

**МИНИСТЕРСТВО НАУКИ И ВЫСШЕГО ОБРАЗОВАНИЯ
РОССИЙСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАЦИИ**

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**АНГЛИЙСКИЙ ЯЗЫК.
СБОРНИК ТЕКСТОВ И ЗАДАНИЙ ПО
ДИСЦИПЛИНЕ
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Учебно-методическое пособие предназначено для студентов первого и второго курсов очной формы обучения, обучающихся по направлению подготовки 45.03.01 «Филология» (профиль «Зарубежная филология»).

В настоящем учебно-методическом пособии представлены адаптированные тексты и практические задания по курсу «Практикум по основному языку (английский)». Учебно-методическое пособие включает адаптированные тексты, а также задания для устной и письменной работы.

Авторы подчеркивают значимость самостоятельной и практической работы студентов, наряду с освоением теоретического содержания курса. Особенностью данного учебно-методического пособия является подбор учебно-аутентичного современного материала, наличие глоссария, а также вопросов для дискуссий и анализа текстов. Это, с одной стороны, позволяет усовершенствовать словарный запас студентов, с другой стороны развивает их коммуникативные навыки.

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STREET STYLE

How to find the style that suits you.

Glossary:

casual *adj* “casual” clothes are ones you normally wear at home or while on holiday

smart *adj* clothes that are neat and clean in appearance

words of wisdom *exp*
clever/intelligent thoughts and words

witty *adj* someone who is “witty” can say clever/intelligent things very quickly

charisma *n* someone who has “charisma” can attract, influence and inspire people

a charity shop *n* a shop that sells second-hand goods. The money is used to fund charities

a label *n* clothing produced by a top fashion company

a deal *n* a bargain, something that is good value for money

to hunt around *phr vb* to look for something carefully and in number of places

buried treasure *exp* metaphorically great clothes that are very cheap (in this case)

to judge yourself by your own yardstick *exp* to form an opinion about yourself without comparing yourself to others

commercial *adj* a “commercial” product is one that is made in order to be sold to the public

to catch your eye *exp* if something “catches your eye”, you notice it

to suit *vb* if something “suits” you, it looks good on you

a clone *n* an exact copy/replica of something

How would you describe your style? Formal? **Casual**? **Smart**? Find out how you can discover your very own style.

First of all, what is style? Let’s hear a few **words of wisdom** from the wise and **witty**. “Style is knowing who you are and what you want to say,” (Gore Vidal); “Style is an expression of individualism mixed with **charisma**,” (John Fairchild); “Style is the perfection of a point of view,” (Robert Eberhart); “Style is a simple way of saying complicated things,” (Jean Cocteau); “Style is the dress of thoughts,” (Lord Chesterfield).

So, now you know what style is, you'll need to buy some clothes. But where? In the UK, you can get really cheap, stylish, second-hand clothes at **charity shops**. They're great if you want exclusive **labels** but don't want to pay the price. The only difficulty is discovering where the really good bargains are. But don't worry, Leila Gray can help you here. She's proud owner of a vintage Hardy Amies coat, picked up at a charity shop for £20 – a good **deal** when you realise it cost more than £800 new. “You have to go to the richer areas of a city,” she says. “That's where all the labels are. It can take a bit of **hunting around**, but that's half the fun, and there's a lot of **buried treasure** just waiting to be discovered.”

So, now you know where to buy your new, stylish clothes, how do you acquire your style? Experts say that mixing and matching from charity shops can help you find your own style – something that's really you. That's what Scottish musician Momus did. “My fashion tip is this,” he says, “look at yourself with the eye of a graphic designer. If you can't be attractive, aim for ‘interesting’ or ‘original.’” Momus' unique style could even make him happier, too. As psychologist Marilyn Elias explains, the happiest people “**judge themselves by their own yardsticks**, never against what others do or have.”

Shoichi Aoki, the founder of Japanese street style magazine FRUiTS, agrees. “I think real fashion is what people wear on the streets, the clothes that they wear, the way that they wear them,” he says. “What you see in fashion magazines and on models has been styled and it's more **commercial**.” He says that his inspiration for FRUiTS came from people combining traditional Japanese clothing such as the kimono and “geta” (Japanese wooden clogs) with Western fashion. “These really **caught my eye**,” Aoki adds. These styles may seem wild, but Aoki's idea is not: be bold, be creative and find something that **suits** you.

Maybe it's time to create your own look. There are many online guides to help you. Perhaps the best advice comes from a website called wikiHow, “If you see something you like,” it says, “feel free to copy, but don't make yourself a **clone**... mix it up and make it yours.” Think about it!

Exercises:

1. Reading I

Read the article once. What advice does the writer give for discovering your own style?

2. Reading II

Read the article again. True or false?

1. You can get cheap clothes in charity shops.
2. Leila Gray paid £800 for a second-hand jacket.
3. The best areas to look for bargains are in the rich areas of a city.
4. Experts say it's good to stick to one style.
5. Momus says that it's good to try to be like everyone else.
6. Shoichi Aoki was inspired by people combining western and Japanese styles.

3. Language focus *Adjectives*

Look at this extract from the article, "So, now you know where to buy your new, stylish clothes..." The writer has used a number of adjectives ("new/stylish"). Complete the sentences with clothes adjectives with your own ideas.

1. I've got a new, trendy _____.
2. I've got a really thick _____ that's great for the winter.
3. I've got a light _____ that's perfect for hot days.
4. I've got a really warm _____ that I always wear when it's cold.
5. I've got a really cool _____ that I always wear to parties.

4. Discussion

1. How would you describe your style?
2. What kind of clothes do stylish people wear in your country?
3. If you had €1,000 to spend on clothes today, where would you go shopping?
What would you buy?

PLASTIC OBSESSION

Trying to live without plastic bags.

Glossary:

to drop *vb* to fall, to decrease

to cut back *phr vb* to reduce

a cottage industry *n* a small factory/production process at a home by family members using their own equipment

a local *n* a person from the area you are referring to

a nuisance *n* something that is an obstruction or that is annoying/harmful, etc.

a sewage system *n* the system that carries dirty water through pipes/tubes, etc, from houses to a processing plant

to decompose *vb* if an object “decomposes”, it changes chemically and begins to disappear

a landfill site *n* an area where rubbish is taken to be put in the ground

an incinerator *n* a large fire for burning waste

a threat *n* a danger

to mistake A for B *exp* if you “mistake A for B”, you think that A is B

jellyfish *n* a transparent animal with poisonous tentacles that lives in the sea

to choke *vb* if you “choke” on something, something blocks your throat and you cannot breathe properly

an obstacle *n* something that stops you doing what you want to do

a levy *n* a small sum of money that you pay as form of tax (money to the government)

revenue *n* money that is received

How many plastic bags do you use a week? Every year, millions and millions of them are produced, and they’re a danger to the environment. But how can we reduce our dependence on the plastic bag?

The good news is that plastic bag use in the UK has **dropped**. It has gone from 13.4 billion in 2007 to 9.9 billion in 2008 – a reduction of 26 per cent, or 3.5 billion bags. However, the bad news is that we’re still using 10 billion bags a year. Many supermarkets are trying to help us **cut back**. They’re now charging for

plastic bags and asking shoppers to come with shopping trolley bags or re-usable bags. But even if this figure is reduced to 4.5 billion bags a year, that's still a lot of bags.

The big problem is that plastic bags are a danger to the environment. Plastic can be found everywhere across the planet from Spitsbergen at latitude 78 degrees North, to the Falkland Islands at 51 degrees South. In fact, there are so many plastic bags in some parts of Africa that a **cottage industry** has started with **locals** using them to make hats. But in other countries they are major **nuisance**, especially when they block **sewage systems**.

The main problem is that bags just won't disappear. Some argue that the bags take 1,000 years to **decompose** (although this is debatable). Whatever the figure, enormous numbers end up in **landfill sites** or **incinerators**; but billions get into the environment, especially the marine environment, where they are a terrible **threat** to marine life. Sea turtles **mistake them for jellyfish** and **choke** on them; albatrosses mistake them for squid and die a similar death; even dolphins have been found dead with plastic bags blocking their blowholes.

So, will the world become plastic bag free one day? It is possible. "The biggest **obstacle** is the consumer," explained Jane Hargreaves, an environmental expert. "We have to start using reusable shopping bags." The government is planning to introduce a plastic bag tax. In Ireland, they did this in 2002, imposing a **levy** of €0.22 (the PlasTax) on all plastic bags – the first of its kind in the world. This caused a reduction in use of 90 percent, from 1.2 billion bags a year to fewer than 200,000 – with the **revenue** from the tax used for environmental clean-up schemes.

So, are you going to stop using so many plastic bags?

Exercises:

1. Reading I

Read the article once. What type of bags do they talk about? What do they say about them?

2. Reading II

Read the article again. What do the numbers refer to?

1. 13.4 billion.
2. 10 billion bags.

3. 51 degrees South.
4. 1,000 years.
5. €0.22
6. 1.2 billion bags.

3. Language focus “Take”

Look at this extract from the article, “*Some argue that the bags take 1,000 years to decompose...*” We can use “take” to say how long something lasts. For example, “It takes me 20 minutes to get to work.” Answer the questions using “take”.

1. How long does it take you to get dressed in the morning? It takes me...
2. How long does it take you to have breakfast?
3. How long does it take you to get to work?

4. Discussion

1. Do you use many plastic bags in a typical week? How many?
2. Will you try to reduce the number of plastic bags you use? How?
3. What will you use instead of plastic bags?

FOOD REVOLUTION

What's so good about British food?

By Simon Thomas

Glossary:

fine dining *n* eating top quality food at top quality restaurants

a diner *n* a person who eats in a restaurant

a concoction *n* an item of food that has been created from several different items of food

to stock *vb* if a shop “stocks” something, it sells that thing

a butcher *n* a person whose job consists of selling/cutting meat in a shop

to fall down *phr vb* to fail; not to be successful

to blow your own trumpet *exp* to tell everyone how wonderful/amazing/fantastic, etc. you are

to give yourself credit for something *exp* to praise yourself (say good things about yourself) for something good that you have done

mad *adj* crazy/insane

wouldn't sell a thing *exp* wouldn't sell a thing

a mainstream dish *n* food that is typical/common from the place you are referring to

to shout about something *exp* to tell everyone how marvellous/good/ wonderful, etc. something is

and the like *exp* and things such as that.

There's a revolution going on in British cooking. The San Pellegrino list (a list of the 50 best restaurants in the world) puts an old British pub, The Fat Duck, at number 2. And the Michelin guide, *the* authority on **fine dining**, gives more stars to London restaurants than anywhere else outside France. What's happening?

For a start, British chefs have a high level of creativity. Heston Blumenthal, the head chef and owner of The Fat Duck, has an amazing menu. His **diners** can try truly unusual **concoctions** such as snail porridge (oats and milk mixed with cooked snails) or bacon and egg ice cream. It sounds strange, but Blumenthal has won many awards for his cooking. In 2005, the magazine *Restaurant* said The Fat

Duck was the best restaurant in the world, and it was voted Best Restaurant in the UK in 2008 and 2009, scoring a maximum 10 out of 10 in the *Good Food Guide*.

British supermarkets are also **stocking** great new food. At Tesco's, you can find exotic food such as dragon fruit from China or emu meat from Australia along with traditional British beef or apples. Another British supermarket, Waitrose, sells organic produce (fresh food grown without help from artificial chemicals). A lot of British produce is now considered world-class. William Nelson, one of England's top **butchers**, says that British beef is the best in the world. "Europeans don't believe in good-tasting beef," he says. The taste comes from the sweetness of the fat and the Europeans grow protein on bones, not beef." Meanwhile, the cheese-maker Tom Calver says that British cheese can be as good as French or Italian varieties. "Where we **fall down** is that we don't **blow our own trumpet**," he says. "We don't **give ourselves** enough **credit** about what we actually produce."

Some British producers are even starting to sell their food in other countries. Guy Tullberg sells traditional English sauces through his family business. "We've done the *Slow Food Festival* in Turin for three years and everyone said we were mad – that we **wouldn't sell a thing**. But every year we come back with £6,000 to £7,000".

And Vito Catello, an Italian immigrant who grew up in Britain, has tried something even more challenging. Earlier this year, he opened a restaurant in Bologna selling English food to Italian customers. "When you look even at the **mainstream dishes** in Britain such as fish and chips they're delicious," he explains. "But people aren't promoting it enough. That's what I'm doing. I'm shouting about them. I'm **shouting about** Lincolnshire sausages and **the like** because they're great British products." And all this shouting seems to be working. People in Bologna are so proud of their food that some way they won't even eat in the next town, but Catello's *Passion* restaurant is fully booked every night.

Maybe it's time to give British food another go.

Exercises:

1. Reading

Read the article and complete the sentences.

1. The Fat Duck offers diners unusual concoctions such as...
2. British supermarkets are stocking great new food such as...
3. British cheese makers don't tend to...
4. Some British producers are starting to...
5. Vito Catello has opened...
6. Although people in Bologna are proud of their food, the restaurant is...

2. Language focus “Comparisons”:

Look at this extract from the article, “*British cheese can be as good as French or Italian varieties...*” The writer has made a comparison with as...as”. Use the words below to make similar comparisons. Use negative forms if necessary.

1. Film/boring/the other one.
2. This book/interesting/the other one.
3. Tired/you.
4. Writing on the computer/complicated/writing by hand.
5. Shopping online/time-consuming/shopping in shops.

3. Discussion

1. What comes to mind when you think of British food?
2. What's your opinion of British food? What is it based on?
3. What British food have you tried? What did you think of it?

IS THIS THE END OF THE BOOK?

Glossary:

an owner *n* a person who possesses something

light *adj* not heavy; that doesn't weigh very much

a paperback *n* a book with a thin, flexible cover

a market researcher *n* someone who collects and analyses data / information about the market

to disturb *vb* if you "disturb" someone, you do something that annoys / irritates/ interferes with them

an advantage *n* something positive / good / beneficial

a device *n* an electrical appliance that does a job

luggage *n* bags you take with you when you travel

a search function *n* an application on a machine that allows you to look for things

a font *n* a set of letters / numbers / characters of the same size, shape, type

poor eyesight *n* if someone has a "poor eyesight" they can't see very well

renewable energy *n* a form of energy that can be used again and again (wind, solar, etc.)

availability *n* if something is "available" you can find / buy / use it

a complaint *n* if somebody makes a "complaint" about something, they explain why they aren't happy about that thing.

a delay *n* if there is a "delay", something doesn't happen as quickly as you expected.

to flick *vb* if you "flick" between the pages in a book, you turn those pages quick

Have you got an eReader? Are you thinking of getting one? We asked some eReader owners to give us their opinions.

"There are many things that people like about eReaders: eReaders are really **light**, weighing less than most **paperbacks**," said Nathan Jones, a **market researcher**. "You can hold the book and turn the pages with one hand. An eReader is definitely more comfortable to read in bed or if you're lying on a sofa, plus mine's got a light so I can read in bed at night without **disturbing** my partner". Another big **advantage** is that you can store hundreds of books on them. "eReaders are perfect for travel," said Kiera Smith. "You can have lots of books in

one **device**, instead of carrying loads of books in your **luggage**". The **search functions** are also popular. "You can look for a character by their name or for a place just by typing in the word. That's really useful," said Megan Malone, a sales executive.

One user liked the function for increasing **font** size. "I've got **poor eyesight**," explained Harvey Callaghan, an engineer. "But the eReader is perfect for me as I can increase the font size". And Jennifer Saunders said, "I like eReaders because they're ecological. If we buy an ebook, we're helping to save trees as they don't use paper. Also, my eReader is solar-powered, so it only uses **renewable energy**". Best of all is the **availability** of hundreds of free books online. "*Project Gutenberg*¹ has millions of titles and they're all free to download," said another user.

One of the biggest **complaints** is that you can't find certain titles. "Many books are simply not available in electronic form," said Daisy Madison, an estate agent. If you want a specific book, one that is older, perhaps, or not a bestseller, it won't be available — at least, that was my experience".

Others complained about the small **delay** in turning pages. "The gap between pressing the «next page» button and the screen showing the page is really annoying," said Joel Bray, a shop assistant. "Also, you can't **flick** between pages so easily!"

So, what do you think?

Exercises:

1. What do you think the advantages and disadvantages of an eReader are?
2. Write a summary of the advantages and disadvantages mentioned in the article.
3. Look at this extract from the article: «... **we're helping** to save trees as they don't use paper». Which grammatical tense is used in the extract?

Transform the following sentences in the same way:

- a) I run in the park.
- b) She works from home.

¹ Project Gutenberg (often abbreviated to PG) is an archive of e-books. It was founded in 1971 by Michael Hart. It is the oldest digital library. Titles in their top 100 most popular e-books include Alice's Adventures in Wonderland (by Lewis Carroll), The Adventures of Sherlock Holmes (by Sir Arthur Conan Doyle), Ulysses (by James Joyce) and Frankenstein (by Mary Shelley). They're all free. As Michael Hart said in 2004, "The mission of Project Gutenberg is simple: To encourage the creation and distribution of ebooks".

- c) They travel by train.
- d) We don't watch television.

Discussion. Answer the following questions:

1. What do you think of eReaders? Would you buy one? Why? Why not?
2. What do you like / dislike about reading paper books?
3. Where / What / When do you like to read?

TECHOPHOBIA

Dear Max. Please help. I live in Germany with my wife and three kids. My parents live in the UK. I want my kids to have as much contact with their grandparents as possible. The kids all use e-mail, Skype and SMS but my parents won't. I've bought them a laptop, paid for broadband, given them both mobile phones and a digital camera, but they won't use them. My parents say they hate computers and new technology. My kids call them "The Technophobes". What can I do?

Daniel, Nuremburg, Germany

You should give them a copy of the film Witness, starring Harrison Ford. The film shows the life of the Amish people, who are genuine technophobes. The Amish are a Christian people of Swiss-German origin who live in the US states of Ohio, Pennsylvania, and Indiana. They live simple lives and do not usually use many types of modern technology like cars, telephones, and electricity.

Corey, New York, USA

Actually, Corey, the original technophobes were the Luddites, a group of cloth workers in 19th century Britain during the Industrial Revolution. The Luddite cloth workers, who traditionally made cloth by hand, were worried that machines were going to take away their jobs and way of life. These machines were mechanised looms which could make cloth much faster and cheaper than humans. In 1811 and 1812 the Luddites attacked and destroyed the machines that they hated so much, but the British government supported the factory owners. Many Luddites were arrested and executed. Charlotte Brontes novel Shirley will tell your parents all about it.

Laura, Valencia, Spain

There is a more serious side to this. Technophobes can be divided into two groups, those who hate technology because they can't use it, and those who are afraid of the effects of technology on the modern world. This second group of technophobes have some important points to make. For example, when atomic bombs were used to end the Second World War, many people were worried about the future of the world now that the human race had the power to destroy it. This led to the beginnings of environmentalism and campaigns against lead in petrol and the role of technology in the destruction of the ozone layer. Perhaps your parents are sensible.

Joe, Edinburgh, Scotland

You're not alone, Daniel. There are millions of technophobes out there. A recent survey in the UK found that 23% of the adult population in the UK are technophobes. Of that group 54% are men and 46% women. 55% are over 55 years old.

Rex, Oxford, UK

Joe makes some interesting points, I think. Technophobia has been a common theme in literature, especially science fiction. Frankenstein, one of the first sci-fi novels, is a warning of what could happen if humans begin to experiment with human life. The films Bladerunner, Terminator and Matrix also deal with this.

Freda, Copenhagen, Denmark

One thing you could try is to find hardware that is designed for older people to use. An example are the mobiles made by the US company Jitterbug. Instead of icons and menus the Jitterbug phones ask users simple "yes/no" questions and have larger keypads. The company realised that there are potentially 100 million older users in the US alone and that designing technology for them to use was a good business idea.

Graham, Patras, Greece

Buy them a copy of the Technophobes' latest album. They're a guitar synth band from Glasgow and are brilliant.

Exercises:

1. Read the first paragraph - the "Dear Max" e-mail from Daniel in Nuremburg. What advice would you give?
2. Read the article and answer the questions.
 - 1) What's the connection between the Amish and technology?
 - 2) What were the Luddites worried about?
 - 3) What happened to some of Luddites?
 - 4) According to Joe from Edinburgh, what are the two types of technophobes?
 - 5) What percentage of the UK population are technophobes?
 - 6) What is the novel Frankenstein a warning of?
 - 7) Why are the mobiles made by Jitterbug good for older people?

OFFICE CRIME

Look at the list of items that are frequently stolen in offices. Which ones do you think are most likely to be stolen? Who is the thief most likely to be in each case?

- | | |
|------------------|------------------|
| 1) paper clips | 8) mobile phones |
| 2) pens | 9) handbags |
| 3) post-it notes | 10) paintings |
| 4) biscuits | 11) wallets |
| 5) pencils | 12) laptops |
| 6) sandwiches | 13) plants |
| 7) coffee | 14) stools |

Read the article to check your ideas.

Theft in the workplace is a major problem for many companies. Surveys suggest that 58% of office workers have taken office supplies for their personal use. The most commonly stolen items are pens/pencils (78% admit to this), followed by "post-it" notes (44%) and paper clips (40%). And that's not all. Figures also suggest that 2% are helping themselves to decorative items such as plants, paintings and office furniture, including stools, chairs and even shelves! But companies aren't the only victims.

Research shows that it's the employee rather than the employer who is most likely to be the victim of a theft in the work place. A 2004 report on workplace theft among public sector workers such as nurses, teachers and fire service personnel, estimated that the average worker was losing £244 a year, which amounted to £96m over the previous three years. Just picture the situation. After a busy morning, you go to make yourself a cup of coffee. You're looking forward to a couple of the chocolate biscuits you bought the day before and left in a cupboard in the office kitchen. You put on the kettle and open the fridge to get your low-fat milk out. But it's not there. Neither are your biscuits! Who is taking your things?

Clearly the office provides fertile territory for any would-be thief. And it does so for a very basic reason: most of us would never dream of suspecting a colleague of theft and, therefore, take very few precautions to protect our possessions at work. Indeed, last year life assistance company CPP Group reported that 70% of us believe we can trust our work colleagues absolutely. As a result, mobiles are often left lying on desks, handbags under chairs and wallets in suit jackets while we attend meetings, make phone calls, write e-mails and do all the other hundreds of activities that make up office life.

However, when it comes to major theft, it's perhaps reassuring to learn that we are probably right to trust our colleagues. Most offices are open to outside contractors and, alarmingly, people who pose as outside contractors. There was a case at a media agency in London just recently when a group of men came in with clipboards purporting to check the fire extinguishers. Within seconds they had stolen a handbag, two wallets and six laptops. "It's easy for someone with a clipboard, a work order and enough chutzpah to access any number of locations," explains Shabazz Nelson, the director of training at Panther Security. "There are opportunists and gangs who will exploit a system, even if you have security." Nelson advises that wherever you are, you should make sure that your property is secure. "All personal items should be kept on your person at all times. Handbags should be touching your feet and wallets must be in sight on the desk. Above all, laptops should be locked away or hidden when they aren't being used.

This is obviously good advice, but what should you do if you suspect a colleague is stealing? Ben Willmott, employee relations adviser at the Chartered Institute of Personnel and Development, suggests, "With smaller things like bananas and biscuits, it's unacceptable and can lead to resentment. The thing is to look at the evidence. If you know who it is, have a quiet word in their ear. Keep it

light-hearted, but tell them that if it continues you will raise it with a manager. If it's more serious things such as money, you need good evidence that an individual is responsible as there will be a disciplinary procedure, and the company would need to launch an investigation,' he says.

So, thieves, be warned! Biscuit rustling, milk hi-jacking and sandwich robbery will no longer be tolerated!

Exercises:

1. Read the article and answer the questions.
 - 1) What percentage of people in the survey admit to having stolen post-it notes?
 - 2) Who is most likely to be the victim of a theft in the work place?
 - 3) Why is the office the perfect place for an internal would-be thief?
 - 4) What were the group of men who entered the media agency office pretending to be?
 - 5) What advice does Shabazz Nelson give?
 - 6) What does Ben Willmott say you should do if you suspect a colleague is stealing from you?

JOURNALISTS ARE IN TROUBLE

Who guards the guardians?

How often do you read a newspaper? About 10 million people read one every day in the UK. The most popular newspapers are the tabloids, which are full of celebrity news and gossip. But where do the journalists for these papers get their stories?

Simple! Some have been breaking the law! They've been doing this by hacking into people's mobile phones and stealing private information. Police found out about this back in 2005. At the time, reporters working on The News of The World (owned by media magnate Rupert Murdoch) were accused of hacking the phones of members of the royal family and other famous people.

But it soon became clear that other celebrities were also victims. They include author J.K. Rowling, actor Hugh Grant and actress Sienna Miller. As a result of the scandal, Murdoch was forced to close down The News of The World,

and David Cameron (the British Prime Minister) announced that there would be an inquiry into the press.

Lord Justice Leveson (a leading English judge) was appointed to lead the inquiry. On opening the first session (on 14th November 2011) Leveson said, "The press provides an essential check on all aspects of public life. That's why any failure within the media affects all of us. At the heart of this inquiry, therefore, may be one simple question: who guards the guardians?" The inquiry is focusing on three major areas: The relationship between the press and

1. ...the public.
2. ...the police.
3. ...politicians.

The big question is, what changes are going to be made as a result of the inquiry? Defenders of freedom of the press are worried that journalists won't be allowed to investigate freely, and that new laws will be introduced to limit what they can and can't do. At present, journalists often use undercover techniques to get a story, especially if it's in the public interest.

These techniques include making secret recordings and deception, such as posing as someone in order to gain entry into an organisation. For example, in 1887, reporter Elizabeth Cochran (1864-1922) pretended to be insane so she could get checked into a mental institution. Her report on the institution, which was published in the form of a book called *Ten Days in a Mad-House*, led to changes in the treatment of mental patients.

And in 2011, journalists secretly recorded FIFA members offering to sell their votes to host the 7 World Cup. As a result, they uncovered a serious case of corruption.

Will actions such as these now be prohibited? We'll have to wait and see!

Exercises:

1. Read the article and answer the questions:
 - 1) How many people read a newspaper every day in the UK?
 - 2) When did police find out about the phone hacking scandal?
 - 3) Which newspaper was closed down as a result of the scandal?
 - 4) Who was appointed to lead the inquiry into the press?

What was Elizabeth Cochran investigating?

2. Look at the extract from the article on this page: "...journalists **won't be allowed...**". Characterize grammatical structure used in the extract.

Transform the following sentences the same way.

- 1) They will send it tomorrow.
- 2) We will translate it next week.
- 3) He will call you next month.
- 4) She will fix it as soon as possible.

Discussion:

1. What are some of the most popular newspapers in your country?
2. Which newspapers do you read? Why?

ALL THE RAGE
Forms of anger while travelling.

By Sam Gordon

Glossary:

beeping horns *n* horn is an object in a car that beeps" (makes a noise) when you press it

a gesture *n* a movement you make with your hands or another part of your body

to tailgate *vb* If someone is "tailgating" you, they are driving very close behind you

to cut someone off *vb* If a driver cuts you off: they drive in front of your car suddenly

a punch – up *n* a physical fight often involving punching (hitting with a closed fist)

to ram *vb* if "A" tries to-ram "B" off the road, "A" uses their car to push "B" off the road

to refuse *vb* to say that you won't do something

crew members *n* people who work on a plane/ship (stewards, stewardesses, etc)

to lose your temper *vb* to become angry quickly and suddenly

to burst into tears *exp* to start crying suddenly and a lot

susceptible to *exp* If someone is susceptible to something, they are

easily influenced or affected by that thing

a tantrum *n* if someone has a - tantrum; they get angry very suddenly, often because they can't have what they want

a commuter *n* a person who travels to and from work on a regular basis

utterly ruthless *exp* with no thought / sympathy / pity / consideration for other people

dog-eat-dog *exp* “dog-eat-dog-people” are very competitive and ruthless

an outburst of anger *exp* if there is an outburst of anger, someone gets angry very quickly and suddenly

to trigger *vb* if A “triggers” B, A causes B to happen

cramped *adj* if conditions are cramped, there is very little room/space

to cope with *exp* to deal with; to manage

Is road rage a big problem in your country? These days, it exists all over the world. But now there are other forms of transport rage.

The term "road rage" was invented in the USA during the 1980s. It can be defined as aggressive or rude behaviour by the driver of an automobile. The most common examples are **beeping horns**, abusive **gestures**, **tailgating** or **cutting people off**. However, there have been many more serious incidents including **punch-ups** and **ramming**. One recent survey revealed that 50% of all drivers would retaliate if they were the victim of aggressive or bad driving.

Air rage is another form of transport anger. Again, it can take many different forms, from the person who starts throwing ice cubes around the cabin when they're **refused** their fourth cocktail, to the passenger who tries to open the emergency doors mid-flight. There are also stories of **crew members losing their tempers** and pilots **bursting into tears** at 10,000 meters. Celebrities are **susceptible to** air rage too. Naomi Campbell ended up in court after assaulting police officers when British Airways lost one of her bags. And Gillian Anderson (X-Files), Anna Kournikova and Courtney Love have all been in the news after their mid-air **tantrums**.

These days, new forms of transport rage are starting to emerge. "Metro rage"(or "Tube Rage" as it's called in England) is also increasing, as is "train rage": In a recent report, London's train **commuters** were described as "**utterly ruthless**"

and "**dog-eat-dog**': There have even been instances of "bus rage" The most serious case so far involved a bus driver who was prosecuted for ramming a cyclist off the road.

So, why do people get so angry when they're travelling? There are several theories. According to a recent article, road rage is caused by 'intermittent explosive disorder'; a condition that causes occasional **outbursts of anger**. Others blame crowded roads, traffic jams, bad driving and being stuck in a confined space for long periods of time. On planes, changes in air pressure can **trigger** psychological changes. Other people blame the lack of oxygen, as well as **cramped** seating, claustrophobia and long queues at check-in. Alcohol is also a factor. In fact 63% of all "air rage" incidents involve drunken passengers.

Many organisations are trying to deal with the phenomenon of transport rage. Airlines teach cabin crew self - defence. Railway staff in England are given courses in "conflict avoidance: and have 24-hour telephone help-lines so they can **cope with** the stress of dealing with "rail rage': And in the London Underground there are constant warnings against assaulting members of staff. So, it seems that even though we can travel wherever we want these days, we get much more irritated doing so. Perhaps we should all remember the old saying, "Getting there is half the fun: 'So, just sit back and try to enjoy the ride... if you can.

It seems that these days, however we get from A to B, more and more of us are getting mad doing it.

Exercises:

1. Look at forms of transport rage below. Can you think of examples to illustrate each one?
 - 1) Road rage
 - 2) Bus rage
 - 3) Metro rage
 - 4) Air rage
 - 5) Train rage

2. Answer the questions:
 - 1) What examples of unusual behavior in the air does the writer give?
 - 2) What possible causes of transport rage does the writer offer?
 - 3) What are some companies/ organisations doing to deal with transport rage?

3. Language focus. Look at this extract from the article: “...50% of all drivers *would retaliate if they were the victim of aggressive or bad driving.*” Which grammatical structure is used in the extract?

Complete the following sentences with your own ideas:

- If someone beeped their horn at me, I would...
- If someone tried to ram me off the road, I would...
- If someone were tailgating me, I would...
- If someone cut me off while I was driving, I would...
- If someone took my seat as I was about to sit down on the metro, I would...

Discussion. Answer the following questions:

1. Have you ever witnessed any instances of transport rage? What happened?
2. Why do you think people get so angry when travelling?
3. What can be done to reduce transport rage?

IS THIS ART?

Look at the following titles of avant-garde works of art. What do you think they consist of?

- 1) 4'33''
- 2) *White light / white heat*
- 3) *Black square*
- 4) *Trans-fixed*
- 5) *White on white*
- 6) *Eat*
- 7) *Sleep*
- 8) *Shoot*
- 9) *Empire*

Read the article to check your ideas.

Have you ever looked at a painting and thought: “I could do better than that!” Have you ever seen a film that didn't seem to have any story or characters? Or heard a piece of music that doesn't quite sound like music? If you can answer “yes” to any of these questions, the chances are that what you were looking at, watching or listening to was something “avant-garde”.

One of the most famous examples of avant-garde art comes from the world of music. John Cage's piece of music 4'33'' consists of 4 minutes and 33 seconds of silence. It was written by Cage, a leading American member of the avant-garde, in 1952. It was divided into three movements which are performed without a single note being played. According to the composer the music is actually the sounds the listener hears while "listening" to the performance. These might include, of course, listeners asking each other how they know when the piece ends.

During the 1960s, performance art became popular. One of the most interesting performance artists is American Chris Burden. In his 1971 work Shoot Burden was shot in the left arm by an assistant. Another famous piece was Trans-Fixed in 1974 in which Burden was nailed to the front of a Volkswagen Beetle. In the same year Burden performed White Light/White Heat in New York. For twenty-two days he lay on a triangular platform in the corner of an art gallery. None of the visitors could see him and he couldn't see any of the visitors. Was this art? You decide!

Minimalist painting is another example of avant-garde art. An early and famous example was Black Square painted in 1915 by the Russian artist Kazimir Malevich. The painting shows a black square... no more, no less. However, Russian philanthropist Viktor Potanin liked it enough to pay \$1 million for it in 2002. Malevich also famously painted White on White, which consists of a white square. Another well-known avant-garde artist is Frank Stella. He became famous for his Stripes paintings. These paintings showed black lines which were separated by thin white lines. The black lines were painted, the white not. Stella said that a picture was "a flat surface with paint on it - nothing more". These days, Stella is one of America's most respected artists.

Cinema has always had avant-garde directors. Possibly the best known is Andy Warhol. Although better known as a painter, between 1963 and 1968 Warhol made more than 60 films, nearly all of them experimental. One film, Eat, consists of a man eating a mushroom for 45 minutes, while Sleep shows poet John Giorno sleeping for 6 hours. Empire is 8 hours long and only shows the Empire State Building as the sun sets at dusk. You could eat a lot of popcorn in 8 hours.

Some people love avant-garde art and some hate it. Some believe avant-garde artists are geniuses, while others think they're pretentious frauds. However, whether you love them or hate them, you will probably have to accept that these

people are just as passionate about their art as Michaelangelo, Beethoven or Orson Welles were in their day.

Exercises:

Answer the questions:

- 1) What does John Cage's piece of music consist of?
- 2) Who was Chris Burden shot by?
- 3) What was Burden nailed to?
- 4) What did Burden lie on for his work White Light/White Heat?
- 5) How much did someone pay for the work of art Black Square?
- 6) Which lines were painted for the Stripes paintings by Frank Stella?

Discussion.

1. Does art play an important role in our life?
2. What do you think of avant-garde art?
3. Do you have your favourite art works?

WORKING OUT CAN BE FUN!

By Astrid Chater

Glossary:

to get fit *exp* to become strong and healthy

to get into shape *exp* to exercise so you have a strong/ healthy/slim body

to work out *exp* to do exercise

to follow *vb* if you “follow” instructions, you do what someone tells you to do

a screen *n* the part of a television that you look at

to score points *exp* to win/get numbers or marks in a game.

a tagline *n* a short phrase used for selling or describing a product gentle not hard / not difficult

strength *n* if you have a lot of "strength", you have a lot of physical energy

posture *n* the position in which you sit or stand

abdominal muscles *exp* the muscles in your stomach

circulation *n* the flow of blood in your body

to reduce *vb* if you “reduce” something, you make it less / smaller

to stand for *exp* to mean

to walk barefoot *exp* to walk with no shoes or socks

a paddy field *exp* an area of land that is wet so rice can be grown on it

to alleviate *vb* if you “alleviate” pain, you make the pain stop or become less

an Achilles tendon *exp* a strong cord that joins a muscle to a bone at the back of your leg (just above your heel - the back of your foot)

to suffer from *vb* if you “suffer from” an illness, you have that illness

curved *adj* with a circular shape

a sole *n* the bottom part of the shoe a heel the back part of a shoe on the bottom

a rocking *n* motion a movement that goes from side to side

a hit *n* if something is a “hit”, it is popular

to ditch *vb* if you “ditch” something, you stop using it

Running, cycling, aerobics... there are hundreds of ways to get fit. And every year, there are lots of new ideas for getting into shape. Here are three relatively new ones that you might like to try.

Exergaming

Exergaming consists of doing exercise with video games. And there are lots to choose from. Dance Dance Revolution (DDR) is a fun way to work out. Simply stand on a platform and hit the coloured arrows with your feet as you follow the instructions on the screen. You score points by hitting the right arrow at the right time. As the tagline says, "Taking dancing to a whole new level!" For a gentler form of exercise, try the "Wii Fit" series of games. You can do yoga, strength training and aerobics whilst standing on a balance board. Personalise your workout, or exercise with a friend, competing in games!

Anti-shoes

Anti-shoes are designed to exercise parts of your body while you're walking. They're meant to improve your posture, and strengthen your leg, back and abdominal muscles. They can also increase circulation and reduce body fat. Some of the most famous brands include Sketchers Shape-ups, Reebok Easy Tones and

MBTs. MBT stands for Masai Barefoot Technology. The shoes were invented by Swiss engineer Karl Muller in the early 1990s. On a visit to Korea, he noticed that walking barefoot over some soft paddy fields alleviated his back, knee and Achilles tendon problems. He also discovered that the Kenyan Masai tribespeople (who often walk barefoot) don't suffer from back pain and are famous for their perfect posture. So, he decided that the answer was a shoe with a curved sole and no heel. Apparently, walking on this type of shoe is similar to the rocking motion of a foot walking on soft sand or grass. The shoe was launched in 1996, and by 2000 approximately 20,000 pairs had been sold in Switzerland, Austria and Germany. Since then, the shoes have become a big hit, with celebrities such as Jemima Khan, Jodie Kidd and Sadie Frost owning a pair.

Zumba

Zumba is a fun form of exercise. As their tagline says, "Ditch the workout, join the party!" Zumba is a Latin-inspired fitness dance programme that uses hip-hop, samba, salsa, merengue, mambo, martial arts, Bollywood and belly dance moves to get you in shape. It was created by accident when an aerobics teacher forgot his exercise CD and used his own salsa music instead. There are lots of different types of classes for all levels, including "Zumbatomic" for children aged 4 to 12, "Zumba Gold" for older participants, and "Aqua Zumba," among many others.

Exercises:

1. What do you do to keep fit? Do you ever go to the gym? What do you do there? What clothes do you wear when you do exercise/sport?
2. **Reading I.** Read the article once. Which new way of doing exercise sounds the most interesting? Why?
3. **Reading II.** Read the article again. Then, write: "Exergaming", "Anti-shoe" or "Zumba" next to each statement:
 - 1) You get exercise as you're walking.
 - 2) You can compete in games.
 - 3) It was invented by mistake.
 - 4) You copy the way someone dances on a screen.
 - 5) They say it's good for people with back pain.
 - 6) There are even classes for children.

Discussion:

1. What do you like/dislike about doing exercise?
2. How much exercise do you do a week?
3. What do you do to keep fit?
4. Do you ever go to the gym?
5. What clothes do you wear when you do exercise / sport?

ROYAL REVELATION

Some interesting facts about the British Royal Family.

Glossary:

to poison *vb* if someone-poisons-food, they put chemicals in it that will kill someone

a sheet *n* a thin piece of material (often made of cotton) that you sleep on in a bed

a woollen blanket *n* a piece of material to sleep under made of sheep hair

to be keen on *exp* if you-are keen on you like it

a duvet *n* a thick cover to sleep under. Often filled with feathers

a blend of *exp* a mixture of

a part-timer *n* a part-timer is someone who works part-time (they work less than eight hours a day)

a housemaid *n* a woman who works in someone's house cleaning, cooking, etc.

to vacuum *vb* to clean the floor with a machine known as a vacuum cleaner / Hoover, etc.

a footmark *n* if you leave a-footmark; you leave dirt on the floor from your feet / shoes

a carpet *n* a thick material cover for the floor

a footman *n* a man who works as a servant for a rich person - opening doors, serving food, etc

a chest *n* the top part of the front of your body

to fit into *phr vb* if you can-fit into- clothes, they are the right size for you

to date back *phr vb* if something “dates back” 100 years, it started 100 years ago

a reign *n* a king or queens-reign is the time they were in power

to pet *vb* if you-pet-an animal, you touch it lightly and in a friendly way

to pat *vb* if you-pat- something, you touch it lightly many times, usually with a flat hand

sharply *adv* if someone speaks to you sharply; they speak to you angrily and often quickly

a limousine *n* a long car often used by royalty and celebrities

maroon *adj* a dark red colour

a bat *n* a flying animal that sleeps upside down in trees

a pole *n* a long stick

to release *vb* if you-release-an animal, you let it go free

What do you know about the British royal family? A new book by former BBC journalist Brian Hoey “We Are Amused: A Royal Miscellany” has some fascinating facts. Here are a few of them:

- Any chocolates sent to the Royal Family are immediately destroyed in case they're **poisoned**.
- The Queen sleeps under linen **sheets** and **woollen blankets**. She isn't that **keen on duvets**.
- The Queen prefers the radio to television, with BBC Radio Four as her favourite station. There are radios on the bedside tables at all her residences.
- When dining together, the Queen and Philip drink sweet German wine.
- The Queen likes a special **blend of** tea made by R. Twining & Company. She has it with milk and no sugar (she uses a sweetener instead). Her husband prefers coffee made by the Savoy Hotel coffee department.
- The Queen has about 330 full-time staff at her residences and a further 250 **part-timers**. The **housemaids** (there are 26 alone at Buckingham Palace) have to walk backwards when **vacuuming** to avoid leaving **footmarks** on the **carpets**.
- **Footmen** must be about 5ft 9in tall (about 175cm), and have a 36-inch **chest** (about 91cm) so they can **fit into** the uniforms, which **date back** more than 100 years to the **reign** of King Edward VII.
- The Queen hates people **petting** her corgis. Visitors who try **to pat** the dogs are **sharply** told, "Don't do that! They don't like it." What she really means is she doesn't like it!
- The Queen has seven state **limousines**: five Rolls-Royces and two Daimlers. They're all painted **maroon**.

- At Balmoral, the Queen enjoys trying to catch **bats** in the great hall. She does this with the help of a footman and a large net attached to a long **pole**. The bats are a protected species so they're **released**... only to return the next night. The Queen then repeats the exercise the following day. And we bet you didn't know that!

(Extracts taken from “*We Are Amused: A Royal Miscellany*” by Brian Hoey).

Exercises:

Reading I.

1. What do you know about the Queen or the British Royal Family?
2. What's the most interesting fact?

Reading II. Read the article again. Which fact do you find the hardest to believe? Why?

language focus “*Obligation with have to*”:

Look at the extract from the article on this page, “... **have to walk backwards**...” the writer has used the construction “have to” to talk about obligation.

Complete the following sentence beginnings with your own ideas:

1. I often have to... at university.
2. I never have to... at university.
3. I sometimes have to... at home.
4. I always have to... at home.

Discussion:

1. What else do you know about the British Royal Family?
2. Which member of the British Royal Family is most famous in your country? Why?

EXCUSES, EXCUSES

Typical excuses for not going to work.

Reading I.

Think of three excuses for not going to work. Discuss your ideas. Then, read the article. Are your ideas mentioned?

Glossary:

to break down *phr vb* if a car “breaks down”, it stops working

a tow truck *n* a vehicle for pulling cars that have stopped working

to renew *vb* if you “renew” something, you get a new, more up-to-date version of it

an appointment *n* a pre-arranged meeting

to take a while *exp* if something “takes a while” it takes a long time to complete

to flood *vb* if your house-floods, water goes in it (often after heavy rain)

a plumber *n* a person who fixes pipes / toilets

food poisoning *exp* an illness caused by eating bad food

tummy trouble *exp inform* if you have “tummy trouble; your stomach hurts

to go into labour *exp* when a pregnant woman “goes into labour”, she is ready to give birth

a locksmith *n* a person who makes or replaces locks (holes in doors for keys)

backache *n* if you have “backache”, your back hurts

a migraine *n* a very painful headache (a pain in your head)

can't stand *exp* if you “can't stand” something, you really don't like it

a witness *n* a person who sees something (an accident / a crime, etc.)

a hit-and-run accident *exp* a car accident in which a driver crashes then leaves without helping the victim

a statement *n* an official written account of what happened

to mess up *phr vb* if someone "messes something up", they get it wrong/do it badly

a tax return *n* a formal document with information on how much you have earned / what properties you

own / how much money you've made from investments, etc. in a year. This information is used to calculate the amount of tax (money paid to the government) you must pay

to audit *vb* if you are "audited" a government inspector checks you are paying enough tax

What are some of the typical excuses for not going to work in your country? A recent survey by market research company WorkPower lists the most common ones in the UK. Do you recognise any of them?

"My pet dog is feeling depressed and I need to be with him."

"My kids are sick and they can't go to school. There's no one else to look after them, so I've got to stay at home."

"My car's broken down on the side of the road and the tow truck is taking forever."

"I've got to renew my passport. The appointment is for 11 am, but it could take a while."

"My neighbour's water pipes have broken and it's flooded my living room. I've got to wait for the plumber to get here."

"I've got food poisoning. I think it was that food we ate at the restaurant we went to for the staff dinner."

"I've got tummy trouble and I need to go to the bathroom every five minutes. I could come in, but I won't be able to get much work done."

"My cousin has just gone into labour and I'm the only person who lives close enough to get her to the hospital in time!"

"I've locked my keys in the car. I've called the locksmith, but they said that they're really busy and it's going to be a while before they get here!"

"I've caught this stomach virus. The doctor says it's just a 24-hour one, so I should be in tomorrow."

“I've got terrible backache and I can't get up off the sofa. The doctor's coming round later today. I'll let you know how I get on.”

“I've got an awful migraine and I can't stand being in the light. Hopefully it won't last too long.”

“I was a witness to a hit-and-run accident and I've got to go to the police station to give a statement.”

“My accountant has really messed up my tax return form and I'm being audited. I need to spend the day sorting it out.”

So, which excuse do you think is the most credible?

Exercises:

Reading II. Read the article again. Then, make an excuse for each idea (1 to 7).

1. Pet dog - *My dog is feeling depressed.*
2. Car –
3. Passport –
4. Keys –
5. Backache –
6. Migraine –
7. Accountant –

Language focus “Obligation”:

Look at this extract from the article on this page, "...so I've got to stay at home..." The writer has used "have got" to talk about an obligation.

Complete the following sentences with your own ideas.

1. I've got to get up at _____ tomorrow.
2. I've got to finish _____ by the end of the week.
3. I've got to send _____ tomorrow.
4. I've got to buy _____ this week.

Discussion:

1. Which excuses from this article are common in your country?
2. Do you know anyone who's ever used any of these excuses?
3. What's the most ridiculous excuse you've ever heard?

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Интернет-ресурсы:

<https://learnhotenglish.com/>

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«ПРАКТИКУМ ПО ОСНОВНОМУ ЯЗЫКУ (АНГЛИЙСКИЙ)»
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