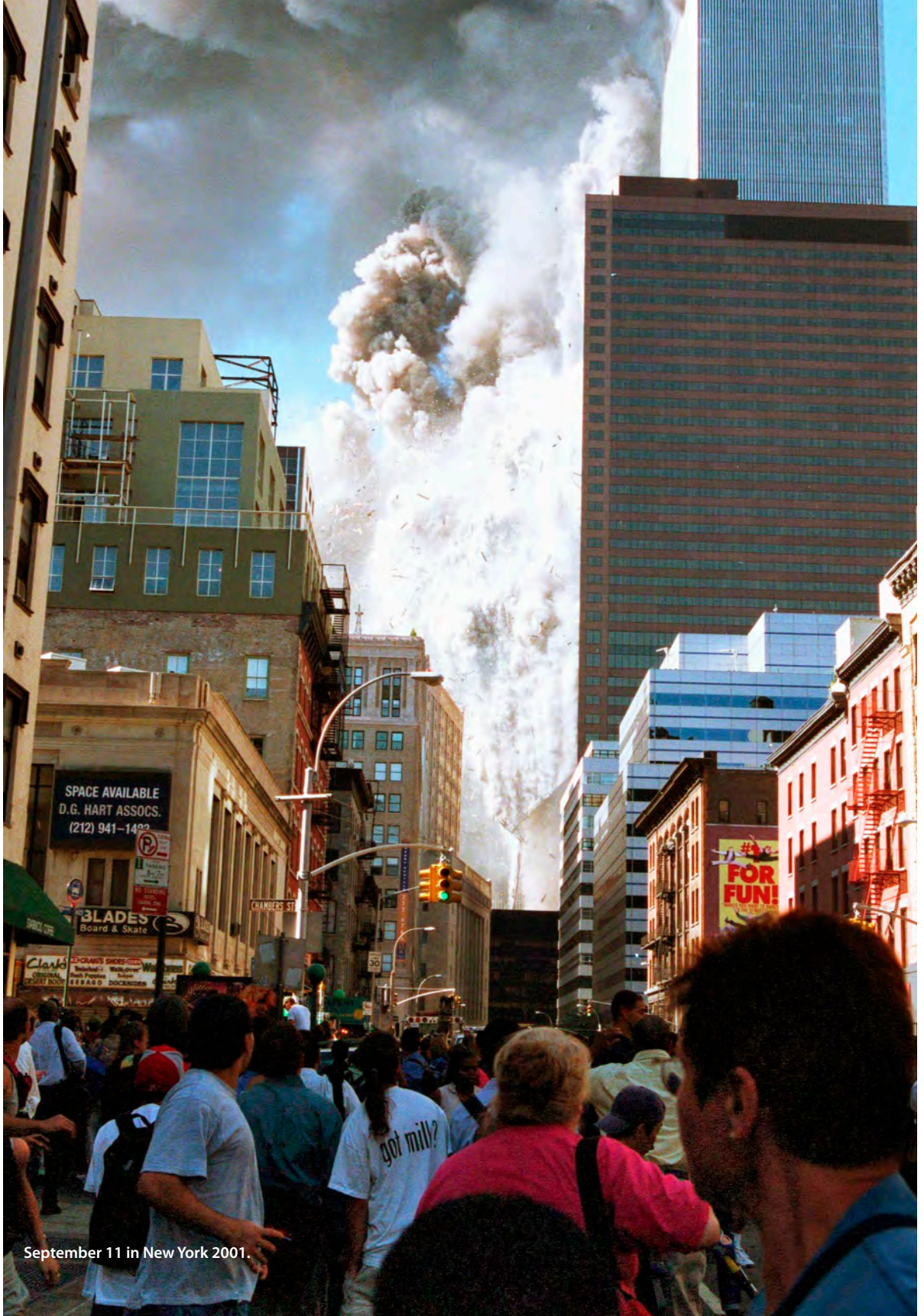
“Once upon a time, New York City had a sixth borough.” “What’s a borough?” “That’s what I call an interruption.” “I know, but the story won’t make any sense to me if I don’t know what a borough is.” “It’s like a neighborhood. Or a collection of neighborhoods.” “So if there was once a sixth borough, then what are the five boroughs?” “Manhattan, obviously, Brooklyn, Queens, Staten Island, and the Bronx.” “Have I ever been to any of the other boroughs?” “Here we go.” “I just want to know.” “We went to the Bronx Zoo once, a few years ago. Remember that?” “No.” “And we’ve been to Brooklyn, to see the roses at the Botanic Garden.” “Have I been to Queens?” “I don’t think so.” “Have I been to Staten Island?” “No.” “Was there *really* a sixth borough?” “I’ve been trying to tell you.” “No more interruptions. I promise.”

When the story finished, we turned the radio back on and found someone speaking French. That was especially nice, because it reminded me of the vacation we just came back from, which I wish never ended. After a while, Dad asked me if I was awake. I told him no, because I knew that he didn’t like to leave until I had fallen asleep, and I didn’t want him to be tired for work in the morning. He kissed my forehead and said good night, and then he was at the door.

“Dad?” “Yeah, buddy?” “Nothing.”

The next time I heard his voice was when I came home

as opposed to
tuck
armpit
interrupt
annoying
borough
make sense
neighborhood
botanic garden
especially
forehead
buddy
let out



September 11 in New York 2001.

from school the next day. We were let out early, because of what happened. I wasn't even a little bit panicky, because both Mom and Dad worked in midtown, and Grandma didn't work, obviously, so everyone I loved was safe.

I know that it was 10:18 when I got home, because I look at my watch a lot. The apartment was so empty and so quiet. As I walked to the kitchen, I invented a lever that could be on the front door, which would trigger a huge spoked wheel in the living room to turn against metal teeth that would hang down from the ceiling, so that it would play beautiful music, like maybe "Fixing a Hole" or "I Want to Tell You," and the apartment would be one huge music box.

After I petted Buckminster for a few seconds, to show him I loved him, I checked the phone messages. I didn't have a cell phone yet, and when we were leaving school, Toothpaste told me he'd call to let me know whether I was going to watch him attempt skateboarding tricks in the park, or if we were going to look at *Playboy* magazines in the drugstore with the aisles where no one can see what you're looking at, which I didn't feel like doing, but still.

Message one. Tuesday, 8:52 A.M. *Is anybody there? Hello? It's Dad. If you're there, pick up. I just tried the office, but no one was picking up. Listen, something's happened. I'm OK. They're telling us to stay where we are and wait for the firemen. I'm sure it's fine. I'll give you another call when I have a better idea of what's going on. Just wanted to let you know that I'm OK, and not to worry. I'll call again soon.*

There were four more messages from him: one at 9:12, one at 9:31, one at 9:46, and one at 10:04. I listened to them, and listened to them again, and then before I had time to figure out what to do, or even what to think or feel, the phone started ringing.

It was 10:22:27.

I looked at the caller ID and saw that it was him.

not even
panicky
midtown
lever
trigger
spoked wheel
turn against
ceiling
music box
pet
check
drugstore
aisle
pick up
figure out
caller ID



Tobey Maguire in *Spider-Man 2* in 2004.

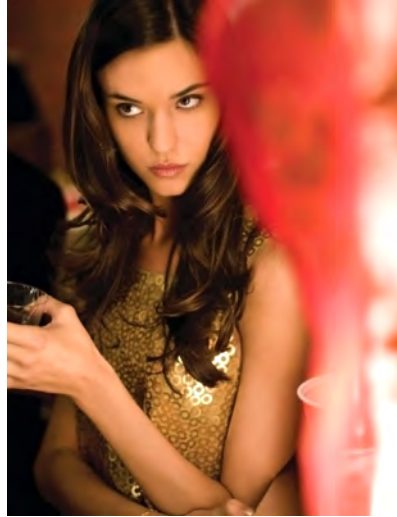
New York at the Movies

Hollywood might be the official home of movies. It is the place where all the stars live and the major motion picture companies are found. But the most cinematic city in the world is definitely New York. Ask yourself what the *Spiderman* movies would be like without Peter Parker swinging himself from one New York skyscraper to the next? Or *King Kong* without the big primate climbing to the top of the Empire State Building?

major
motion picture company
cinematic
primate



Will Smith in *I Am Legend*,
Odette Yustman in *Cloverfield*
and Penelope Cruz and Tom
Cruise in *Vanilla Sky* all starred
in movies shot in New York.



Since the beginning of movie-making, the number of movies shot on the streets of New York City has doubled with every decade. The list of movies where New York plays an important role is, in itself, endless.

If you walk the streets of NY it is not unusual to bump into a couple of movie trailers or a scene being filmed. For important films there may even be a huge crowd around watching. It sure isn't easy to make a film in such a crowded city. For one thing, it can be very expensive when shooting "on location" (a real site) and not in a studio with constructed sets. The film crew can't control things like traffic and pedestrians. Also, passing aircraft can all interrupt the filming. And what if they start shooting a scene one day when the sun is shining, and the next day it is pouring?

Many times the film crew has to close off an entire street. The famous Times Square is a bustling place in midtown New York, full of billboards and neon lights. It is one of the busiest places in the US, with the most people passing by every day. For the movie *Vanilla Sky* the film team closed Times Square for an entire day to be able to shoot Tom Cruise driving his car through it as an empty place.

Something that tends to be immensely popular in the film world is to demolish New York. There are about forty movies in which the city is destroyed! Either it is by dangerous aliens (*Cloverfield*), a giant monster (*Godzilla*), or a contagious infection (*I Am Legend*). And in *Wall-E*, the human race's own stupidity made New York unfit to live in. Fortunately, all the damage shown in these films is computer enhanced.

Thanks to the movie world, many parts of New York are just as familiar to us as our own home town. Most of us know what New York looks like even before we get a chance to visit the city. We have most likely seen people riding yellow cabs across the Brooklyn Bridge or strolling through Central Park. New York is full of classic movie moments.

shoot (shot)
double
decade
role
in itself
endless
bump into
movie trailer
crowd
expensive
on location
constructed
set
pedestrian
passing
aircraft
interrupt
pour
entire
bustling
billboard
tend
immensely
demolish
destroy
contagious
human race
stupidity
unfit
damage
computer enhanced
familiar
stroll
moment



Unit 5

Different Perspectives



In order to keep a true perspective of one's importance, everyone should have a dog that will worship him and a cat that will ignore him.

Franklin P. Jones 1887–1929

worship
ignore
govern
experience
determine
environment

- * Will the US change when governed by a black president?
- * How does an autistic savant experience the world?
- * What determines who you are? Your genes, your environment – or perhaps both?
- * How does a homeless person look at his life?

Read the following unit to find out the answers to some of these questions.



TEXT A

Martin Luther King's Dream Come True: Barack Obama

Barack Obama is the first black president of the United States. In becoming the 44th president by winning the election in 2008, President Obama has done far more than just win. He has accomplished the dream of Martin Luther King who was murdered for speaking out against racism and fighting for the civil rights and liberties of all Americans no matter what the color of their skin.

election
far more than
accomplish
civil rights
liberties
no matter what





“When we allow freedom to ring, when we let it ring from every village and every hamlet, from every state and every city, we will be able to speed up that day when all of God’s children, black men and white men, Jews and Gentiles, Protestants and Catholics, will be able to join hands and sing, in the words of the old Negro spiritual: “Free at last! Free at last! Thank God Almighty, we are free at last!”

Martin Luther King

allow
ring
hamlet
speed up
Gentiles
join hands
God Almighty

When Obama won this election he also won a long fight for the civil rights movement. He won a battle that has been going on in the US for decades. The fight to end racism and racial segregation has been long. Over forty years ago, in 1963, Martin Luther King gave his world famous speech to over a quarter of a million people. In this speech, now referred to as “I have a dream”, King and the crowd of 250,000 protesters demanded that the government pass civil rights laws.

Considering that African Americans used to be owned as

movement
decade
racial segregation
speech
refer to
crowd
demand
pass
law
considering
used to
be owned

allowed to
vote
were forced
win
amazing
dream come true
skilled
orator
well educated
lawyer
social causes
humanity
was able to
expect
solve
huge
financial crisis
debt
succeed

slaves in the US, were not allowed to vote and were forced to go to separate schools not so long ago, Obama's win is truly an amazing dream come true.

Barack Obama is a skilled orator, a well educated lawyer and a man who worked very hard for social causes. He is a man who cares about humanity. He was able to get many young people to vote because he is the only presidential candidate who has ever been interested in using the Internet and other technology like the cell phone and lap top. Obama reached many people who probably would not have voted.

Now Obama's voters expect him to solve many serious problems in the US. Some of the problems are: a huge financial crisis, wars in Iraq and Afghanistan and a large debt. He has a very big job to do. The question is: will he succeed?



TEXT B

Daniel Tammet: An Incredible Mind!

Daniel Tammet is a writer, linguist and educator from England who refers to himself as a *highly functional autistic savant*. He was a different person before he got epilepsy as a young child. Epilepsy is believed to be the original cause of his amazing mental abilities. Although he has a hard time with emotions and telling left from right, he has incredible maths skills, a brilliant memory and an ability to learn languages quickly.

Moreover, he is *synaesthetic* which means he sees numbers as colours or even shapes with texture. For Daniel, Wednesday – which is the 4th day of the week – is blue. He says the number 37 looks like lumpy porridge and 89 looks like snow falling. Very big numbers look like landscapes to him!

There are only about fifty savants in the whole world. Most of them have a hard time speaking about their lives and cannot live an ordinary one. But Daniel is able to get by even though he finds some things make him nervous.

For example, it is hard for Daniel to walk outside if there are too many people. And if there is too much noise he blocks his ears. He gets anxious and so he cannot drive and stays at home mostly. In an interview he said he could

autistic: einhverfur (manneskja með þroskaröskun sem lýsir sér meðal annars í skertri getu til að eiga samskipti við aðra)

savant: manneskja með sértæka þroskaröskun og óvenjulega sérgáfu til að muna sérstök atriði



an incredible mind
linguist
refer to
highly functional
epilepsy
cause
amazing
ability
although
hard time
emotion
telling
maths skills
moreover
shape
texture
lumpy porridge
ordinary
get by
noise
block
anxious

not go to the beach because he felt that he must count all the sand. But compared to other savants he is more able to interact with people. His abilities are impressive and we are lucky that he can speak about them. Let's have a look at some of the things Daniel does that almost nobody else can.

He can tell you what day of the week you were born on if you tell him your year and month of birth. He knows the answer immediately! But this is nothing compared to one amazing thing he did at Oxford on March 14th of 2004 with the number Pi. The date 3/14 is named after Pi because it starts at 3.14. Pi is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter and it never ends. Daniel recited 22,514 decimal places of this number in about 5 hours and did not make one mistake. That is really amazing! And there's more too.

In a documentary called *Brainman*, Daniel learns a foreign language in one week. He was challenged to choose Icelandic because it is one of the most difficult languages to study. After 7 days he could speak and understand it well. Imagine if you could learn a language in 7 days? Most people need years to do this. That is really incredible!

Daniel can speak many other languages too, including: English, French, Finnish, German, Spanish, Lithuanian, Romanian, Estonian, Welsh and Esperanto. That's a lot of languages!

Daniel recently wrote a book about his life, named after the day he was born on, called: *Born on a Blue Day: Inside the Extraordinary Mind of an Autistic Savant*. This book speaks about Daniel's life and tells us about how he lives with autism and epilepsy. We learn about all of the incredible things he can do with numbers too. He has a special mind and it is fortunate that he wrote a book to tell us more about himself! Read an excerpt from this book on p. 90.

interact
impressive
birth
ratio
circumference
recite
decimal place
was challenged
Icelandic
imagine
Lithuanian
Romanian
Estonian
Welsh
recently
excerpt

COOL READS

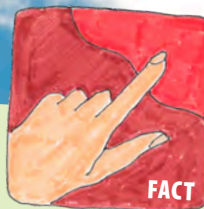
– Different Perspectives



Zebras, Lions, Buffalo and Bushmen Live in the Kalahari Desert

This is the story of a little Bushman girl living in Botswana during the 1960's. A British woman takes care of her and gives her a 'British' upbringing. But what culture does the girl belong to?

Page 86



The Gift of Tongues

Languages have always been a source of fascination to Daniel Tammet the author who is presented on page 83. This is an excerpt from his book *Born on a Blue Day*.

Page 90



You Can Call Me Link

Link is a teenager living on the streets of London. Author Robert Swindells wrote the thriller *Stone Cold* from different perspectives – the homeless and those who dislike or even hate the homeless.

Page 92



Daily Routine Orders 5

Shelter is a former soldier and serial killer. He dislikes drug addicts and homeless people and thinks he has the task to clean the streets of London from them. This is another extract from the thriller *Stone Cold*.

Page 95



Zebras, Lions, Buffalo and Bushmen Live in the Kalahari Desert

This story, based on the novel 'Maru' by Bessie Head, is the story of a Bushman girl who is brought up and well educated by a white missionary, but who meets with many difficulties due to her origin and the colour of her skin.

“Zebras, Lions, Buffalo and Bushmen live in the Kalahari Desert” is an African proverb that shows how people have looked upon the Bushmen. Bushmen are aboriginals who have lived in southern Africa for tens of thousands of years.

Missionary Margaret Cadmore works in Botswana during the 1960's. Most people around her are racists who think

bring (brought) up
educate
missionary
origin
proverb
aboriginal

the Bushmen are “dirty and stupid”, that they can’t “think for themselves, not even feed themselves” and that they are the lowest of all living things. Margaret is of the opposite opinion and realizes that the racists are just narrow-minded. Instead she takes care of and protects the Bushmen, something that is very unusual.

One day, when a poor African woman dies, Margaret decides to raise the woman’s newborn daughter. And she names her Margaret – after herself. Young Margaret is well taken care of by the older Margaret. Unlike other Bushmen, she has a lot of privileges. She doesn’t grow up poor and she gets an education. Moreover, she learns about life through classic literature and becomes a very intelligent young woman. Sadly, she doesn’t know that her past is going to catch up with her ...

★★★★★

“**IT WAS ONLY** when she started going to the mission school that she slowly became aware that something was wrong with her relationship to the world. She was the kind of child who was shyly pinched under the seat, and next to whom no one wanted to sit.

If a glob of spit dropped unto her arm during the playtime hour, she quietly wiped it away. If they caught her in some remote part of the school buildings during the playtime hour, they would set up a wild, jiggling dance: “Since when did a Bushy go to school? We take him to the bush where he eat mealie pap, pap, pap.”

What did it really mean when another child walked up to her and, looking so angry, said: “You are just a Bushman”? In their minds it meant so much. Half of it was that they were angry that she had the protection of a white woman who was also their principal. What was the other half? What was a Bushman supposed to do?”

★★★★★

All the time there is a hole in Margaret’s heart because she can never say “I am this or that. My parents are this or that”. She may look like the parents that she has never

feed
realize
narrow-minded
take care of
protect
unusual
raise
newborn
unlike
privilege
her past
catch up
become aware of
relationship
shyly
pinch
glob of spit
wipe
remote
jiggle
protection
principal
supposed to do

met, but she is probably not like them in any other way. Children around her keep telling her that she is a Bushman, a low breed, or a bastard. She is labelled an ‘it’, not a human being – no better than the predators that roam the Kalahari Desert.

However, when Margaret opens her mouth to speak, people are confused. She doesn’t sound like a Bushman at all. And Margaret’s mind and heart are composed of all the things that she has absorbed from Margaret Cadmore. She is no longer an African. Somehow she is something new and universal that simply cannot be defined by tribe, race or nation.

Margaret grows up and becomes a school teacher in an African village called Dilepe. She proves that Bushmen are *not* stupid at all. Unfortunately, she still has to struggle against racists judging her because of the colour of her skin. White people say “At least I am not African”. African people say “At least I’m not a Bushman”.

The question is: How do you stand up for yourself when everyone thinks that *you* are the person at the very bottom?

breed
bastard
is labelled as
predator
roam
confused
speech
are composed of
absorb
universal
defined
tribe
prove
unfortunately
still
struggle
judge
very bottom

Author: Bessie Head

Bessie Head is one of Africa’s most well-known authors. She was born in South Africa and spent much of her life in Botswana. She lived a rough life and died when she was only 49. Inspired very much by her own life, she wrote the novel *Maru* in 1971. It raises the very important question: What really determines who we are: our genes or the environment we grow up in?

rough
inspired
raise
determine
environment



Bushmen hunters tracking animals.

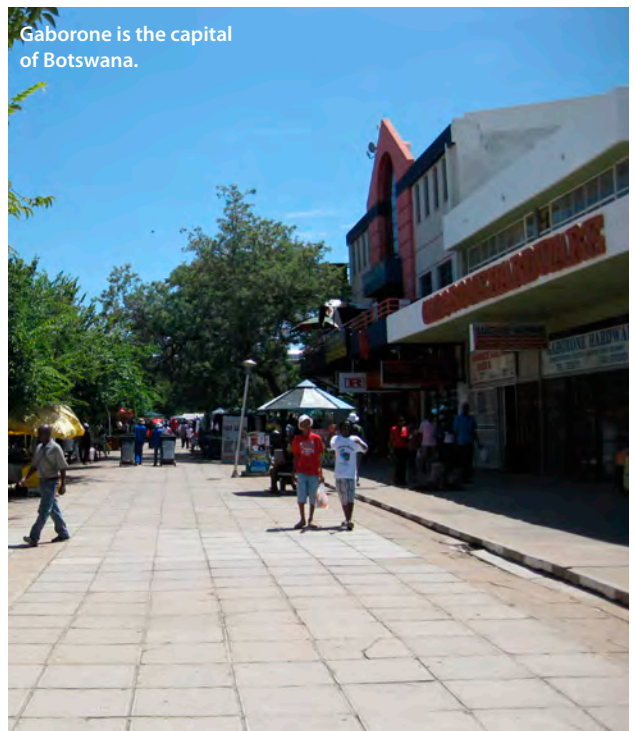
Botswana and its people

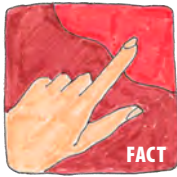
Botswana is a modern country today with a population of 1.7 million. The original people of the country are the San, or “Bushmen”. However, “Bushmen” is an insulting and racist name. The word “aboriginal” is the proper word to use for people who have lived in a country *first and before* any colonists. All in all, there are about 100,000 so-called Bushmen left in Botswana, Namibia, South Africa and Angola. About 3,000 of them still live traditionally by hunting animals and gathering food from the wild. This is how they have been living for about 30,000 years.

insulting
proper
colonist

all in all
gather

Gaborone is the capital of Botswana.





The Gift of Tongues

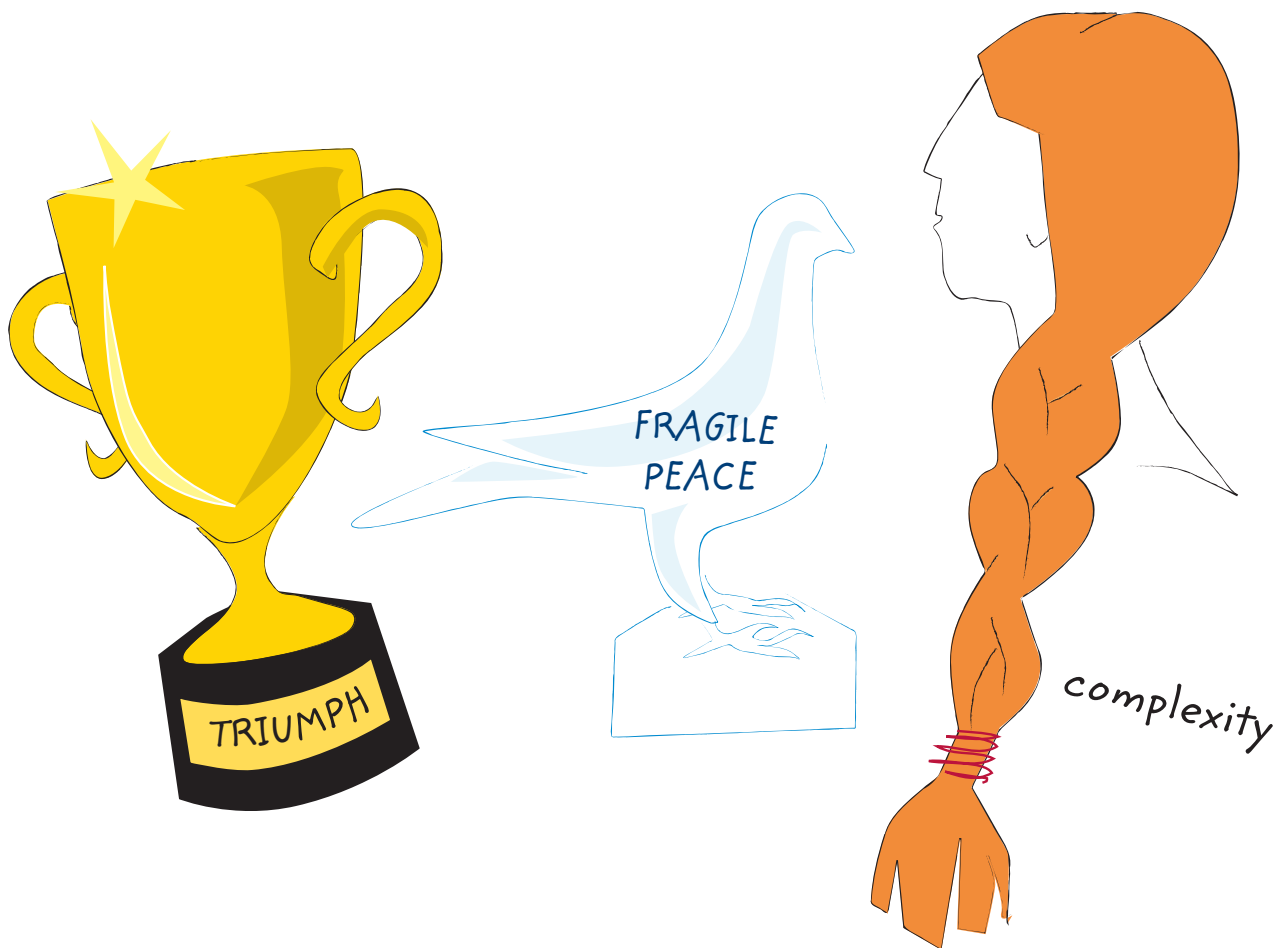
The meaning of words is more complex than we might think. Read Daniel Tammet's thoughts about certain aspects of language.

I find certain aspects of language much more difficult than others. Abstract words are much harder for me to understand and I have a picture in my head for each that helps me to make sense of the meaning. For example, the word complexity makes me think of a braid or plait of hair – the many different strands woven together into a complex whole. When I read or hear that something is complex I imagine it as having lots of different parts that need tying together to arrive at an answer. Similarly, the word triumph creates a picture in my mind of a large golden trophy, such as the ones won in big sporting events. If I hear about a politician's "election triumph" I imagine the politician holding a trophy over his head, like the winning team manager at an FA cup final. For the word fragile I think of glass; I picture a "fragile peace" as a glass dove. The image I see helps me to understand that the peace might be shattered at any moment.

Certain sentence structures can be particularly hard for me to analyze, such as: "He is not inexperienced in such things," where the two negatives (not and in-) cancel each other out. It is much better if people just say: "He is experienced in such things." Another example is when a sentence begins: "Don't you ...?" as in, "Don't you think we should go now?" or "Don't you want an ice cream?" Then I become very confused and my head starts to hurt because the questioner is not being clear if he means: "Do you want an ice cream?" or "Is it correct that you don't want an ice cream?" and it's possible to answer both questions with a yes, and I don't like it when the same word can mean two completely different things.

As a child, I found idiomatic language particularly confusing. Describing someone as "under the weather" was very strange to me because, I thought, isn't everyone under

gift
tongue
complex
source
excerpt
aspect
make sense
meaning
complexity
braid (plait)
strand
woven
imagine
tying
similarly
create
trophy
politician
election
fragile
picture
peace
dove
image
be shattered
at any moment
sentence structure
particularly
inexperienced
cancel
confused
hurt
possible



the weather? Another common saying that puzzled me was when my parents might excuse one of my brothers' grumpy behaviour by saying: "He must have got out of the wrong side of bed this morning." "Why didn't he get out of the right side of the bed?" I asked.

idiomatic expression: orðatiltæki þar sem orðin sem notuð eru hafa aðra merkingu í þessu ákveðna samhengi, dæmi: áfram með smjörið = halda einhverju áfram, láta eitthvað ganga

idiomatic language
 confusing
 under the weather
 strange
 common saying
 puzzle
 grumpy
 behaviour



You Can Call Me Link

Living on the streets is everyday life for Link, a vulnerable teenager without a home.

You can call me Link. It's not my name, but it's what I say when anybody asks, which isn't often. I'm invisible, see? One of the invisible people. Right now I'm sitting in a doorway watching the passers-by. They avoid looking at me. They're afraid I want something they've got, and they're right. Also, they don't want to think about me. They don't like reminding I exist. Me, and those like me. We're living proof that everything's not all right and we make the place untidy.

Hang about and I'll tell you the story of my fascinating life.

I didn't come to London straightaway. I may be homeless and unemployed but I'm not stupid. I'd read

vulnerable
invisible
passer-by
avoid
remind
proof
untidy
straightaway
unemployed

about London. I knew the streets down here weren't paved with gold. I knew there were hundreds of people – thousands, in fact – sleeping rough and begging for coppers. But that's just the point, see? In Bradford I stuck out like a sore thumb because there weren't many of us. The police down here have got used to seeing kids kipping in doorways, and mostly they leave you alone. In Bradford I was getting no sleep at all, and practically no money. People up there haven't got used to beggars yet. They're embarrassed. They'll make large detours to avoid passing close to you, and if somebody does come within earshot and you ask for change, they look startled and hurry on by.

Also, I kept seeing people I knew. Neighbours. Guys I'd been at school with. I even saw one of my teachers once. And if you've never been caught begging by someone who knew you before, you can't possibly know how low it makes you feel.

I wasn't out every night, back then. That was one good thing about it. Once or twice a week I'd show up at my sister's for a bath, a meal and a decent night's sleep. Trouble was, I was getting scruffier and scruffier, which happens if you sleep in your clothes, and Chris, Carole's feller, got resentful of my visits. He didn't actually say anything to me, but I could see it in his eyes and hear it in his tone of voice, and I knew Carole must be catching hell from him every time I'd been there. So, what with one thing and another, I decided it was time to move on.

Sounds good, right? Time to move on. Reminds you of all those old songs about the restless character who hates to stay too long in one place. He meets a girl who falls in love with him, but after a while he hears the old highway calling and so he slings his bed-roll over his shoulder and moves on, leaving the girl to grieve. Dead romantic, eh?

Forget it. Sad, is what it is. Sad and scary. You're leaving a place you know and heading into the unknown with nothing to protect you.

No money. No prospect of work. No address where folks will make you welcome. You're going to find yourself living among hard, violent people, some of whom are

paved
rough
beg
coppers
stick out like a sore thumb
kip
leave alone
embarrassed
detour
earshot
startled
decent
scruffy
feller
resentful
what with one thing and another
restless
sling
bed-roll
grieve
head
prospect
violent

deranged
batter
lad
stubble
dosser
more or less

deranged. You're going to be at risk every minute, day and night. Especially night. There are guys so desperate or so crazy, they'll knife you or batter your head in for your sleeping bag and the coppers you've got in your pocket. There are some who'll try to get in your sleeping bag with you, because you're a nice-looking lad with soft skin and no stubble. And there's nowhere you can run to, because nobody cares. Nobody gives you a damn. You're just another dosser, and one dosser more or less makes no difference.



CAMDEN TOWN



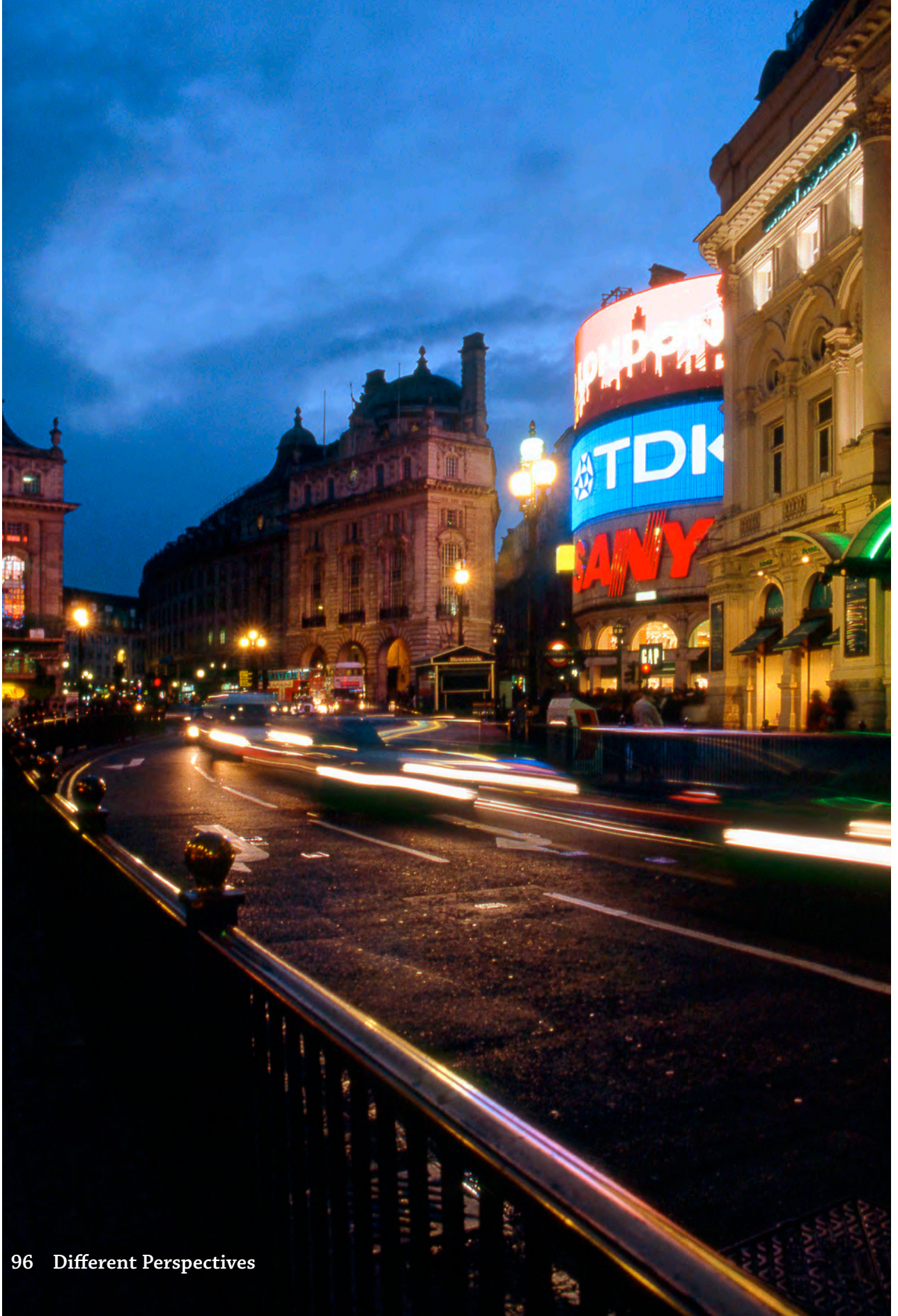
Daily Routine Orders 5

Stone cold former soldier Shelter looks back on one of his deeds.

It's begun, the recruiting, and it was as easy as falling off a log. I didn't even have to go far. My flat – mine and Sappho's – is in Mornington Place, and I found my first recruit in a doorway near Camden Station. A mile, if that. Mind you, it was a filthy night. Cold, wet and windy. Cut straight through you, that wind. I was wearing a parka, stormproof overtrousers and strong boots and I was still perished. What he must have felt like in damp, tatty denim I shudder to think. It was 01.30 so he'd probably been there an hour or two, freezing his tabs off, and that's why he came so easy.

What I did was, I squatted down in front of him and said, 'What's up mate – down on your luck?' I smiled as I said this – my best do-gooder smile. I was prepared for a possible rebuff. I mean, he might have been deeply suspicious – thought I was a woofa or something – but it didn't seem to cross his mind. Half daft with cold, probably.

former
recruiting
as easy as falling off a log
recruit
mind you |
filthy
stormproof
be perished
damp
tatty
shudder
freeze his tabs off
squat
be down on one's luck
do-gooder
be prepared
rebuff
suspicious
woofa
daft



Anyway, he opened his eyes and looked at me and frowned and mumbled, 'Who are you?'

He was Scottish.

'Me?' I gave him a smile again. 'Shelter's my name. I help run the hostel on Plender Street.'

That got him. 'Hostel?' he says. 'What sort of hostel?'

'For young people,' I said. 'The Townhouse Project. You might have heard of us.' He wouldn't because we didn't exist. I'd made the whole thing up – name and everything. Part of my preparation.

He fell for it. Hook, line and sinker. 'Any chance of a bed?' he says. 'Bite to eat?' I shook my head – the rueful gesture. I'd practised in the mirror. 'Not tonight, I'm afraid. Full up. Might be something tomorrow if you get there early.'

'Ah,' he says, and the light goes out of his eyes. He's thinking about the long cold hours ahead.

I let him ponder the prospect for a bit, then said, casual like, 'There's a comfy couch at my place if you don't mind roughing it.' Roughing it. Brilliant touch, that, and it worked.

'You sure?' he says. The light's back, and I can see his little brain working. He's thinking, this guy runs a hostel. Warm beds. Grub. It gets full, but if I'm with him I'm in, right? 'You sure?' he says. I gave him the smile again. 'Sure. No prob. It's just round the corner. Come on.'

And that's all there was to it. I strode out and he trotted at my heels like a ruddy poodle. It was pissing it down and he was sodden by the time we reached the flat. I introduced Sappho, showed him the bathroom, told him to strip off, threw in some stuff I'd got for the purpose – thick sweaters, cord trousers – the sort of stuff do-gooders wear – and went off to heat some tomato soup, and while he was sitting on the sofa scoffing it I slipped up behind him and put him out of his misery.

Cruel? I don't think so. He's neither cold nor hungry now. Nobody wanted him, so nobody will miss him, and there's one less dosser to clutter up the place.

Who loses?

frown
hostel
preparation
with hook, line and sinker
bite
rueful
gesture
ponder
casual
comfy couch
roughing it
grub
stride (strode)
prob
trot
ruddy
poodle
piss
sodden
introduce
purpose
cord
heat
scoff
slip
put out
misery
cruel
neither...nor
dosser
clutter up

measure	constantly
population	affected
cover	conflict
billion	poverty
define	prosperous
specific	poor
characteristic	environment
simply	issue
second	severe
financial	consumer
natural resources	situated

Unit 6

Asia

Asia is Constantly Growing

Asia is the world’s largest continent, both when measured by landmass and human population. It covers 29.9% of the Earth’s land area, and is home to 4 billion people; 60% of the world’s population!

Since Asia is such a large continent – from Turkey in the west to Japan in the east; from Russia in the north to Indonesia in the south – it is very hard to define specific characteristics belonging to the continent. Calling somebody from Asia “Asian” is simply wrong, because that can mean almost anything. The continent has so many different countries, cultures and religions, which makes it very hard to define.

China has the world’s second largest economy after the United States. Then comes Japan and India, making Asia home to three of the four biggest economies. The financial centres are Hong Kong, Tokyo and Singapore. Asia is also rich in natural resources such as oil, water, rice, fish and silver.

Asia is constantly growing – both economically and politically. But it also continues to be very affected by political conflicts and poverty in many areas. Even though Asia is becoming more prosperous, the majority of the world’s poor live here.

As the population in Asia continues to grow, the environmental problems become more severe. The two most populated countries in the world are situated in Asia and they continue to grow: China and India. The environment is a big issue that needs taking care of for the future.



SWORD DANCE



IMPERIAL PALACE



FINANCIAL CENTER



THAILAND

Thailand: Backpacking, Beaches and Buddhism

If you are planning to go on a backpacking trip, Thailand may be the choice for you. The most expensive thing to buy is your plane ticket. Once you arrive, you can live on very little money. But hey, Thailand is much more than an inexpensive place to travel! They have one of the greatest cuisines in the world, a rich and old history, many Buddhist temples and monuments, and by far – possibly the most beautiful beaches and islands anywhere!

Here is a list of five of the best places to visit and what you can do there!



Wat Pra Kaew in the Grand Palace area.

1 Bangkok: The Biggest City

Bangkok is the capital city of Thailand, located in the centre of the country. It is filled with wonderful Buddhist temples that line a river called the Chao Phraya. This city is a mixture of modern life and ancient culture. In addition to six star hotels, inexpensive guest houses and some of the most delicious food in the world – there is lots to see and do.

The Grand Palace is a must see. It was built in 1782 by King Rama. This palace is made of jewels and gold and royal families lived there between 1782–1946.

You should also visit **Wat Pra Kaew**. This sacred temple was made to keep the statue of the Emerald Buddha in. The statue is the most holy one for Buddhists in Thailand. The temple is a place of worship, so when you go inside remember to dress properly in long sleeves and pants or a dress. Do not take photographs in the temple but make sure you get a good look at this incredible place!

Some other cool places to see are the national museum, Siam's Ocean World and **Chatuchak Market**. The market will take you a half day to visit.

If you like shopping this is a great place to go. They sell everything from livestock to antiques. And you can always bargain about prices with the many merchants.

2 Krabi: Hundreds of Islands

Krabi is a province with over 100 beach islands. Here you will find paradise! The **Phi Phi islands** and **Koh Lanta** have white sand, clear blue water and some of the best places to tan, dive, swim, snorkel and go fishing. There are also caves, forests and amazing waterfalls to see. If you love nature, you can really see beauty in Krabi.

3 Koh Samui: Famous Beaches

Koh Samui is an island and one of the biggest tourist sites in Thailand. Around this island are many beaches, bays and forests of coconut trees! You will see monkeys helping people to pick coconuts.



The Thai cooking is great and the swimming and tanning are awesome. It is also possible to ride an elephant here and you can buy freshly cooked fish and even get a foot massage on the beach!

4 Phuket: Southern Thailand

In the south you will find Phuket. It is a pretty large island on the Andaman Sea. It is one of the top places to visit. There are organised treks to go on here and also diving, snorkelling and nice places to stay.



backpack
cuisine
capital
located
line
ancient

guest house
a must
sacred
place of worship
properly
sleeve

livestock
antiques
bargain
merchant
coconut
tan

awesome
site
bay
organise
trek



5 Chiang Mai: Northern Thailand

This province is on the Mae Ping River and so beautiful that it is called the “Rose of the North”. Here is a place to visit many national parks with tropical plants, flowers and wildlife. This area is one of the best places to spot an elephant too. Many people visit Chiang Mai to hike and trek. Here you will find the tallest mountain, called **Doi Intanon**. It is about 2,565 metres in height. Chiang Mai is famous for its tribal peoples and to visit a tribe is a truly cultural experience.



Erawan Waterfall, Kanchanaburi.



A Padaung girl of the Karen tribe.

Travel Tips!

If you go to Thailand make sure you prepare yourself for the subtropical weather. A few important things to remember are:

1. You may need certain vaccinations for: **malaria**, **hepatitis** and **dengue fever**. These will protect you from getting sick.
2. Do not drink the water from taps and always get your water bottled. Otherwise you will get a stomach ache or worse. And drink lots of bottled water because Thailand is very hot and you don't want to dehydrate.
3. Know when to go. From July to October Thailand has a monsoon season. This means it rains every day during these months. Also, some months are too hot! In April it can hit 41°C. It is best to go between November and March when the weather is at its finest.

wildlife
spot
hike
height

tribe
experience
prepare
subtropical

dengue fever
tap
bottled
stomach ache

dehydrate
monsoon
fine



Indian music and dance show.

Bollywood Dreams

Namasté! I am a seventeen-year-old guy from Mumbai, India. My name is David Khubchandani. Ever since I was a young boy I've had the same dream: to become a Bollywood film actor. Maybe you've heard of Bollywood? It's what parts of the Hindi cinema in Mumbai is called. The name comes from putting the two words *Bombay*, which the city used to be called, and *Hollywood* together. Yet unlike Hollywood, Bollywood doesn't exist as a physical place.

Bollywood produces the largest number of films in the world. These films are even more popular than the American ones here in India. Most Bollywood movies are musicals, and contain spectacular song-and-dance numbers. My favourites are the *masala films*. They are very different from any movie you have ever seen! "Masala" is really an Indian spice mix, but that's also how these movies are like – a mix of almost everything fantastic. There is

Hindi
unlike
physical
number
contain
spectacular
number
spice mix



Actress Aishwarya Rai is called the Queen of Bollywood.

dare-devil
thrill
extravaganza
pre-record
lip-synch
on the other hand
guarantee
extra
film crew
possibility
discovered
competition
fierce
cross
border
illegally
jail
luckily
release
bring (brought) back
pursue
despite
lack of
connection

singing and dancing, exciting romance, comedy, and dare-devil thrills all mixed up in a three-hour-long extravaganza. I would love to be the star in a film like that. It is no problem that I can't sing, because in most masala films the songs are pre-recorded by professional singers. All I have to do is lip-synch. On the other hand, I love to dance, which is a must to make it.

However, it is just as hard to become an actor in Bollywood as in Hollywood. If someone in your family already is in the movie business it is much easier – then you are almost guaranteed a job, either as an extra or part of the film crew. But I don't know anybody in the industry! Every single day actors, models, singers, and ordinary people come to Mumbai for the possibility of becoming real movie stars. There is even a street in Mumbai that people hang around in the hope of being discovered! The competition is fierce.

In 2008 there was a fifteen-year-old Pakistani boy who left his home and crossed the border over to India to meet his idol Shah Rukh Khan and try to be discovered. Since he entered the country illegally he was put in jail. Luckily, he was released and brought back home to his family, but he spent a couple of months in jail – all because he tried to pursue his dream!

Shah Rukh Khan is a movie star that has made it to the top despite total lack of connections in show business. And

now he more or less is the Tom Cruise of India. That makes me more optimistic.

To reach my goal I hope to attend the Film and Television Institute of India, where I will take a two-year acting course. And hopefully, *hopefully*, I will one day star in a movie opposite a beautiful actress like Aishwarya Rai – “the queen of Bollywood”. Her trademark is her stunning blue-green eyes. She is the highest paid actress in Bollywood, and has even starred in many international films.

And my greatest aspiration is to have my name called out and walk up on stage during the annual Filmfare ceremony to collect my award for “Best Actor”. The Filmfare Awards is like the Indian equivalent to the Oscars. And then I would thank my family, and of course God, for believing in me and giving me the chance to do what I love. Maybe I would even shed a small tear of happiness.

attend
acting course
star
opposite
trademark
stunning
paid
aspiration
call out
annual
collect
equivalent
shed

Slumdog Millionaire

Slumdog Millionaire is a British film set and filmed in India. Released in 2008, it became a great success all over the world as the feel-good film of the decade. It is about a teenage boy who is a contestant on the Indian version of the show “Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?” But just as he is about to win 20 million rupees he is arrested by the police for cheating. To prove that he is innocent, he tells his life story of growing up in the slums of Mumbai through flashbacks. Is he cheating, is he a genius or is he just lucky? Only time will tell.

The film won eight Oscars at the Academy Awards in 2009, four Golden Globes and seven BAFTA Awards, proving it was loved by both audience and critics.



set
release
decade
contestant
Who Wants to Be a Millionaire?
be about to
prove
slum
flashback
cheat
genius
time will tell



Cashew nuts grow on small evergreen trees.

Paid Peanuts

Max Beth, have you got any more snacks? The crisps are finished.

Bethany I'll have a look in the cupboard ... Yeah, there's a bag of nuts here.

Rachel They've probably been in that cupboard since last Christmas; you'd better check the expiry date!

Bethany Thanks, Rach, you're welcome here anytime. Actually, they're OK – still three months before they expire.

Max Great! Have you got a nutcracker too?

Bethany Here you are. Is there anything else you need?

Max Um ... actually, a bowl for the shells would come in handy.

Bethany Are you happy now, Lord Muck?

Max Perfectly. I love nuts, especially hazels and pecans. I'm so glad I'm not allergic to nuts.

peanuts
crisps
finished
cupboard
expiry date
nutcracker
shell
handy
Lord Muck
hazel
pecan

- Rachel** Pass the nutcracker you two. Almonds are my favourite nuts but they're so hard to crack.
- Bethany** I know! I once broke a nutcracker trying to crack an almond!
- Max** I once cracked my head trying to cycle down a flight of steps!
- Rachel** That would explain a lot.
- Max** Ha ha ha! You know, I just thought of something. You can buy all kinds of nuts in shells but not cashews. I mean, you can buy peanuts, hazels, walnuts, pecans, almonds even macadamia nuts in shells. But I've never seen a cashew in a shell. Why is that?
- Bethany** Oh, I know the answer to that question! I watched a documentary on the cashew industry on TV last week. The shells of cashews are extremely tough and hard, so they have to be roasted first, to make them more brittle and easier to crack ...
- Rachel** So what's the problem then? Roast them and ship them to England.
- Bethany** Don't interrupt me! I wasn't finished. There's another problem – the shells of cashews are toxic. They contain poisonous oil that burns the skin. So, the shells **have to** be removed before they sell the nuts.
- Max** Wow, that was news! So that's why I've never seen a cashew in a shell. And how do they get the shells off then? By machine?
- Bethany** No, that's the worst part, cashew nuts are very soft so machines would smash them to pieces. The roasted nuts are opened by hand in countries where labour is cheap.
- Rachel** What do you mean? Do people shell the cashews by hand?
- Bethany** Yep. There are thousands and thousands of women

almond
crack
flight of steps
walnut
brittle
interrupt
toxic
poisonous
remove
smash
shell
by hand
labour

in India working all day smashing these shells and picking out the little cashew nuts with their bare fingers. The more nuts they shell, the more they get paid.

Max They probably don't get paid very well either.

Bethany Excuse the pun, but they get paid peanuts. They earn about 60 rupees a day, which is about 90p. And most of them work eight hours without a break because they don't want to lose any time. And some of the factories in India don't even have staff toilets. The workers have to go into the bushes.

Max But why do people accept these conditions? No lunch break and 90p for a day's work! What can you do with 90p?

Bethany Well, in India, you can buy a loaf of bread for 20p. But would you work for four loaves of bread a day?

Rachel That's so unfair. But, why do we pay so much for a bag of cashews if those women only get paid 90p a day?

Bethany Good question! Perhaps we should boycott cashews.

Max But what's the point of boycotting cashews without first finding out about the walnut, hazel and almond industries? Those workers might have lousy conditions too.

Bethany Oh, I hope not, I love nuts. Perhaps we should only buy nuts in shells in the future?

Rachel Or, what about buying fair trade cashews? They cost more but at least you know the workers are getting a decent wage and have decent working conditions.

Max One thing is for sure ... I won't be able to eat a cashew without feeling guilty after this.

Rachel Unless it's a fair trade cashew, of course.

Max Of course!

pun
earn
break
staff
condition
loaf of bread
unfair
lousy
fair trade
decent
wage
guilty





Women labourers in a cashew processing factory in northeastern India.

Facts about cashews and their shells

- ◆ In 2000 Sweden imported 65 tons of cashews, in 2008 that figure increased to 3,232 tons. And it continues to increase.
- ◆ Workers in India are paid about 1.5 SEK per kg of shelled cashews. In Sweden, we pay between 99 and 300 SEK per kilo.
- ◆ The toxic oil in the shells of cashews is used for making wood varnish.
- ◆ The oil burns human skin, causing blisters. It is also very irritating to the mouth and throat if swallowed.

figure
increase
varnish
cause
blister
swallow

Manga: Big in Japan

Åsa Ekström is one of Sweden's most famous manga illustrators. She is one of the creators of "Swedish manga". Even though she presently lives and works with manga in Sweden, she is a great fan of Japan. She is inspired by the diversity of the country. She especially loves to eat onigiri (Japanese rice balls) when she visits.

When did you start to draw manga, and why?

It was a friend who really liked to watch *anime* (Japanese animated movies) that introduced me to manga. I thought it was enchanting, so at fourteen I started to draw manga on my own.

You worked in a manga studio in Tokyo.

What was that like?

Yes, after high school I attended an art school (Serieskolan in Malmö). It was through a contact at school I got in touch with the manga studio in Tokyo. I visited once, but I wanted to stay for a longer period. So I applied for a scholarship to go back and work as an assistant. Luckily, I got it.

At a manga studio a *sensei* (a "teacher" who has a certain level of mastery in an art form) works together with all his/her assistants. I really learnt a lot there! My job consisted mostly of the basics: filling in darker shades on the pages where it was needed, and also pasting on screen tones in different shades of grey. It is the studio's *sensei* that draws most of the main characters.

The work at the studio consists of long hours and very little money. In Japan you usually have to work as an assistant for years to become an illustrator on your own. It is hard work to become a *sensei*!



illustrator
creator
presently
diversity
animated
enchanting
on one's own
get (got, gotten) in touch with
apply
scholarship
certain
mastery
basics
shade
paste
screen tone



*What was the best part of your job there?
And the worst?*

The best thing was the experience of working in a Japanese manga studio. Nothing can beat that. The most difficult thing was the language barrier. I can only speak a little Japanese, and most people there don't know any English at all. It is not always easy to communicate, but we tried our best to understand each other.

Can you compare yourself with Japanese illustrators? Are they much more skilled?

Well, the Japanese grow up with manga around them. Manga is always very present in their childhood, so they

barrier
compare
skilled
present



naturally have more experience with it. In Japan, manga is also more of a craft, meaning you draw according to certain rules and techniques. However, in Sweden, manga is not considered a craft as such: I have more artistic freedom when I work at home.

What do you like the best about Japan aside from manga?

There is much to love about Japan! A lot of people fall in love with the country. It is oriental and exotic, while at the same time a very developed country. It is a place of extremes – everything is either *extremely* cute or *extremely* ugly, the Japanese people are *extremely* rigid and polite. Nothing is just “ordinary”; the way we are used to at home.

What did the Japanese think of you? They must have considered you quite different being a girl from Sweden doing manga.

They saw me as an alien! The Japanese think of manga as their “thing” – it isn’t until recently that they have understood that manga is huge around the rest of the world as well. But they are still very astonished when a westerner is as dedicated to manga as I am.

Is manga as popular in Japan as we imagine?

Yes, it really is, 40% of all that is published in Japan is manga! It is most common among kids and young adults, but people of all ages read it. It is even used as educational material in school.

What is the best thing about drawing manga for a living?

The absolutely best thing about my job is that I get to do what I love. I work on my own, and get to decide when and where I will work from day to day. If I feel like it I can travel to Japan and work there with whatever I am doing.

experience
craft
according to
artistic freedom
aside from
extreme
extremely
rigid
consider
recently
huge
astonished
westerner
dedicated
imagine
publish
common
educational
for a living

comic
unlike
fictitious
plot
talent

If you had to draw only one type of character/thing/being from now on, what would it be?

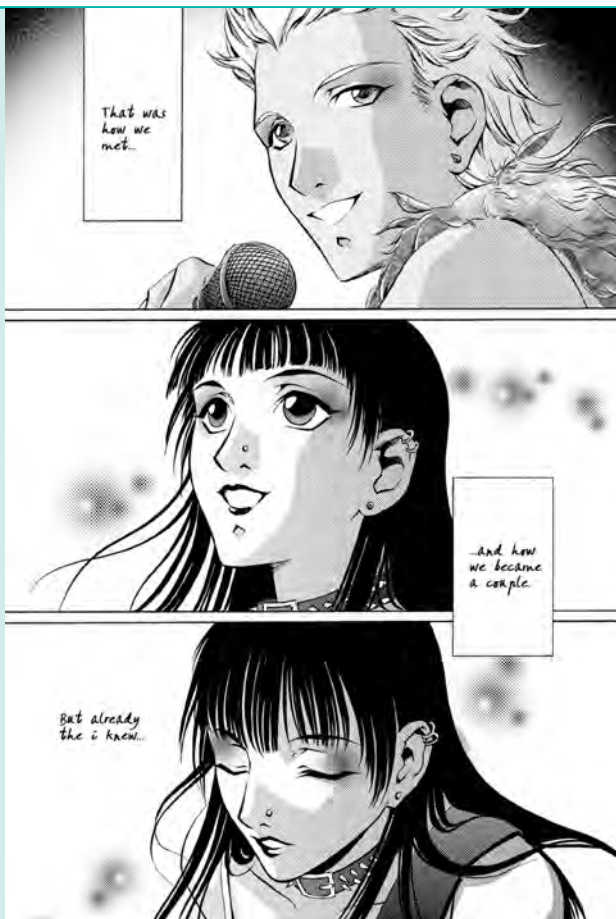
I would draw my own comic, *Sayonara September*. That's definitely my baby. It's about students at an art school, not unlike the school I attended. But the characters are all fictitious. My dream is to work only with my own manga characters and plots.

And finally, what advice would you give to someone who would like to draw manga?

Practise! It is of course easier if you're born with some kind of artistic talent, but to get really good at manga you have to practise!

Manga is comics and print cartoons in Japanese, and is a style developed in Japan in the late 20th century. In Japan, manga is read by people of all ages, and the subjects range from everything from an ordinary day at school to a magic castle in the sky. Manga can be drawn in almost any design, but the most famous style is the one aimed towards a younger audience, where the characters have large eyes, small mouths, and sometimes abnormal hair colour.

print cartoon
20th century
subject
range
aim
abnormal



How to Speak to 885 Million People

My name is Michael Downey. I am twenty years old, and I love languages. When I was younger I used to spend hours and hours studying verbs. A lot of people called me a nerd for doing this, but I am very happy I did. Today I find it very easy to find work, and travelling becomes so much more fun when you can speak to the people you meet. Right now for example I live in France, which I would never have done if I didn't know the language.

I first started to learn Chinese after I discovered that people who ordered from the Chinese menu in Chinese restaurants in England always seemed to get better food. My interest has since grown and now I have taken many courses, both in Europe and in China. I have been studying it on and off for years, yet I am still far from fluent. I keep going on trying though, because it really is an amazingly fascinating, and different, language.

Different doesn't have to mean difficult, for instance Chinese grammar is very easy. In English we say "now I am eating an apple", "yesterday I ate an apple", "tomorrow I will eat an apple". In Chinese there is only one form ("now I eat apple", "yesterday I eat apple", "tomorrow I eat apple").

Although there are also several aspects which make it quite a hard language for Europeans to learn. Chinese is a *tonal* language which means a syllable can be pronounced in up to five different ways. So if you say the word "ma" you could be saying mother, or you could be saying horse, depending on how you say it. Don't despair too much though. Most Chinese people will understand you even if your pronunciation is far from perfect.

There are many different dialects of Chinese. The Chinese I have chosen to study is *Mandarin*, which is the official language of the People's Republic of China and the standard written language all over the country.

There is also the aspect of the Chinese writing system,

你好

nerd
seem
on and off
fluent
amazing
fascinating
for instance
grammar
several
tonal
syllable
pronounce
depending on
despair
choose (chose, chosen)

challenge
instead
character
consist of
existing
thankfully
take time
foreign
develop
field
plenty
whoever
legal
taste
curiosity
sample
phrase

which is fun but a bit of a challenge. The Chinese don't use an alphabet; instead they have different characters. Each word consists of one or more of these characters. New words have to be made up from already existing characters, so with this system the word "computer" is a combination of the word "electricity" and the word for "brain". There are over 50,000 characters in total. But thankfully you only need about 5,000 to be able to read a newspaper.

So why should we take the time to study Chinese? Any foreign language will make it easier for you to get a good job. However I believe that Chinese especially will become a very important future language as China keeps developing. Even if you don't wish to work in the international field, there are still plenty of reasons. China is a great place to travel to, whoever you are and whatever you enjoy doing. It is a shopping paradise with, for example, DVDs costing about £0.50 (some more legal than others).

So to give you a taste of the language, and hopefully make your curiosity grow, here are some sample phrases for you to try out:

你好 – Hello

Nǐ hǎo

谢谢 – Thank you

Xièxie

太贵了! – Too expensive!

Tài guì le!

我不要吃狗肉。 – I don't want to eat dog.

Wǒ bú yào chī gǒu ròu.





My Life in Saudi Arabia

I just couldn't believe it when my parents told me we were moving to Saudi Arabia. My dad accepted a job there for four years! All I ever heard about the country was that it has unlimited oil resources and that it's covered with desert. I was pretty bummed out because I would have to leave all my friends and the life I had lived for the last ten years. I cried all through the packing and the moving, but things would eventually change. And not all for the worse as I had expected. And besides, an adventure without sweating is really no real adventure at all.

When the dry heat hit me as I got off the plane in Riyadh, I realised that this was my chance to experience something completely different. When my brother and I entered King Khaled Airport, we just stared – walls entirely made of glass, gold ornaments and a giant fountain with green, yellow, and red spotlights. It looked more like an amusement park than any airport I had ever seen.

Later on I learned that a lot of places looked like that in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia: malls and supermarkets were big and decorated like luxurious castles. Very over-the-top

accept
unlimited
resource
desert
bummed out
eventually
expect
besides
sweat
stare
entirely
ornament
giant
fountain
amusement park
mall
luxurious
over-the-top



Riyadh is the capital of Saudi Arabia.

in comparison
capital
constantly
unfinished
rise (rose, risen)
hail
outskirts
sand dune
reddish orange
weekend
watch out
poisonous

in comparison with my quite ordinary lifestyle in Sweden, but I quickly got used to these type of things.

Riyadh is a city built in the middle of the desert, and it is the capital of Saudi Arabia. Riyadh is constantly being developed which means you see a lot of unfinished buildings all over the city. During the summer the temperature can rise up to 45°C, while the winters are mild and cool. Sometimes it even hails! The sandstorms are so violent that once one even broke the palm trees in our garden in half!

If you drive to the outskirts of the city: only sand, sand, and more sand meets the eye. The sand dunes are warm and reddish orange in colour. During weekends we sometimes went for picnics in the desert. It feels lovely to walk barefoot in the warm sand. But you have to watch out for scorpions and poisonous snakes!

Once we visited a Bedouin camp. Bedouins live out in the desert and are well-known for their special way of life. In Saudi Arabia, they are also known for their sword dance; a traditional dance where men carrying swords dance shoulder to shoulder.

More often we spent weekends by the pool – it was just too hot to do anything else. A few times we took a trip to the coast and swam in the Red Sea.

Just like in Sweden, football is the most popular sport. Even Swedish players go to Saudi Arabia to play. Since the weather is almost always great, we played a lot of football in school.

Five times a day, Muslims are called to prayer from the mosques which are scattered around the city. During prayer times, shops and supermarkets close, which means you have to get your shopping done in-between.

Women in Saudi Arabia have to wear a black *abaya*, and so did my mom and me. An *abaya* is a black loose-fitting cover that you wear over your regular clothes out in public. My brother didn't have to wear one of those white robes that the men usually wear, which was unfair. Furthermore, women are forbidden to drive. But the country is very religious and strict, particularly for women. Very few countries in the Middle East can be compared to Saudi Arabia when it comes to Islamic rules.

Nudity is strictly forbidden, so all movies, CDs, and magazines are censored from that sort of thing. Even the *Archie* comics that I bought had been scribbled over with a black marker if one of the girls wore a short skirt or a sleeveless shirt! And these are comics made for children!

My different lifestyle in Saudi Arabia was both more exciting and overwhelming than anything I had ever experienced before, and that's also what made it unforgettable. What is most vivid to me after all these years is how it felt to leave the plane the first time I arrived in Riyadh. It was an adventure I'd like to experience again.

Bedouin
camp
way of life
prayer
mosque
scattered
cover
public
robe
unfair
forbidden
particularly
nudity
strictly
censor
Archie
scribble
marker
sleeveless
overwhelming
unforgettable
vivid
experience

Composition Guide

The following guide will teach you a simple way to write different types of texts. For each text there are directions to follow. Do one step at a time.

- 1 Read the sample text before you write your first draft.
- 2 Write your draft.
- 3 Compare your draft to the sample. See what you can do to improve your draft.
- 4 Write a final copy.

The difference between formal and informal writing

Formal writing is used to create texts *for people we do not know*. It is used for job applications, articles, summaries and other texts where the audience is not a friend or family member. We do not use slang in formal writing. And we do not use contractions such as: can't, won't, and didn't.

Informal writing is used for our friends and people we know. Here we can be relaxed and use slang and contractions.

Basic guidelines for writing formal texts

- 1 Brainstorm a topic.
- 2 Choose a good title.
- 3 Use a mind map or brainstorm a list of ideas.
- 4 Use an outline as a guide.
- 5 Make sure you have the following three sections for your text:

An introduction

The introduction is a short paragraph that tells the reader what the text is about. Write a few sentences that state the topic and how you will write about it. Do not explain your ideas because this is done in the next section.

sample text
draft
improve
application
audience
contraction
relax
topic
outline
section
paragraph

A content section

This is where you explain your ideas. Look at your introduction. Now explain the ideas from the introduction. You can use examples too.

A conclusion

The conclusion is a short paragraph that summarises your text. Write a few sentences that tell the reader what you said and make a conclusion about it. No new information or ideas are ever written in the conclusion.

The Summary

A summary is a short text that tells the reader the main ideas about a long story, movie or subject. In a summary you write about the most important ideas. *Do not* explain details.

Example

The Golden Compass is a film that is based on Philip Pullman's book. The movie is a fantasy adventure that takes place in a magical world where the people in it all have an animal that represents their soul. These animals are called daemons.

A group called the Magisterium are afraid of a magical dust that they believe opens up a door to another world. The Magisterium starts to experiment on children to see if they can remove their daemons and get rid of the dust. They do this through a secret group called the Gobblers.

The hero of this film is Lyra, a 12-year-old girl who must rescue her friend who has been kidnapped. After Lyra rescues her uncle, Lord Asriel, from being assassinated because he does not agree with the Magisterium – she sets off to fight against them. Also, Lyra is given a magical compass that shows her the truth and helps her when she is in danger.

In order to stop the kidnapping and end the experiments Lyra escapes from Mrs. Coulter. Mrs. Coulter works for the Magisterium and is in charge of the Gobblers. After escaping her, Lyra continues on her quest to find her friend and put an end to the Gobblers' plans. With her golden compass and many allies, Lyra is successful in the end.

content
conclusion
summarise
review
dust
rescue
assassinate
quest

The Review

A review is the same as a summary but you must *also* tell the reader your *opinion* about the subject and explain why. A film review will tell the reader what the film is about and why you liked it or disliked it. You should also give examples to prove your opinion.

Example

You use the same text as above but at the end tell the reader why you like or dislike the film. The final paragraph is as follows:

This film is exciting as you see Lyra riding on the back of Byrnison an exiled bear prince and flying in an amazing magical balloon. Throughout the film the use of magic is great, especially when the characters all have a pet daemon that can speak and change into many different animals. The story is well told and has a great ending because the children are saved and the experiments stopped. And last but not least, the actress Dakota Blue Richards, who plays Lyra, is very good! Her strong willed performance really matters for the story. Mrs. Coulter, played by the famous actress Nicole Kidman, is also a highlight of the movie – she plays her role excellently.

The Article

An article is a formal text about *any* subject. In this text you introduce the topic, and then write about it. You should explain the topic and use examples for each new idea. Lastly, you write a conclusion. The conclusion summarises what you wrote about and then you can give your opinion about the topic here.

For example, if your subject is about why solar power is good for the environment: you write about solar power, explain why it is good for the environment, give examples to prove this, and then in your conclusion show that your opinion is correct.

The Oral Presentation

Basically an oral is like a written article that you present by *speaking*.

First, write your text. Then use the text to make notes. Write the notes on cue cards. Your notes must help you remember your text. Therefore you need to write down main ideas that aid you while speaking.

Do not read your text to the people listening. *Tell* them about the topic. To be able to do this you need to practise your oral until you are capable of not reading the text.

Basic Email and Letter Writing

Formal emails and letters don't use contractions such as can't, don't or wouldn't. Never use slang in a formal letter or text.

In a formal letter or email you must start with:

Dear Ms. Williams or To Whom It May Concern.

When you end a formal email or letter you can use:

Sincerely, Sincerest Wishes or With Kind Regards.

Use contractions in *informal letters and emails*. And feel free to use slang.

In an informal email or letter you can write:

Hi Tom! or Hey Tina,

When you end an informal email or letter you can use:

Take care, Talk to you soon, Your friend, See ya!

Numerals

Numbers

0	zero
1	one
2	two
3	three
4	four
5	five
6	six
7	seven
8	eight
9	nine
10	ten
11	eleven
12	twelve
13	thirteen
14	fourteen
15	fifteen
16	sixteen
17	seventeen
18	eighteen
19	nineteen
20	twenty
21	twenty-one
22	twenty-two
23	twenty-three
30	thirty
40	forty
50	fifty
60	sixty
70	seventy
80	eighty
90	ninety
100	a / one hundred
101	a / one hundred and one
110	a / one hundred and ten
300	three hundred
1,000	a / one thousand
1,000,000	one million
10,000,000	ten million

Ordinal numbers

1st	the first
2nd	the second
3rd	the third
4th	the fourth
5th	the fifth
6th	the sixth
7th	the seventh
8th	the eighth
9th	the ninth
10th	the tenth
11th	the eleventh
12th	the twelfth
13th	the thirteenth
14th	the fourteenth
15th	the fifteenth
16th	the sixteenth
17th	the seventeenth
18th	the eighteenth
19th	the nineteenth
20th	the twentieth
21st	the twenty-first
22nd	the twenty-second
23rd	the twenty-third
30th	the thirtieth
40th	the fortieth
50th	the fiftieth
60th	the sixtieth
70th	the seventieth
80th	the eightieth
90th	the ninetieth
100th	the (one) hundredth
101st	the (one) hundred and first
110th	the (one) hundred and tenth
300th	the three hundredth
1,000th	the (one) thousandth
1,000,000th	the millionth
10,000,000th	the ten millionth

The English Alphabet

A	J	S
B	K	T
C	L	U
D	M	V
E	N	W
F	O	X
G	P	Y
H	Q	Z
I	R	

The Sounds – Phonetics

Consonants (samhljóðar)

boy
door
fish
good
horse
king
love
must
near
long
put
rat
song
shall
chips
tell
then
thing
very
well
young
zap
usually
jet

Short vowels (stuttir sérhljóðar)

hat
another
fell
it
box
look
sun

Long vowels (langir sérhljóðar)

fast
see
short
blue
her

Diphthongs (tvíhljóðar)

nice
now
fame
chair
near
home
boy
sure

Useful numbers

Length and weight

Different measurements for length and weight are used in USA than in Iceland and sometimes also in Britain.

1 inch	2,54 cm
1 foot (12 inches)	30,48 cm
1 yard (3 feet)	91,44 cm
1 mile (1,760 yards)	1 609 m
1 gallon i UK	4,546 l
1 quart, qt (1/4 gallon) in UK	1,136 l
1 pint, pt (1/2 quart) in UK	0,568 l
1 gallon i USA	3,785 l
1 quart (1/4 gallon) in USA	0,946 l
1 pint (1/2 quart) in USA	0,473 l
1 ounce, oz	28,35 g
1 pound, lb (16 ounces)	0,4536 kg
1 stone (14 pounds)	6,350 kg



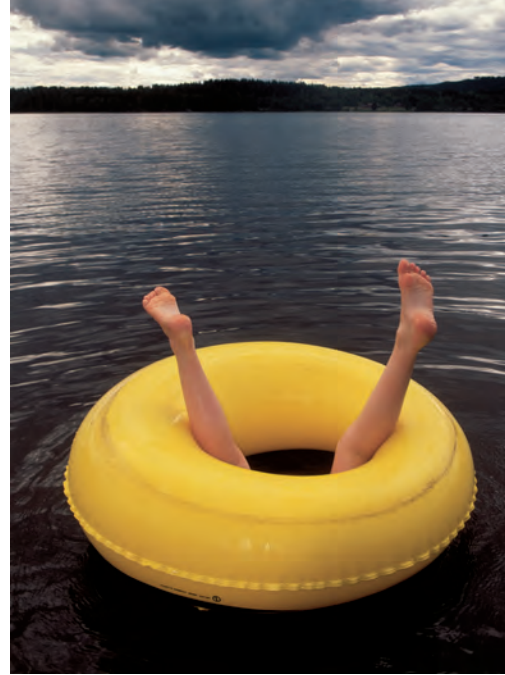
Temperature

In USA Fahrenheit, F, is used to measure temperature instead of Celsius, C.

To convert Celsius to Fahrenheit you multiply with 2 (1.8 to be exact) and add 32. To get a more correct number: $C \times 9/5 + 32$.

To convert Fahrenheit to Celsius you subtract with 32 and divide with 2 (1.8): $F - 32 \times 5/9$

-40°C	-40°F
-10°C	+14°F
±0°C	+32°F
+10°C	+50°F
+20°C	+68°F
+37°C	+98,6°F
+100°C	+212°F



+17°C = +62,6°F

Sizes in clothes and shoes

Women – clothes

Iceland	36	38	40	42	44
UK	8	10	12	14	16
USA	6	8	10	12	14

Men – clothes

Iceland	44	46	48	50	52
UK	34	36	38	40	42
USA	34	36	38	40	42

Women – shoes

Iceland	36	37	38	39	40
UK	3.5	4	5	6	6.5
USA	6	6.5	7.5	8.5	9

Men – shoes

Iceland	40	41	42	43	44
UK	7	7.5	8	8.5	9.5
USA	7.5	8	8.5	9	10



Irregular Verbs

Infinitive		Past simple	Past participle
awake	vakna	awoke	awoken
be	vera	was, were	been
bear	bera; fæða	bore	born, borne
beat	slá, sigra	beat	beaten
become	verða	became	become
begin	byrja	began	begun
bet	veðja	bet	bet
bite	bíta	bit	bitten
bleed	blæða	bled	bled
blow	blása	blew	blown
break	brjóta	broke	broken
bring	hafa með sér	brought	brought
build	byggja	built	built
burn	brenna	burnt	burnt
burst	springa	burst	burst
buy	kaupa	bought	bought
cast	kasta	cast	cast
catch	grípa	caught	caught
choose	velja	chose	chosen
come	koma	came	come
cost	kosta	cost	cost
creep	skríða; smjúga	crept	crept
cut	höggva; klippa, skera	cut	cut
dig	grafa	dug	dug
do	gera	did	done
draw	teikna	drew	drawn
dream	dreyma	dreamt	dreamt
drink	drekka	drank	drunk
drive	aka, keyra	drove	driven
eat	borða	ate	eaten
fall	detta, falla	fell	fallen
feed	ala, fóðra; mata	fed	fed
feel	finna fyrir; snerta	felt	felt
fight	berjast, slást	fought	fought
find	finna	found	found
fly	fljúga	flew	flown
forbid	banna	forbade	forbidden

Infinitive		Past simple	Past participle
forget	gleyma	forgot	forgotten
forgive	fyrirgefa	forgave	forgiven
freeze	frysta	froze	frozen
get	fá; verða	got	got
give	gefa	gave	given
go	fara	went	gone
grow	vaxa	grew	grown
hang	hengja	hung	hung
have	hafa; eiga	had	had
hear	heyra	heard	heard
hide	fela	hid	hidden
hit	slá	hit	hit
hold	halda	held	held
hurt	meiða; særa	hurt	hurt
keep	halda; geyma	kept	kept
kneel	krjúpa	knelt	knelt
know	vita; kunna; þekkja	knew	known
lay	leggja	laid	laid
lead	leiða; stjórna	led	led
leap	stökkva	leapt	leapt
learn	læra	learnt	learnt
leave	fara	left	left
lend	lána	lent	lent
let	láta; leyfa	let	let
lie	liggja	lay	lain
light	kveikja; lýsa	lit	lit
lose	týna; tapa	lost	lost
make	gera; búa til	made	made
mean	meina, þýða	meant	meant
meet	mæta; hitta	met	met
pay	borga	paid	paid
put	láta, setja	put	put
quit	hætta	quit	quit
read	lesa	read	read
ride	ríða, aka	rode	ridden
ring	hringja; klingja	rang	rung
rise	rísa, standa upp	rose	risen
run	hlaupa	ran	run

Infinitive**Past simple****Past participle**

Infinitive		Past simple	Past participle
say	sagja	said	said
see	sjá; skilja	saw	seen
sell	selja	sold	sold
send	senda	sent	sent
set	setja	set	set
shake	hrista	shook	shaken
shine	skína	shone	shone
shoot	skjóta	shot	shot
show	sýna	showed	shown
shut	loka	shut	shut
sing	syngja	sang	sung
sink	sökkva	sank	sunk
sit	sitja; setjast	sat	sat
sleep	sofa	slept	slept
slide	renna	slid	slid
sling	sveifla; slöngva	slung	slung
smell	lykta	smelt	smelt
speak	tala	spoke	spoken
spell	stafa	spelt	spelt
spend	eyða	spent	spent
spin	spinna; snúa	spun	spun
spit	spýta, hrækja	spat	spat
spread	breiða; dreifa	spread	spread
stand	standa	stood	stood
steal	stela	stole	stolen
stick	stinga; líma	stuck	stuck
stride	stika stórum skrefum	strode	strode
strike	slá	struck	struck
string	strengja; spenna	strung	strung
sweep	sópa	swept	swept
swim	synda	swam	swam
take	taka	took	taken
teach	kenna	taught	taught
tear	rífa	tore	torn
tell	segja	told	told
think	hugsa; halda; finnast	thought	thought
throw	kasta, henda	threw	thrown
thrust	þrýsta, troða; stinga	thrust	thrust
understand	skilja	understood	understood
wake (up)	vakna; vekja	woke	woken
wear	vera í, bera	wore	worn
win	vinna	won	won
write	skrifa	wrote	written

Word Lists for:

Canadian Travel Spots, New York City, New York Sights

Unit 2: Canadian Travel Spots

p. 28

bunch a lot of

either both

wilderness an area of land that has not been used to grow crops or had towns and roads built on it

ferry a boat or ship for taking passengers and often vehicles across an area of water

hike a long walk, especially in the countryside

amazing extremely surprising

rise extremely surprising, increase, become higher

cubic used in units of volume to show when the length of something has been multiplied by its width and height

rim the outer, often curved or circular, edge of something

natural wonder a feeling of great surprise and admiration caused by seeing or experiencing something that is strange and new, (natural wonder: náttúruundur)

across from one side to the other of something with clear limits, such as a road or river

honeymoon a holiday taken by a couple immediately after their marriage

barrel a large container, made of wood, metal or plastic, with a flat top and bottom and curved sides that make it fatter in the middle

survive to continue to live or exist, especially after coming close to dying or being destroyed or after being in a difficult or threatening situation

p. 29

site a place where something is, was, or will be built, or where something happened, is happening, or will happen

incredible impossible, or very difficult, to believe

p. 30

must see something that is so good, you must see it

settle to arrive, especially from another country, in a new place and establish yourself, taking the land as your own

port harbour

event anything that happens, especially something important or unusual

including used for saying that a person or thing is part of a particular group or amount

environment the air, water and land in or on which people, animals and plants live

rocky made of rock

lighthouse a tall building by the sea with a flashing light at the top to warn ships of dangerous rocks

mountain climber someone who climbs mountains for sport

hiker a person who goes for a long walk in the countryside

untamed wild

surrounding to be everywhere around something

glacier a large mass of ice which moves slowly

show up to arrive somewhere in order to join a group of people

chuck wagon a special horse wagon for food and other things used on the prairies in North America

exhibit an object that is shown to the public

attend to go to an event, place, etc.

Unit 4: New York City

p. 64

populated If an area is populated by people, they live in that area

explorer someone who travels to places where no one has ever been in order to find out what is there

harbour an area of water next to the coast where ships and boats can shelter

inhabit to live in a place

native a person who was born in a particular place and has not been brought from somewhere else

settlement a place where people come to live or the process of settling in such a place

Dutch from, belonging to or relating to the Netherlands

colony a country or area controlled by a

more powerful and often distant country (isl. nýlenda)

present now

colonize to send people to live in and govern another country

stock exchange a place where parts of the ownership of companies are bought and sold (isl. kauphöll)

financial relating to money or how money is managed

transformation a complete change in the appearance or character of something or someone

Statue of Liberty Frelsisstyttn

greet to welcome someone

immigrant a person who has come to a different country in order to live there permanently

consist of to be made of or formed from something

borough a town, or a division of a large town

mainland the main part of a country or continent, not including the islands around it

p. 65

ethnically diverse varied or different national or racial group of people

county a political division forming the largest unit of local government

suburb an area on the edge of a large town or city

suburban relating to a suburb

ferry a boat or ship for taking passengers and often vehicles across an area of water

Unit 4: New York Sights

pp. 66–68

Myndatextar

approximately close to a particular number or time although not exactly that number or time

engage to employ someone

suspension bridge a bridge which is supported by strong steel ropes hung from a tower at each end of the bridge

residential a road or area that only has private houses, not offices and factories

sanctuary a protected, safe place, especially for someone or something being chased or hunted

Hlustunaræfing

join to get involved in an activity or journey with another person or group

big deal said when you do not think that what someone has said or done is important or special

noisy making a lot of noise

overcrowded containing too many people

though but; despite the fact that

convince to persuade someone or make them certain

otherwise differently, or in another way

go ahead to start something or begin something

shot when you try to do something that you have not done before

original special and interesting

view what you can see from a particular place

unbelievable very surprising

actually in fact or really

floor a level of a building

destruction when something is damaged so badly that it does not exist or cannot be used

expect to think or believe something will happen

floodlight a large powerful electric light used for lighting outside areas such as sports fields

depending on it is not decided yet

season one of the four periods of the year

release when something is shown in public or made available for use

light (lit) to produce light which makes an object or area bright or easy to see

observation deck a floor in a building from which you can watch the view

fence a structure which divides two areas of land

hip the area below the waist and above the legs at either side of the body

be off go

art scene a particular area where the arts are in focus

botanical involving or relating to plants or the study of plants

midtown the centre of a town

sight places of interest, especially to visitors

skyline a shape or pattern made against the sky, especially by buildings

walkway a passage or path, especially one which is covered or raised above the ground

prove to show that something is true

lead (led, led) to take hold of a person or an animal and take them somewhere

sore painful and uncomfortable because of injury, infection or too much use

narrow a small distance from one side to the other

winding if a street winds it is not straight

bustling full of busy activity

hemisphere half of a sphere, especially the Earth

dumpling a small ball of dough cooked and eaten with meat and vegetables

spring rolls a Chinese pancake which is rolled up, filled with vegetables or meat and fried

table games backgammon is a table game and so is chess

rare not common; very unusual

clash a fight or argument between people

entirely completely

peek to look

distance a place that is not near

tear down to intentionally destroy a building

landscape a large area of countryside, especially in relation to its appearance

contain to have something inside or include something as a part

lawn an area of grass, especially near to a house or in a park

man-made artificial rather than natural

extensive covering a large area; having a great range

track a path or rough road which is made of soil

conservatory garden a garden in which plants are grown and kept

wildlife animals and plants that grow independently of people, usually in natural conditions

sanctuary a place where birds or animals can live and be protected

reservoir a place for storing liquid, especially a natural or artificial lake providing water

encircle to surround something, forming a circle around it

feature to include someone or something as an important part

subway a railway system in which electric trains travel underground

second-best not as good as the best

confusing something that makes you feel confused because it is difficult to understand

metro system underground railway system

run to operate

count on to be confident that you can depend on someone

transit the movement of goods or people from one place to another

get the hang of to learn how to do something

locate to find or discover the exact position of something

visible able to be seen

figure to expect or think

spectacular very exciting to look at, especially great

multiplex movie theatre a very large cinema that has a lot of separate cinemas inside it

drug dealer a person who sells illegal drugs

shady dishonest or illegal

New Yorker a person from New York

artificial not real

iconic image a very famous or popular picture in your mind

display to arrange something or a collection of things so that they can be seen by the public

commercial related to buying and selling things

countdown the act of counting backwards to zero

drop to fall

signify to mean

approach to come near or nearer

appreciate to recognize or understand that something is valuable

Word List in Alphabetical Order

The irregular verbs are coloured. You can find their principal parts on pages 128–130. (Am.) means American spelling.

- A**
- abandon** to leave a place, thing or person forever
- abduct** to force someone to go somewhere with you, often using threats or violence
- ability** power or skill needed to do something
- abnormal** different from what is usual or average
- aboriginal** describes a person or living thing that has existed in a country or continent since the earliest time known to people
- abortion** the intentional ending of a pregnancy, usually by a medical operation
- above** in or to a higher position than something else
- abroad** in or to a foreign country or countries
- absorb** to take something in, especially gradually
- accidentally** by chance or by mistake
- accomplish** to finish something successfully or to achieve something
- according to** as stated by
- account** an arrangement with a bank to keep your money there and to allow you to take it out when you need to
- across** from one side to the other of something with clear limits, such as a road; on the opposite side of
- act** to do something or to behave in the stated way; to play a part; to perform in a film, play, etc
- acting course** a plan of study to become an actor or an actress
- actually** in fact
- ad** an advertisement
- add** to put something with something else to increase the number or amount
- admit** to agree that something is true, especially unwillingly
- adopt** to take another person's child into your own family and legally look after him or her as your own child
- adult** a grown-up person
- advert** an advertisement
- affect** to have an influence on someone or something, or to cause them to change
- agony column** the part of a magazine or newspaper where letters from readers about their personal problems are printed, together with advice about how to deal with them
- agree** to have the same opinion, or to accept a suggestion or idea
- aim** if information is aimed at a particular person or group of people, it is made known in a way that influences them or makes them interested in something
- aircraft** any vehicle, which can fly, such as a plane or helicopter
- aisle** a long narrow space between rows of seats in an aircraft, cinema or church
- ale** any of various types of beer, typically one that is dark and bitter
- alike** similar; like each other
- all in all** considering all the different parts of the situation together
- allow** to make it possible for someone to do something; give permission
- almond** an oval nut with a hard shell (mandla)
- although** despite the fact that
- AM radio** a radio using amplitude modulation, a technique used in electronic communication, for transmitting information via a radio carrier wave
- amazing** extremely surprising
- amber** yellowish
- amount** sum; a collection or mass especially of something which cannot be counted
- amusement arcade** a place in which you can pay to play games on machines
- amusement park** a place where you can have fun, such as a funfair or theme park
- ancestor** a person related to you who lived a long time ago
- angle** a position from which something is viewed
- ancient** of or from a long time ago, very old
- announce** to state or make known, especially publicly
- annoying** making you feel angry
- annual** happening once every year
- antiques** something made in an earlier period and valued because it is beautiful, rare, old or of high quality
- anxious** worried and nervous
- apology** an act of saying sorry
- appalled** someone who has strong feelings of shock or of disapproval
- appealing** attractive or interesting
- appear** to become noticeable or to be present
- appearance** the way a person or thing looks
- application** an official request for something, usually in writing
- apply** to request something, usually officially, especially by writing or sending in a form
- appreciate** to recognize or understand that something is valuable, important or as described
- appreciation** when you recognize or understand that something is valuable, important or as described
- approach** to come near or nearer to something or someone in space, time, quality or amount
- approximately** close to a particular number or time although not exactly that number or time
- architecture** the art and science of designing and making buildings
- arctic tundra** area in the most northern part of the world where trees do not grow and ground below the surface is permanently frozen because it is very cold
- armour** strong protective covering, especially for the body
- armpit** the hollow place under your arm where your arm joins your body
- art scene** a particular area where the arts are in focus
- artificial** made by people, often as a copy of something natural
- artistic** relating to art; able to create or enjoy art
- artistic freedom** the condition or right of being able or allowed to do, say, think, etc. whatever you want to, without being controlled or limited in your artistic creation
- as easy as falling off a log** very easy
- as opposed to** rather than
- as well** in addition
- aside from** except for
- aspect** one part of a situation, problem, subject, etc.
- aspiration** something that you hope to achieve
- assassinate** to murder or kill someone
- asset** a useful or valuable quality, skill or person
- associate** to spend time with a group of people
- assume** to accept something to be true without question or proof
- assurance** confidence
- astonished** very surprised
- astonishment** very great surprise
- at any moment** at any time

at that point exactly then
ATM (automatic teller machine) a machine, usually in a wall outside a bank, from which you can take money out of your bank account using a special card
attend participate or to go to an event, place, etc.
au pair a foreign person, usually a young woman, who lives with a family in order to learn their language and who looks after the children or cleans the house in return for meals, a room and a small payment
audience the group of people together in one place to watch or listen to a play, film, someone speaking, etc.
aurora borealis the Northern Lights
autistic a child or person with a failure to develop social abilities, language and other communication skills to the usual level
average the result you get by adding two or more amounts together and dividing the total by the number of amounts
avoid to stay away from someone or something, or prevent something from happening or not allow yourself to do something
award to give money or a prize following an act of any kind
awesome extremely good
awkward embarrassed or nervous; causing problems, worry or embarrassment
awkwardly in a worried or embarrassed way; in a way which causes problems
axe a tool used for cutting wood and which consists of a heavy iron or steel blade at the end of a long wooden handle

B

backpack a type of bag which you usually carry on your back when you are travelling
barely by the smallest amount; almost not
barrel a large container, made of wood, metal or plastic
barrier a long pole, fence, wall or natural feature, that stops people from going somewhere; anything that prevents people from being together or understanding each other
bash to hit hard
basics the simplest and most important facts, ideas or things connected with something
bastard person born to parents who are not married to each other; an illegitimate child
bat a small animal like a mouse with wings that flies at night
batter to hit and behave violently towards

a person repeatedly over a long period of time
battle a fight between armed forces
bay a part of the coast where the land curves in so that the sea is surrounded by land on three sides
be about to to be going to do something very soon
be concerned about worried
be down on one's luck to be in a dilemma
be off go
be owned belonging to
be perished extremely cold
be prepared ready to deal with a situation
be shattered broken into very small pieces
be stuck unable to move, or fixed in a particular position, place or way of thinking
bear to accept, tolerate or endure especially something unpleasant
beast an animal, especially a large or wild one
beat to hit again and again
beating an act of hitting someone repeatedly and hard
become aware of to know that something exists
bed down to lie down somewhere in order to go to sleep
bed-roll rolled up bed-clothes
Bedouin a member of an Arab tribe living in or near the desert
beep a short loud sound; to cause to make a short loud sound
beg to ask for food or money because you are poor
behaviour Someone's behaviour is how they behave (do or act)
belly the stomach or the front part of the body
besides in addition to; also
betray to not be loyal to your country or a person; to not do what you said you would
big deal said when you do not think that what someone has said or done is important or special
it's no big deal to not be a serious problem
billboard a very large board on which advertisements are shown, especially at the side of a road
billion the number 1 000 000 000 (mill-jarður)
birth the time when a baby comes out of its mother's body
bite to eat some food or a small meal
blacksmith a person who makes and repairs iron tools and horseshoes
blank empty or clear
blast to explode something with a very strong force

blast radius the area where the air wave from an explosion could be found
bleak sad
blister a painful red swelling on the skin that contains liquid, caused usually by continuous rubbing
block to close or prevent movement through something
bloke a man
bluish slightly blue
boding ill to be a sign of something bad that will happen in the future
bolt to move very fast
border the line that divides one country from another
borough a town, or a division of a large town
botanic garden a garden where a wide range of plants are grown for scientific study and educational purposes
botanical involving or relating to plants or the study of plants
bottled stored or sold in bottles
bottom the lowest part of something
bounding jumping
bow a weapon for shooting arrows
bozo a stupid person
braid (plait) a special hairstyle (flétta)
breadth the distance from one side to another
break a short period of rest
breath the air that goes into and out of your lungs
breathe to move air into and out of the lungs
breed a particular type of animal or plant
breeze a light and pleasant wind
brief short
bring up to care for a child until it is an adult
brittle delicate and easily broken
brooding making you feel sad, uncomfortable or worried as though something bad is going to happen
broomstick a broom made of sticks
buckskin soft, strong leather made from the skin of a deer or a sheep
buddy a friend
bug a small insect; to annoy or worry someone
bulletin a short news programme, or a short newspaper printed by an organization
bumped out sad
bumped into to meet someone when not planned or to run into someone unintentionally
bunch a number of things of the same type fastened together or in a close group
burns injuries caused by fire
burns unit hospital division where you treat burn injuries

business-minded having an interest in everything related to business
bustling lively, busy
butterfly a type of insect with large often brightly coloured wings
button a small object used to fasten something, for example a shirt or coat
buzz a continuous low sound (suð)

C

cabbage a large round vegetable
caller ID a telephone service that shows you the telephone number of the person who is telephoning you
calm peaceful and quiet
calm down to stop feeling upset, angry or excited
camp a place where people stay in tents or other temporary structures
cancel to decide that an organized event will not happen, or to stop an order for goods or services that you no longer want
capital a city which is the centre of government of a country or smaller political area
caption a short piece of text under a picture in a book, magazine or newspaper
carcass the body of a dead animal (hrae)
caribou a North American reindeer
cast spells to use words thought to be magic
casual not finding something important or interesting
catch up to do something you did not have time to do earlier
catchy pleasing and easy to remember
cauldron a large round container for cooking in, usually supported over a fire
cause the reason why something, especially something bad, happens; to make something happen
caution great care and attention (varúð)
cautiously describes someone who avoids risks
ceiling the inside surface of a room which you can see when you look above you
celebrate to take part in special enjoyable activities in order to show that a particular occasion is important
censor to remove anything offensive from books, films, etc.
certain particular; sure
challenge difficult job; to invite someone to compete or take part, especially in a game or argument
change one's mind decide not to do something you had planned to do

character a letter in the alphabet; a person, especially when you are describing a particular quality that they have
characteristic a typical or noticeable quality of someone or something
charring land that has been burned
cheat to behave in a dishonest way
check an examination of something in order to make certain that it is correct or the way it should be
cheek the soft part of your face which is below your eye and between your mouth and ear
cheekbones one of the two bones at the top of your cheeks, just below your eye and towards your ear
choose to decide what you want from two or more things or possibilities
chronological order the order in which a series of events happened
chuck wagon a special horse wagon for food and other things used on the prairies in North America
chuckle to laugh quietly
cicada a large insect found in warm countries, which produces a high continuous sound (söngtífa)
cinematic relating to the cinema
circumference the distance around a circle; the line surrounding a circular space (ummál)
civil rights the rights that each person has in a society
claim to ask for something of value because you think it belongs to you or you think you have a right to it
clash a fight or argument between people
climb to use your legs, or your legs and hands, to go up or onto the top of something
clutter up to fill something in an untidy or badly organized way
coconut a large fruit like a nut with a thick, hard brown shell containing hard white flesh which can be eaten and a white liquid
coffin a long box in which a dead person is buried or burnt
coincidence an occasion when two or more similar things happen at the same time, especially in a way that is unlikely and surprising
collect to get
collecting cards trading cards from thick paper with a picture on
colonialist a person who believes in and supports the system of one country controlling another
colonist someone who lives in or goes to live in a country or area that is a colony
colonize to send people to live in and govern another country

colony a country or area controlled politically by a more powerful and often distant country
column one of several vertical blocks of print into which a page of a newspaper or magazine is divided
come across to find something by chance
comfy couch a sofa that can be turned into a bed (svefnsófi)
comic a magazine, especially for children, which contains a set of stories told in pictures with a small amount of writing
commercial related to buying and selling things
committed loyal and willing to give your time and energy to something that you believe in
common usual; belonging to or shared by two or more people or things
common saying a usual well-known and wise statement
community the people living in one particular area or people who are considered as a unit because of their common interests, social group or nationality
compare to examine or look for the difference between two or more things
compartment a separate part of a piece of furniture, equipment or container with a particular purpose
compete to take part in a race or competition
competition an organized event in which people try to win a prize by being the best, fastest, etc
complacent feeling so satisfied with your own abilities or situation that you feel you do not need to try any harder
completely in every way or as much as possible
complex difficult to understand or find an answer to because of having many different parts
complexity when something has many parts and may be difficult to understand or find an answer to
composed of to be formed or made from various things
computer enhanced make better by using a computer
conclusion the final part of something
concrete a very hard building material made by mixing together cement, sand, small stones and water
condition an arrangement that must exist before something else can happen, only if; condition
confess to admit that you have done something wrong or something that you feel guilty or bad about

confirmation a statement, often written, that an arrangement or meeting is certain

conflict disagreement; fighting

confused unable to think clearly or to understand something

confusing describes something that makes you feel confused because it is difficult to understand

congressman a man who belongs to a congress, and is a member of the US House of Representatives

connection when something is related to something else; when something is joined to something else

consider to think about a possibility or making a decision

considering in light of

consist of to be made of or formed from something

constantly all the time

constructed something built or put together to form something whole

consumer a person who buys goods or services for their own use

contagious describes a disease that can be caught by touching someone with the disease

contain to have something inside

content everything that is contained in something

contestant someone who competes in a contest

contort to twist or bend violently and unnaturally into a different shape or form

contraction when something becomes smaller or shorter

contrary the opposite

convince to persuade someone or make them certain

coppers coins made from copper

cops police officers

cord (corduroy) a thick cotton material with soft raised parallel lines, used for making clothes

count to say the names of numbers one after the other in order, or to calculate the number of people or things

count as to consider or be considered as

count on to expect something to happen and make plans based on it

countdown the act of counting backwards to zero

counter-argument an argument against another argument, idea or suggestion

couple two or a few things; two people who are married or in a romantic relationship

courageous someone who is not afraid in a dangerous or situation

cover blanket; to put or spread something over something

crack to break something

cradle a small bed for a baby

craft skill and experience, especially in relation to making objects (handverk)

craftsman a person who is skilled in a particular craft

craggy a coast with rough mass of rock which sticks out from the land around it

create to make something

creator someone who has made or invented something

creature any living thing which can move independently; an animal

creepy strange or unnatural and making you feel frightened

crew a group of people who work together, especially those who work on a ship, aircraft, etc.

crisps potato chips

cross to go across from one side of something to the other; annoyed or angry

cross-country ski race a ski competition in which competitors travel long distances through the countryside

crow a large black bird with a loud unpleasant cry (kráka)

crowd a large group of people who have come together

cruel extremely unkind and unpleasant and causing pain to people or animals

cubic used in units of volume to show when the length of something has been multiplied by its width and height

cuisine a style of cooking

cunning people who are clever at getting what they want

cupboard a piece of furniture with a door or doors often with shelves for storing things

cure to make someone with an illness healthy again

curiosity an eager wish to know or learn about something

currently of the present time, now

curse to say a word or an expression which is not polite and shows that you are very angry

custom a way of behaving which has been established for a long time

D

daft silly or stupid

damage to harm or spoil something

damp slightly wet

dare-devil a person who does dangerous things and takes risks

dawn the period in the day when light from the sun begins to appear in the sky

dawn trader someone who does business at dawn

daze unable to think clearly

dead good-looking a very attractive man or a woman

death penalty the legal punishment of death for a crime

debt money which is owed to someone else

decade a period of ten years

decent socially acceptable or good

decimal place the position of a number after a decimal point

decision a choice that you make after thinking about several possibilities

dedicated believing that something is very important and giving a lot of time and energy to it

deed an intentional act, especially a very bad or very good one (dáð)

define to show clearly, to say what the meaning of something, especially a word, is

definite fixed, certain or clear

degree an amount or level of something

dehydrate to lose water, to become dry

demand to ask for something forcefully

demolish to completely destroy a building, to ruin something

den the home of particular types of wild animal

dengue fever an infectious tropical disease caused by the dengue virus

denial a statement that something is not true or does not exist

dentist a person whose job is treating people's teeth

depend to be decided by

depending on controlled or determined by

deranged someone who is mentally ill

desert an area, often covered with sand or rocks, where there is very little rain and not many plants

despair the feeling that there is no hope

despite without taking any notice of or being influenced by

destroy to damage something so badly that it does not exist or cannot be used

destruction when something is destroyed

determine to make a strong decision

detour a different or indirect way to a place

develop to change into a more advanced, larger or stronger form

development when someone or something grows or changes and becomes more advanced

dice a small cube with one to six spots on each side, used in games involving chance

diet the food and drink eaten or drunk by a person or group

dig to form a hole by moving soil
digest to change food in your stomach into substances that your body can use
dire very bad
disappear to go somewhere where you cannot be seen or found
disaster an event which results in great harm, damage or death, or serious difficulty
discover to find information, a place or an object, especially for the first time
discriminate against to treat a person or group of people differently, especially in a worse way from the way in which you treat other people
dishonest not honest
dishy attractive, good looking
display to show, to arrange something so it can be seen by the public
disrespectful being rude, not showing respect
distance the amount of space between two places
distort to change something from its usual, original, natural, condition or shape
ditch class not going to class at school (skrópa)
diversity when many different types of things or people are included in something
divorced married in the past but not now
do well be successful
do-gooder someone who does things that they think will help other people
doe the female of animals such as the deer or rabbit
dosser someone who has no home and no money
double to make something twice as much or many
double cream very thick cream
dove a white or grey bird, often used as a symbol of peace
downed pilots pilots that have crashed in their plane
draft a piece of text or a drawing containing the main ideas and intentions but is not finished
drawer a boxlike container in a piece of furniture made so as to slide in and out
dreadful terrible, very bad
dream come true If a hope, wish or dream comes true, it happens
drive energy or power
drop stop; fall
drug dealer a person who sells illegal drugs
drugstore a pharmacy, shop where you can buy medicine
dungeon an underground prison, especially in a castle

dusky dark in colour
 dust fine powdery material such as dry earth
 Dutch the people of the Netherlands

E

eager wanting very much to do or have something
eagle a large strong bird which eats meat and can see very well
earn to get money as payment for work that you do
earphones a piece of electronic equipment that you put on your ears so that you can listen to music, radio, etc
earshot the range of distance within which it is possible to be heard or to hear what someone is saying
eco-friendly a product that has been designed to do the least possible damage to the environment
edge the outer or furthest point of something
educate to teach someone
educational providing education or relating to education
either used when referring to a choice between two possibilities, both
either ... or a situation in which there is a choice between two different plans of action, but both together are not possible
election a time when people vote in order to choose someone for a political job
elf, pl. elves a small person with pointed ears who has magic powers in children's stories
embarrass to cause someone to feel nervous or uncomfortable
embarrassed feeling ashamed or shy
emotion a feeling such as love or anger
enchanting very pleasant
encircle to surround something, forming a circle around it
encouragement when someone talks or behaves in a way that gives you confidence to do something
end up turn out to be
endless never finishing
endowed with to have a particular quality or feature
engage
enjoy to get pleasure from something
enquiry to ask a question; an official process to discover the facts about something bad that has happened
enter to come or go into a particular place
entertain to keep a group of people interested or enjoying themselves
entire whole or complete
entirely completely

environment the air, water and land in or on which people, animals and plants live
epilepsy a condition of the brain which causes a person to become unconscious for short periods or to move in an uncontrolled way (isl. flogaveiki)
equivalent something which has the same amount, value, purpose, qualities, etc. as something else
escape to flee, get free from something, or to avoid something
especially in particular
essential necessary; needed
Estonian a person from Estonia
ethnic background a group of people with roots in a certain national or racial group
ethnically diverse a varied or different ethnic background
even calm, equal; used to show that something is surprising or unusual,
event something that happens
eventually finally
ever since continuously since that time
eviction the verb evict = to force someone to leave somewhere
evil very bad, wicked
except not including
exceptionally unusually;
excerpt a part taken from a book
exchange to give something to someone and they give you something else in return
excluding not including
exhibit something that is shown to the public; to show
exile a situation when someone is being sent or kept away from their own country
existence life, when something or someone exists
existing something that exists now
expect to think or believe something will happen
expensive costing a great deal
expiry date the date printed on an item for sale, after which the item can no longer be sold and should not be used
explain to make something clear or easy to understand
explorer someone who travels to places where no one has ever been to find out what is there
exposed having no protection
express to put into words, to show a feeling, opinion or fact
extension an added part (here for telephone – símtengi)
extensive large in area or amount
extra a person in a film who does not have a speaking part and who is usually part of the scene
extravaganza a large, exciting and expensive event or entertainment

extreme very great
extremely very
eyelid the movable piece of skin that opens or closes the eye

F

face the front of the head, where the eyes, nose and mouth are; meet
face to face directly, meeting someone in the same place (augliti til auglitis)
faint to feel weak, as if you are about to become unconscious
fair pale; treating someone in a way that is right or reasonable
fair trade a way of buying and selling products that makes certain that the original producer receives a fair price
fairy homosexual; an imaginary creature with magical powers
familiar well-known
far more than much more than
fascinating very attractive or interesting
fashionable wearing clothes that are in fashion
favour the support or approval of something or someone
feathery of feathers, soft and light
feature one of the parts of someone's face that you notice when you look at them; to include someone or something as an important part
feed to give food to
feed on to eat
feller a boy or a young man
fence a line of wooden or metal posts joined by wire to stop people or animals moving on to or off a piece of land; to lock someone inside
Ferris wheel a large vertical wheel in an amusement park with seats which stay horizontal as the wheel turns round
ferry a boat for taking passengers and often cars across an area of water
fictitious invented and not true or not existing
field an area of activity or interest
fierce strong and powerful
fiery like fire
figure a number; shape; picture
figure out to finally understand something or someone
figurine a small model of a human, usually made of clay or porcelain
film crew the people working on a film
filthy very dirty; obscene, containing offensive words or pictures; horrible
finally after a long time, at last
financial concerning money

financial crisis serious financial and economic problems or difficulties
fine very good
fingerprints the pattern of curved lines on the end of a finger or a mark left by this pattern
finished ended
firework a small container filled with explosive chemicals which produce bright coloured patterns or loud noises when they explode
firmly strongly, in a way that will not become loose
first aid basic medical treatment which is given to someone as soon as possible after they have been hurt in an accident or suddenly become ill
flashback a short part of a film, story or play that goes back to events in the past; a sudden memory of a past event or time (isl. endurlit)
flatly to do something in a very clear and definite way
flawless perfect or without mistakes
flicker to move quickly and unsteadily
flight of steps stair
flinch to make a sudden movement because of pain or fear
flip to turn over quickly, for example pages in a book
float to stay on a surface of a liquid and not sink, to move smoothly and attractively
floodlight a large powerful electric light used for lighting outside areas, such as sports fields
fluent when a person is fluent, they can speak a language easily, well and quickly
flutter to move quickly up and down or from side to side,
fold to bend something, especially paper or cloth, so that one part of it lies on the other part
foolish unwise, stupid or not showing good judgment
for a living to do something as your job or a way of making money
forbid to tell someone not to do something
force to make someone do something difficult or unpleasant, especially by threatening or not offering the possibility of choice
forehead the flat part of the face, above the eyes and below the hair
foreign something is foreign to a particular person if they do not know about it
former of an earlier time
fountain an often ornamental structure which produces a spring of water that rises into the air

fox a wild animal with fur which belongs to the dog family
fragile easily damaged or broken
freely without being controlled or limited
freeze to make something into or become ice
freeze is tabs off to freeze your ears off
frequent happening often
fresh newly made
frictionless without a scratch
frown to make your forehead wrinkle and bring your eyebrows together to show that you are annoyed or worried
full alert a situation of total watch and awareness

G

gain to get or gain something
game match; flesh of wild bird or animals which are killed for sport
gasp to take a short quick breath through the mouth, especially because of surprise, pain or shock
gather to collect several things
gem a jewel, precious stone
genius a person who is very skilled or clever
Gentiles a person who is not Jewish
gesture a movement of the hands, arms or head, etc. to express an idea or feeling
get to obtain, buy or earn something
get by to manage, to be able to live or deal with a situation
get in touch with to get in contact with
get out to leave or escape
get serious not to joke or make fun out of something
get the hang of to learn how to do something, especially if it is not obvious or simple
get through to finish or succeed in something
giant someone or something very big
gift a natural ability; a present
gingerly in a way that is careful or gentle
give up to stop or abandon; to stop trying
glacier a large mass of ice, formed from a snow on mountains
glare a long angry look
glen a deep narrow valley
glisten to shine by reflecting light from a wet or oily surface
glob of spit saliva, especially when it is outside the mouth (isl. hráki)
God Almighty God – having the power to do everything
gondola in a cable car, ski lift, amusement park ride, etc., a hanging part that people sit or travel in
govern to rule, control or direct

government the group of people who officially control a country

gown a long loose piece of clothing

grade a school class

grandly in a way suggesting that something or someone has great importance

greedy wanting a lot more food, money, etc. than you need

greet to welcome someone with particular words or action

grieve to feel or express great sadness, especially when someone dies

grin a wide smile

grit to keep the teeth tightly closed together and move them to make a sound (ísl. gnísta)

grocery store a shop that sells certain kinds of food and household supplies

grope to feel with your hands, especially in order to find or move towards something when you cannot see easily

groundhog a small animal with short legs and rough, reddish brown fur which lives in North America (ísl. múrmeldýr)

grub an insect in the stage when it has just come out of its egg; think about

grumpy bad-tempered or annoyed

guarantee a statement by the maker that something will work for a certain period of time

guesthouse a small cheap hotel

guild an organization of people who do the same job or have the same interests

guilty feeling guilt

guts bravery

H

hail when small hard balls of ice fall from the sky like rain

Hall of Fame a building which contains images of famous people and interesting things that are connected with them

hamlet a small village

handle to deal with or be in charge of

handsome describes a man who is physically attractive; describes a woman who is attractive but in a strong way

handy useful or convenient

harbor (*Am.*) a place of shelter for ships and boats

hardly only just; almost not

hard time not easy time

harm damage; injury

harvest moon full moon

hatchet a small axe

hazel a small tree on which nuts grow; brown like a hazelnut

head to go in a certain direction

headline a line of words printed in large letters as the title of a story in a newspaper

heal to make or become well again

healer a person who has the power to heal people

heat to make something hot or warm

height the distance from the bottom to the top of something

hemisphere one half of the Earth

herb small plant used to flavour food or to make medicine

hesitate to pause before you do or say something, because you are uncertain or nervous about it

hiding to put yourself somewhere where you cannot be seen or found

highly functional very practical and useful

hike a long walk, especially in the countryside

hiker a person who takes a long walk, especially in the countryside

Hindi one of the official languages of India, spoken especially in northern India

hint of a slight impression

hip the area below the waist and above the legs at either side of the body which connects the leg to the upper part of the body

hiss to make a noise which is like the first sound in the word 'sing' but which lasts a lot longer

hit it off to like someone and become friendly immediately

hold ones ground to be as successful as other people or things in a situation, hold your position

holy related to a religion or a god

honest telling the truth, not cheating or stealing

honeymoon a holiday taken by a couple immediately after their marriage

hope to want something to happen or to be true

horde a large group of people that comes together; collect

hostel a house where people can stay free or cheaply

hug to hold someone or something close to your body with your arms

huge very large

human race all people, considered as a species

humanity people in general; kindness

hurt to feel pain in your body or cause someone pain

hydro electricity electricity made by the force of water from rivers or waterfalls

hypocrite someone who says they have particular moral beliefs but behaves in way which shows these are not sincere (ísl. hræsnaari)

I

iconic image a picture in your mind or an idea of how someone or something is

idiomatic language an expression with a meaning that cannot be guessed by the individual words

ignore to intentionally not listen or give attention to

illegal against the law

illustrator a person who draws pictures

image a picture

imaginary existing only in the mind or imagination, not real

imagine to form a picture or idea of something in your mind; to believe that something is probably true

immature not fully grown; childish and behaving like someone much younger

immensely extremely

immigrant a person who has come to a different country in order to live there permanently

impossible something that cannot happen or be achieved

impressive If an object or achievement is impressive, you admire or respect it

improve to cause something to get better

in a flash like a lightning

in common to share interests, experiences or other characteristics with someone or something

in comparison when something is considered similar or of equal quality to something else

in the wild in natural conditions

in unison at the same time; together

inaudible unable to be heard

including used for saying that a person or thing is part of a particular group or amount

increase to become larger in amount or size

incredible hard to believe

indecision the state of not being able to decide

independent not controlled by other people, countries etc.

indicator of something that points out or shows

inexperienced having little knowledge or experience

influence the power to affect people, actions or events

inhabit to live in a place

inquiry (the process of asking) questions

inspire to give someone an idea or to make someone feel that they want to do something

instead in place of someone or something else

insubstantial not enough or not strong enough

insulting rude or offensive

interact to communicate with or react to

interior the inside part of something

internationally involving more than one country

interrupt to stop a person from speaking or doing something for a short period

introduce to tell someone another person's name the first time that they meet

invent to create something which has never been made before

invisible impossible to see

invite to ask someone to go to an event

involved when someone or something is included in something

irreplaceable too good or special to be able to be replaced if lost or damaged

issue a subject or problem which people are thinking and talking about

itch an uncomfortable feeling on the skin which makes you want to rub it with your nails

J

jail a place where criminals are kept to punish them for their crimes

jam a sweet soft food made by cooking fruit with sugar to preserve it

jealous feeling or showing envy

jerk a stupid person

jiggle to move from side to side or up and down with quick short movements

join to become a member of a group or an organization

join hands If two or more people join hands, they hold each other's hands

judge to form or give an opinion, or to decide about something or someone; to hear and try in a court of law

K

keep in touch to communicate or continue to communicate with someone

kidnap to take a person away illegally by force

kip to sleep

Kmart (*Am.*) a chain of discount department stores

kneel to go down into a position where one or both knees are on the ground

L

labelled as the act of using a word or phrase to describe a person

labour workers

lack to not have or not have enough of something that is needed or wanted

lack of when something is not available or when there is not enough of it

lad a boy or young man

landscape a large area of countryside, especially in relation to its appearance; to change the appearance of an area of land, especially next to a building or road so that it looks more like natural countryside

law a system of rules used to order the way in which a society behaves

lawn an area of grass

lawyer someone whose job is to give advice to people about the law and speak for them in court

lay to put something in a flat or horizontal position

lay eyes on to see someone or something for the first time

lead to control a group of people, a country, or a situation; to show the way

leaf through to quickly turn the pages of a book or a magazine, reading only a little of it

leave to go away

leave alone to allow something to stay as it is

legal allowed by the law

legible clear enough to be read

less a smaller amount of

let go to stop holding something

let out when something such as school or a show, lets out, it ends and everyone leaves

lever a bar or handle

liberties the rights of a person

librarian a person who works in a library

life changing critical for your life

lighthouse a tall building by the sea with a flashing light to warn ships of dangerous rocks

limit the greatest amount, number or level of something that is either possible or allowed

limp to walk slowly and with difficulty because of having an injured or painful leg or foot

line a special brand or kind of clothes or other goods

linger to take a long time to leave or disappear

linguist a person who studies and/or is good at languages

lip-synch performers who pretend to be singing when in fact they are just moving their lips

Lithuanian a person from Lithuania

litter small pieces of rubbish that have been left lying on the ground

livestock animals kept on a farm

lizard a small reptile that has a long body, four short legs, a long tail and thick skin

loaf of bread bread (*isl.* brauðhleifur)

locate to find or discover the exact position of something

located to be in a particular place

long for to want something very much

loose describes things which are not fixed or held together or to anything else

Lord Muck a person who thinks she is very important and should be treated better than everyone else

lose to no longer have something because you do not know where it is, or because it has been taken away from you

loud making a lot of noise

lousy very bad

lower positioned below one or more similar things, or of the bottom part of something

luckily because of good luck

lucky having good things happen to you by chance

lump a piece of a solid substance, usually with no particular shape (*isl.* klumpur, kökkur)

lumpy porridge oatmeal with lumps in it (*isl.* kekkjóttur hafragrautur)

lunge to move forward suddenly and with force

luxurious very comfortable and expensive

M

magical ability someone who has special powers to make things happen which would usually be impossible

magician a person who has magic powers in stories, or who performs tricks for entertainment

main chief, principal or most important

mainland the main part of a country or continent, not including the islands around it

major more important, bigger or more serious than others of the same type

make sense to sound understandable or to be practical or advisable

make up to form a particular thing, amount or number as a whole

make up one's mind to decide between alternatives; come to a definite decision or opinion

mall a large, usually covered, shopping area

mammal any animal of which the female gives birth to babies, and feeds them on milk from her own body

man-made artificial rather than natural

maple a type of large tree which grows in northern areas of the world (isl. hlynur)

marker a thick pen

mastery complete control of something

math skills an ability to do well in mathematics

matter to be important, or to affect what happens

may might

mead an alcoholic drink made from honey which was drunk in the past

meadow a field

mean unkind or unpleasant

meaning the meaning of something is what it expresses or represents

measure to discover the exact size or amount of something

mentally connected with or related to the mind

mention to speak about something quickly, giving little detail or using few words

merchant a person whose job is to buy and sell products in large amounts

merge to combine or join together

message a short piece of information that you give to a person when you cannot speak to them directly

messy untidy

metro system an underground electric railway system

midtown in the central part of a city

mind the part of a person that makes it possible for a person to think, feel emotions and understand things

mind you used when you want to make what you have just said sound less strong

miner a person who works in a mine

mirror to represent something; a piece of glass with a shiny metallic back which reflects light or an image in front of it

mischievous behaviour which is slightly bad but is not intended to cause serious harm or damage

miserably causing or showing unhappiness

misery great unhappiness

missionary a person who has been sent to a foreign country to teach their religion to the people who live there

mist fog

moment a very short period of time

monastery a building in which monks live and worship

monk a member of a group of religious men who usually live together in a monastery

monkey an animal of the type most like man

monsoon the season of heavy rain during the summer in hot Asian countries

mood the way you feel at a particular time

more or less mostly

moreover also and more importantly

mosque a building for Islamic religious activities and worship

motion picture company a company that makes movies

motionless without moving

mountain climber someone who climbs mountains for sport

mountain range a group of hills or mountains

mourn to feel or express great sadness, especially because of someone's death

move on to leave a place and go somewhere else; to start a new activity

movement a group of people with a particular set of aims

movie trailer a caravan used on location where a film is being shot

mug a heavy glass with a handle out of which you drink beer

multicultural including people who have many different customs and beliefs

multiplex movie theatre a cinema with three screens or more

mumble to speak quietly and in a way that is not clear so that the words are difficult to understand

murmur to speak very quietly

music box a decorative box with a device inside it that plays a tune when you open the lid

musician a person who is skilled in playing music

must see something that is so good, you must do it, have it or see it

mutual shared by two or more

N

name the word or words that a person, thing or place is known by; to give someone or something a name, to choose someone or something

narrow having a small distance from one side to the other, especially in comparison with the length

narrow-minded not willing to accept ideas different from your own

native country or place where one was born

natural of or produced by nature and not made by people

natural resources things such as minerals, forests, coal, etc. which exist in a place and can be used by people

natural wonder natural structure of extraordinary beauty

neat tidy, good, nice

needle a thin hard pointed leaf of a pine tree

neighbour someone who lives very near to you

neighbor (Am.) someone who lives very near to you

neighbourhood a district or area in a town or city

neither not the one nor the other of two things or people

neither ... nor used when you want to say that two or more things are not true

nerd a person, especially a man, who is not attractive and awkward or socially embarrassing

network anchor a person who is the main news reader on a television or radio news programme

New Yorker a person from New York

newborn recently born

nickname an informal name for someone or something, especially a name which you are called by your friends or family

nocked to fit (an arrow) to a bowstring

nod to move your head down and up to show agreement, approval or greeting

noise a sound, especially when it is not wanted, unpleasant or loud

noisy making a lot of noise

Norse belonging to or relating to the people who lived in Scandinavia in the past

notice to see or become conscious of something or someone

notorious well-known for something bad

novel a long printed story about imaginary characters and events

novelist a person who writes novels

nowhere in or to no place; not anywhere

nudge to push something or someone gently

nudity when people are not wearing clothes

number an act in a show or a popular song or music; a symbol showing how many of something there are, an amount

numerous many

nutcracker a tool for breaking the shell of a nut

O

obscure not clear and difficult to see

observation deck an elevated sightseeing platform

obtain to get something

obvious clear; easy to see, recognize or understand
obviously in a way that is easy to understand or see
occasionally sometimes but not often
occur to happen
oddly enough strangely enough, even though it sounds unusual or strange
offer to ask someone if they would like to have something or if they would like you to do something
on and off if something happens on and off, it happens sometimes
on location if a movie is filmed on location, it is made in an actual place away from where the studio
on one's own alone
on the other hand used when you are comparing two different facts or two opposite ways of thinking about a situation (isl. aftur á móti, á hinn bóginn)
once one single time
opinion a thought or belief about something or someone
opposite being in a position on the other side; facing
oral spoken; not written
orator someone who is good at public speaking
ordinary not special or unexpected in any way; usual
organize to make arrangements for something to happen
origin used to describe the particular way in which something started to exist or someone started their life
original existing since the beginning; first; new, fresh or not thought of before
ornament an object which is beautiful rather than useful
otherwise differently, or in another way
out of thin air from nothing
out-of-the-way in a long distance from where most people live
outline the main shape or edge of something, without any details
outskirts the areas that form the edge of a town or city
over-the-top too extreme
overcrowded containing too many people or things
overwhelming difficult to fight against; very great or very large
own belonging to

P

paid past simple and past participle of pay
pale describes someone's face or skin if it has less colour than usual

palm the inside part of your hand
panicky feeling worried or frightened
paragraph a short part of a text, consisting of at least one sentence and beginning on a new line
paralyzed to cause a person, animal or part of the body to lose the ability to move
particularly especially
pass to go past something or someone or move in relation to it or them; approve
passer-by someone who is going past a particular place
past a period of time before and until the present
paste to stick something to something
pat to touch someone or something gently and usually repeatedly with the hand flat
paved covered with
pavement a path with a hard surface on one or both sides of a road, that people walk on
peace freedom from war and violence
peanuts an oval-shaped nut that grows underground in pairs inside a shell
pecan a type of nut which is long with a rough surface and which has a smooth red-brown shell
peculiar unusual and strange
pedestrian a person who is walking
peek to look, especially for a short time or while trying to avoid being seen
peer to look carefully or with difficulty
penetrate to move, go or make a way into
penetrating describes a way of looking at someone in which you seem to know what they are thinking; very loud
percentage an amount of something, often expressed as a number out of 100
perform to do; to entertain people by dancing, singing, acting or playing music
pet an animal which is kept in the home as a companion
phenomenon something that exists and can be seen, felt, tasted, etc.
phonograph a record player
phrase a short group of words which are often used together and have a particular meaning
physical connected with the body; relating to things you can see or touch
pick up to answer the telephone
pinch to squeeze strongly, often someone's skin, between the thumb and forefinger
piss rain
place of worship a building for religious services, such as a church, temple, etc.
pleasure enjoyment, happiness or satisfaction
plenty enough or more than enough, or a large amount

plot the story of a book, film, or play
poetry poems in general as a form of literature
point of view an opinion, a way of considering something
pointed a pointed object has a thin sharp end or becomes much narrower at one end
poisonous containing poison, very harmful and able to cause illness or death
polite having or showing good manners
politeness the practical application of good manners
politician a member of a government or law-making organization
pollute to make an area or substance, usually air, water or earth, dirty or harmful to people, animals and plants, especially by adding harmful chemicals
ponder to think carefully about something
poodle a dog with curly hair
poor having little money or property
pop up to appear suddenly
populated If an area is populated by people or animals, they live in that area
population all the people living in a particular country, area or place
porch a raised, covered area, often made of wood, on the front or side of a building
porridge a food made from oats boiled in milk or water, eaten for breakfast
port a harbour
possibility a chance that something may happen or be true
possible able to happen or be done
potent very strong or powerful
potion a liquid that is believed to have a magical effect on someone who drinks it
pour to rain very heavily
poverty the condition of being poor
PR (Public Relations) advertising, the activity of keeping good relationships between an organization and the people outside it
practice training; the actual of doing something
practiced eye a trained eye
practise to exercise or train
prank a trick that is intended to be funny but not to cause harm or damage
prawn a type of edible shellfish like the shrimp
prayer the words that someone says or thinks when they are praying
pre-record to store sound or moving pictures on beforehand
predator an animal that hunts, kills and eats other animals
prefer to like better
pregnancy the state of being pregnant, with a child

preparation the things that you do or the time that you spend preparing for something

prepare to make or get something or someone ready for something that will happen in the future

present a gift; in a particular place, happening or existing now

presently now; at the present time

pressured to be strongly persuaded to do something you do not want to do

pretend to behave as if something is true when you know that it is not

primate a member of the most developed and intelligent group of mammals, including humans, monkeys and apes

prime minister the leader of the government

principal the person in charge of a school

print cartoon printed drawings, that sometimes tell a joke or make a humorous criticism

privilege an advantage that only one person or group of people has

prob problem

probably very likely

profession a job which needs special knowledge, training or a particular skill

promote to encourage the popularity, sale, development or existence of something

promptly quickly, at the arranged time

pronounce to say a word or a letter in a particular way

proof a fact or piece of information which shows that something exists or is true

proper right, correct, or suitable

properly correctly or rightly

prospect the possibility that something good might happen in the future

prosperous successful

protect to keep someone or something safe from injury, damage or loss

protection the act of protecting or state of being protected

protective giving protection

prove to show to be true or correct

proverb a well-known saying that gives good advice or expresses a supposed truth

province an area which is a part of a country or an empire

public relating to or involving people in general

publicly if something is done publicly, it is done so that everyone can know about it

publish to make information available in a book, magazine or newspaper, or to produce and sell a book, magazine or newspaper; to make known

publisher a person or an organization which prints text or music

pull somebody's leg to tease or joking with someone

pun a humorous use of a word or phrase which has several meanings or which sounds like another word

puppy a young dog

purpose the reason for doing something

pursue If you pursue a plan you try to do it or achieve it, usually over a long period of time

push to use physical pressure in order to move something into a different position

put out to put an end to something

puzzle to cause someone to feel confused and slightly worried because they cannot understand something

Q

queer homosexual

quest a search for something

quite completely; rather

R

Rabbi a religious leader and teacher in the Jewish religion

raccoon a small furry North American animal with black marks on its face and a long tail with black rings on it

race a competition in which the competitors try to be the fastest and to finish first; to run in a race, to go quickly

racial segregation the separation of humans into racial groups in daily life

radically completely; the belief that there should be great or extreme social or political change (isl. á róttækan hátt)

raid to enter a place illegally and steal from it

raise to rear, bring up (a chil); to state or bring up (a question)

range a selection or variety; to position or arrange

rapidly quickly

rare not common; very unusual

rarely not often

ratio the amount or proportion of one thing compared to another

raven the largest bird in the crow family, with black feathers

reach to stretch out your arm in order to get or touch something

realize to understand a situation

rebuff to refuse to accept a helpful suggestion or offer from someone, often in an unfriendly way

recently not long ago

recess a hidden place

recite to say a piece of writing aloud from memory

recognize to know someone or something because you have seen, heard or experienced them before

recording the process of putting sounds, especially music, onto records or magnetic tapes

recruit to persuade someone to work for a company or become a new member of an organization, especially the army; a new member of an organization, especially the army

reddish orange a colour between red and yellow closer to red

reed types of tall, stiff plants like grasses growing together in groups near water (isl. reyr)

refer to if writing or information refers to someone or something, it relates to that person or thing

refuse to say that you will not do or accept something

rehearsal a time when all the people involved in a play, dance, etc. practise in order to prepare for a performance

rehearse to practise

reign to rule or to be the king or queen of a country

relationship the way in which two things are connected; friendship or contact between people

relax to make or become less tight or tense or less worried

release to set free

relieved no longer anxious or worried

remind to tell someone that there is something he or she ought to do or remember

remote far away in distance, time or relation; not very friendly or showing little interest in other people

remove to take away

rent to pay or receive money for the use of a room, house, car, television, etc

replacement someone who does a job instead of someone else

reply to answer; an answer

Republican a member of the Republican Party in the US

request when you politely or officially ask for something

rescue to help someone or something out of a dangerous, harmful or unpleasant situation

resentful feeling angry because you have been forced to accept someone or something that you do not like

reservoir usually a man-made lake, where water for drinking is store

residential A residential road, area, etc. has only private houses, not offices and factories

resource the wealth of a country, or the supply of materials which bring this wealth

responsible to have control and authority over something or someone and the duty of taking care of it or them

restless unwilling or unable to stay still or to be quiet and calm, because you are worried or bored

resurrect to bring someone back to life

reveal to make known

review a report in a newspaper, magazine, or programme that gives an opinion about a new book, film, etc

rewrite to write something again

riches wealth

ridiculous very silly and deserved to be laughed at

rigid stiff; not able to be bend

rim the outer edge of something

rinse to use water to clean the soap or dirt from something

riot a very funny or entertaining occasion

roam to walk about without any plan or purpose; to wander

robe a long, loose piece of clothing worn especially on very formal occasions

rocky made of rock

role a part played by an actress or actor in a play; the actions or functions of a person in some activity

Romanian from, belonging to or relating to Romania

roommate a person who you share a room with

rough dangerous or violent; not soft; difficult or unpleasant

roughing it to live a primitive life

rub to move against the surface of something else, pressing at the same time

ruddy red; used to avoid saying bloody to express anger

rueful feeling sorry and wishing that something had not happened

rule a regulation or order; to control, or to be the person in charge of a country

S

sacred holy and deserving respect, especially because of a connection with a god

safe ground not dangerous or likely to cause harm

Sainsbury's a chain of supermarkets

sample a part of something that shows you what the rest is or should be like

sample text a part of a text to show you the quality of the whole

sanctuary a safe place, especially for someone or something being chased or hunted

sand dune a small hill of sand near a beach or in a desert

sarcastically if you say something unpleasant to hurt a person's feeling you are being sarcastic

savant a person with unusual abilities to remember special things

scattered covering a wide area

scholar a person of great knowledge and learning

scholarship money awarded to a student to enable him to go on with further studies

scimitar a sword with a curved blade which is sharp only on its outer edge and which gets wider towards its pointed end

scoff to eat something quickly and eagerly

scorched burnt, or damaged by fire or heat

screen tone a technique for applying textures and shades to drawings

scribble to write or draw something quickly or carelessly

scruffy untidy and dirty

season one of the four periods of the year; spring, summer, autumn or winter; the period when most people take their holidays,

second next after, or following the first in time, place etc., additional or extra

second rate not very good

second best next after the best; not the best

section one of the parts that something is divided into

see somebody off to say goodbye to someone

seem to give the impression of being

self-righteous believing that your ideas and behaviour are morally better than those of other people

senior year the last year

sense to feel or experience something without being able to explain exactly how

sentence structure the way in which a sentence is arranged or organized

servant a person employed in another person's house, doing jobs such as cooking and cleaning

service a job or work; the process of serving customers in a hotel, shop etc.

set to put something in the stated place or position

set the place where a film or play is performed or recorded, and the pictures, furniture, etc. that are used

settle to make an agreement, decide; to go and live somewhere

settlement a place where people come to live or the process of settling in such a place

several more than one or two, but not a great many

severe very serious; extreme

sequel a book or film which continues the story of a previous book or film

shade a type or degree of a colour; slight darkness caused by something blocking the direct light from the sun

shady sheltered from direct light from the sun

shake to move backwards and forwards or up and down in quick, short movements, or to make something or someone do this

shape form, the particular physical form or appearance of something; condition, or state of health

shatter to break in small pieces

sheathe to put a knife back inside its sheath

shed to produce (tears)

shelf a board for laying things on

shell the hard outer covering of something, like nuts, eggs and some animals; to remove from its shell

shield in the past, a large flat object made of metal or leather that soldiers held in front of their bodies to protect themselves, something or someone used as protection

shimmer into existence to appear, pop-up

shocked when someone feels upset or surprised

shoot to film; to fire a bullet or an arrow

shore the land along the edge of a sea or lake

shot an attempt to do something

show to make it possible for something to be seen

show up to arrive somewhere in order to join a group of people, especially late or unexpectedly

shrug to raise your shoulders and then lower them in order to say you do not know or are not interested

shudder to shake suddenly with small movements because of a very unpleasant thought or feeling

shut to close

shut down to close or be closed for a time, or permanently

shyly in a shy way; so no one can see

sight a place of interest, especially to visitors

signify to be a sign of something; to mean

similar looking or being almost the same

similarly in a similar way

simply only; absolutely

since because; as

- site** a place where something is, was, or will be built, or where something happened, is happening, or will happen
- situated** in a particular position or place
- size** how large or small something or someone is
- skeptical** doubting that something is true or useful
- skiing slope** a side of a hill or mountain where you can ski
- skillful** good at doing something
- skilled** having the abilities needed to do an activity or job well
- skyline** a shape or pattern made against the sky, especially by buildings
- skyscraper** a very tall modern building, usually in a city
- sleeve** the part of a piece of clothing that covers some or all of the arm
- sleeveless** a piece of clothing which has no sleeves
- slide** to move smoothly over a surface
- slightly** a little
- sling** to throw or swing
- slip** to slide accidentally; to go somewhere quickly
- slither** to slide or move easily and quickly across a surface while twisting or curving
- slloth** unwillingness to work or make any effort
- slum** a very poor and crowded area, especially of a city
- sly** deceiving people in a clever way in order to get what you want
- smart** having a clean, tidy and stylish appearance
- smarting** causing someone to feel a stinging pain
- smash** to break noisily into a lot of small pieces
- smear** to spread something dirty or oily over a surface
- smolder** to burn slowly with smoke but without flames
- smug** too pleased or satisfied about something you have achieved or something you know
- snap** to say something suddenly in an angry way
- sneak** to go somewhere secretly
- soapsuds** the mass of small bubbles that form on the surface of soapy water
- soccer** football
- social causes** problems in society
- society** a large group of people who live together in an organized way
- sodden** extremely wet
- solid** hard or firm
- solve** to find an answer to a problem
- sore** painful and uncomfortable
- sort of** in some way or to some degree
- soul** the spiritual part of a person
- soul mate** someone who you have a special relationship with, and you know and love very much
- source** the place, person, circumstances or thin from which anything begins or comes
- specialise** to spend most of your time studying one particular subject or doing one type of business
- specific** relating to one thing and not others; particular
- spectacular** very exciting to look at, especially great
- speech** a formal talk
- speed up** to make something happen or move faster
- spell** spoken words which are thought to have magical power, or (the condition of being under) the influence or control of such words
- spell caster** a sort of a magician
- spend** to use time doing something or being somewhere
- spice mix** a mixture of a substances made from plants used to give a special flavour to food
- spirit** a persons mind; energy
- spit** to force out saliva from the mouth; to say or shout words quickly and angrily
- spitoch** a mark or spot
- spoke** any of the rods that join the edge of a wheel to its centre, so giving the wheel its strength
- spoked wheel** a wheel with spokes in it
- sports feature** a sort of a sports programme
- spot** to see or notice someone or something
- spouse** a person's husband or wife
- spring rolls** a Chinese pancake which is rolled up, filled with pieces of vegetables or meat and fried
- springtime** the season of spring
- squat** to sit down on the heels (isl. sitja á hækjum sér)
- staff** the people who work for an organization; stick
- stairwell** a long vertical passage through a building around which a set of stairs is built
- stand back** to move a short distance away from something or someone
- stare** to look for a long time with the eyes wide open
- starring** if someone stars in a film, play, etc., they are the main actor in it
- startled** to give a shock or surprise to
- Statue of Liberty** a large statue of a woman holding a lighted torch above her head in New York City
- steadying** to make someone calm and controlled
- stern** harsh, severe or strict
- stick out like a sore thumb** to be very obvious, easy to see
- sticker** a small piece of paper or plastic with a picture or text on it and can be glued on a surface
- sticky** made of or covered with a substance that stays fixed to any surface it touches; very hot and the air feels wet
- still** continuing to happen
- stir** to mix a liquid or other substance; to make movement
- stock exchange** a place where parts of the ownership of companies are bought and sold
- stock phrase** words or a phrase often used by a person or group
- stolid** calm
- stomach ache** pain in your stomach
- stomp** to walk with intentionally heavy steps,
- stormproof** providing protection against wind
- straight** not curving; honest; not homosexual
- straightaway** without pausing or delaying
- strand** a hair
- strictly** in a way that would bring severe punishment if not obeyed
- stride** to walk somewhere quickly with long steps
- string** to put a string or strings on
- stroll** to walk in a slow relaxed manner
- struggle** to make great efforts or try hard
- stubby** short and thick
- stubble** the short hair which grows on a man's face if he has not cut it for a few days
- stunning** extremely beautiful or attractive
- stunt** an exciting action, usually in a film
- stunted** prevented from growing or developing to the usual extent (isl. dvergvaxinn)
- stupidity** the state of being foolish or slow at understanding
- sturdy** physically strong and solid or thick
- subject** the thing which is being discussed, considered or studied
- subtropical** parts of the world that are immediately south or north of the tropics (= the hottest areas) and have very hot weather at some times of the year
- suburb** an area on the edge of a large town or city
- suburban** relating to a suburb
- subway** a railway system below ground
- succeed** to achieve something
- sudden** happening quickly and without warning

suit a jacket and trousers or a jacket and skirt that are made from the same material

summarise to express the most important facts or ideas about something in a short and clear form

summon to order someone to come to a particular place, or to arrange a meeting of people

Superbowl the championship game in the professional American football in USA

supernatural caused by forces that cannot be explained by science

supply to provide something that is wanted or needed

supportive showing agreement and giving encouragement

supposed to do to have to; to have a duty or a responsibility to

surge to move quickly and powerfully

surgeon a doctor who is specially trained to perform medical operations

surprise to make someone feel surprise (because they are not expecting it)

surround to be everywhere around something

surrounding lying or being all round

survive to continue to live or exist

suspension bridge a bridge which is supported by strong steel ropes hung from a tower at each end of the bridge

suspicious making you feel that something illegal is happening or that something is wrong

suspiciously in a way that makes you think that something is wrong

swallow to allow food, drink, pills, etc. to move from your mouth into your stomach

sway to move slowly from side to side

sweat the salty colourless liquid that you pass through your skin; to work hard; to pass a salty colourless liquid through the skin

swimming baths a public swimming pool

swirl to (cause to) move quickly with a twisting circular movement

syllable a word or a part of a word

syrup a very sweet, thick, liquid made by dissolving sugar in water

T

tacky of cheap quality or in bad style

take action to do something

take care of to look after someone or something

take for granted to believe something to be the truth without even thinking about it

take place to happen

tale a story

talent a natural ability to be good at something

talented with talent; able or skilful

tan when your skin is brown from being in the sun; to become brown, to sunbathe

tap a device that controls the flow of liquid, especially water, from a pipe

target a level or situation which you intend to achieve

taste a small amount of food, the flavour of something; to find out what flavour food has

tatty old and in bad condition

tear to pull apart

tear down to intentionally destroy a building or other structure

tell to say something to someone

tend to be likely to behave in a particular way or have a particular characteristic

tendrill a thin, stem-like part of a climbing plant which holds on to walls or other plants for support

tension the state of being stretched, or the degree to which something is stretched

text message sms

texture the quality of something that can be decided by touch

thankfully used to show you are pleased or grateful about something

that's about it that is all

the bottom the end

the four cardinal points the four main points of the compass: north, south, east and west

The Magic Eight Ball a glass ball used for fortune-telling or seeking advice

therefore for that reason

though but, despite the fact that

threat a suggestion that something unpleasant or violent will happen

threaten to tell someone that you will hurt them if they do not do what you want

thrill a feeling of extreme excitement

through from one end or side of something to the other

thrust to push suddenly and strongly; shaking

tint a small amount of a colour or dye

tiny extremely small

tiptoe to walk on the toes

to some degree partly

toad a small brownish green animal, similar to a frog

tonal relating to the quality of sound of a musical instrument or singing voice

tongue the soft piece of flesh in the mouth which you can move use for tasting, speaking, etc; a language

tons of a lot of

toothpaste foam a mass of very small bubbles that are created when you clean your teeth with a toothbrush and a special cream

topic a subject which is discussed, written about or studied

tower to be very tall or large; to rise

toxic poisonous

trace back to to discover the cause or origin of something by examining the way in which it has developed

track a mark on the ground made by an animal, person or vehicle, a path made of soil

tracker a person who is able to find animals or people by following the marks they leave on the ground

trademark a name or a symbol which is put on a product to show that it is made by a particular producer and which cannot be legally used by any other producer

train of thought a series of connected thoughts

training session a period of time or meeting arranged for training

trample to step heavily on something or someone

transfer to move someone or something from one place to another

transformation a complete change in the appearance or character

transit the movement of goods or people from one place to another, especially on a local public transportation system

trap a device or hole for catching animals or people and preventing their escape; to catch

trapped unable to move or escape from a place or situation

treasure very valuable things, often money, gold or jewels

treat to behave towards someone or deal with something in a particular way; to give medical care

trek to walk a long distance; a long walk over land such as mountains or forests

tribe a group of people who live together, sharing the same language, culture and history, especially those who do not live in towns or cities

trickle a small amount of liquid which is flowing slowly in a thin line

trigger to cause something bad to start

trip a journey

trophy a prize, such as a gold or silver cup, which is given to the winner of a competition or race

trot to walk in a slow or lazy speed, waddle (isl. kjaga, lalla)

troublemaker someone who intentionally causes problems for other people

truly really existing; in fact
tuck to push a loose end of a piece of clothing into a particular position to make it tidy or comfortable
turn to (cause to) move in a circle round a fixed point or line
turn against to start not to like or agree with someone or something
turn into to change and become someone or something different
turn out to happen in a particular way or to have a particular result
twice two times
twitch (to cause) to make a sudden small movement with a part of the body
tie together to fasten together
type to write (on a computer keyboard)

U

umbilical cord the long tube which connects a baby to its mother during pregnancy
UN-building the house where the United Nations are located
unbelievable extremely surprising
undecided not yet made a decision or judgment about something
under the weather to be or feel ill
unemployed without work
unfair not treating people in an equal way, or not morally right
unfinished not ended or completed
unfit not suitable or healthy; not fit
unfold to open or spread out something that has been folded
unforgettable an experience with such a strong effect that you cannot forget it
unfortunately used to say that something is sad, disappointing or has a bad effect
universal existing everywhere or involving everyone
unless except if
unlike different from
unlimited not limited
untamed wild, not tamed
untidy not tidy
unusual different from others of the same type, not usual
up until until, up to (the time that)
update to make something more suitable for use now by adding new information or changing its design
upset to make someone worried, unhappy or angry
upturned pointing or looking up
usually in the way that most often happens

V

valley's floor a long valley
values the beliefs people have about what is right and wrong and what is most important in life, which control their behaviour
varnish a liquid which is painted onto wood or paintings to protect the surface
vast extremely big
vegan a person who does not eat or use any animal products, such as meat, fish, eggs, cheese or leather
vein a tube that carries blood to the heart from the other parts of the body
very used to describe or emphasize the furthest point of something
victim someone who has been hurt or received ill-treatment
view what you can see from a particular place
violent using force to hurt or attack
visible able to be seen
visit to go to see a person or a place
vivid lively; active
vote to express your choice or opinion, in writing a mark or by raising your hand
voyage a long journey, especially by ship
vulnerable to be easily physically, emotionally, or mentally hurt, influenced or attacked

W

wage a regular sum of money one gets for the work that one does
walkway a passage or path, especially one which is covered or raised above the ground
walnut a nut with a slightly bitter taste and a series of folds in it and a hard shell
wand a stick waved by a person who is performing magic tricks
ward off to prevent something unpleasant from harming or coming close to you
warily with caution
warrior a soldier, with skill in fighting, especially in the past
watch out used to warn someone of danger or an accident
waste an unnecessary or wrong use of money, substances, time or energy
watchful paying careful attention
way of life lifestyle
wealthy rich
wear to have clothing, jewellery, etc. on your body
wear off if something wears off, it gradually disappears

weirdo a strange person
Welsh a person from Wales
westerner someone who is from a country in North America or western Europe
what the heck used to say that you will do something although you know you should not do it
wheat a type of grain from which flour is obtained
while a length of time
whirl to turn around in circles
whoever any person or people that
wide having a large distance from one side to the other
wilderness a desert or a wild area of a country
wildlife animals and plants that grow independently of people, usually in natural conditions
wildlife sanctuary a safe place for animals being chased or hunted
win to achieve first position and/or get a prize in a competition; victory
winding wrapping around
wink to close one eye for a short time as a way of greeting someone or showing friendliness
wipe to clean or dry by rubbing with a cloth or paper
wisp a small, thin line of something
wistful sad and thinking about something that is impossible or in the past
witchcraft the activity of performing magic to help or harm other people
with hook, line and sinker to completely believe something that someone tells you which is not true
wizard a man who is believed to have magical powers
wizardry the skill of a wizard
wood-frame a border made of wood which surrounds a picture, door or window
woofa homosexual
worship to have or show a strong feeling of respect and admiration for
wound a damaged area of the body, such as a cut or hole in the skin or flesh
woven past participle of weave
wrath extreme anger

Y

yet still; until the present time
yew an evergreen tree with dark leaves like needles and small red berries (Ísl. ýviður, ýr)

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