



EINFACH BESSER ENGLISCH



AUDIO

Spotlight

Spotlight

4
18

WHO'S WHO?

100
PEOPLE IN
BRITAIN
YOU SHOULD
KNOW

Spotlight Verlag



Introduction

[1] **Meredith:** Welcome to the April 2018 edition of Spotlight Audio. I'm Meredith Hoffmann-Thomson, standing in this month for David Creedon. Join me now for a 60-minute expedition around the English-speaking world — with stories, language tips and exercises.

Who are the most important and influential people in Britain today? We introduce you to some of the UK's best and brightest in the Society section.

Essex has a reputation for being ugly and plain. We set the record straight on the county that borders London in the north-east as we tour its idyllic countryside and charming historical towns.

The arrival of fake-video technology could begin a new era of misinformation. Learn more about the issue in Replay.

In the Spotlight

[2] Loved to death?

Meredith: Between the 18th and 20th centuries, certain states on the Malay Peninsula,

along with the island of Singapore, were brought under British control. It wasn't until 1957 that Malaysia finally became independent from Britain. Now one of British Malaya's most historic places is in danger of being changed forever. To find out more, listen to this news story from In the Spotlight.

Can a place be loved to death? People living in a historic corner of Malaysia think it can.

George Town was the first spot in South-East Asia to be settled by the British. They used its location on Malaysia's Penang Island as an entrepôt port. It became a Crown Colony in 1867, and in 1957, Queen Elizabeth II named George Town the new country's first city. Today, it is a historic city within a bigger city: the metropolis of Greater Penang, home to 2.5 million people.

George Town's latest success has been its increased popularity with globetrotters. This began about 10 years ago, when the old city centre — including Fort Cornwallis and the famous Eastern & Oriental Hotel — became

entrepôt

► Zwischenlager-

plain

► flach, wenig reizvoll

reputation

► Ruf

stand: ~ in for sb.

► für jmdn. einspringen

a World Heritage Site. Since then, the city has been flooded with visitors. Arrivals at the airport have more than doubled over 10 years — to 3.3 million in 2016. Growth is good for business, but hard on the locals due to rapid gentrification.

“The fear [of losing the living heritage] is real,” said Chow Kon Yeow, the local government’s executive councillor, to *The Straits Times*.

Source: *Spotlight* 4/2018, page 8

A Day in My Life

[3] Heather Armstrong, charity director

Meredith: In a Day in My Life, we meet Heather Armstrong, the director of a charity called the Gambia Horse and Donkey Trust. Founded in 2002, the charity’s aim is to reduce poverty in the West-African country by improving the health of working animals, especially horses and donkeys. The charity treats sick animals and educates their owners to look after them. The charity’s main centre is in Sambel, a village hundreds of miles away from the capital, Banjul. Last year, the charity opened a new hospital and a centre for training local and foreign vets, located much nearer to Banjul. Listen now as Armstrong talks about the charity’s two centres.

We have two centres in the Gambia. One which we’ve just built. Another centre, about 200 miles upcountry, which we’ve been operating for the last 15 years. And we’ve, in fact, just had an impact assessment done, which has demonstrated the difference that we’ve made. We’re hoping to repeat that in the new centre. But the new centre will also be a resource for students from the University of the Gambia and Gambia College and for the livestock services department. So it’s a big do.

charity

➤ gemeinnützige Organisation

difference: make a -

➤ etw. ändern, bewegen

do: big ~ ifml.

➤ große Sache

donkey

➤ Esel

executive councillor

➤ Mitglied im Exekutivrat

gentrification

➤ Gentrifizierung, Aufwertungsprozess

impact assessment

➤ Wirkungsanalyse

livestock services department

➤ Abteilung, Ministerium für Viehzucht

poverty

➤ Armut

upcountry

➤ im Landesinneren

vet

➤ Tierarzt, -ärztin

World Heritage Site

➤ Weltkulturerbe

Meredith: Vets regularly come from Britain to volunteer at the charity, usually for a period of two weeks. While there, the vets train the team of locals who work at the centres. This means that each worker ends up with a lot of different skills. In the following excerpt from the interview, Armstrong explains the advantages of such training. You should know that a “suture” is a stitch or a row of stitches that hold together the edges of a wound. And in Gambia, the Department of Livestock Services is a government department that supports farmers who keep animals for use and profit.

One of the great things here [is that] we’ve had incredible, miraculous treatments. And my guys, who are just boys from the bush really, originally, have had training from vets from the UK, and they are now brilliant. I have the best team anybody could ever have. A lot of the volunteer vets who come out say they feel they haven’t contributed very much. They’ve had a lovely time and they’ve enjoyed it and they will come back. But all those two weeks add up to a big bit. And what we do with out staff [is that] every vet that comes out gives them training in something. And if, at the end of [the vets’] fortnight [stay], they feel the staff are good at what they’re doing, [the staff members] get a certificate. So, if [the staff] ever leave us, they will have a pile of certificates to say they can

do an IV injection or an IM injection or give a stomach tube or a suture or whatever. And also, those certificates are recognized by the livestock services. So [the staff] are registered to work on their own if they want to.

See Spotlight 4/2018, pages 30–31

contribute

- ▶ beitragen

excerpt

- ▶ Auszug

fortnight

- ▶ zwei Wochen

give

- ▶ hier: legen

government department

- ▶ Regierungsabteilung

IM injection

- ▶ intramuskuläre Injektion

incredible

- ▶ unglaublich

IV injection

- ▶ intravenöse Injektion

miraculous

- ▶ wunderbar

pile

- ▶ Stapel

stitch

- ▶ Stich

stomach tube

- ▶ Magensonde

suture

- ▶ Wundnaht

volunteer

- ▶ ehrenamtlich arbeiten

Britain Today

[4] The name's M

Meredith: Has our British correspondent Colin Beaven discovered the secret of political success? According to Colin, all you need to have is a second name that starts with an “M” — Theresa May, Emmanuel Macron, Angela Merkel — perhaps he's got a point! Listen to Britain Today and see if you agree.

You really have to concentrate when you're listening to the news. If you thought, for example, that Prince Harry was marrying a woman called Merkel, I'm afraid you misunderstood. Her name is Markle, Meghan Markle — an American actress, not a German politician. Welcome to Britain, Meghan. With you this side of the Atlantic, British public life will no doubt be a lot more fun, and a lot more human. But just imagine the headlines if we'd imported Angela Merkel. You can't generally transfer political leaders from team to team like football internationals, but with Brexit so close, we could use her political expertise.

Bringing Mrs Merkel into the British royal family would be like signing Neymar for Paris Saint-Germain. Plus, like Meghan, she meets the other main requirement: her last name begins with an “M”. This is almost a must for

international politicians. France has Emmanuel Macron; Russia has Dmitry Medvedev. The UK has Theresa May and, much more importantly, M. That's James Bond's boss. And then there's Zimbabwe, where Emmerson Mnangagwa's taken over from the country's presidential dinosaur, Robert Mugabe. Both names start with an “M”. Hopefully, that will be the only political continuity between them. It's a bit of a cheek to criticize Mr Mugabe when you come from Britain, which has a history of importing other countries' minerals and exporting racist colonialism. But we're not the only ones hoping to see change in Zimbabwe. Years ago, for example, I heard an interview on the news with a journalist from Africa. She was commenting critically on President Mugabe's political tactics at a time when he still had a firm grip on power.

“President Mugabe is feathering his peppers.”

cheek UK *ifml*.

► *hier*: Frechheit

continuity

► Kontinuität, Fortbestehen

expertise

► Kompetenz, Fachkenntnis

feather

► mit Federn schmücken

grip

► Griff

pepper

► Paprika

point: have got a ~

► Recht haben

she said. I must say that I was puzzled. Was this an idiom from her part of Africa? Was it a phrase like “feathering your nest”? That means using professional opportunities for personal profit — something that’s not unheard of among politicians.

Or did President Mugabe really have an unusual recipe for cooking peppers? If you cook a chicken, you take the feathers off, but people don’t generally try to put them back on when they start to cook peppers — not even when it’s the BBC’s *MasterChef* final.

The penny finally dropped. I’d misunderstood her African accent; she hadn’t said that Mugabe was “feathering his peppers”. She’d said he was “furthering his purpose”, which is basically what we all do. We all try to further our purpose in the hope that we get what we want. I can’t help thinking, though, that public life would benefit if some people stopped furthering their purpose and tried feathering peppers — or aubergines, or possibly even courgettes. The world would be a better place if more of us were trying to create a new kind of rata-touille that could fly. If you need me, I’ll be in the kitchen.

Source: Spotlight 4/2018, page 13

Travel

[5] The only way is... Essex

Meredith: Located north-east of London, the county of Essex has suffered from a bad reputation for many decades. Typical stereotypes paint Essex as a commuter area for the capital city, a suburban landscape of tanning salons and nightclubs. In the April Spotlight, correspondent Julian Earwaker visits the wide-open landscapes, rustic villages and old-fashioned beach resorts that show another side

beach resort

- Badeort

benefit

- profitieren

commuter area

- Einzugsbereich, Pendlerstadt

courgette UK

- Zucchini

dropped: the penny finally - UK *ifml*.

- endlich fiel der Groschen

further

- voranbringen, fördern

nest: feather one’s nest

- in die eigene Tasche wirtschaften

puzzled

- verduzt, verwirrt

recipe

- Rezept

rustic

- ländlich

suburban

- Vorstadt-

tanning salon

- Bräunungsstudio

of Essex. Over the next two tracks, you'll hear excerpts from the travel feature. First listen to the excerpt. Afterwards, you'll hear a number of questions. Then, restart the track and listen to the excerpt again to find the answers. You'll hear the correct answers at the end of the track.

See Spotlight 4/2018, pages 32–39

[6] Castles and spacecraft

Meredith: Listen now to the first excerpt.

Colchester, my next stop, promises something different. A sign declares this to be “Britain’s oldest recorded town”, so I head for the Museum Quarter to learn more. Colchester Castle sits in landscaped gardens, not far from the high street and its shops. With the remains of a Norman castle and the largest keep in Europe, the building today houses an impressive museum.

The displays all have stories to tell, explains my guide, as she points to Roman tiles and stones visible in the castle walls. She tells me how, after the Romans invaded Britain in AD 43, Colchester, then known as Camulodunum, became a centre of power. In AD 60, Boudicca, queen of the Iceni, led the Celts in revolt and destroyed much of the town. Camulodunum was rebuilt, however, and many Roman

remains are visible today, including temple ruins and town walls.

The next day, I'm back in the Museum Quarter to visit a very different type of building. Shaped like a crescent, Firstsite is covered in copper-aluminium sheeting, which makes it shine like a spacecraft in the morning sunshine. This exciting new art gallery and cultural centre would not look out of place in any major city. Inside, its light-filled galleries include Essex curiosities in the “Wunderkammer” and a special exhibition of tapestries and ceramics by Essex artist Grayson Perry.

After lunch, I wander in and out of high street shops, and past the grandiose Victorian town hall and clock tower. At Balmerne Gate, I see Jumbo, a giant Victorian water tower built

copper

► Kupfer-

sheeting

► (Blech)Verschalung

crescent

► Halbmond

spacecraft

► Raumfahrzeug

excerpt

► Auszug

tapestry

► Wandteppich

keep

► hier: Burgfried

tile

► Ziegel

landscaped garden

► Landschaftsgarten

town hall

► Rathaus

with more than 1.2 million bricks. There is talk of a rooftop restaurant opening here, but for the moment, Jumbo remains empty, and I have to look elsewhere for my evening meal.

Meredith: Here are the questions. Why is the town of Colchester so important? What group of people built Colchester Castle? In what year did the Romans invade Britain?

If you haven't answered the questions already, listen to the excerpt again by restarting the track.

Were you able to answer the questions? Here are the answers. Colchester is important because it's Britain's oldest recorded town. The Normans built Colchester Castle. The Romans invaded Britain in AD 43.

Source: Spotlight 4/2018, pages 32–39

[7] Beach huts and ghosts

Meredith: Now listen to the second excerpt.

Immediately adjacent to Walton, Frinton-on-Sea is an old-fashioned but charming seaside town. It has a reputation for being conservative and resistant to change: Frinton's first pub did not open until the year 2000, after years of opposition. But as I walk along Connaught Avenue (Frinton's main shopping street, once

known as the “Bond Street of the East Coast”), it's clear that this is a place that is proud of its appearance. Down at the seafront, the sun comes out to show Frinton at its finest: the sea, a wide promenade, the clean, sandy beach and rows of colourful beach huts.

After breakfast the next day, I'm off to explore an Essex hideaway: Mersea Island. The Strood, built on an ancient Roman causeway, is the only road in and out, and it is said to be haunted by the ghost of a centurion. Mersea is truly an island only when the tide covers the road twice a day, for one week each month. But as soon as I cross, I can feel the sense of isolation. Popular with artists and writers, Mersea Island is Britain's most easterly inhabited island. At West Mersea, I discover an appealing mix of seaside tourism and working boatyards. The air is filled with the smell of mud, seaweed and

adjacent

- ▶ benachbart, angrenzend

boatyard

- ▶ Werft

brick

- ▶ Ziegelstein

causeway

- ▶ Fahrdamm, Damm(straße)

haunt

- ▶ heimsuchen

hideaway

- ▶ Zufluchtsort, Versteck

most easterly

- ▶ östlichste(r, s)

seaweed

- ▶ Meeressalgen, Seetang

salt. The shellfish industry has a long history here, and fresh fish is available on the quay, where people queue for boat trips. Mersea is a place for seafood lovers, and the island makes its own wines and beers.

There's just time to explore quieter East Mersea and to buy some bottles of local beer before heading back across the Strood. When I look back, I see a shadowy figure. Could it be the ghost of the Roman soldier? Or is it a lone hiker? My mind full of myths, I reach the mainland safely and drive westwards towards historic Maldon.

Located on the Blackwater Estuary, Maldon was once an important Saxon port. A waterfront monument tells of the Battle of Maldon in 991, in which the locals were defeated by the Vikings. At Hythe Quay, I spot some of the famous Thames sailing barges. Their job today is mainly to transport tourists. I wander uphill to explore the shops and enjoy the medieval and Georgian town centre. There's one thing I have to buy before I leave: Maldon sea salt, a must-have for our kitchen at home. Tired, I make the half-hour drive to my overnight stop Chelmsford, the administrative centre of Essex.

Meredith: And here are the questions. In what year did the first pub open in Frinton-on-Sea? What industry has a long history on Mersea Island? Who defeated the local Saxons at the

Battle of Maldon in 991?

If you haven't answered the questions already, listen to the excerpt again by restarting the track.

Were you able to answer the questions? Here are the answers. The first pub opened in Frinton-on-Sea in the year 2000. The shellfish industry has a long history on Mersea Island. The Vikings defeated the local Saxons at the Battle of Maldon in 991.

Source: Spotlight 4/2018, pages 32–39

Everyday English

[8] Getting things done

Meredith: In Everyday English, Beryl and Joe are getting ready for visitors. Joe's parents are coming to stay for the week, so the spare room has to be cleaned up. A "spare room" is an extra room often used for guests or for

defeat

➤ besiegen

estuary

➤ Mündung(sgebiet)

hiker

➤ Wanderer, Wanderin

medieval

➤ mittelalterlich

quay

➤ Kai

shellfish industry

➤ Muschelzucht

storing things. Here's some more vocabulary you'll need to know before you listen to the first dialogue. Asking someone if they "fancy" something is another way of asking if they'd like something. To "sort something out" means here to tidy something. Now listen to the dialogue and try to answer this question. What does Joe suggest doing first?

Beryl: It's the weekend finally! No work for two whole days.

Joe: Fancy a cup of tea?

Beryl: Yeah, if you're making one.

Joe: You do remember that my parents are coming next Saturday, don't you?

Beryl: Of course. It'll be lovely to see them again. I'll bake a cake.

Joe: You know they're staying for a week, don't you?

Beryl: They are? I thought they were coming for the afternoon. Where are we going to put them?

Joe: In the spare room?

Beryl: But it's full of crap, it doesn't have any curtains and there's no lampshade... Oh, I guess I know what we'll be doing this weekend.

Joe: Mmm! Sorry, love. It's time to sort out the spare room.

Beryl: What should we do first?

Joe: Have a cup of tea. A chocolate biscuit?

Meredith: Were you able to answer the question? What does Joe suggest doing first? Joe thinks that before starting work, they should have a cup of tea and a chocolate biscuit. In the second dialogue, Joe and Beryl finally get to work on the spare room. Here's some vocabulary you should know. "Oh my days!" is a British expression used to show you're surprised by something. A "charity shop" is a store that sells clothing and other items given to them to raise money for a charity. This is a British expression. In North America, such a shop is called a "thrift store". As you listen, try to answer this question. What kinds of things do Beryl and Joe plan to buy at the John Lewis department store?

Joe: Let's tackle the spare room, then. We can't put it off any longer.

Beryl: Oh, all right. We're going to have to get rid of a lot of stuff.

crap *ifml.*

► Mist, Schrott

department store

► Kaufhaus

lampshade

► Lampenschirm

put: ~ sth. off

► etw. auf die lange Bank schieben

raise

► beschaffen, besorgen, sammeln

tackle sth.

► etw. angehen

Joe: Oh, my days! Where did all this stuff come from?

Beryl: It just sort of accumulated. Don't worry. Most of it can go to the charity shop.

Joe: OK, I suppose we could put it in the garage for now. Or do you think we could take it to the charity shop today?

Beryl: I'll ring them up and see what they say. We might have to make more than one trip.

Joe: Yeah, I can see that. Maybe we can combine it with a trip to John Lewis for curtains and stuff.

Beryl: Sounds like a plan. We could also get a few pictures while we're at it.

Meredith: Were you able to answer the question? What kinds of things do Beryl and Joe plan to buy at the John Lewis department store? They plan on buying curtains and a few pictures.

Source: Spotlight 4/2018, pages 48–49

Around Oz

[9] Aussie adventure

Meredith: It's easy to forget just how big Australia is. Although there are just around 25 million people living there, Australia is only slightly smaller than the United States, if you don't

include Hawaii and Alaska. Spotlight's Australia correspondent Peter Flynn was reminded of just how vast Australia is when he took a trip to visit friends on the other side of the country. Find out more in Around Oz.

Recently, I decided to go for a little drive. Five days later and 4,000 kilometres from my home in Perth, I arrived on the south coast of New South Wales to visit family and friends. But let me tell you about the journey I took to get there.

Although driving across Australia on one's own with limited stops is something professional "truckies" do every week, it's quite a challenging adventure for an office worker like me. My usual trips are pretty short, mostly on freeways and often with peak-hour traffic jams where you can walk faster than the cars are moving. But with a few weeks' holiday ahead,

accumulate

- anhäufen, sich ansammeln

challenging

- anspruchsvoll, schwierig

freeway Aus., N. Am.

- Autobahn

pretty

- ziemlich

truckie Aus. jfml.

- Lkw-Fahrer(in)

vast

- riesig, weit

I packed the car with the bare necessities, such as fishing rods, and drove off. And then I drove some more.

About 100 kilometres east of Perth, the divided roads and double lanes reduced to a single lane with just a central white line separating the cars and big trucks speeding in each direction. I was not to see even a short overtaking lane for more than two days.

On the first leg of my journey, either to the left or the right of the road, was a water pipeline and a railway line that have provided the lifeblood to the gold-mining town of Kalgoorlie for more than 100 years. Here, one heads south on a narrowing road to the little town of Norseman, still with a water pipeline and a railway line in your peripheral vision.

This is the gateway to the famous Nullarbor (meaning literally “no trees”) Plain and a good place to stay the night. After dark, there are too many kangaroos and feral animals, including wild cattle and horses, on the road. Heading east from Norseman, the road is flat and straight for the next 500 kilometres. There are no water pipes or electricity lines, no farmhouses or crossroads, except for the Eyre Bird Observatory 35 kilometres down a dirt track. The only human habitations out here consist of a few petrol stations and roadhouses for fuel and food stops.

The road shimmers beneath the sun. Big trucks

seem to be hurtling towards you for up to an hour, and crows feed on the carcasses of road kill. Sometimes it all seems like a mirage: is that vehicle in the far distance coming towards me or going in the same direction? Ten minutes later, you realize it was a big road sign advertising the next fuel stop. It's time to take a break. Just before the South Australian border is the old telegraph settlement of Eucla, where I get room 43 (the same as I had when I last did this trip nearly 15 years ago) in the budget section

bare: ~ necessities

► das Notwendigste

carcass

► Tierkadaver

crossroad

► Straßenkreuzung

crow

► Krähe

feral

► frei lebend, wild

fishing rod

► Angel(rute)

gateway

► Pforte, Tor

hurtle

► rasen

leg

► hier: Etappe

literally

► wörtlich

mirage

► Fata Morgana

overtaking lane Aus., UK

► Überholspur

peripheral vision

► peripheres Sehfeld

road kill

► überfahrenes Tier

roadhouse

► Raststätte

of this coastal oasis. German backpacker Theresa and her boyfriend have been working here for six months to extend their tourist/working visas. They'll get rewarded for taking a job on the edge of civilization.

Source: Spotlight 4/2018, page 71

Replay

[10] A look at recent news events

Tania Higgins: Welcome to Replay, the listening exercise in which we look at a recent news story, its background and language. In this edition:

The spread of cheap and easy techniques for faking videos has the potential to destroy trust at every level of society.

[11] On fake video: a trick too far

Tania: With the arrival of “fake news” on the world stage, a new era of misinformation has begun. The enormous popularity of social media allows made-up news to spread rapidly through online communities. These stories can reach great numbers of people before anyone is able to check whether or not what

they're reading is true. Now, advances in video technology offer those wishing to mislead others incredible new possibilities.

For instance, an easy-to-acquire app lets users superimpose a person's face onto someone else's body. The so-called “deepfake” videos that the app creates are easy for amateurs to make and require only a home computer. While some videos made with this technology are harmless, others are more controversial for example, pornography featuring celebrities' faces. Such deepfakes vary in quality, but are certainly convincing enough for many websites to have already banned them.

Of course, the manipulation of photographs and videos has a long history. Yet such new

advances

- Fortschritte

ban

- verbieten

controversial

- umstritten, brisant

deepfake

- komplexe Manipulation von Video-Material

easy-to-acquire

- leicht zu beschaffen und zu bedienen

fake

- (ver)fälschen

for instance

- beispielsweise

made-up

- fingiert

mislead

- irreführen

superimpose

- überlagern

technology has the very real potential to destroy viewers' trust in any videos they see, just as fake news has eroded many people's trust in news sources in general.

In an opinion piece from Britain's *Guardian* newspaper, the editorial writers examine these new developments in technology and condemn the potential for deception that they offer. In a moment, you can listen to three excerpts from the editorial. Before that, let's look at some of the language used in the first excerpt. When an event or situation is planned out carefully in advance, it can be described as "staged". And something that's "vivid" is very clear or powerful. Now listen to the first excerpt.

[Recently] a video was widely shared that apparently showed a... "vigilante" attacking what was said to be a drug dealer's car somewhere in Bolton [a town in Greater Manchester]. In the end, the police were able to show that the video was not real, but had been staged in order to suggest the police were not keeping the streets safe. It was a vivid illustration of how damaging fake video — fake views — can be... But fakes are getting smarter all the time....

Source: © *Guardian News & Media* 2018

Tania: In the second excerpt, the *Guardian* writers talk about previous examples of film

manipulation. They point out that with advances in technology, the power to make misleading video is now available to everyone. Here's some vocabulary you should know. "To exploit" means to make use of a situation in an unfair way. And if a machine, system or technique has been developed to a high degree of complexity, it can be called "sophisticated". Here's the second excerpt.

It is true that from the beginning, video and sound recordings have exploited their apparent incorruptibility to mislead: there has been film propaganda since the first world war, and later the work of, say, Leni Riefenstahl was profoundly dishonest in intent and execution.

condemn

- kritisieren, verurteilen

deception

- Täuschung, Irreführung

editorial

- Leitartikel

erode

- untergraben

previous

- früher

profoundly

- zutiefst

suggest

- suggerieren, die Vorstellung erwecken

vigilante

- Mitglied einer Bürgerwehr

But the process of misleading was time-consuming and costly... Then Hollywood started to break down the barriers with creatures like Gollum appearing alongside real actors. Now dead actors can appear in films alongside their living colleagues.

Yet until very recently, such magic required a great deal of expensive and sophisticated computing power. But that is exactly what companies such as Google and Amazon are now making cheap and accessible. ... Using only a home computer [essentially anyone] can graft the face of one person on to the body of another in a convincing video simulation...

Source: © Guardian News & Media 2018

Tania: Fake news often focuses on politics, and fake videos are no different. Donald Trump's face superimposed onto Angela Merkel's body is just one rather disturbing example. Meanwhile, other software has been developed that allows users to control the facial movements of actors in videos by tracking the user's own expressions on a standard webcam. In effect, any politician can now be made to say or do things on video with very convincing results. Let's look at some vocabulary from the third excerpt. The word "corrosive" describes the process of gradually damaging and possibly destroying something. And "to dismiss something" is to refuse to consider something,

perhaps because you don't think it's real or true. Now listen to the third extract.

This home technology has the potential to be uniquely damaging. Face-swapped pornography, one of the first uses to which it has been put, transposes the images of public figures. ... If you wish to make a video of Barack Obama confessing that he was born in Kenya, now you can. If you'd prefer to make the famous lost video of Donald Trump in Moscow, that will be available, too, in several versions. This must lead to a general, corrosive growth of suspicion and distrust in society. Real evidence can and will be dismissed as entirely fake. Innovation has often caused problems that it cannot fix. ...

Source: © Guardian News & Media 2018

computing power

► Rechenleistung

confess

► gestehen, beichten

costly

► teuer, aufwendig

face-swapped

► mit ausgetauschten
Gesichtern

facial movements

► Mimik

gradually

► allmählich, nach und
nach

graft

► übertragen

transpose

► austauschen

[12] Words and phrases

Tania: Let's see if you can remember the meanings of some of the words and phrases from the text. I'm going to give you a definition. Do you know the word or phrase that fits? Ready?

What verb means to make use of a situation in an unfair way? To exploit

If a machine, system or technique has been developed to a high degree of complexity, it can be called... sophisticated.

Something that's very clear or powerful can be described as... vivid.

When an event or situation is planned out carefully in advance, it can be described as... staged.

What adjective describes the process of gradually damaging and possibly destroying something? Corrosive

What verb means to refuse to consider something that you don't think is real or true? To dismiss something

With that, we end Replay for this month. We hope you've found our explanations useful.

Till next month: goodbye.

See Spotlight 4/2018, page 40

Society

[13] 100 of Britain's best and brightest

Meredith: The United Kingdom has been through some hard times lately, but that doesn't mean that the nation isn't as full as ever with exciting and talented people. In the April Spotlight, we list the 100 most important and influential Britons that everyone should know about. In a roundtable discussion, we take a closer look at the feature with members of the Spotlight team and special guests.

Claudine Weber-Hof: Welcome to April's Spotlight roundtable. Today we have some very special guests we've brought into the studio to talk about the topic of the best and the brightest in Britain. Our feature story is about 100 people who exemplify the best of Britain, and my first guest today is Paul Wheatley, a British journalist who wrote about sport for the feature story. Hi, Paul!

exemplify sth.

► für etw. stehen

Paul Wheatley: Hi! Good to be here.

Claudine: Thank you. Paul, I would like to ask you, when we gave you the assignment to make a choice of only 20 sports people in the United Kingdom — the best, the very best — can you tell me something about the process of making that choice that you went through?

Paul: Well, it was actually quite a difficult process because finding men, male sports stars, is quite easy. The media is obsessed with male sports stars. To find female sports stars was considerably more difficult, and I went through a process of familiarizing myself with sports stars that I thought were worthy of inclusion. And, as I say, male stars were quite easy, female stars were a little bit more tricky.

Claudine: Did you think that that had something to do with the way the media operates primarily?

Paul: Exactly. That's right. Female stars really have to be exceptional or, unfortunately, they have to look in a certain way, and that's often the criteria. But I managed to find some fantastic female sports stars who were absolutely worthy of inclusion.

Claudine: Most excellent. I look forward to recommending especially the sports section of our feature to our readers, and, Paul, thank you.

Paul: Thank you.

Claudine: Also with us today is Dr Ian McMaster from *Business Spotlight*. He is the

editor-in-chief of that publication. Ian, I'd like to ask you, as someone who really knows the press as concerns matters of business, etc., what did you think of the idea of coming up with sort of a top ten, a top fifteen, within one area?

Ian McMaster: I think it's a very interesting concept. I think what the list shows is that Britain has a wealth of people in a whole range of different industries. There are maybe some typical ones where people think, "Oh, yes, Britain's very good at music. Britain's very good at fashion." And we have Paul Smith and Vivienne Westwood as representatives of the fashion industry. People also think immediately of Richard Branson, who started off in music with his Virgin record stores I can remember from the early 1970s. But I think it's interesting to see some of the variety that's there. Charlie Mullins, a multimillionaire in Britain through

assignment

- Auftrag

editor-in-chief

- Chefredakteur(in)

familiarize oneself with sth.

- sich in vertraut machen, in etw. einarbeiten

inclusion

- Einbeziehung

obsessed: be ~ with sth.

- auf etw. fixiert sein

record

- Schallplatte

tricky

- knifflig

his plumbing business, Pimlico Plumbers. Or in some of the more modern areas, Rachel Wang, a leading social entrepreneur, or people like Andy Murray, the tennis player involved in WeSwap, which is a currency exchange app for exchanging currencies more cheaply. And also in the high-tech area, or the technology area, we also have people like Martha Lane Fox, who started her business *lastminute.com*, and also Gareth Williams with the Skyscanner, the travel search engine. So I think that was what was interesting, to show the breadth of industries that British people are successful in in business.

Claudine: Do you think that running a feature article like this right now in these unsure times, when Brexit is always a topic, do you think that says anything in particular, or do you think that this is the kind of article that's relevant at any time?

Ian: I think it's relevant at any time, but it's particularly relevant now because obviously there's a lot of discussion going on about what will happen to Britain after Brexit, assuming that Brexit goes ahead and obviously depending on the form that Brexit takes. I think one point is that Britain, like a lot of countries, has always had a lot of innovative people in lots of areas. And there is an argument to say Britain has been innovative for hundreds of years or a long time before Brexit, why shouldn't it

continue to be afterwards? So I think it's very interesting to come down from the big picture of Brexit as either excellent or Brexit as awful, to come down to the nitty-gritty of people in individual industries, because this is what will actually make the difference in the end. And I think that's interesting for readers to see, the different aspects that are there.

Claudine: Thank you very much. I'd like also to welcome Inez Sharp, the editor-in-chief of Spotlight magazine. Inez, could you round out our discussion with a few comments about the section that you wrote for the article?

Inez: Yes, of course. So as the editor-in-chief, I was lucky enough to be able to choose the section that I was going to write about, which is arts and literature. And I was: "Yippee! This is what I'm going to do." Then I realized about five minutes later that I'd actually more or

assuming that

- angenommen, dass

breadth

- Umfang, Bandbreite

currency exchange

- Währungsumtausch

entrepreneur

- Unternehmer(in)

nitty-gritty: get down to the ~

- sich konzentrieren auf, zur Sache kommen

plumbing business

- Installations-, Sanitär-geschäft

less set myself an impossible task. There are the most fabulous writers, designers, yeah, so many people. And I then spent a week sighing, as I had to throw out names that I really, really wanted to include. What we ended up with is a nice mix of people who are well known. But also, and I want to focus on one particular person, and she also gets a little bit of a longer write up on the arts and literature page, she is actually a costume designer. Her name is Michele Clapton, as far as I know no relation to the singer. She is a costume designer who worked on both *The Crown* and *Game of Thrones*. And a few weeks before we started working on the feature, I actually read an interview with her, and she was really fascinating, one of those slightly reticent British people — incredibly talented, but who doesn't put herself out there. She was talking about how she designs costumes for a series like *The Crown* and the details that she considers. I'll give you one example. There's a scene where Queen Elizabeth is not yet queen, and she's given the news that her father has died. And so most of us probably just watched that scene and thought, "Oh, well, OK, that's sad for her." Michele Clapton actually put her in some clothing which would make her look particularly vulnerable at that moment, and I thought: "Well, that's a level of detail that I just wouldn't normally think of." And, of course, everybody knows about her

because her *Game of Thrones* costumes are absolutely iconic.

Claudine: Thank you very much, Inez. Fascinating answer. I hope our readers will enjoy the feature story this month, and I look forward to hearing from you in your readers' letters. Thank you very much, everyone.

See Spotlight 4/2018, pages 14–29

English at Work

[14] Team leadership

Meredith: Each month, business communication expert Ken Taylor joins us in the studio with tips on using English at work. This time Ken has tips on leading an international project team.

Ken: Hello. This is Ken Taylor from London. Leading an international project team is a difficult job. The leader has to create a

fabulous

► großartig, fabelhaft

iconic

► kultig

reticent

► zurückhaltend

sigh

► seufzen

vulnerable

► verletzlich

well-functioning group of people who can work together in an effective way despite linguistic and cultural differences. Imagine you've been given the task of leading such a team. In the following exercise you'll hear a statement about team leadership. In the pause decide whether you agree or disagree with the statement. Afterwards you'll hear my opinion. Ready?

The team leader should clearly state what the organization expects from the team.
I agree. It's important the team know exactly what's expected of them.

The team leader should be totally honest and pass on all the information they get from stakeholders.
I disagree. The team leader should always be honest but sometimes has to respect that some information is confidential.

The team leader should know in detail what everyone is doing.
I disagree. The team leader should not be a micromanager but delegate tasks effectively.

The team leader should tolerate mistakes.
I agree as long as the mistakes are part of the team's learning process.

The team leader should give feedback when things go wrong.
I agree as long as the leader also gives feedback when things go well.

The team leader makes sure there are no personal conflicts in the team.
I disagree. There are nearly always some personal conflicts, but a good team leader manages them in an effective way.

The team leader must be the person with the greatest seniority.
I disagree. It should be the person best equipped for that particular task.

A team leader leads by example.
I agree. This helps the development of a good team ethos.

The team leader communicates clearly with the team whenever something important needs to be known.

confidential

• vertraulich

micromanager

• Führungskraft, die sich zu sehr um Einzelheiten im Arbeitsprozess kümmert

seniority

• Dienstalter

stakeholder

• Interessenvertreter(in)

I agree, of course. But that's not the only time the leader should communicate with the team. The communication should be often and not just when important information is to be circulated.

The team leader earns the respect of the team by listening to them.

I agree. Showing you want to listen shows you value the contributions of the team members.

Did you agree with me? I believe that a team is only as good as its leader. The way you lead sets the tone for everything that goes on in the team. If you can create the right team environment, your team can achieve its goals for the organization while allowing each team member the chance to develop themselves. Phil Jackson, the former head coach of the Chicago Bulls basketball team, once said: "The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each member is the team."

Meredith: If you have a question for Ken, send it by e-mail to language@spotlight-verlag.de. If Ken chooses your question to print in *Spotlight* magazine, you'll receive a free copy of his book, *Dear Ken... 101 answers to your questions about business English*.

See *Spotlight* 4/2018, page 55

Peggy's Place

[15] Sean's big swindle

Meredith: It's time to visit our favourite London pub, Peggy's Place. If you're a regular listener, you might remember that pub owner Peggy has started a book club. Now the pub's chef, Sean, has asked the group to give him feedback on a book project. Let's hope they are kind to him.

Peggy: So, has everyone got a drink?

All: Yes!

Peggy: Well now, as you all know, at this week's book-club meeting, we'll be finding out more about Sean's cookery book, *O'Connor's Cuisine: An Irish Chef Discovers Foreign Food*.

Gina: Well, the name sucks, so you may want to think about changing that, honey.

Helen: I think the name is cool.

Peggy: We don't have to come up with a title

chef

→ Küchenchef(in)

contribution

→ Beitrag

suck N. Am. *ifml.*

→ mies sein

tone: set the ~

→ die Atmosphäre bestimmen, richtungsweisend sein

for the book here and now. Today, we want to give Sean feedback on style and content.

Jane: I got the manuscript only yesterday. Can't Sean just read it aloud?

Peggy: Is that OK, Sean?

Sean: Yeah, ladies, but don't make mincemeat of me. Promise! I'm really nervous.

Helen: Actually, I did take the time to go through the manuscript, and it reads really well. I have a couple of comments, but those can wait.

Peggy: So, Sean, the floor is yours.

Sean: OK, I began my travels in Germany. On the advice of an old friend from uni, Gert, I travelled straight to the region south of Baden-Baden, which he says has the best food in Germany.

Gina: Are you reading aloud?

Sean: No, why?

Gina: Because that is some clunky prose.

Sean: I was just giving some background information.

Gina: Then look up and talk to us, kid. I can hardly hear you.

Jane: Leave him alone, Gina!

Peggy: Keep going, Sean.

Sean: Gert had recommended that I try something called Wurstsalat. It's sausage and salad meats cut into thin strips and mixed with gherkins and onions.

Helen: It sounds awful. Please tell me that this

is not your first recipe.

Sean: No, I tried it and immediately renamed it "worst salad". It really was dire, but next on my list was this strange dish called — roughly translated — "God swindlers".

Jane: Boring story!

Helen: Ignore the comments from the cheap seats, Sean.

Sean: Does anyone have a hanky? My hands are all sweaty.

Peggy: Here you go, love. Why not put the manuscript away. We can read it later. Just give us the story.

Sean: Well now, I'm a good Catholic boy, so the idea of swindling God was something exciting, scary even. I thought I'd give this dish

clunky *ifml.*

► hölzern, linkisch

dire UK *ifml.*

► schlimm, furchtbar

gherkin UK

► Gewürzgurke, Essiggurke

hanky (handkerchief)

ifml.

► Taschentuch

mincemeat: make ~ of

sb. *ifml.*

► aus jmdm. Hackfleisch machen, jmdn. auseinandernehmen

prose

► Prosa

swindler

► Betrüger(in)

a try. It turns out that swindlers are minced meat mixed with breadcrumbs and some herbs wrapped in pasta dough. Usually, they are cooked in broth, but mine were fried in butter and served with a big crunchy salad and fried potatoes.

Helen: Sounds a bit heavy.

Sean: I was pretty full afterwards, but it was worth it. It's the perfect family dinner.

Jane: Where does the swindling come in?

Sean: I think it has to do with Lent. Way back, the monks weren't allowed to eat meat, so they hid it in the pasta.

Gina: I've got to give it to you kid, you've got my mouth watering.

Sean: That's good, because I have a little surprise waiting in the kitchen... I hope you're all hungry.

Source: Spotlight 4/2018, page 12

Short Story

[16] "Stitched up!"

Meredith: When William of Normandy defeated the English King Harold at the Battle of Hastings in 1066, it changed the course of British history. Not long after, an incredible work of art was created to celebrate the victory. The Bayeux Tapestry is 70 metres long and tells the

story of the Norman conquest of England. For around 950 years, the tapestry has been kept in France. Now French President Emmanuel Macron has announced it could be loaned to the UK sometime after 2020. In this month's short story, we hear from someone who can't wait for the loan to take place.

It's a boring life being trapped in a tapestry — although, strictly speaking, it's an embroidery. Millions of people know who we are. I, though, know just the other figures stitched in around me. It's not as if we live only as long as the

breadcrumb

► hier: Semmelbrösel

broth

► Brühe

conquest

► Eroberung

crunchy

► knackig

embroidery

► Stickarbeit

herb

► Gewürzkraut

Lent

► Fastenzeit

pasta dough

► Nudelteig

stitch in

► hineinstecken

tapestry

► Bild-, Wandteppich

trapped

► gefangen

turn out

► sich herausstellen

wrap

► einwickeln

people who come to look at us. I was embroidered in 1072 and have been hanging around — literally — in Bayeux since the 15th century. What's more, unless someone starts a fire or there's a war, I will be stuck behind this glass for the foreseeable future.

It's not all bad, of course. If you live in a tapestry, you don't get tired or hungry or feel pain. Best of all, though, once the visitors have gone home and the museum has closed, you can relax. I stretch out and chat to the knights hanging around my husband, Edward — that's King Edward to you. Naturally, none of us in the tapestry is real. We are just images of people. But I got lucky as Edith of Wessex. I might have been one of the soldiers, about to have my head cut off or something just as awful. No, to begin with, I was happy to be Edith, but it can be a bit lonely. There are only a couple of other women in the tapestry, and they aren't close enough to have a chat.

My husband is OK, but he knows he's dying, and it's like an extreme case of man flu. All he ever talks about is how much he is suffering. Sometimes I wish they had stitched him dead — as he is in the picture below — so that I could get some peace and quiet. He is better company than the soldiers, though. They love their weapons and, at night, they run about shouting "Attack!" and trying to kill each other. After almost 950 years, it's pretty irritating.

The other day, there was a girl standing in front of the tapestry. She was really young and was wearing a T-shirt that said "the future is female". I thought, "Lucky you!" The men trapped in here with me can't harm me, but most of them are so boring.

The great antidote to this is a good story. In the early years, I used to make up stories about the people who came to look at us. After dark, we'd sit up, and I'd embroider on — if you'll excuse the terrible pun — bits of stories that I'd picked up. If a couple stood looking at us for long enough and we could hear their conversation, I'd spin it out for weeks — months even. Figures from other parts of the tapestry would move up as close as they could to listen.

antidote

- Gegenmittel, Gegengift

foreseeable

- absehbar

knight

- Ritter, Edelmann

literally

- im wahren Sinne des Wortes

man flu *ifml*.

- Männergrippe

pretty

- hier: ziemlich

pun

- Wortspiel

spin sth. out

- etw. in die Länge ziehen

unless

- außer, wenn nicht

I do like a happy ending, though, and if you're telling a story to men, there has to be quite a bit of action. They got sick of what they called my sentimental stories and went back to fighting each other.

Now I concentrate on trying to keep up with the world on the other side of the glass. It's amazing what you can pick up. I have years and years of fashion trends in my head, and I can't say I like the direction it has been taking over the past 20 years. Whoever invented Lyra deserves an arrow in the eye. Talk about common!

I have been following the development of technology, too, although I'm not sure why people need to text when they are standing in front of the Bayeux Tapestry. I mean, what could be more exciting than the story we tell? Then, a few months ago, I managed to read a headline that said we were being lent to England by the French government. Lent, my foot! We're going home. After all, we were stitched over there. Why do you think my English is so good? I'm really excited! First, we might get to see some celebrities. I've been dreaming of Emmanuel Macron for weeks. Actually, he has been to see us before — once, many years ago. He and Brigitte were so in love, standing looking at us, then kissing, then looking back at us. Very sweet!

I'm not sure which British celebs we'll see.

British politics is in a real mess at the moment, so who knows who will be prime minister then? But maybe there'll be some actors and even some royalty present when we are unveiled in the UK. It would be great to see Meghan and Kate up close. Now those are two style icons of whom every woman should take note.

I'm a little worried about the transportation when they send us to the UK. We are all very delicate, as you can imagine. I hope they don't tear me. On the upside, if I did get damaged, perhaps they could replace that horrible yellow of my dress. The colour does nothing for my complexion.

My biggest wish, though, is that moving us away from this sleepy place will give us more access to the world in general. At the moment, most of our information comes from reading

celeb *ifml*.

► Promi

complexion

► Teint, Aussehen

delicate

► empfindlich

Lyra

► Elastan

my foot! *ifml*.

► So ein Quatsch!

tear

► zerreißen

text

► SMS schreiben

unveil

► enthüllen

over the shoulders of the museum wardens as they sit around waiting for the museum doors to open. Jacques reads *L'Équipe*, which is worse than useless. Marcel usually comes in with the local newspaper, and he sits directly in front of me. Unfortunately, he's always picking his nose. God knows what he's got up there. It certainly keeps him busy — and as he moves his arm about, he keeps covering up bits of text. It's most frustrating. Back in the days when we were stitched, I could have had him garrotted. I'm hoping for a more educated type of warden in the UK. If there was only a way to ask visitors to bring a newspaper and hold it so that I could just take a quick look at what's going on. Digital media are for the most part unreadable. I will have to rely more on the spoken word. That could make the next 950 years very tiring.

Source: Spotlight 4/2018, pages 66–67

Conclusion

[17] Meredith: Thanks for joining us for Spotlight Audio. You'll find more information about becoming a regular subscriber to either our CD or download at www.spotlight-online.de/ hoeren Join us again next month, won't you? Until then: goodbye.

garrotte

➤ erdrosseln, garrottieren

pick: ~ one's nose

➤ in der Nase bohren

subscriber

➤ Abonnent(in)

tiring

➤ ermüdend, anstrengend

warden

➤ Aufseher(in)

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