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Learn **hot** English magazine

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FAMOUS SPEECHES!

Listen to seven famous people speaking in public.

LUCKY LEADERS!

Find out what it takes to be a great leader.

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Learn about the difference between the Democrats and Republicans.

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Learn 16 useful expressions!

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Embarrassing moments!

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Learn 8 useful slang terms.

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Hear lots of different English accents!

CRIME

Clever ways to make money!

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TOP TIPS ON HOW TO SPEAK IN PUBLIC!



PLUS... PHRASAL VERBS, GRAMMAR, IDIOMS, VOCABULARY, USEFUL EXPRESSIONS... AND MUCH, MUCH MORE.

DR FINGERS' GRAMMAR CLINIC



Dear Mrs Windfarm,

Of course, I would be delighted to help you. OK, here goes.

There are some verbs in English that cannot be used in the continuous form. Many of these verbs are related to cognitive activities (mental processes) - what you hate, like, prefer, know, understand, believe, and how you analyse and create logic from the world. For example, you cannot say the following:

- a) INCORRECT: I am knowing the answer. (Correct: I know the answer.)
- b) INCORRECT: They are liking the food. (Correct: They like the food.)



The following verbs are not normally used in the continuous form. They are often referred to as "stative verbs" as they describe a fixed state. For example:

- Like: I really like this film.
- Love: She loves that story you told her.
- Hate: I hate this drink.
- Want: They really want to go.
- Need: We need a change of scenery.
- Prefer: I prefer this book to the other one.
- Know: We know what you are thinking.
- Realise: I didn't realise what you meant.
- Suppose: I suppose it's the right one.
- Mean: You don't really mean that, do you?
- Understand: They understand what we said.
- Believe: I don't believe this.
- Remember: Do you remember what I told you?
- Belong: This belongs to Sam.
- Contain: It contains a list of the most popular songs.
- Consist: What does it consist of?
- Depend: It all depends on your personal beliefs.
- Seem: She seems to be sad.
- Be: It is the best one yet.

Stative and non-stative verbs

There are a few verbs that can be both stative and non-stative. For example, when "think" refers to your beliefs, thoughts and ideas it is stative. For example:

- a) I think it's a good idea.
- b) She thinks you are nice.

However, when "think" refers to the action and process of thinking, it can be used in a continuous sense. For example:

- a) I was thinking about you.
- b) We are thinking about doing it.

When "to have" means "possess", it is used as a stative verb. For example:

- a) She has a house in the country.
- b) We have a cat.

However, when "have" is part of a verbal structure, it can be used in the continuous form. For example:

- a) We're having a great time.
- b) He's having a bath.

When the verb "to be" refers to someone's character, it is used as a stative verb. For example:

- a) He is the most intelligent person I know.
- b) She is really beautiful.

However, when "to be" refers to a temporary state, or an action in progress, it can be used in the continuous form. For example:

- a) He is being silly.
- b) She is being selfish.

Well, Mrs Windfarm, I hope that has helped you.

Yours, Dr Fingers.

Please send your questions or stories to:

clinic@hotenglishmagazine.com

A look at what makes a good leader.

LUCKY

Welcome to the first part of our mini series on leaders. This month, we're looking at a few of the most famous leaders in history, and some who work in modern day business. So, what is it that makes a good leader? Have a look for yourself.

Winston Churchill

One of Winston Churchill's strongest characteristics was **durability**. He was a major figure in British politics in total for sixty years. During this time, he served in many important positions in the government – the most important of which was his period as prime minister between 10th May 1940 and 27th July 1945. He eventually **retired** as a member of parliament in 1964 at the age of 89. However, Churchill's most important leadership characteristic was his **conviction**. In one of the darkest moments in British history, on 4th June 1940, when a German invasion seemed imminent, he made a **speech** which characterised his strength and conviction. He said that if Britain was invaded, "We shall fight them on the **landing ground**. We shall fight them on the beaches. We shall fight in the fields and in the street. We shall fight in the hills. We shall never surrender." That was enough to unite the nation.



Gandhi

Gandhi is remembered by many for his ability to bring together people of all backgrounds. Indians like to refer to him as the "father of the nation" because of his success in bringing Indians of different religions and ethnic groups together in the political movement. Gandhi had a belief in **collective disobedience** and was against the use of violence in his attempt to evict the British colonialists. One of Gandhi's strongest leadership characteristics was his ability to work towards a common cause. He spent much of his life campaigning for an independent India and even at the time of his death he was trying to unite Hindu and Muslim Indians.



Christopher Columbus

Columbus is generally regarded as the first European to discover the Americas. His most important leadership qualities include **bravery** and **perseverance**. Columbus had an idea to sail westwards across the "Ocean Sea" in order to find a better way to reach the Indies. This was after the defeat of Constantinople, which had made the old land route impractical. To make his idea work,



Little Jokes

Match each joke beginning (1 to 8) with its ending (A-H). Then, listen to check your answers. **Answers on page 49**

1. What did the turkey say before it was roasted? ____
2. Why did the police arrest the turkey? ____
3. Which side of the turkey has the most **feathers**? ____
4. Can a turkey jump higher than the Empire State Building? ____
5. Why did the turkey cross the road? ____
6. What "key" has legs and can't open doors? ____
7. Why do turkeys go "gobble, gobble"? ____
8. What goes, "gobble, gobble, ha-ha-ha, plop"? ____



GLOSSARY

a feather *n*
birds' bodies are covered in feathers

a day off *n*
if you have a "day off", you don't go to work because you are sick

foul play *n*
criminal violence, or an action that causes someone's death. "Foul" is pronounced the same as "fowl", which is a bird that can be eaten (turkey, chicken, etc.)

stuffed *adj*
two meanings: completely full because you have eaten a lot; if a turkey is "stuffed", it has food inside (a mixture of bread, herbs, onion, etc.)

to laugh your head off *exp*
two meanings: to laugh very, very much; literally, to laugh so much that your head falls off

- A:** Yes. A building can't jump at all.
- B:** Because they never learned to talk.
- C:** It was the chicken's **day off**.
- D:** They suspected it of **foul play**.
- E:** Boy, I'm **stuffed**.
- F:** A turkey **laughing its head off**.
- G:** A turkey.
- H:** The outside.

GRAFFITI

Here are some more examples of British toilet graffiti.

I DON'T HAVE A SOLUTION BUT I ADMIRE THE PROBLEM.

NOT ONLY IS THERE NO GOD, BUT JUST TRY GETTING A PLUMBER AT WEEKENDS.

WHY IS THERE ONLY ONE MONOPOLIES COMMISSION?

A CONSERVATIVE IS SOMEONE WHO ADMIRES RADICALS A CENTURY AFTER THEY'RE DEAD.

IF YOU'RE NOT CONFUSED BY ECONOMICS, YOU'RE NOT PAYING ATTENTION.

IF ONLY I HAD A SYNCHRONISED SWIMMER BROWNS, DO THE BEST HAVE TO DROWN TOO?

GLOSSARY

a plumber *n*
a person whose job is to fix pipes, toilets, bathrooms, etc

a synchronised swimmer *n*
a swimmer who swims as part of a group in competitions / the Olympics

to drown *vb*
to die in water because you cannot breathe

DOG MATTERS BY DANIEL COUTOLINE



GLOSSARY

slander *n*
untrue things that are said about someone and that are designed to damage their reputation

two-faced *adj*
hypocritical – acting as if you have certain positive qualities (honesty, nobility, etc) that you don't really have

Quirky News

Unusual news stories from around the world.

For Real



A New Zealand couple are having some problems registering their new baby's name. Paul and Sally Cheeka wanted to name their baby son "4real". However, they were told that "4real" can't be used on a birth certificate because numerals are not allowed.

The government office has opened negotiations with the parents. This is because of a law that says that all unusual names must be given case-by-case consideration. A government spokesperson said, "The name has not at this stage been **rejected**. We are currently **in discussions** with the parents to **clarify the situation**." Under New Zealand law, all children must be registered within two months of birth. The baby will be registered as "Real" if no **compromise is reached**.

Bad Golfer



A golfer who hit a bad shot started a 20-acre fire. Jim Palo knocked his ball into the grass outside a golf course in New Mexico. However, when he tried to hit the ball back onto the course, his club **struck** a stone that created a **spark** that started the fire. After a few minutes trying to **put out** the fire, Jim gave up and called the fire service.

"He was totally hopeless about it," a fire chief told journalists. Within hours, about 50 fire fighters and fire engines were in the area and spent hours putting out the **blaze**.

"We had a lot of equipment out there," the spokesperson said. "Eventually, we got the fire under control."

Unlawful Destruction



A taxi driver who tried to help some accident victims watched in horror as his cab was completely destroyed. "I was the first person to stop at the accident scene," Sam Crier explained, "so I got out of my car and assisted the injured. It was minus 25°C, so I let two slightly-injured victims sit in my Mercedes taxi while we waited for the rescue services to come. When the **fire brigade** arrived, they asked me where the victims were, so I **pointed** to my car. However, before I could explain to them that my taxi had not been involved in the crash, they took out their **axes** and started cutting the **roof** off, without asking the survivors if they could simply get out through the doors." As a result, the taxi was completely destroyed, and now, poor Mr Crier is trying to convince the **insurance company** that he did not **make up** the story.

GLOSSARY

- to reject** *vb*
if you "reject" something, you do not accept it
- in discussions** *exp*
if you are "in discussions", you are talking and negotiating with someone
- to clarify a situation** *exp*
to make a situation clear
- to reach a compromise** *exp*
to come to an agreement with someone
- to strike (struck)** *vb*
to hit
- a spark** *n*
a very small piece of burning material
- to put out** *phr vb*
to extinguish (a fire)
- a blaze** *n*
a very big and powerful fire
- the fire brigade** *n*
the organisation that deals with fires and tries to put them out
- to point to** *phr vb*
to use your finger to indicate something
- an axe** *n*
a large tool with a wooden handle and a piece of sharp metal at the end – often used for cutting trees
- a roof** *n*
the top part of a house outside the house
- an insurance company** *n*
a company that pays you money if you have an accident, etc
- to make up** *phr vb*
to invent (a story)

* 4 Real

The expression "for real" has a number of meanings in colloquial, slang English. For example:

A: Sam is a really bad man.
B: For real. (Yes, I know.)

A: I just won the lottery.
B: For real? (Really?)

Moore Attack

Michael Moore silences his critics.



Michael Moore. You either love him or hate him. He wins film awards, he has lots of fans. At the same time, there are also numerous anti-Michael Moore websites. However, some time ago, he managed to **outmanoeuvre** one of his greatest opponents. Find out how.

Desperate

Jim Kenefick spent years attacking Michael Moore. Kenefick's work consisted of trying to expose Moore's **"deceptions and half-truths"**. He did this through the website www.moorewatch.com with the objective of "Watching Michael Moore's every move". But some time later Mr Kenefick found himself in a difficult situation.

The story began in 2006, when Mr Kenefick was **struggling** to pay for **healthcare** for his wife. She was recovering from a neurological disorder and had no medical insurance. In desperation, Mr Kenefick, whose site is one of the most popular anti-Moore blogs, **posted a note** on the homepage. "If you can help, I will be **in your debt** for all of time," it said.

Help

On 1st May, Mr Kenefick received a cheque from an anonymous individual. The 12,000 dollars was the equivalent to a year's medical fees for his wife. It was enough to ease the crisis and ensure the continuation of the website. So, Mr Kenefick **banked the cheque** and put

up a thank-you note to the person he called his **"guardian angel"**.

For a while, Kenefick had no idea who the mystery person was. But eventually, someone left a message on Mr Kenefick's **answer machine**. "I am the donor," he said, adding, "I wish you my best." And the mystery man's name was? Yes, you guessed it: Michael Moore. Later Mr Kenefick explained why he accepted the cheque. "I was **led to believe** this was a private individual who wanted to remain anonymous who just wanted to help me. What kind of **moron** turns down a free 12 grand?"

Oh, dear

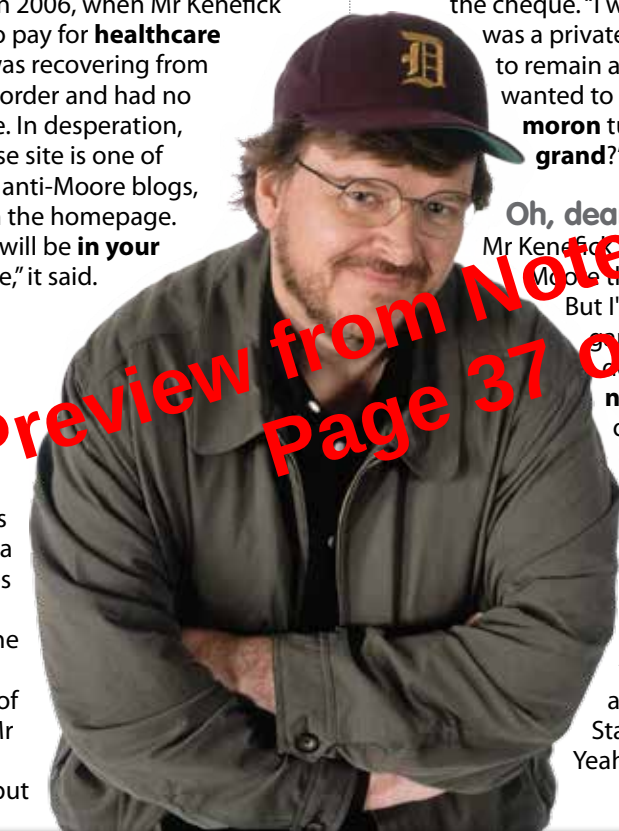
Mr Kenefick soon got in touch with Moore through. "Nice try, **dude**. But I'm not going to play your game. Mr Moore accepting that donation has absolutely **no bearing on** the larger debate about healthcare in America." But Mr Kenefick later **softened his attitude**. In an interview with Newsweek, he said he had no issue with Moore as a human. "Mike's not the devil or anything. It's not like Joe Stalin made me an offer." Yeah, right. ☺

Michael Moore

Michael Moore was born in Flint, Michigan April 23 1954. He studied journalism at the University of Michigan-Flint. His first film was *Roger & Me* (1989). His first big **hit** was *Bowling for Columbine* (2002), which was an attack on the gun lobby in the States and the NRA (the National Rifle Association), and the even bigger hit *Fahrenheit 9/11* (2004), which made fun of President Bush.

GLOSSARY

to outmanoeuvre someone *exp*
to gain an advantage over your opponent in a clever way
deception *n*
the act of tricking someone or lying to them
a half-truth *n*
a lie
to struggle *vb*
to try desperately to do something
healthcare *n*
medical assistance provided by the government
to post a note *exp*
to put a message (on a website)
in someone's debt *exp*
if you are "in someone's debt", that person has done you a big, big favour and you owe them a favour in return
to bank a cheque *exp*
to take a cheque to the bank and to put the amount into your account
a guardian angel *n*
a person who protects you
an answer machine *n*
a machine that is part of a telephone for voice messages. Also known as an "answering machine"
led to believe something *exp*
tricked into believing something
a moron *n* *inform*
an idiot
a grand *n* *inform*
one thousand
dude *n* *inform* *US*
friend
no bearing on *exp*
no relation to; no connection with
to soften your attitude *exp*
to become less critical
an insurance company *n*
a company that pays you money if you have an accident, etc
a hit *n*
a very successful film, song, etc



Sicko

Sicko is directed by Michael Moore and is a documentary about the highly-profitable American healthcare industry. The film investigates the US healthcare system with a focus on the behaviour of large health **insurance companies**. Its main message is that the US health-care system is designed to maximise profit by minimising the care delivered to patients. Stories in the documentary include those of people who died because the insurance company refused treatment, or others who had to pay large bills after receiving treatment.

One scene shows a clip of Dr Linda Peeno, a former medical reviewer for a health insurer, saying that her job was to save money for the company by denying necessary operations. Also during the film, the American system is compared to systems in Canada, Britain and France, which have free and full coverage for their citizens.



PHRASAL VERB THEMES: DRIVING II

This month we are looking at some more phrasal verbs related to driving.

RUN OUT OF PETROL

TO HAVE NO MORE PETROL IN THE PETROL TANK.



WRITE OFF A CAR

TO COMPLETELY DESTROY A CAR SO THAT IT CANNOT BE USED ANY LONGER.



DROP SOMEONE OFF

TO LET SOMEONE GET OUT OF A CAR.



SET OFF ON A JOURNEY

TO START A JOURNEY.



TO LEAVE A MOTORWAY OR ROAD AS YOU ARE DRIVING.



DO UP A SEAT BELT

TO FASTEN A SEAT BELT SO IT IS FIXED AROUND YOUR BODY.



CAUGHT UP IN TRAFFIC

TO BE TRAPPED ON A ROAD WITH LOTS OF CARS WHICH ARE MOVING VERY SLOWLY.

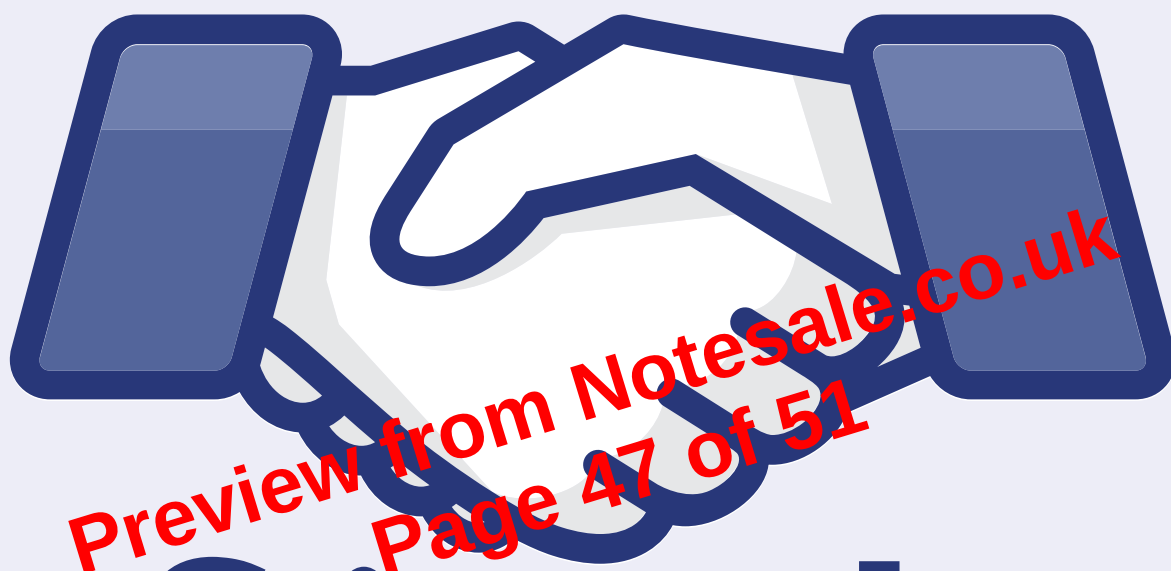


LET DOWN (TYRES)

IF YOU "LET DOWN" SOMEONE'S TYRES, YOU OPEN A VALVE AND LET THE AIR OUT.



Let's be



friends

(if we aren't already!)