

Introduction

[1] **David:** Welcome to the September 2018 edition of Spotlight Audio. I'm David Creedon from Britain. Join me now for a 60-minute expedition around the English-speaking world — with stories, language tips and exercises.

Britain's historic gardens are world-famous. Come with us to a peaceful land of sweet-smelling flowers, exotic plants and glorious designs.

Controversy follows Donald Trump wherever he goes. Yet the US president still enjoys a high level of support among voters. Americans tell us what they like — and really don't like — about their president.

And in English at Work, learn how to use storytelling techniques to give more effective business presentations.

In the Spotlight

[2] A golden arm

David: We're used to seeing characters in films and TV series that have superpowers. But even in the real world, people can have

special powers inside them too. Listen now to a story about an Australian man whose blood has been used to save the lives of millions of babies.

How did one man save the lives of 2.4 million babies? Until the mid-1960s, thousands of babies in Australia were dying each year of haemolytic disease of the newborn (**HDN**), caused when a mother and her unborn child have incompatible blood types. In 1967, doctors found that HDN could be stopped if pregnant women at risk were injected with an antibody found very rarely in donated blood. One man whose blood contained these antibodies was James Harrison from New South Wales, and doctors asked him to take part in a programme to fight HDN. By May 2018, Harrison had donated blood more than 1,000 times to the country's Red Cross Blood Service. Now 81, "the man with the golden arm" is too old to donate blood any more. The RCBS says that about 50 other Australians have the same

antibody ▶ Antikörper

donated ▶ gespendet

HDN (hemolytic disease of the newborn)

▶ Blutarmut beim Neugeborenen

incompatible

▶ unverträglich

pregnant ▶ schwanger

antibody, and it is hoped that they will donate their blood now, too.

Source: Spotlight 9/2018, page 7

Britain Today

[3] Second-guessing

David: Sometimes language has a way of playing tricks on us. A homonym, for instance, is a word that's spelled the same or sounds the same as another word, but has a different meaning. Here's an example: a "jumper" is an item of clothing and also a person or animal that jumps. In Britain Today, Colin Beaven finds out that using the right homonym can sometimes save you a lot of time.

It's important to know what's going on in the world. One does one's best to keep up to date. But can we really spare the time? Life is too short to spend hours watching the news. Time ticks by, and while it does, none of us is getting any younger.

It was useful, therefore, when the BBC ran a news update at eight in the evening. It lasted 90 seconds, and it meant that you heard the headlines without having to watch a full half hour of global misery at six or ten o'clock. But this 90-second news update was recently axed.

Perhaps it really was too short. Without going to the other extreme and watching non-stop news on CNN or the BBC News Channel, 90 seconds of information about the day's events do leave you a bit short of details.

The 90-second formula hasn't gone completely, though. There's still a whole page on the BBC website with 90-second summaries of all sorts of news stories. And the other day, there was music on the radio that the announcer identified as "Haydn's 90-second symphony". "Ninety seconds?" I thought to myself afterwards. "Surely it lasted longer than that." It took me a moment to realize that the symphony was sandwiched between Haydn's ninety-first and ninety-third. I'd been listening to number 92.

It's not the only time there could be this sort of musical confusion. If you book yourself a ticket to see *42nd Street*, the hit musical that's been playing in London with great success, don't think you'll be out of the theatre in less than a minute and back on the bus before the traffic

announcer
 ► Ansager(in)

axed ► gestrichen,
 eingesparrt

for instance ► zum
 Beispiel

**sandwiched: be ~
 between sth.**

► zwischen etw. liegen

spare ► erübrigen

lights have changed. The musical, set in New York's theatreland, lasts more than 40 seconds, and 42nd Street is the one that's sandwiched between 41st and 43rd.

There are times, though, when “60-second” means a minute and no more. The firm Crabtree & Evelyn makes an upmarket hand cream called the “60-Second Fix for Hands”. The idea is to use it for 60 seconds a day as a way of looking after your hands and protecting them from ageing. On the one hand, then, there are numbers like sixty-first and sixty-third, and on the other hand — there's hand cream.

Worrying about the use of everyday skincare products may seem pretty trivial. But what will happen when even cosmetic surgery takes little more than a minute to perform. As technology advances, there won't just be rapid treatment for hands. The day will come when cosmetic surgeons will need no more than seconds to take years off their customers' appearance.

Clients arriving at their chosen clinic will no doubt be welcomed with the news that they're about to have their “90-second facelift”. How are they likely to respond?

Like this, I imagine: “How dare you! I'm not suggesting this is the first time I've had this done. I don't mind admitting I'm well into double figures. But there's still a long way to go before I'm even close to 92 of them.”

Source: Spotlight 9/2018, page 13

A Day in My Life

[4] Welcome to Australia

David: Have you ever been on a study tour? That's a visit to a country or area in which you go to different places and also study a subject. In A Day in My Life, we meet Robyn Allen, a study-tour teacher who works at a school on Bribie Island, which is just north of the city of Brisbane in Queensland, Australia. The majority of her students are from China and aged between five and 17. In the first part of the interview, Allen talks about the kinds of things the students learn in the classroom.

So an example of a typical day would be, once we arrive in the classroom, I might talk to them about what we did the previous day. So, we review the previous day's excursion, where we went, their thoughts on it, what they like, what they don't or didn't like. We might compare it, perhaps, with what their life is like in China.

cosmetic surgery

► Schönheitsoperation

dare ► wagen, sich

erdreisten

pretty ifml. ► ziemlich

previous ► vorherig

suggest ► behaupten

surgeon ► Chirurg(in)

upmarket UK

► exklusiv, hochwertig

And then we might do a lesson on, perhaps, Australian geography. So we might place the major cities, states, territories and maybe all the places of interest, like Uluru and the Great Barrier Reef, on a map of Australia. We might learn about the meaning behind the Australian and Aboriginal flags. By this time, it's usually time for us to start gathering up our things, and we escort the students then onto a bus where we'll go then to that day's activities.

David: In the second part of the interview, Allen describes some of the places the school brings the students after the lessons in class. Allen mentions the CBD area of Brisbane. CBD is short for central business district, the main business and commercial area of a town or city.

On that typical day, we might perhaps go to Mt Coot-tha Botanical Gardens. [Those are] lovely gardens here in Brisbane with subtropical plants and flowers. It was founded in 1970. It's actually our second botanical gardens. The main one is actually in the CBD area of Brisbane. But as it floods fairly often, they have made a second botanical gardens. It's very beautiful there. We take the students to sit where there's a lovely lake with lots of different kinds of bamboo, and the students just enjoy taking photos and perhaps have morning

tea there. There's a lot of birdlife and animal life around the lake. From there, we would gather [the students] up again, and we would go to perhaps Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary. This is a place that was a safe place for mainly koalas, but it has expanded now where it has a lot of Australian animals and birds. The students particularly love a chance to be able to have a photo taken actually holding a koala. The kangaroos they have there also. You can actually pat them and be very close to them. We can see Australia's native dogs — the dingoes — and lots of other animals as well.

See *Spotlight* 9/2018, pages 10–11

Garden Special

[5] The glory of the garden

David: Britain is home to many beautiful historic gardens. These masterpieces of design come from visionaries like Lancelot “Capability” Brown, the 18th-century architect who revolutionized landscape gardening.

escort ► begleiten

pat ► tätscheln; hier:
streicheln

sanctuary

► Schutzgebiet

visionary ► Visionär(in),
Vordenker(in)

For the September issue, *Spotlight's* Editor-in-Chief Inez Sharp visited some of the most iconic British gardens. In the following excerpt from the travel feature, Inez discovers the wonders of Sheringham Park, in the county of Norfolk.

The word “park” has its roots in the Latin *parcus* meaning “enclosure”. There is no feeling, however, of being enclosed at Sheringham Park. The sprawling grounds are set between low hills on the north Norfolk coast. It’s a very English kind of paradise.

The park and house are the work of the landscape designer Humphry Repton (1752–1818). Repton, who created the term “landscape gardening”, took on more than 400 landscaping commissions during his career.

He had already made a name for himself when, in 1811, a wealthy young landowner, Abbot Upcher, asked him to design a park and house on lands that Upcher had bought next to the village of Upper Sheringham. Repton, who was familiar with the area, was happy to accept the commission.

For every project, the famous landscape gardener created a Red Book — so called because it was covered in red leather. This contained the plans for the buildings and garden designs, with drawings and text.

At Sheringham, Repton, working together

with his son John, designed a two-storey house with a colonnade on the south side and surrounded by woodland, orchards, a kitchen garden and open parkland. Much of what the visitor sees today follows Repton’s initial plans.

Only a few steps from the car park is the start of the Ramblers Route around the grounds of Sheringham. It is one of three walks that are marked on a map provided by the National Trust, which runs the property. It will take me on a circular walk past Sheringham Hall. I admire Himalayan birches, fine old beech trees and some bird cherry trees before turning off into the Wild Garden.

This part of the park is dominated by rhododendrons. I climb on to a small viewing platform and look down on a carpet of purple,

beech ► Buchen-

birch ► Birke

bird cherry tree

► Traubenkirschenbaum

circular walk

► Rundwanderweg

colonnade

► Säulengang, Wandelgang

commission ► Auftrag

editor-in-chief

► Chefredakteur(in)

excerpt ► Auszug

iconic

► berühmt, mit besonderem Symbolcharakter

rambler

► Spaziergänger(in), Wanderer, Wanderin

storey ► geschossig

orange, white and pink blossoms, although they are now no longer at their best. It's late June. May is the month to enjoy these flowers. Rhododendrons are native to the Alps, Spain, Portugal, Turkey, India, China and North America. The first recorded cultivation of a rhododendron in Britain (*R. hirsutum*) was in 1650. By the early 19th century, British plant hunters were being sent around the world to find exotic shrubs and plants, including new rhododendron varieties, which were then sold on a flourishing market for gardeners. E. H. Wilson (1876–1930), one of the best-known British plant hunters, travelled to China in 1900 to bring back seedlings of the handkerchief tree (*Davidia involucrata*), which has large white bracts that look like waving handkerchiefs around each flower. He came home with a specimen — there is one here at Sheringham — but also with many other exotic plants, including some of the rhododendrons I can see below me now, such as the rhododendrons *ambiguum*, *calophytum* and *decorum*.

The Ramblers Route now leads me through open parkland to a small temple on a hill, from where I can see Sheringham Hall surrounded by trees and the sea beyond. This is what I have come for: the combination of calm English parkland edged with a restless sea. Perhaps, though, seen high up from a gazebo, which lies further on between the house and the sea,

I will get an even better view.

As Sheringham Hall is privately owned and it is not possible to look inside the building, I climb straight to the top of the gazebo. In the distance lies the cool blue North Sea. In between are parkland and fields, punctuated to the left by a white mill and by red farm buildings to my right. In the middle distance, a small train chugs along a single-track line. I lean on the balustrade and enjoy this perfect vista.

Source: Spotlight 9/2018, pages 14–22

balustrade

► Geländer, Brüstung

blossom ► Blüte

bract

► Deckblatt, Tragblatt

chug ► tuckern

edged ► gesäumt

flourishing

► florierend, blühend

gazebo

► Aussichtspunkt, Aussichtspavillon

handkerchief tree

► Taschentuchbaum

mill ► Mühle

punctuated

► unterbrochen

seedling

► Sämling, Jungpflanze

shrub ► Strauch

single-track ► eingleisig

vista ► Ausblick

[6] Plant pronunciation

David: The pronunciation of plant names is always a bit tricky — even for native English speakers. After all, few people have a wide-ranging knowledge of plants. Add to that the fact that plants generally have both a common name in English and a botanical name in Latin. Common names for plants may also differ from place to place, which is an additional challenge.

We're going to look at how to pronounce some names for plants that are often seen in British gardens. Most of these plants' common names are similar to or the same as their Latin names. Because of this, you may recognize some of them from German. I'll say the name and you repeat it in the pause. Ready? Lets start.

anemone / fuchsia / peony
chrysanthemum / hydrangea / poinsettia

In the pronunciation of botanical terms, there are plenty of surprises for speakers of German, especially where vowel quality and accent placement are concerned. A good pronunciation dictionary can be a great help in learning how plant names are said in English.

See Spotlight 9/2018, pages 51–52

[7] Roundtable

David: What would your ideal garden look like? Should it be a space for relaxing on your own or with friends? Perhaps you'd prefer to cultivate flowers or grow fruit and vegetables. Or maybe what you'd really like is a small section of wilderness to get you back in touch with nature. We've got some passionate gardeners at Spotlight Verlag who join us in the studio now to talk about their ideal garden.

Inez: Hello, welcome to Spotlight's Roundtable. The topic this month is gardens, a topic very close to my heart as anybody who's looked at the feature in this month's magazine will see. Our focus in the Roundtable today is the ideal, the perfect garden. And in order to get a little bit of background from some of the Spotlight colleagues, I've invited Margaret Davis from *Business Spotlight* and Sarah Gough, who is

accent placement

► Akzentplatzierung

after all

► schließlich, immerhin

differ

► abweichen, unterschiedlich sein

Latin ► Latein, lateinisch

passionate

► leidenschaftlich

tricky

► knifflig, verwickelt

vowel quality

► Vokalqualität

head of the picture desk. And we are going to discuss what constitutes the perfect garden. I have some very firm ideas, which I'll tell you about in a moment, but we'll actually begin with Sarah. Sarah, your perfect garden — real, imagined? What would it be? What would it have?

Sarah: My ideal garden's definitely in my head. It should be wild and overgrown and have some apple trees and some cherry trees. And then I'd set up a really comfortable wicker chair, and I would sit there either reading or just staring at the sky or listening to the wind blow through the leaves.

Inez: OK, right. So that's a very simple garden. Have you ever sat in a garden like that before or is this really only in your head?

Sarah: That really is only in my head. I'd like a maze, though, in the other part, the non-wild part of the garden. I'd lose people there.

Inez: You wouldn't go in there yourself; you're sending other people in there.

Sarah: Exactly.

Inez: OK. Margaret, does your garden look anything like Sarah's garden?

Margaret: Well, in a way it does. Yeah, and it's kind of partly in my head and partly really existed. Or at least at one point really existed. I don't know if it's still there, but some years ago I rented a house from an elderly couple in Nova Scotia, on the east coast of Canada. And

this house had a seaside view and at the bottom of the garden, just a big lawn really, there was a huge old-fashioned rose bush.

Inez: Oh, how lovely!

Margaret: And one of my favourite memories of living in that house is a summer evening lying on the couch, windows open, and I could smell both the roses and the sea breeze coming in. It was wonderful.

Inez: Doesn't that sound perfect? So water is a nice component for you, Margaret? Water, Sarah?

Sarah: Definitely. I also want a lake at the bottom of the garden with a little wooden boat-house.

Inez: And you would row out there on a summer's evening?

Sarah: That's right.

Inez: My perfect garden was a very real garden, I have to say, that I used to go to, and it had a number of elements that for me are absolutely essential in the perfect garden. First of all, it had a swimming pool. I love to swim. It's my

breeze

► Brise, leichter Wind

constitute ► ausmachen

maze ► Labyrinth

overgrown

► überwuchert

picture desk

► Bildredaktion

row ► rudern

wicker chair

► Korbstuhl

favourite sport. I actually can't do many other sports, so my favourite sports are the ones I can do and that I enjoy. But just to give a kind of general impression first of all. The house in this property was an Arts-and-Crafts red brick house, which even in the summer was wonderfully cool, which was very nice. And then it had this kidney-shaped swimming pool, which was big enough actually to swim proper lengths, and a little changing hut with a thatched roof. It looked very, very sweet. A little round changing hut where you would go, and there'd be insects running over your feet as you changed into a swimming costume and whatever. That was wonderful. There was a big lawn with lots of flowers, which was also important. I think there were some vegetables; there was always the sense that they were home-grown vegetables. And, perfectly, there was a tennis court. Now, as I say, it's a bit of a waste for me because I can't play tennis. I have no idea how. I mean, that's not true; I did learn at school. But people would never want to play tennis against me because I was so bad and I've long since forgotten all the rules and whatever. I sometimes watch Wimbledon just a little bit, but I don't really get what's going on. But the wonderful thing about tennis is the sound of people playing tennis. So the plop of the ball onto a grass court or the thwack as the racket hits the ball is the perfect music to reading a book by. It's

not intrusive. You can lie on your wicker chair, Sarah, or you can lie in your house. In my case, I would be by the pool on a lounger and have a good book, and that would just be the background which wouldn't disturb me but would give me that reassuring feeling somebody's close by and, you know, there's no, how can I put it, that the atmosphere is very relaxed. So yeah, that would be my perfect garden. Right. Margaret, thank you very much indeed. Sarah, thank you.

Sarah: You're welcome.

Inez: We hope we've inspired you to think about your ideal garden. Thank you very much. Goodbye.

See Spotlight 9/2018, pages 14–22

Arts-and-Crafts

► Arts-and-Crafts, britische Kunstbewegung in der Mitte des 19. Jh.

changing hut

► Umkleidehäuschen

intrusive ► aufdringlich

kidney-shaped

► nierenförmig

length ► hier: Bahn

lounger ► Liege

property ► Anwesen

racket ► Tennisschläger

reassuring

► beruhigend

red brick ► Backstein-

thatched ► reetgedeckt

thwack ► Schlaggeräusch, Klatschen

Everyday English

[8] First day at college

David: In Everyday English, we meet Erin, who's just arrived for her first day at Dundee College. She's a nervous wreck; in other words, she's suffering from stress and feeling emotional. Luckily, she meets another new student called Alistair who's also on her course. Here's some more vocabulary you'll need to know before you listen to the first dialogue. An "induction" is the introduction of someone into a new job, company or, in this case, college. And if something "fazes" you, it makes you feel confused or upset. Now listen and try to answer this question. What course are both Erin and Alistair doing?

Erin: Excuse me! You wouldn't happen to know where the induction is, would you?

Alistair: What course are you doing?

Erin: Events management — the HND course.

Alistair: Oh, right! So am I. What a coincidence! As far as I know, the induction takes place in block M, in room 204. Why don't we see if we can find it together?

Erin: Yes, please. I'm a nervous wreck!

Alistair: Why are you nervous?

Erin: Oh, I don't know. New situations always faze me. It's like the first day of school all over

again.

Alistair: I suppose so. But you're not five. You're older and wiser now.

Erin: Yeah? I'm not so sure I'm much wiser, to be honest.

David: Were you able to answer the question? What course are both Erin and Alistair doing? The answer is events management. In the second dialogue, Erin and Alistair have just found the room where the induction is taking place. Here's some vocabulary you'll need to know. You can say "by the way" to introduce information or ask a question that suddenly occurs to you. A "student card" is an identity card that allows access to the facilities at a university or college. And "to enrol" is to officially join a school, university or course. As you listen, try to answer this question. What kind of events does Erin hope to manage in the future?

Erin: Oh, wow! So many people! We'll never find a seat.

Alistair: There are two at the back there. What's your name, by the way?

Erin: I'm Erin.

facility ▶ Einrichtung

feel emotional

▶ aufgewühlt sein

nervous wreck

▶ Nervenbündel

Alistair: My name's Alistair. Nice to meet you. I'm really looking forward to being at college here actually. How about you?

Erin: Yeah, I am, too. Why did you decide to study events management?

Alistair: Oh, it's just something I know I'll always be interested in.

Erin: I know what you mean. I'm hoping I'll be able to work in sport myself. What about you?

Alistair: Music. Hey! Have you got your student card yet?

Erin: Yeah, I collected it last week. Did you enrol online?

Alistair: Yes. I'm going to ask about it in the student advice centre after this.

David: Were you able to answer the question? What kind of events does Erin hope to manage in the future? She hopes to manage sports events.

Source: Spotlight 9/2018, pages 54–55

Around Oz

[9] Closer to the Middle Kingdom

David: While China's problems with the US get lots of headlines, it's easy to forget that China's relationship with Australia has also become difficult. In *Around Oz*, columnist Peter

Flynn looks at how fears over trade and political influence have damaged the relationship between these two regional powers.

Australia has a love-hate relationship with China; or maybe a better description would be "a love-fear relationship". Probably few people in Europe understand just how joined up the two countries have become. Consider the fact that 30 years ago, we had about 200,000 residents of Chinese ancestry, whereas today, we have more than 1.2 million, more than half of whom were born in China or Hong Kong. That is more than five per cent of our total population. China will continue to be our primary source of new immigrants (ahead of India, interestingly enough), and they already account for one in ten of those who live in our biggest city, Sydney. They make up the largest group of foreign students and are an increasingly important source of well-heeled tourism. Australians like and respect their Chinese population as polite, hard-working people who have

account for sth.

► sich auf etw. belaufen

ancestry ► Abstammung, Herkunft

headline ► Schlagzeile

joined up

► vernetzt, verbunden

primary source

► Hauptquelle

well-heeled ifml.

► wohlhabend, betucht

integrated themselves well across the country. On the trade front, China overtook Japan more than a decade ago as our biggest export market. Few developed countries in the world are as reliant as we are on China, which takes almost 30 per cent of our exported goods and services — worth A\$ 110 billion a year — including iron ore and coal for its steel mills. In comparison, traditional Western trading partners, such as the EU and the US, account for only about ten and five per cent respectively.

Here lies the dilemma: Australia needs China for its future prosperity, but gets anxious about a new world order in which it would be too reliant on a totalitarian regime that is pushy in Pacific geopolitics. Our dependence on security arrangements with the US seems far less assured as that country becomes more insular, especially under President Trump.

New laws introduced to fight foreign influence on Australian politics (the Espionage and Foreign Interference Bill) have upset the Chinese government, which is undoubtedly trying to shape a softer image of itself to Australians. The government's Foreign Investments Review Board also blocks efforts by state-owned Chinese companies to buy or get involved in strategic infrastructure assets. Isn't this what world superpowers have always done, though? It is forecast, namely, that China will overtake the US as the biggest global

economy by 2030. Great powers project authority, promote their values and culture and, above all, protect their trade routes and supply chains.

Australia will, therefore, be challenged to achieve a fine balancing act over the coming years: holding on to the Christian, democratic values of the West on the one hand, and on the other, the economic pragmatism of needing a powerful neighbour (and benefactor) that does not give a hoot about the former. The global power shift is well under way, and it's a bit late now for fear.

Source: Spotlight 9/2018, page 68

benefactor

► Wohltäter(in)

billion ► Milliarde(n)

infrastructure assets

► Infrastrukturvermögen

insular ► sich abschot-tend, engstirnig

iron ore ► Eisenerz

not give a hoot about sth. ifml. ► sich nicht um etw. scheren

prosperity ► Wohlstand

reliant: be - on sb.

► von jmdm. abhängig sein

steel mill ► Stahlwerk

supply chain
► Lieferkette

under way: be (well) ~
► voll im Gange sein

Replay

[10] A look at recent news events

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

A recent call to ban the use of mobile phones in schools in the UK has proved popular. The benefits of such a ban would be wide-ranging.

[11] Mobile phones: schools are better without them

Inez: In September of this year, French school children up to around the age of 15 will be banned from using mobile phones at school — and that includes in playgrounds and at break times. The general consensus in the French parliament was that excessive mobile-phone use had led to children being unable to concentrate on their studies. There's also been a call by leading UK politicians for more schools to ban the use of mobile phones, although new legislation on the issue is unlikely.

In an opinion piece from Britain's *Guardian* newspaper, the editorial writers fully support such a ban and discuss negative aspects of mobile-phone use among children. 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. If you discover something accidentally, you "stumble on" it. And something that's interesting and important enough to be reported on in the news can be called "newsworthy". Now listen to the first excerpt.

When a minister in this government stumbles on a policy that is both popular and good, it's newsworthy. Matt Hancock, the [former] digital minister, has [this summer] suggested that schools ban the use of mobile phones by their pupils. Amanda Spielman, the head of Ofsted, agrees. In France, the Macron government ... put forward legislation that will ban the use of phones in all primary and middle schools...

Inez: Ofsted is a non-ministerial department of the UK government. It inspects and regulates services that care for children, and services providing education and skills for learners of all ages. In the second excerpt, the writers talk about the problems that mobile phones can cause in school. Before you listen, let's look at some useful vocabulary. "To tackle" something is to try to deal with a difficult situation. And

editorial writer

➤ Redakteur(in), Verfasser(in) eines Leitartikels

excerpt • Auszug

“bullying” is using strength or power to frighten or hurt people. Here’s the second excerpt.

There are three kinds of damage that mobile phones can do in the playground and schools are right to tackle them. The most obvious may be the least serious: some games and apps are so overwhelmingly attractive when they first appear that unhappy children can be entirely swept away in them. ... The second problem, which is not of course confined to school hours, is that social networks make bullying and cliquishness easier and perhaps more attractive. They make grownups behave like petulant teenagers and real teenagers have fewer defences against their own worst impulses...

Inez: Finally, the *Guardian* writers describe what they see as the most negative aspect of mobile-phone use in schools — the distraction it causes for children trying to focus on learning. Let’s look at a couple of the words in the third excerpt. “To degrade” means to make something worse, especially regarding its quality. And “companions” are friends or people you spend a lot of time with. Now listen to the third extract.

The most serious, though, is that the constant interruption and the state of twitchy half-attention promoted by the mobile phone tends

to degrade the capacity for sustained attention, which schools need to teach. There is evidence, mentioned by Mr Hancock, that the mere presence of a phone makes it harder to concentrate... The expectation of distraction is its own distraction. This isn’t just a matter of listening in lessons. Outside the classroom children are constantly learning — and teaching — important social lessons and they need to do this with their real companions rather than imaginary ones. Real communities are made from people who might not have chosen one another and schools should teach children how to live in them. Paying the tribute of attention to the people around us is part of that. ...

Source: © *Guardian News & Media* 2018

cliquishness

► Cliquenwirtschaft

distraction

► Ablenkung

mere

► bloß, rein

overwhelmingly

► überwältigend

petulant

► launisch, bockig

sustained

► anhaltend, ständig

swept away: be ~

► mitgerissen sein, eingenommen sein

twitchy ifml.

► reizbar, nervös

[12] Words and phrases

Inez: 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?

Something that's interesting and important enough to be reported as news can be called... newsworthy.

What verb means to make something worse, especially regarding its quality? To degrade

What noun describes using strength or power to frighten or hurt people? Bullying

What word describes friends or people you spend a lot of time with? Companions

What verb means to try to deal with a difficult situation? To tackle

And if you discover something accidentally, you... stumble on it.

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

See Spotlight 9/2018, page 69

Society

[13] A road trip through Trump country

David: Love him or hate him, it's hard to ignore Donald Trump. Since becoming the 45th president of the United States, Trump has seldom been out of the news. Despite the amount of criticism that he and his policies have attracted, the president still enjoys a high level of support from Republican voters. But what is it about Trump that appeals to so many people? To find out, Irish journalist Colm Flynn travelled to some of the states that voted for Trump in the 2016 election. In the following excerpt from the Society article, Colm visited the town of Holly Springs, Mississippi — a state Trump won with around 58 per cent of the vote.

The next morning, I wake up in a small, sleepy Mississippi town. I head out for breakfast, and it isn't long before I find a diner. Inside, I'm one of a few men sitting around in silence. The music plays softly in the background, interrupted by chatter from the kitchen. The door swings open, and the waitress comes through carrying

appeal to sb.

► jmdm. zusagen,
gefallen

chatter

► Geplapper

plates of scrambled eggs and pancakes.

A smiling young woman pours me some tea. “What are you doing in town, sweetie?” she asks. “I’m a reporter, just passing through,” I say. “Well, welcome to Holly Springs, and if you need anything else, you just give me a holler,” she says in a beautiful Southern accent. If anything, I’ve definitely experienced that famous Southern hospitality during this trip, something you don’t take for granted when you’re so far from home.

As I sit there, looking out the window, I think about the female voters I’ve spoken to on my journey, and how they seem to justify gloss over — or really just don’t care about — the way President Trump has talked about their gender in the past. It was one of the most contentious issues of his campaign. Today, close to two years later, it continues to fuel protests that fill the streets.

After my breakfast, I ask the owner of the diner about it outside. Samuel Cooper is a large man wearing a colorful shirt and tight suspenders. His explanation is simple, but accurately reflects what so many here seem to believe.

“I think he loves women, just as I love women,” he says. “It’s what God made for us, for our helpmeet. It’s hard to do with them, and it’s hard to do without them.”

“Do you feel like Trump represents your voice and your values?” I ask.

“Yes, sir. Yes, I do,” he replies, while holding out the suspenders from his shirt.

When I ask him what the biggest issue for him is, he doesn’t miss a beat: “Immigration! It’s not right for us to have to take care of the illegals, while the veterans do without. There are a lot of people here who need financial help, and we’re taking care of the immigrant kids and families, and we shouldn’t have to.”

Standing by his pickup truck close by and looking over at us is Nicholas Jones, an African-American man wearing a veteran’s cap. I put the question to him: if he felt Trump was looking after the veterans. “He’s a joke! I don’t care nothing about him, and he don’t care nothing about me,” he says. When I ask him if Trump is representing his values and his views, he says: “No! He’s that ‘one percent.’”

contentious

- umstritten, kontrovers

gloss over

- schönfärben

granted

- selbstverständlich

helpmeet

- Gefährtin, Gefährtin

holler: give a ~ ifml.

- Bescheid sagen

hospitality

- Gastfreundlichkeit

miss a beat

- zögern

suspenders

- Hosenträger

He's a billionaire. I'm a poor man. Plus I'm a veteran — he don't care nothing about me."

Source: *Spotlight* 9/2018, pages 36–45

[14] Voices of the people

David: Let's listen now to some of the people Colm spoke to. In Luray, Virginia, Colm asked hairdresser Alyson Balton and barber Brandon Davis about Trump and the 2016 presidential election. By the way, the expression "to keep something on the down-low" means to keep something quiet or secret.

Alyson: We try not to talk about politics, sex, religion. We try and keep that kind of on the down-low because I don't want to lose any customers.

Colm: Aren't they the three most fun things to talk about?

Alyson: Republicans are stout Republicans, and Democrats are stout Democrats.

Brandon: I'm Brandon from Luray. I'm the barber.

Colm: You're the barber here?

Brandon: Yup. Barbering ten years. Everybody knows everybody type of thing and it's a nice town. That was the best choice for that election, but that's just my opinion. I just cut hair every day. That's all I do.

David: Not everyone in Luray was so reserved in their opinions, however. Chris Jessee says he is happy that Hillary Clinton didn't win the election. You should know that red is the traditional colour of the Republicans, while blue is that of the Democrats.

Chris: If it came to the red or the blue, I was hoping for the red. I was afraid that Hillary would take my guns away from me. And I feel like she should have been imprisoned instead of on the political campaign.

Colm: So with Donald Trump, do you feel a bit more secure?

Chris: I feel secure that he's not going to take my guns away from me, and then I can defend myself. I got an AK-47 and I got an AR-15. I got sniper rifles. I got pistols. I got silencers. I got Class 3 weapons. I'm a law-abiding citizen. I got a concealed permit.

barber ▶ Herrenfriseur

billionaire

▶ Milliardär(in)

concealed permit

▶ Genehmigung zum verdeckten Tragen von Schusswaffen

imprison ▶ inhaftieren

law-abiding

▶ gesetzestreu

silencer

▶ Schalldämpfer

sniper rifle ▶ Scharfschützengewehr

stout

▶ stark, entschlossen;
hier: überzeugt

Colm: And why do you have all those weapons?

Chris: Because if it comes down to it, I need to protect me, my family and people around me that I care about.

David: The term “Class 3” describes weapons such as machine guns, short-barrelled rifles and shotguns, and grenades. Moving on to the university town of Gainesville, in Georgia, Colm met Melanie Dabney, who appreciates Trump’s recent tax reforms.

Melanie: I think they’re doing great. I think he’s doing an awesome job.

Colm: And what do you think he’s really excelling at?

Melanie: Well, I’m really excited about the tax reform, and that’s he’s cracking down on illegals. The past eight years before that were horrible for working-class people who own a business. We struggled a lot in those eight years.

David: However, not everyone in Gainesville is such a fan of the president. For instance, florist Carol Slaughter, who believes a lot of conservative influence comes from what she calls “the pulpit”, in other words, sermons in churches.

Carol: I’m sad. I’m very sad for Americans. I’m very embarrassed. On the world [stage] we’re just

a joke. It’s just a joke and being here in Gainesville — hopefully this will not be aired in Gainesville because of my business — but it’s very highly Republican and, you know, we’re in the Bible Belt here, and so it’s all way back, way behind.

Colm: And because you have a lot of friends presumably here in the town and you’re talking to them about life and politics, can you not understand then how some of them would vote for Donald Trump, vote Republican?

Carol: Why they would? No. I can say maybe it probably comes from the pulpit, a lot of it. Don’t you think?

David: In Montgomery, Alabama, Colm met Mickey Owen, who sells hot dogs. Owen was positive about the president.

air ➔ (im Radio) senden

awesome *ifml.*
➔ fantastisch

come: if it ~s down to it
➔ letzten Endes, im Zweifelsfall

crack down
➔ hart durchgreifen

excel at sth.
➔ sich in etw. hervortun

grenade ➔ Handgranate

presumably
➔ vermutlich

pulpit ➔ Kanzel

sermon ➔ Predigt

short-barrelled rifle
➔ kurzläufige Waffe

shotgun ➔ Schrotflinte

Mickey: I've still yet to see anybody who people hate as much as him. Obama, I think everybody wanted him to do a good job, whether you voted for him or not. I really like the tax reform. I mean, I think that's going to spur the economy, and a lot of the people are going to see a lot more in their paycheck.

David: However, Maureen Williams, also from Montgomery, had a far more negative opinion of Trump.

Maureen: He's bringing more division. He uses bad language. You can't let your children listen to him. So, I mean, it's just degrading. He's really brought this country down, and other countries [are] not respecting us.

Colm: And what do you think he does when it comes to race?

Maureen: He's a racist. He is. That's bad.

See Spotlight 9/2018, pages 36–45

Peggy's Place

[15] No time to lose!

David: It's time to visit Spotlight's favourite London pub, Peggy's Place. One of the pub regulars, Helen, has become frustrated with her job as a nurse. Could Peggy and her husband, Phil, have an idea for a new career?

Peggy: How was your holiday, Helen?

Helen: Fantastic! I never really rated holidays here in the UK, but the Lake District is lovely.

Phil: Who did you go with?

Helen: A girlfriend. We've known each other since we started out nursing. We don't see each other often, but when we do, it's a riot.

Peggy: What did you do?

Helen: Lots of hiking. I'd have been happy just to hang out at the hotel, but Annie is a fitness freak.

Peggy: Anyway, you look very relaxed.

Helen: I don't feel it. I'm having a bit of a crisis with my job.

Phil: How so?

Helen: I love nursing, but there's so much bureaucracy.

Peggy: Isn't the government planning a big financial boost for the NHS? It was in the papers

bureaucracy

► Bürokratie

degrading

► entwürdigend

financial boost

► Finanzspritze

hiking

► Wandern

NHS (National Health Service) UK

► staatlicher Gesundheitsdienst

paycheck

► Gehaltsscheck

rate ifml. ► schätzen

riot: be a ~ ifml.

► ein Knaller sein

spur ► anregen, beleben

back in July when they were celebrating the 70th birthday of the health service.

Helen: Don't get me wrong, I'm totally dedicated to the National Health Service, but it's a great big unwieldy apparatus. And there are so many places where that money could go.

Peggy: Would you really give up your job?

Helen: At the moment, I'm so frustrated that I can't think straight.

Phil: But you're trained as a nurse. It would be a shame to let all that experience go to waste.

Peggy: Especially as there is such a shortage of nurses at the moment.

Helen: Yes, but if you constantly have to choose between paperwork and patient care... Two of my colleagues have left because of exactly that problem. So there are two nurses fewer in my team, and I have more work. A lot of it is paperwork, too. It's a vicious circle.

Peggy: But what other career options are there?

Phil: After all, you reach a certain age in life, and you get used to having a steady income.

Helen: Are you implying that I'm too old and set in my ways to get a new job?

Phil: That's not what I meant... exactly.

Peggy: I think what Phil is trying to say is that, if you trained to do something new, it would take at least a year. And it would probably be a while before you earned the same as you do now.

Helen: You're right. I get it, but it seems so defeatist to me to think like that.

Phil: What other kind of job could you imagine doing?

Helen: It would have to be with people, that's for sure.

Peggy: If you could choose any job, what would it be?

Helen: Well, I'm a qualified nutritional therapist.

Peggy: Really? Does Sean know about it?

Helen: I don't think so. Maybe I've mentioned it to him. Why?

Phil: You haven't heard about his plan to employ a nutritionist here to help him plan the menu?

Helen: No, but that sounds like a fabulous idea. I'd love to be part of that.

after all ► schließlich

dedicated: be ~ to sth.

► sich etw. verschrieben haben

defeatist

► entmutigend, pessimistisch

fabulous *if/ml*.

► fabelhaft, fantastisch

imply ► andeuten

nutritional therapist

► Ernährungstherapeut(in)

shortage ► Mangel

steady ► fest

unwieldy ► schwerfällig

vicious circle

► Teufelskreis

Peggy: Well, you'd better get your skates on, young lady. He's already started interviewing for the position.

Source: Spotlight 9/2018, page 12

English at Work

[16] Storytelling for business presentations

David: Each month, business communication expert Ken Taylor joins us in the studio with tips on using English at work. This time, Ken has advice on using storytelling techniques to give more effective business presentations.

Ken: Hello. This is Ken Taylor from London. Do remember that when you're giving a business presentation, the purpose of your talk is not to impress your audience with your brainpower. Nor is it to tell them all you know about your topic. The purpose of your talk is to give your audience an intuitive feel for your ideas and to engage, excite and provoke them. At the end, they should be glad they came to listen to you because you've given them something to think about that's relevant to their business lives. One tool to help in that process is storytelling. Brian is speaking at a conference on customer service. Listen to how he starts his

presentation. Think about how he gets a key message across using the storytelling technique.

Brian: Last year I was asked to give a lunchtime presentation to the management team at a company I've occasionally worked for. I decided to speak about understanding your customer's needs. I spoke about how you should prepare for customer meetings — how you should find out about your customer's previous experience in the area you work in — what their specific needs are. And how you should tailor your approach based on what your customer knows already and what they want from you.

I spoke, I thought, quite eloquently and well. But the applause at the end was rather half-hearted. At the end of the lunch I asked one of the organizers what they thought about my speech. "Um. It was fine," they said. "But, in fact, at our last lunchtime meeting we had

approach ▶ Ansatz, Vorgehensweise

eloquently
▶ wortgewandt

interview
▶ hier: Vorstellungsgespräche führen

occasionally
▶ gelegentlich

previous ▶ früher

skates: get one's ~ on
UK *ifml.* ▶ sich sputen

tailor ▶ zuschneiden

a talk from another consultant who more or less spoke about the same topic.” Oh dear! I had been talking about listening to your customer, understanding their needs and hadn't bothered to do it for this talk! Very embarrassing. But it taught me an important lesson. If we really want to understand our customers, we don't just have to talk the talk. We have to walk the walk!

Ken: Storytelling is a powerful tool for the presenter. It makes a key point in a memorable way. A good story has to have certain characteristics. You should take your listener on an imaginary journey with a clear beginning and a clear ending. Brian's story did that. Because we find it easy and fun to learn from mistakes, a good story is about something going wrong and how we can learn from that. There should be an easily understood moral to the story. Brian made the moral to his story very clear at the end. The best stories are often personal ones in which the presenter is actually the main character. Brian used this approach. Effective stories relate both to the listeners in some way and to your key message. And they should be short — just a couple of minutes maximum. Finally, stories do not work unless they are told with emphasis, energy and exaggeration. This makes them memorable. Brian certainly did this.

So, bearing this in mind, let's practise some storytelling. In a moment, I'll ask you to stop the track to prepare a short story. Think of a simple story about a mistake you've made in the past. Decide on how to start the story and how you want to end it. Have a clear moral — something we can learn from the story. OK. Pause the track until you're ready.

Good. Ready? Remember to speak with energy and emphasis. Pause the track again and start speaking.

How did that go? Did you take the listener on a journey with a clear beginning and end? Did you have a good moral to the story? Did you speak with emphasis, energy and enthusiasm? You could do this exercise several times with different stories. This is good practice for your English and it builds up a library of short stories you can use in your presentations later on.

David: If you have a question for Ken, send it by e-mail to language@spotlight-verlag.de

bother ▶ sich bemühen

consultant ▶ Berater(in), Referent(in)

emphasis ▶ Nachdruck

exaggeration
▶ Übertreibung

imaginary journey

▶ Fantasiereise

lesson: teach sb. a ~

▶ jmdm. eine Lektion erteilen

memorable

▶ einprägsam

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* 9/2018, page 57

Short Story

[17] “Diversify or die”

David: It's almost time to say goodbye. Before then, why not sit back and enjoy this month's short story? In “Diversify or die”, David has just sold his farm and is feeling bored and lonely. Then he meets Julie. But is she the right person to join him in starting a new life?

David had been a farmer all his life. At the age of 55, he was tired of the long days and low financial returns. Milk prices had fallen year after year, and with Brexit on the horizon, there was serious uncertainty in farming. Divorced and with his children all grown up, David knew that the five-bedroom farmhouse and the 200-acre farm were too big for him alone. The motto in business is “diversify or die”, he thought, and he didn't want to stay on a dying farm. But he could see no way to diversify that wouldn't require a lot of investment — of time, money and energy.

David's brother, who had a farm nearby, had diversified into tourism, converting some of his farm buildings into holiday homes and providing all sorts of entertainment that visiting “townies” expected, like a heated swimming pool and a “petting corner” with small animals for the children. These guests enjoyed their “authentic experience of life on a working farm” (as stated on the website), collecting eggs (from chickens that had been bought solely for the guests' amusement) and feeding carrots to the two alpacas (which had been bought only to add a “fun factor” to the farm). David didn't want to spend the rest of his life running a toy farm to show to tourists, so he put the property up for sale. Very quickly, a company offered to buy his land for an annual music festival, with a glamping site all year round. David sent the cows to market, sold

acre

► Morgen (4.047 m²)

copy ► Exemplar

diversify ► verändern, sich umstellen

glamping (glamorous camping)

► Luxus-Camping

petting corner

► kleiner Streichelzoo

returns ► Einnahmen

solely ► nur, lediglich

townie ifml.

► Stadtmensch

the farm, paid off his debts and moved into a smaller house nearby. His plan was to live off the rest of the money and enjoy his retirement. In his new home, David kept waking up early, ready to go out and start work on the land that he no longer had. After the 24-hour responsibility of managing a farm, the days seemed very long. There was nothing to keep him busy, and he started to feel lonely. He signed up on an online dating site for over-fifties, but the ladies he contacted were looking for expensive dinner dates with a charming, well-dressed gentleman, not for lunch in the village pub with a tired and weather-beaten old farmer who liked to talk about milk prices.

Then he met Julie. She was one of the visitors on his brother's farm. Recently divorced, Julie had come from the city for an out-of-season break, to go for some long walks and to spend the evenings in front of an open fire, reading and knitting. She and David met on a muddy path and fell into easy conversation, which led to lunch in the village pub. She asked lots of intelligent questions about life in the country, and she didn't even mind when he talked about milk prices.

By the end of her week's holiday, Julie had knitted David a scarf, and David had invited Julie to his home for her next visit to the countryside. When she returned — for longer and longer visits each time — David did finally

manage to stay in bed a little longer in the mornings, too.

After they'd been living together for a few months, they began to think about running a small business and started looking for ideas. "What about gardening?" Julie suggested. "We've got a beautiful garden here that has so much potential. With your farming experience, you should be able to grow a few flowers or vegetables — or herbs in little pots. There's a man at the local farmers' market who sells pesto. You could grow the ingredients, and I could do something clever with them in the kitchen." David had to agree that it wasn't a bad idea.

The "herbs in pots" gave David a different idea, though — a better idea. Surely they had everything they needed for a great little business. He knew how to grow plants; he had a spare bedroom; he knew how to set up a few heat-producing light bulbs; and next summer, they would have a large music festival

debts ▶ Schulden

herb

▶ Gewürz-, Küchenkraut

light bulb ▶ Glühbirne

mind sth.

▶ etw. dagegen haben

muddy ▶ schlammig

scarf ▶ Schal

sign up ▶ sich anmelden

weather-beaten

▶ wettergegerbt,
wetterhart

literally at the end of the road, full of potential customers who would be happy to buy good, safe, locally grown cannabis. And what about mushrooms, too? They must be easy to grow. David started researching online. The next day, he told Julie about his idea. “You have to diversify or die,” he explained.

“Are you out of your mind?” she replied. “Diversify or die? If you sell drugs to teenagers at a festival, it’ll be one of them who dies, and you’ll be diversifying in a prison cell.” David knew that she was right, of course.

“Anyway, I have a better idea,” she continued. “In fact, I have two ideas. The first is that we set up a dating website to bring townsfolk and country folk together. There must be more people like me who’d like to find love in the countryside.”

“Yes,” David said, “and more people like me who are lonely out here. It’s an excellent idea. But you said you had two ideas. What’s the other one?”

“I’ve been talking to your brother, and we’ve made a little arrangement. I’m going to buy the hair from his alpacas and knit it into super-soft, super-profitable scarves to sell. Would you be willing to help me with the rest of the process — collecting the hair, and learning how to spin it and dye it?”

“Of course I would,” said David. “I’m glad you’ve followed my advice.”

“How do you mean?”

“Diversify or dye! Yes, let’s do it!”

Source: *Spotlight* 9/2018, pages 66–67

Conclusion

[18] David: 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.

dye ► färben

literally ► buchstäblich

spin ► spinnen

subscriber

► Abonnent(in)

townsfolk ► Städter

Impressum

Herausgeber: Rudolf Spindler
Chefredakteurin: Inez Sharp
Stellvertretende Chefredakteurin:
Claudine Weber-Hof
Chefin vom Dienst: Petra Daniell
Audiodredaktion: Owen Connors
Sprachredaktion: Elisabeth Erpf
Produktion und Ton: Charly Braun
Gestaltung: Georg Lechner
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Produktion: Dorle Matussek
Vertriebsleitung: Monika Wohlgemuth
Gesamt-Anzeigenleitung: Matthias
Weidling (DIE ZEIT, Vi.S.d.P)
Litho: Mohn Media Mohndruck GmbH,
33311 Gütersloh
Druck und Vervielfältigung:
optimal media GmbH, D-17207 Röbel/
Müritz
Titel: Abigail Rex Photography

Sprecher:
Owen Connors (English at Work)
Martin Cooke (In the Spotlight, Around Oz)
David Creedon (Anmoderation, Everyday
English, Replay, Short Story)
Jenny Evans (Peggy's Place)
Tania Higgins (Everyday English, Peggy's
Place)
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Erin Perry (Society)
Inez Sharp (Garden Special, Replay)
Ken Taylor (English at Work)

Interviews:
Julie Collins (A Day in My Life)
Colm Flynn (Society)

Tonstudio: Cebra Studio, Gröbenzell



Bestellen Sie Spotlight Audio unter:
www.spotlight-online.de/hoeren
Spotlight Verlag GmbH, Fraunhoferstraße 22,
82152 Planegg, Germany
Tel. 089/12 140 710; Fax 089/12 140 711;
www.spotlight-online.de

Einzelverkaufspreis: € 14,50 (D)
Kundenservice: abo@spotlight-verlag.de
Redaktion: spotlight@spotlight-verlag.de
Amtsgericht München HRB 179611; Umsatzsteuer-
identifikationsnummer: DE 265 973 410
Geschäftsführer: Rudolf Spindler, Jan Henrik Groß



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