WHO’S WHO?

100

PEOPLE IN BRITAIN YOU SHOULD KNOW

like writer Zadie Smith, our no. 97

Language
Our story, your ending
Meghan Markle ist ein helles Köpfchen

or in English, a smart cookie.

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FROM THE EDITOR

A wealth of British talent

You may have heard of the British fashion designer Paul Smith (pictured above). But do you know who Harry Kane is, or what about Nadiya Hussain, or Martha Lane Fox? The footballer, baker and businesswoman are all people known for their achievements in Britain, but not necessarily in the German-speaking world. This month, we introduce you to 100 individuals from the UK who are talented, innovative and successful in their field — whether it is politics, science, the arts or business. Whatever part of the political or cultural spectrum they come from, they represent a spirit of innovation and persistence that is a hallmark of British life — even in these angst-ridden days of Brexit. Start reading on p. 14.

I was born and brought up in the county of Essex, which is just northeast of London. So this month’s travel feature, “The only way is... Essex” (see p. 32), is close to my heart. Once you leave London behind, you find a place of huge open skies, of fields and woods, of pretty villages and ghostly fogs that roll in from the sea. Our author Julian Earwaker has perfectly captured its spirit in his writing. So next time you plan a trip to England, consider a visit to that county. To me, the only way is Essex. Perhaps you will agree.

INEZ SHARP, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
i.sharp@spotlight-verlag.de
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In the age of Brexit, we figure it’s high time someone said something nice about the British. So here are 100 people from the United Kingdom whose names you should know — from the worlds of sport, entertainment, design, science, literature (such as Zadie Smith, shown here) and more.

42 Our story, your ending

Here is a springtime short story about life and love, but with a twist: you get to decide how the story ends. Take part in our literary competition. Enjoy!
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ABOUT THE LANGUAGE LEVELS
The levels of difficulty in Spotlight magazine correspond roughly to The Common European Framework of Reference for Languages:

**EASY**
A2  B1–B2

**MEDIUM**

**ADVANCED**
C1–C2

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Classic England: Essex

It’s the England you see in classic paintings by such artists as John Constable: gentle landscapes, big golden clouds, soft sunshine. Julian Earwaker takes you along to discover a region of beaches and villages very close to London.
Volles Programm Sp

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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 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.
**WORLD**

**Squeak to me**

**MEDIUM**

Is this an example of the classic British Dr Dolittle books come to life? Not quite, though a group of researchers did recently “speak” with an orca when they recorded its attempts to say a few words in English. Listen in at www.spotlight-online.de/orca

You’ll hear a researcher saying “one, two, three” and “bye-bye”, and then the orca doing its best to imitate. According to *Scientific American*, the idea behind the study was to test the ability of this species to mimic sounds. Carried out with a captive orca at a Marineland aquarium in southern France, the experiment showed researchers that killer whales, known for having sophisticated “dialects”, are good at reproducing even sounds that are unfamiliar to them. For orcas, the report says, new sounds “can be socially learned by imitation”. The full findings may be read in the *Proceedings of the Royal Society B: Biological Sciences*.

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**AUSTRALIA**

**Drone rescue**

**EASY**

“Never before has a drone fitted with a flotation device been used to rescue swimmers like this,” John Barilaro, deputy premier of New South Wales, told the BBC.

Early this year, two teenagers nearly drowned while swimming 700 metres off the beach on Australia’s east coast. Rough waters at Lennox Head were pulling them out to sea. Lifeguards then sent up a drone, and in just 70 seconds, it found the swimmers and dropped them a flotation pod. The rescuers estimate it would have taken them six minutes to swim out to the young men.

The pod unfolded into a life raft that helped the teens make it to the beach. At the time of the rescue, the Little Ripper UAV drone had been in testing at that beach for only about a month.

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**UNITED STATES**

**Old poem new**

**MEDIUM US**

Penelope sits alone, weaving and waiting. Her husband, warrior-king Odysseus, is far from home. The tale told in Homer’s epic poem has been translated into English some 60 times. Now, for the first time, *The Odyssey* has been translated by a woman. Professor Emily Wilson of the University of Pennsylvania has given this important work of literature a contemporary lift through the use of clear, direct language.

As the British-born classicist explained to *The New York Times Magazine*, many academics see translation as a less important activity: “...there is no perception that it’s serious intellectually. ... [Y]ou’re going to be communicating with the masses, which is less important than being innovative within your field.”

Reviews disagree: this translation’s readability is bringing new life — and fresh public interest — to an age-old story.

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*Look, I have only a 12th-grade education..., but I’ve gotten an education here at Shondaland. And now my eight-year-old daughter gets to come here and see fierce females in charge.* — Actress Ellen Pompeo tells the *Hollywood Reporter* about the massive income gap between men and women in show business (see p. 41). Shondaland is the US TV production company behind her hit show, *Grey’s Anatomy*.  

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*attempt [ə’tempt] → Versuch  
mimic [‘mɪmɪk] → nachahmen  
captive [‘kæptɪv] → gefangen  
sophisticated [səˈfɪstɪkeɪtɪd] → komplex  
epic poem [‘epIk (poʊm)] → Heldenlied  
perception [pɜrˈsepʃən] → Wahrnehmung  
warrior-king [‘wɔrɪə rɪŋ] → Kriegerkönig  
weave [wɛv] → weben  
drown [draʊn] → ertrinken  
fitted with sth. [‘fɪtɪd wɪd] → mit etw. ausgestattet  
flotation device [‘flaʊteɪʃ(ə)n dɪˈvoʊs] → Auftriebskörper, Schwimmhilfe  
draft [‘draʊft] → Rettungsinsel  
pod [pɒd] → Kapself, Gehäuse  
unfold [‘ʌn′fɑːld] → sich entfalten, sich auffalten*
When Dame Jane Goodall was at school, she learned that animals couldn’t make or use tools and didn’t have personalities or emotions. In 1960, however, at the age of 26, she began a study of chimpanzees that was to disprove these theories. This study is now the subject of a new documentary called Jane, which is based on 140 hours of silent film of Goodall as a young woman, living with the chimps in Tanzania’s Gombe Stream National Park. She told National Geographic how she felt on watching the film: “It took me right back to live in that time,... the best time of my life. I knew those chimps so well. Seeing them again was very special.”

As a child growing up in England, Goodall was fascinated by animals and by Africa. After leaving school, she went to Kenya, where she met the famous anthropologist Louis Leakey. Leakey later asked her to study chimpanzees in the wild, which she did for more than 50 years.

A UN Messenger of Peace, Goodall now travels up to 300 days a year, promoting conservation. She told The Guardian, “Everywhere I go, there are young people with shining eyes wanting to tell Dr Jane what they are doing to make the world better. You have to be hopeful.” Goodall is 84 on 3 April.

**Think outside the bottle**

The start-up Skipping Rocks Lab wants to solve a problem to which we can all relate: the scourge of plastic packaging. This London-based company is creating new ways of packaging products by using biodegradable substances one can eat — like seaweed.

Co-founder Pierre-Yves Paslier described a key factor in the problem of packaging: the shelf-life gap. Taking supermarket orange juice as an example, Paslier wrote in Wired: “The shelf life of the juice is about two days. Its PET plastic bottle will take more than 700 years to degrade. By contrast, seaweed packaging biodegrades in soil in four to six weeks.”

The firm’s signature development demonstrates what it calls “thinking outside the bottle”: a water bottle created from brown seaweed that you can eat. With the help of Imperial College London, the start-up is still looking for ways to scale up its production. Investors, even small ones, are needed. See www.youtube.com/watch?v=f4UmM-eklBY
How gross!

Wie gut übersetzt eigentlich der Computer? Und warum ist eine noch so gute Übersetzung manchmal einfach nicht gut genug? Von deepl.com und PETRA DANIELL.

• On this page, we generally use free online software to translate excerpts from German texts into English. Over the past year, the results have sometimes been surprisingly good, sometimes barely comprehensible. We looked at typical, recurring mistakes related to grammar, sentence structure and lexical choices, but also at the more general limitations of computer translations.
• What it comes down to is this: human translators take cultural background and general knowledge into account and think for themselves. Software doesn’t. That is why, as we have seen, even a very good computer translation can completely miss the point.
• Take the cartoon above as an example. We had the speech balloons translated by DeepL translator, a program we found to be miles ahead of its competitors. Indeed, the translation is fine — even though, if you wanted to be picky, you could argue that an accusative should have been used in the second sentence (einen Bericht).
• However, the English dialogue plays on the compound “gross domestic product” (Bruttoinlandsprodukt) and its individual components “gross” (eklig, widerlich), “domestic” (häuslich, Familien-) and “product” (in the sense of Erzeugnis). The little girl takes the financial term literally and comes to the conclusion that the report must be about her younger brother.
• The German translation Bruttoinlandsprodukt, unfortunately, cannot possibly be used to describe a disgusting brother. The joke is lost in translation, therefore, and the cartoon would leave readers confused rather than laughing.
• This is when the work of the human translator starts — when you turn the computer off, let the text stew for a while, talk to colleagues and start bouncing ideas around. This is when the dictionaries are pushed aside and the brainstorming begins.
• What other topics could be talked about on television? What other (possibly negative) abbreviations might be mentioned? Which of their elements could be used in connection with children?
• Have a look at what we came up with, and see what you think.

Abbreviation
[ˈɛbri:vi(ə)ʃn]  Abkürzung
Account: take sth. into — [əˈkaʊnt]  etw. berücksichtigen
Bounce: around — [ˈbaʊs]  herumstoßen; hier: mit etw. jonglieren
Compound — [ˈkɒmpaʊnd]  Wortverbindung
Excerpt — [ˈɛkstrɪkt]  Auszug
Literal — [ˈlɪtərəl]  wörtlich
Miss the point — [ˈmɪs dɪ ˈpɔɪnt]  am Thema vorbeigehen
Picky — [ˈpɪki]  pfuselig
Rather than — [ˈræðərans]  anstatt
Recurring — [rɪˈkərəŋ]  sich wiederholend
Speech balloon — [ˈspɪtʃ balən]  Sprechblase
Stew — [stjuː]  schmoren
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 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: (clearing his throat) 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 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.
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," 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 ratatouille that could fly. If you need me, I’ll be in the kitchen.

Colin Beaven is a freelance writer. He lives and works in Southampton on the south coast of England.
David Hockney: the artist as a young man
These are difficult times for Britain. Government infighting continues as we stumble towards divorce from the EU. Our National Health Service appears to be suffering from terminal decline and, earlier this year, a company that delivers essential services to our schools, prisons and military collapsed without warning, leaving confusion and unemployment in its wake.

And yet, those who populate these islands continue to amaze with their imagination, intelligence and flexibility. It has been tough creating a 100 “who’s who” of Brits — and this is, of course, a subjective list. Putting it together has reminded us that there are extraordinary individuals in the UK in every part of public life, from politics, sport, entertainment and science to literature and the arts.

For every name included in this list (you will notice that we did not give people’s titles), we had to exclude at least one. So what were our criteria? Many of the individuals on our list are household names in Britain, but might not be known abroad. Others may have achieved great advances in their field, but not be known to us by name. And, finally, the list includes persons we all know, but sometimes just need to be reminded of.
In a landscape still dominated by Brexit, who’s who in British politics?

1 Gina Miller (52)
British-Guyanese founder of wealth management company SCM Direct and recently voted Britain’s most influential black person. Her Brexit legal challenge changed the course of history by forcing Theresa May’s government to have a parliamentary vote to authorize the triggering of Article 50. Miller’s court victory in January 2017 means that any future negotiations that represent a change in the law will also require parliamentary approval.

She has since received death threats and a “torrent” of abuse from Brexiteers and has been labelled the “remoaner-in-chief” by The Sun newspaper. A mother of three, Miller has campaigned for greater transparency in the investment and pension industries. She also founded the True and Fair Foundation for “conscious capitalists”.

2 Tim Barrow (53)
Former ambassador to Russia, he will be representing the United Kingdom to the European Union.

3 Jeremy Corbyn (68)
Left-wing campaigner and EU agnostic who unexpectedly won the Labour Party leadership in 2015. Inspired a “youthquake” in the last general election.

4 Paul Dacre (69)
Influential journalist and editor for over 25 years of the right-wing Daily Mail with a monthly readership of 30 million. Anti-EU, at war with the “metropolitan liberal elite”.

5 David Davis (69)
Veteran Conservative MP and champion of civil liberties. Chief Brexit negotiator. Said he doesn’t need to “know that much” to manage the UK’s exit from the EU.

6 Ruth Davidson (39)
Respected leader of Scottish Conservatives and potential prime minister. Working-class origins, former BBC journalist, openly gay, member of the Church of Scotland.

7 Nigel Farage (53)
Mr Brexit. Influential former UKIP leader, City trader, millionaire man of the common people, anti-EU and anti-immigration MEP with a German wife.

8 Michael Gove (50)
Brutus to Boris Johnson’s Caesar. Conservative MP and environment secretary. Leadership candidate with chess-player looks, but so far without an end game.

9 Boris Johnson (53)

10 Sadiq Khan (47)
Mayor of London since 2016, former Labour MP. Good-looking, eloquent campaigner and Muslim who has declared that President Trump is “not welcome” in London.

11 Caroline Lucas (57)

12 Theresa May (61)
Conservative leader and British prime minister, who seriously mismanaged the last general election. Remains unconvincing on both Brexit and domestic policy.

13 Nicola Sturgeon (47)
Likeable, straight-talking first minister of Scotland and leader of the Scottish National Party (SNP). Won’t rest until Scottish independence has been achieved.

14 Mhairi Black (23)
Youngest MP since 1667, she was elected for the SNP in 2015. Formidable campaigner for LGBT issues and pensions, who complains that Westminster politics is often “just a waste of time”.

15 Jacob Rees-Mogg (48)
A “Marmite” figure — you either love or hate this hard-right Conservative MP from a privileged background. Known for his controversial views, he once described his controversial views, he once described his controversial views, he once described the Vote Leave campaign as “potted plants”.

“What’s the requirement of my job? I don’t have to be very clever, I don’t have to know that much, I do just have to be calm.”

David Davis, talking to LBC Radio

Texts by Julian Earwaker
Gina Miller: challenging the establishment
Entertainment

A talented line-up of British entertainers of the moment.

16 Clara Amfo (33)
A dynamic radio broadcaster, Amfo presents the mid-morning show on BBC Radio One. We can expect to hear — and see — more of her.

17 Lewis Capaldi (21)
The Scottish singer-songwriter self-released his debut single, "Bruises", a powerful piano ballad, in 2017. It shot up the charts. A newcomer to watch.

18 Mark Gatiss (51)
The co-creator of the TV hit Sherlock, he also plays the detective’s brother Mycroft. Currently writing a new version of Dracula.

19 Michelle Terry (39)
The new artistic director of Shakespeare’s Globe theatre. Her democratic vision: to let the audience choose the play and to let the actors choose their parts.

20 Diane Morgan (42)
As her clueless comedy character Philomena Cunk, Morgan makes clever and funny mockumentaries. "Playing an idiot is easy," she says.

21 Graham Norton (54)
The Irish-born TV chat-show host who gets the big stars on his sofa. His cheeky humour makes him the perfect commentator for the Eurovision Song Contest.

22 James Norton (32)
His role as a criminal banker in McMafia (2018) confirmed his acting talent — and that he looks good in a suit. Hot favourite to be the next 007.

23 Richard Osman (47)
Originally a producer for TV company Endemol Shine UK, his charm and humour made him the ideal co-host for their quiz show Pointless.

24 Sara Pascoe (36)
Stand-up comedian, writer, explorer of women’s experiences. “A tremendously exciting voice: timely, intelligent and buzzing with comedic charm.” (The Times)

25 Naomie Harris (41)
Known as Moneypenny in Skyfall (2012) and Spectre (2015), this Oscar-nominated actor rightly asks not to be labelled “a Bond girl”. She says: “I portray strong women.” (The Guardian)

26 Naomie Harris (41)
Not afraid of difficult roles. As a struggling social worker in the mini-series Kiri, she “once more ... commands the screen with her presence”. (Sunday Express)

27 Sarah Lancashire (53)
Not afraid of difficult roles. As a struggling social worker in the mini-series Kiri, she “once more ... commands the screen with her presence”. (Sunday Express)

28 Nabhaan Rizwan (21)
TV newcomer, he takes the title role in the new BBC series Informer about a police counterterrorism operation in London.

29 Stormzy (24)
English grime and hip-hop artist, dominating the scene after his debut studio album went to number one in 2017.

30 Sandi Toksvig (59)
Danish-born comedian, radio and TV presenter, author, playwright — she’s even founded a feminist political party.

31 Jodie Whittaker (35)
The hopes of Doctor Who fans rest on this talented actor, filming her debut as the first-ever female Doctor.

32 Joe Wicks (31)
With his meal plans and workouts, the “Body Coach” transforms British bodies and has transformed himself into a multimedia star with a £12 million fitness empire.

33 Lucy Worsley (44)
A talent for bringing history to life in TV documentaries. Chief curator at Historic Royal Palaces.

34 Nilüfer Yanya (22)
London-born singer-songwriter with Turkish, Irish and Bajan heritage. Her husky voice and restrained guitar give a rich beauty to her minimalist style.

35 The queen (91)
As she celebrates her 92nd birthday this month, Queen Elizabeth has been a leader, businesswoman and — often unwittingly — an entertainer.

Texts by Vanessa Clark
Here are the names in sport that are currently bowling us over.

36 Harry Kane (24)
It’s World Cup year in football, and if the past half century is anything to go by, there will be little to cheer for England. Or will there? England’s bit of optimism increasingly relies on the Spurs striker Harry Kane, who for the past few years has been in unstoppable form for club and country. Not convinced?

In 2017, Kane finished as the top goal scorer in the whole of Europe with 56 goals, which means he was ahead of legends of the game Lionel Messi (Barcelona) and Cristiano Ronaldo (Real Madrid). Kane has much to do to match the achievements of those two, but the 2018 World Cup, which takes place in Russia from 14 June to the final on 15 July, provides the perfect platform. And at 24, he’s not even in his prime. Can England finally win the World Cup, 52 years after beating Germany in that famous Wembley final? Even if they don’t, Harry Kane will want to show why he’s currently the best striker in world football.

37 Ellie Downie (18)
Just 18 years old and she has the world at her talented feet: gymnast Downie won a gold medal at the 2017 European Championships and will be hoping for more in 2018.

38 Maro Itoje (23)
Londoner Itoje smashed his way into the England rugby union team in 2016 and he’s quickly becoming a superstar in this toughest of tough sports.

39 Elise Christie (27)
Speed skater Christie is a three-time world champion — in 2017, 1,000-metre and 1,500-metre golds made her the first European to win the overall world championships.

40 Katie Archibald (24)
Winner of the omnium at the 2017 UCI Track Cycling World Championships, Archibald is now one of the biggest names in European cycling.

41 Mason Crane (21)
Cricket, a game for connoisseurs, and leg-spin bowling, a mystery only for the initiated. At 21, Crane is already in the England team.

42 Sophie Ecclestone (18)
Also a spin bowler, Ecclestone at just 18 looks at home in international cricket. Her job is to bamboozle the opposition — something she does easily.

43 Sam Simmons (23)
He plays in a position where enormous strength and hard tackling are essential — England rugby star Simmons somehow does this and is lightning quick at the same time.

44 Ieuan James (18)
In 2017, Scottish rower James became the world junior champion in the 200-metre sprint at 18. A year later, he’s now training to beat the best at senior level.

45 Ebony Rainford-Brent (34)
Winner of the cricket Women’s World Cup in 2009 with England. She’s now a successful broadcaster on BBC’s popular Test Match Special.

“The profile of women’s cricket has grown. When I first started out, people would say, ‘Women don’t play.’”

Ebony Rainford-Brent, in an interview with Glamour

“You could be playing a team of superstars but if we get everything right — physically, tactically, emotionally — I feel we can beat anyone.”

Sam Simmons, talking to The Guardian

Texts by Paul Wheatley
James Norton: will he be the next Bond?
Elise Christie: not afraid of a challenge
Food
Is Britain’s reputation for bad food finally past its sell-by date? We think so.

46 Heston Blumenthal (51)
Took the world of cooking by storm with his crazy mix of new and traditional. Described as a culinary alchemist for his experimental approach to food. Went through a phase of sensory experimentation, giving his diners headphones so they could listen to sounds of the seaside while eating oysters. A fan of old-fashioned cuisine, he also takes inspiration from Tudor history. Owns The Fat Duck in Berkshire, one of only five restaurants in Britain to have been awarded three Michelin stars.

47 Nadiya Hussain (33)
Winner of The Great British Bake Off in 2015, Hussain holds a special place in the nation’s heart, as much for her comic facial expressions as her cooking. Almost dropped from the show, the mum-of-three amazed viewers with a wedding cake wrapped in a Union Jack-themed red, white and blue sari. “I’m just as British as anyone else and I hope I have proved that,” she said after her win. Her Bangladeshi dad owned a restaurant, but she learned to cook and bake from YouTube. She also writes and presents television shows.

48 Yotam Ottolenghi (49)
Jerusalem-born chef who has a way with vegetables. His recipes in The Guardian mix Middle Eastern magic and European elegance. Owner of high-end restaurant NOPI in Soho, London.

49 Hugh Fearnley-Whittingstall (53)
Fearnley-Whittingstall brought foraging and fishing into the nation’s living rooms with his River Cottage books and TV series, favouring a back-to-basics philosophy of cooking.

50 Gordon Ramsay (51)
The angriest cook in Britain, if not the world. The three Michelin-starred chef won fame in TV shows such as The F Word. Wildly successful, he owns restaurants around the globe.

51 Marcus Wareing (47)
Worked for Gordon Ramsay for 15 years, but after a major dispute, he struck out on his own. Today, he holds two Michelin stars and is a judge on MasterChef: The Professionals.

“Greed and impatience may not be considered virtues, but they certainly help me write a recipe and cook!”

52 Mary Berry (82)
A national baking treasure, Berry’s calm and no-nonsense manner made her a favourite on The Great British Bake Off. In 2017, she caused a controversy when she added double cream to a recipe for bolognese sauce during a TV cooking programme.

53 Jack Monroe (30)
As a single mum on benefits, she shook up Britain with her blog on budget recipes, working with only £10 a week. Fearless anti-poverty and hunger campaigner.

54 Nigella Lawson (58)
Domestic goddess championing home cooking who shot to fame in TV programmes like Nigellissima. Wickedly funny, she loves to load her recipes with butter and cream.

55 Delia Smith (76)
National treasure. A household name since the 70s, she was axed by the BBC in the 80s for not being ‘sexy enough’. Today, she is the queen of no-nonsense British cuisine.

Texts by Lorraine Mallinder

Illustration: Benjamin Savignac; Fotos: 100 pro imago life, ddp images (2)
Maggie Aderin-Pocock: reaching for the stars
Science
Men and women at the cutting edge of British science.

56 Maggie Aderin-Pocock (50)
The dynamic London-born scientist is a high-profile science educator, especially of children. Watch her present The Sky at Night on BBC Four, and you’ll see an enthusiastic expert who explains science in beautifully simple terms. Aderin-Pocock holds multiple degrees — in physics and mechanical engineering — and has her own company and a post at University College London. She is a star. But success did not come easily.

Growing up in a council flat, her dream was to own a telescope. When she managed to buy a cheap one, it was a technical disappointment. So she decided to build her own. The decision started a career that has included work on big projects such as the James Webb space telescope and the Gemini Observatory in Chile. Now, she wants to revolutionize perceptions of science. “I’ve spoken to 250,000 kids in the past eight years,” she recently told the Financial Times, a feat she considers her greatest achievement. See her at www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b006mk7h

57 Stephen Hawking (76)
World-famous physicist, cosmologist, speaker, author — and spokesman for others with amyotrophic lateral sclerosis (ALS). He heads research at the Centre for Theoretical Cosmology, Cambridge University.

58 Tim Berners-Lee (62)
The computer scientist and engineer invented the World Wide Web and, as the Turing Award memorialized, “the fundamental protocols and algorithms allowing the Web to scale”.

59 Richard Dawkins (77)
A titan of science, the Kenyan-born, Oxford-trained ethologist’s gene-centred view of evolution — and his very public atheism — have made him controversial.

60 Paul Nurse (69)
Leads the Francis Crick Institute in London, a trailblazing biomedical research centre.

61 Sally Davies (68)
Chief medical officer for England, Davies is the UK government’s top medical adviser and the first woman to hold this high-profile job.

62 Brian Cox (50)
A physicist and famous TV presenter, known for the BBC’s Wonders of… series and Tomorrow’s World. Professor at the University of Manchester.

63 Kay Davies (67)
Top geneticist at the University of Oxford and a leading researcher into the molecular analysis of genetic disease.

64 Lesley Yellowlees (65)
An important solar-power pioneer at Edinburgh University, she was the first woman to serve as president of the Royal Society of Chemistry, in 2012–14.

65 Athene Donald (64)
The expert in the interface between physics and biology promotes women in science. Milestone: at 33, she was the first female lecturer in Cambridge University’s physics department.

66 Martin Rees (75)
Rees is astronomer royal. The professor of cosmology and astrophysics at Cambridge University is a prominent figure in UK science.

67 Lee Cronin (44)
The groundbreaking ideas of “downloadable drugs” and printable medicine have made the British chemist based at the University of Glasgow a rising star. A daring thinker and talented TED speaker.

68 David Attenborough (91)
A mega-star, the naturalist has long thrilled audiences as a presenter of science programmes. His Blue Planet II on the BBC won the special Impact Award at this year’s UK National Television Awards. See www.bbcearth.com/blueplanet2

69 Georgina Mace (64)
Developer of the data-based criteria for the International Union for Conservation of Nature’s list of threatened species, the IUCN Red List. Mace heads the biodiversity department at University College London.

70 Colin Blakemore (73)
The intense neurobiologist who specializes in brain development is an outspoken, media-savvy supporter of the responsible use of animals in research.

Texts by Claudine Weber-Hof
Business and technology
Who are the UK’s hot business and technology moguls?

71 Martha Lane Fox (45)
Businesswoman and philanthropist who sits in the House of Lords. Made enormous amounts of money from lastminute.com, which she set up in late 90s. Digital literacy champion.

72 Nicola Mendelsohn (46)
A vice president of Facebook for ops in Europe, the Middle East and Africa. Discovered she had slow-growing blood cancer in 2016. Now works with a Facebook group to raise awareness of the disease.

73 Richard Branson (67)
One-man brand. Founder of the Virgin Group, a multi-billion-pound conglomerate that includes industries ranging from banking to space travel. Started with music in the 70s, signing Mike Oldfield.

74 Arron Banks (52)
“The man who bought Brexit”, he was co-founder and financial supporter of Leave.EU. A self-made millionaire, he is a close ally of Nigel Farage and formerly a major donor to UKIP.

75 Paul Smith (71)
For more than 50 years, Smith has been creating what he calls “no bullshit clothing”. Today, the London-based businessman remains as straight-talking as the stripes on his signature designs.

76 Carla Buzasi (38)
Previously editor-in-chief of HuffPo UK. Left journalism to become one of the world’s leading trend forecasters at fashion data firm WGSN.

77 Georgie Bell (29)
Miss Whisky. Fell in love with malts at university and wrote her thesis on whisky and geography. Now, a jet-setting global malts ambassador for Bacardi.

78 Vivienne Westwood (76)
Popularized punk fashion in the 70s, making clothes for SEX, a shop on London’s King’s Road. Now owns a multi-million-pound fashion empire. Still rocks.

79 Justine Roberts (50)
Set up Mumsnet after a horrible holiday with her twins. Eighteen years on, this multi-million-pound business has ten million users.

80 Mary Portas (57)
Crowned the “Queen of Shops” by the media. Former shop girl at John Lewis. On the board of Harvey Nichols before the age of 30. Authority on brands and marketing.

81 Andy Murray (30)
Yes, the tennis player! But he’s also an enthusiastic backer of tech start-ups, including WeSwap, a peer-to-peer currency exchange app.

82 Rachel Wang (44)
One of Britain’s leading social entrepreneurs. Co-founded Chocolate Films in 2001, combining high-quality production with educational workshops and social outreach.

83 Lakshmi Mittal (67)
Chairman and CEO of ArcelorMittal, the world’s largest steelmaker. A clever operator, Mittal built his empire from a small steel mill in Calcutta.

84 Carolyn Fairbairn (57)
Director general of the Confederation of British Industry. Currently focused on keeping Britain in a customs union with the EU after Brexit.

85 Alan Sugar (71)
Billionaire presenter of The Apprentice. Left school at 16, selling electrical goods from a van before founding Amstrad at the height of the microcomputer boom.

86 The Candy Brothers (Nick, 45, and Christian, 43)
Property tycoons, famous for developing One Hyde Park in Knightsbridge. Nick and Christian started out in the 90s with a £6,000 loan to renovate a small flat.

87 Gareth Williams (49)
Co-founder of Skyscanner, a travel search engine. A programmer by trade, he built the site out of frustration after hours of searching for flights to France.

88 Andy Chatterley (44)
Uber-cool record producer who’s worked for artists like Kanye West. Set up MUSO, an online piracy tracker helping artists to protect their work and connect with fans.

89 The Barclay Twins (83)
David and Frederick Barclay own The Telegraph and other media titles. Started as painters and decorators. Empire includes retail and property interests.

90 Charlie Mullins (65)
Britain’s richest plumber. Set up Pimlico Plumbers alone in the late 70s, now a £40-million-a-year operation. Has announced his intention to run for London mayor in 2020.

Texts by Lorraine Mallinder
Arts and literature

**Talented writers, artists and designers in the UK? The diversity is staggering. Here is a selection.**

91 Hanif Kureishi (63)
The film My Beautiful Laundrette (1985), for which Kureishi wrote the screenplay, defined the style of a generation. Of Pakistani and British parentage, he says of the British middle class today: “They are more racist than they have ever been.” (The Guardian)

92 Libby Page (26)
Publishers in the UK and US are hoping that Page’s first book, The Lido, will do well when it goes on sale this month. Page has already sold the film rights for it.

Libby Page always wanted to be a writer. She also loves swimming, especially in her local pool, the Brockwell Lido in south London. These two loves have come together in her first novel, The Lido. It tells the story of two women who fight to stop the closing of their local outdoor swimming pool. Kate, who is in her twenties and a reporter, meets Rosemary, 86, who has swum in the pool since she was a child. The two women become friends — united by more than just a love of water. The Lido is the story of this remarkable friendship.

93 Julian Barnes (72)
This author of novels, crime fiction, essays and short stories has a new novel, The Only Story, which came out in February. Barnes began his career as a lexicographer before moving on to the New Statesman and the New Review to work as a reviewer and literary editor. He published his first novel, Metroland, in 1980, but the book that made him a name was Flaubert’s Parrot (1984). Of his approach to writing, he told The Guardian: “I never start by making up a bunch of characters and then wonder what might happen to them. I think of a situation, an impossible dilemma, a moral or emotional quandary, and then wonder to whom it might happen and when and where.”

94 David Hockney (80)
Always open to new ideas, Hockney has created art on his iPhone and iPad. He has studios in LA and London. He once said: “The moment you cheat for the sake of beauty, you know you’re an artist.” Hockney made a name for himself during the pop art era of the 60s. The English painter and printmaker loved the big cities of Europe, but found fresh inspiration when he went to California to work and also to live. A Bigger Splash, a 1967 painting of a pool next to a modern house, exemplifies his early style, and is celebrated as an icon of 20th-century art.

95 Rachel Whiteread (54)
Best known for her sculptures, Whiteread created the Mahnmal für die 65.000 ermordeten österreichischen Juden und Judinnen der Schoah in Vienna in 2000.

96 Felicity Hammond (29)
The British Journal of Photography describes Hammond’s works of art as, “an intersection between image-making, installation and sculpture.”

97 Zadie Smith (42)
Hit by writer’s block after the publication of her first bestseller, White Teeth (2000), Smith has gone on to write four more novels. A collection of essays, Feel Free, hit the bookshops in January this year. The writer, who was born to a Jamaican mother and an English father, was brought up on a council estate in north London. Smith’s ambition as a child was to work in musical theatre — her 2016 novel Swing Time describes two girls who become

“I do get a deep pleasure from looking. I see the world as very beautiful.”

David Hockney, in an interview with NPR

“It’s a world in which reading has been corrupted by the clichés of film and television — clichés of character as well as plot.”

Julian Barnes, speaking to The Guardian

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**SpotlightSOCIETY 27**

**SOCIETY 4/2018**
Zadie Smith: novelist, short-story author and essayist
friends through their passion for dancing. Later, while studying English literature at Cambridge, she worked as a cabaret singer. However, when the manuscript for *White Teeth* was snapped up by publishers, even before she had left university, it was clear that writing would become her main focus. In an interview with The Telegraph, she says of herself: “I’ve always felt very cringe-y about myself. Fiction is a useful way of getting around it or disguising oneself one way or another.”

**98 Sadie Williams (30)**

After leaving the London art and fashion college Central Saint Martins in 2013, Williams started her own label. Williams says she is inspired by the area of west London where she lived as a child. In an interview with high-content.com, she said: “I grew up always going to the local markets, Portobello and Shepherds Bush market. They’re polar opposite but I love them both. Portobello was the first place I was allowed to go shopping without my parents and just a friend. It’s where I really began to look [at] and explore clothes on my own, find bargains and develop my personal style.” Williams, who has designed for the brand & Other Stories, likes mixing bright colours. Vogue calls her style, “space-age-meets-folkloric.”

**99 Victoria Beckham (43)**

From Spice Girl to one of Britain’s most successful fashion designers: Beckham created her own label in 2008, winning industry kudos and celebrity fans. Beckham is a master of branding — of her products, certainly, but more importantly, of herself. One key to her transformation from “Posh Spice” to serious fashion player has been the careful cultivation of her media presence. Plus, her own lines of clothing and accessories go very well with her good-looking family: football-star husband, David Beckham, and their four children.

**100 Michele Clapton (57)**

She creates clothing for two very different kinds of royalty, but costume designer Michele Clapton moves easily between the two worlds. In 2011, she began designing costumes for the fantasy TV series *Game of Thrones*. With no specific instructions regarding the style except “vaguely medieval”, she created clothing that underlined the larger-than-life drama for cloaks, enormous silver jewellery and sweeping kimono-like dresses.

When Clapton took on designing costumes for *The Crown*, a TV series about the life of Queen Elizabeth II, her remit was to combine historically accurate outfits with clothing that gave an extra dimension to the story. In contrast to her early work as a fashion designer, where Clapton says she had complete control of a look, costume design is a “collaborative” task in which designer, actor and director work together. Not that she is complaining. After winning a BAFTA for her costume design for *The Crown* in 2017, she said that when everyone works together, “really interesting things happen”. Then her work, “aids the actor. It aids the storytelling.”

Texts by Inez Sharp
Good works in Gambia

Wenn ein Arbeitstier in Gambia, Westafrika, krank wird, kann das für eine Familie den Ruin bedeuten. LORRAINE MALLINDER hat sich mit einer Frau unterhalten, die in solchen Fällen hilft.

M y name is Heather Armstrong. I’m in my sixties, and I came to Gambia [from the UK] when I was three years old. My father was a conservationist and started the country’s wildlife department. We grew up surrounded by animals. It was a happy childhood, and my connection with the country has continued to this day.

I am director of a charity called the Gambia Horse and Donkey Trust. We opened our centre in Sambel, a village about 200 miles (320 km) from the capital, Banjul, 15 years ago. Mainly, we treat sick horses and donkeys and help their owners to look after them. We also train local vets and teach animal welfare at the university.

In Sambel, I wake up at seven. I go out in the yard and greet the staff, making sure everything’s tickety-boo. Then we bring out the animals, treat them, exercise them and feed them. At 8.30, we sit down to a breakfast of coffee, fresh fruit and tapioca, a traditional Gambian bread.

We have 32 Gambian people working with us, each one trained to do absolutely everything, from mucking out the stables to veterinary work. We usually have around 40 animals in at a time. If any of the local people has a donkey or horse too sick to work, we take it in and provide them with another until it gets better.

The mornings are filled with all kinds of things: patients who just walk in, or those who need looking after. Or people might come to talk to me about their problems.

Our cook makes dinner over an open fire. We often have fish from the river. Beef tends to be too expensive. We have a very naughty goat called Neil, whose paddock is like Fort Knox. But very occasionally, a sheep will get in, and he kills it. The staff simply love him because it means we get mutton for supper.

In Sambel, we have absolutely exquisite sunsets. There is no light pollution, so the sky is full of shooting stars. It’s just magical. You can hear the cowbells, and the cattle herds playing their little flutes. Sometimes you can hear the hyenas whooping.

I often go to bed quite early, at 9 or 10 p.m. — that is, if I’m not called out again. It might be a seriously ill person needing to go to hospital. Ours is the only vehicle for miles around, so we also provide an ambulance service. I’ve delivered babies in the back seat of our car.

Otherwise, it’s off to bed. I sleep well anywhere. As soon as I’m horizontal, I’m out.

We finish at 6 p.m. Sometimes the house is full of volunteers who need looking after. Or people might come to talk to me about their problems.

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for hard-to-reach areas. And it’s not always horses and donkeys we treat. Recently, I saw a dog with a horrific fracture and a cow who’d been horned.

At 1 p.m., we have lunch in the garden. It’s always a local dish, made with tomatoes or groundnuts. Our cook needs a little training, because sometimes she’ll put pasta and potatoes in the sauce, which we’ll eat with rice. Sometimes we have sweet potato chips, which are wonderful.

If it’s quieter, I’ll do e-mails. We receive a lot of volunteer applications, mainly from the UK. People can sponsor our animals or buy a meaningful gift like a cartload of hay. There might be donations of drugs coming in, too. In Europe, lots of perfectly good drugs are thrown out. But we can make use of them.

At 3 p.m., it’s back to work. We’ll clean the stables, lay down fresh hay and feed the horses and donkeys. Every week, we get the staff to compare their patients, just to keep everyone informed.

Good works in Gambia

Wenn ein Arbeitstier in Gambia, Westafrika, krank wird, kann das für eine Familie den Ruin bedeuten. LORRAINE MALLINDER hat sich mit einer Frau unterhalten, die in solchen Fällen hilft.
Exquisite sunsets help make Gambia special to Ms Armstrong.

Loves her work: Carrie Goldberg.

On the road: truck driver Michelle Kitchin.

Good local bread is an important part of breakfast.

Groundnuts, as peanuts are called in Gambia, are an important part of the local diet.

Plenty of fresh fruit and hot coffee round out the first meal of the day.

Angry goat, good dinner: if the goat kills a sheep, then in the pot it goes.

Working animals like donkeys are the focus of this charity.
“Constable Country”: fine light over the River Stour in Dedham Vale
The only way is...

Essex

Unweit von London besticht die Grafschaft Essex mit ländlichem Charme, einer dynamischen Kunstszene und malerischen Stränden. Von JULIAN EARWAKER

I watch from a hill as the sun breaks through the mist on the Essex border. The tower of St Mary’s Church, Dedham, stands tall across the valley, and the River Stour winds like a silver snake through fields of grazing cattle and sheep. This timeless scene was well known to John Constable (1776–1837), one of Britain’s finest landscape painters. Constable grew up here, and a look at his Dedham Vale of 1802, painted close to where I stand today, shows just how little the countryside has changed in more than 200 years.

cattle \(\text{[kæt-l]}\)
- Vieh

grazing \(\text{[grei\(\)zn]}\)
- grasend

mist \(\text{[mist]}\)
- feiner Nebel, Dunst

wind \(\text{[waInd]}\)
- sich winden
Constable believed that the landscape should be experienced en plein air, so I pull on my walking boots and take one of the many trails through Constable Country. The Stour Valley is typical of rural Essex: hedgerows, farmland, wildlife and water. Essex doesn’t really have hills (it has a high point of just 147 metres), but it does have big skies, which rise above me as I walk the gentle three kilometres to Dedham.

The village appears to be a centre of calm when I arrive, with its historic church, mill and arts centre all close to the river. I stop at the 16th-century Essex Rose tea house and order a Tiptree apple juice, produced by Wilkin & Sons, Essex fruit growers since 1885. “It’s not always this quiet,” says the waitress. “In summer, we get a bit overrun by cars and tourists.”

The name “Essex” comes from the “East Seaxe” kingdom of Saxons, who settled here around AD 500. With deep historical and cultural roots, Essex is a largely rural county. Yet it struggles to throw off the label of the “dustbin of London”, a place for the capital’s unwanted waste, industry and overspill population. The stereotype of an “Essex girl” (or “boy”) is of someone who celebrates materialism and ignorance. It’s a view promoted by TV reality shows like TOWIE, The Only Way Is Essex, set in the shops, bars and clubs in and around Brentwood, which is close to London.

**Castles and spacecraft**

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.
Idyll of old: St Mary’s Church in Dedham, built in the 15th century.
After lunch, I wander in and out of high street shops, and past the grandiose Victorian town hall and clock tower. At Balkerne Gate, I see Jumbo, a giant Victorian water tower built 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.

Right on the “naze”

From Colchester, I drive east the next morning. As the landscape opens up into farmland and fields, it feels as if I’m heading towards the edge of things. Walton-on-the-Naze (“naze” is the Old English word for “promontory” or “nose”) is a seaside town dominated by the second-longest pier in Britain. Not much of it is visible when I arrive, as the coastline is shrouded in fog. Ice cream kiosks, takeaways and seaside shops huddle together along the seafront. The sandy beach is empty except for someone walking a dog.

After a short drive north, I park at the Naze Centre on the cliffs tops. It’s ideal for birdwatching at Hamford Water National Nature Reserve, an important site for waders and water birds. Not far from the cliff’s edge is the 26-metre tall, red-brick Naze Tower. Dating from 1720, this elegant eight-sided structure was built as a navigational beacon for shipping. Today, its eight floors house a museum, tearoom, art gallery and viewing platform. The spectacular 360-degree panorama is reason enough to climb the 111-step spiral staircase. On a clear day, it is possible to see 50 kilometres into the distance. Today, it’s more like 50 metres, but I can see that the tide is close to the shore.

There’s just time for a quick walk along the sandy beach. The cliffs are filled with fossils, and it is common to find ancient sharks’ teeth, whalebone, shells and fossilized wood washed up on the shore.

After only half an hour, I have to turn back, as the incoming tide is already touching the steps that lead down to the beach. The fog adds to the eeriness of this isolated headland. Surrounded by the sea on three sides, its stillness is broken only
by the sound of the waves and distant bird calls.

Back at the Naze Centre, I chat to Peter, a volunteer with the Essex Wildlife Trust. I show him my fossil finds, which he identifies as twigs from around 54 million years ago. He laughs when I tell him that I visited Walton as a young child. “The beach you played on then is probably 100 metres out there now,” he says, pointing towards the sea, and explaining that this strip of coastline erodes by up to two metres each year.

The sea is not the only erosion risk Essex faces. Peter tells me that he grew up in Dagenham, once an Essex town but now part of Greater London. Bounded by the River Thames to the south and London to the west, Essex is being nibbled away like a biscuit by the capital’s appetite for growth.

**Beach huts and ghosts**

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

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**AUFBRUCH INS UNBEKANNTES**

Bis zum Eis der Pole, in die entlegenen Wüsten und die Tiefen der Ozeane: Um das Jahr 1800 beginnt die Zeit der großen Forschungsreisen. Cook, Humboldt, Darwin – sie alle gehen mutig dorthin, wo vorher noch niemand war. Beginnen Sie jetzt Ihre Entdeckungsreise mit ZEIT GESCHICHTE!
appealing mix of seaside tourism and working boatyards. The air is filled with the smell of mud, seaweed and 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 mind full of myths, I reach the mainland.

Located on the Blackwater Estuary, Maldon was once an important Saxon port. A waterfront monument tells of Maldon’s role in 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.

Fine art and seals
Chelmsford is the birthplace of radio and the location of Marconi’s first public broadcast in 1920. There’s no time to start exploring, however, because for my last full day in Essex. I have one simple aim: to walk on water. To do so, I catch a morning train to Southend Victoria station. Just around the corner, Southend Museum and the Beecroft Art Gallery offer me a perfect introduction to the town.

“Most people head straight down to the seafront,” admits the assistant curator as he greets me like a long-lost friend. A walk through the town centre brings me to Royal Terrace, where I look out across the rides of Adventure Island and seafront amusements, along the lines of the famous pier and far across the Thames Estuary towards the shoreline of Kent.

Six million visitors go to Southend-on-Sea every year, and most of them want to see the world’s longest leisure pier there, which extends no less than 2,158 metres into the stretch of low water that is neither fully river nor sea. Back in 1829, the idea was to allow steamboats access to the pier head even at low tide — when the sea goes back one and half kilometres from the beach.

At the pier entrance, I climb on board the “Sir John Betjeman”, a narrow-gauge railway engine named after the former poet laureate (“The Pier is Southend, Southend is the Pier,” Betjeman once wrote). What the train lacks in vintage style it more than makes up for in views. It takes just ten minutes to ride peacefully along the pier, watching the waves through the windows, white horses racing towards us.

Outside, there’s a strong breeze blowing, and the salty air snaps at my hair and clothes, throwing sea spray across the wooden boards. Walking the last few metres to the lifeboat station at the very end of the pier, I am surprised to see a large grey head appear in the water nearby — then another, and another. A number of grey seals observe me with curiosity.

I enjoy a cup of tea outside the shiny Royal Pavilion, sheltered from the wind. Seagulls swing in the air; aircraft leave their thin clouds in the sky high above. “This is one of the loveliest places to work in Britain — when the weather’s nice,” says the young man who serves me. “Sometimes it can be a bit... wild!” Later, I read about the big plans for a £6.3 million redevelopment of the shore-front pier pavilion. Southend knows where to place its bets.

The next morning, I check out of my Chelmsford hotel and enjoy my last few hours in Essex. I walk past historic canals and modern shopping malls, winding back along the high street shops to Bond Street and a cafe on the new Waterfront. Chelmsford seems to want to make the most of what it has, especially where eating, drinking and shopping are concerned. It’s the sort of place that TV chef Jamie Oliver, Essex born and bred, would call “pukka” — perfect, ideal. And in many ways, he is typical of the Essex spirit: taking a selection of ingredients and making something authentic and unashamedly his own.
The Thistle sailing barge leaving Maldon on the River Blackwater.
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. ...

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. 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... 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. ...

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never really thought much of Ellen Pompeo, and I was hardly alone in that. Considering she was the longtime star of a very successful hospital soap opera, Grey’s Anatomy, she never managed to gain superstar status. Now I realize that she knew how little we thought of her, and I feel bad about it.

She was an actress you couldn’t quite place, who looked like other, more famous women — Renée Zellweger, Fergie. She was always in the shadow of her co-stars, Katherine Heigl and Patrick Dempsey — who kept getting the movie offers — and of smaller-part actors who got all the award nominations. Pompeo never did. The continued existence of Grey’s has become something of a joke: “Oh, is that still running? I haven’t watched it in years.”

Yes, it’s still on. And in a recent essay for the Hollywood Reporter, Pompeo took a victory lap, talking about the $20-million-a-year contract she just signed to keep the show going for another few years. “I’m not the most ‘relevant’ actress out there,” she wrote. “But the truth is, anybody can be good on a show season one and two. Can you be good 14 years later?”

A couple of years ago, it might have been considered tacky for an actress to brag about how much she gets paid. But this year, women everywhere are thinking long and hard about the problems they face in the workplace. So for Pompeo, this was a statement of female empowerment — celebrating the value of knowing your worth, and demanding your due.

It also made me think about the strange value system we fans often apply to showbiz success, how we value movies over TV shows, HBO over network, the current trend over longevity, edginess over mainstream popularity.

In fact, anyone gifted enough or lucky enough to have a paying job in such a highly competitive field deserves our respect — and perhaps our sympathy, too. These careers are typically short, especially for women. Pompeo, who is 48, had a fleeting note of ungraciousness when she seemed to express envy of a “24-year-old actress with a few big movies,” who, of course, is considered a greater success than herself “even though she’s probably being paid shit.”

Pompeo then changed her tone, however, expressing concern about young actresses, who, she warned, often get used and are then dropped by the time they hit their thirties. “These poor girls have no real money, and the studio is making a fortune and parading them like ponies on a red carpet,” she wrote.

Her message was an unsentimental one, a call for women to seize their financial destinies. In the end, she said, “you have to be more interested in business than you are in acting.”

**brag** [bræg] — prahlen, angeben
**destiny** [‘destəni] — Schicksal
**due** [dju:] — rechtmäßig Zustehendes
**edginess** [‘edʒinəs] — Schneidigkeit
**empowerment** [ɪm’pəʊvərment] — hier: Emanzipation
**envy** [‘envi] — Neid
**fleeting** [‘flɪtɪŋ] — flüchtig, kurz
**HBO (Home Box Office)** [, her bi: ‘əʊ] — amerikanischer Fernsehprogramm-anbieter (Kabelfernsehen)

**longevity** [lɔŋ’tiːdʒvətɪ] — Langlebigkeit
**note** [nəut] — Unterton
**paid shit** [pedd ‘ʃɪt] [ml.] — miserabel bezahlt
**season** [’sɛzzən] — hier: (TV-)Staffel
**seize** [səiz] — in die Hand nehmen
**sympathy** [ˈsnɪmpəθi] — Mitgefühl, Mitleid
**tacky** [ˈtæki] [ml.] — geschmacklos, billig
**ungraciousness** [ənˈɡreɪʃəzn] — Unfreundlichkeit
**victory lap** [ˈvɪktəri læp] — Triumphzug
Take part in our competition, win some great prizes and get the chance to read YOUR story on the Spotlight website.
Early one morning in the middle of April, Owen was walking along the river, birdwatching. He had already seen a pair of yellow wagtails and a house martin, and had taken some photos, but what he really wanted to see was a cuckoo.

Every year, cuckoos made the journey across the thousands of miles from Africa to Europe. Owen had never flown that far in his whole life. He was 20 years old, but he’d never wanted to travel far from home. He was happy to be here, by the river, with his binoculars and his camera.

The other students at college teased him about his “boring” hobbies of birdwatching and photography. They said he needed to “get a life”.

He had been following the migration of these birds online. He checked the updates daily and knew that the cuckoos should be arriving in his part of the country very soon.

Then he saw it — the cuckoo’s nest. No, it was not the bird, but a houseboat, with its name, The Cuckoo’s Nest, painted on the side. It was a pretty little narrowboat with traditional decorations. Owen stopped and looked — and shook his head in disbelief.

“What’s your problem?” A young woman’s head appeared from the little doors at the end of the boat. “What are you laughing at?” she asked, staring at him. She was small and muscular, her hair aggressively short and pink, and she had several tattoos and piercings.
“Oh, no, sorry!” stammered Owen, blushing. “It’s just the name of the boat: Cuckoo’s Nest. Cuckoos don’t build nests, so it’s kind of funny, that’s all.”

“Don’t they? Where do they live then?” Owen explained how the cuckoo lays its egg in the nest of another bird. It tricks the other bird into sitting on its egg and then into feeding its young. He thought that everyone knew this, even a child at primary school. The young woman listened, frowning at him sceptically.

“Shedumped me with my dad and my stepmum and left. That’s why I’m here, travelling by myself now. Free as a bird.”

Owen nodded. He didn’t know how to react to this young woman. She seemed very different from the other girls he knew.

She sings her song in May

Owen became a regular visitor to The Cuckoos Nest over the next few weeks. If he was passing on his early morning birdwatching walks, he would stop to say “hello”, and sometimes offered a cup of tea by Danni, as the girl was called. He started bringing breakfast for them both: bacon and bread to make sandwiches, or mini-packets of cereal and fresh milk.

At first, Owen thought that Danni was a bit stupid because she asked so many questions and was constantly surprised by the answers. She didn’t seem to know that rivers always flowed downhill or that river water wasn’t salty. She didn’t know the names of the plants or trees around her. She stared at him quizzically: “Which one is the oak?” she’d ask, or “What’s that brown bird called?” He enjoyed being able to tell her the answers.

At the same time, Danni thought that Owen was a bit of a loser. He knew a lot about country things, but he didn’t know much about real life. He lived with his mum and dad in a comfortable home. He took beautiful pictures of birds and other animals, but he never thought of trying to make money with his photography. He thought the world was a good place. He’d never be able to survive in her world. But he was a gentle person and a good listener — and he made a good bacon sandwich. He didn’t seem to want anything from her, as other people did.

Owen started to come round in the afternoons after college, too. Sometimes he offered to help Danni by chopping the wood for the fire or by emptying the toilet, but she never accepted. “I don’t want to depend on anyone,” she said. “First, a man chops your firewood and, before you know what’s happened, you’re having his kids.”

“I don’t think that’s quite how it works,” laughed Owen — and Danni laughed, too.

She had decided to stay for a few weeks. She liked the area. It was quiet here, and she felt peaceful. She had found a market where she could sell her handmade jewellery — silver earrings and necklaces, all surprisingly delicate.

One afternoon, Danni was working at the small table in the boat, making a necklace and singing softly under her breath. Owen was watching her through the viewfinder of his camera. Then they both heard it: “Cuckoo! Cuckoo!”

Owen’s face lit up. “The first cuckoo of summer!” he said. “It’s a good sign.”

April

Read the statements below. Are they true (T) or false (F)?

A. Owen thinks that birdwatching is boring.  T  F
B. Owen finds the name of the houseboat amusing.  O  O
C. The young woman is alone on the houseboat.  O  O

May

Read the statements below and choose the right word.

A. Danni and Owen get on well / badly.
B. They start to see each other more / less often.
C. They come from similar / different backgrounds.

She sings her song in May

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Owen’s face lit up. “The first cuckoo of summer!” he said. “It’s a good sign.”
In the middle of June, she changes her tune

“Told you it would happen,” said Danni one Saturday afternoon in June. She was making a pair of earrings, while Owen was preparing an omelette for them both.

“Don’t suppose you saw it, did you?”

“No. I just heard it. I looked up, but I couldn’t see one — just some pigeons in a pine tree.”

“Cuckoos are notoriously difficult to see, you know. You just hear them. I’d love to get a good photo of one. I could put it on my new website or try to sell it. Did I tell you? I’ve found the address of a photo agency that specializes in nature photography.”

“That would be awesome. It’s clever, isn’t it,” she added, “how the cuckoo can say its own name?”

“No, it’s called a cuckoo because... Oh, I see, you’re joking.”

“Yes, even I’m not that thick!”

“No, I know. You’re actually very clever, and funny, and...” His voice trailed off and he changed the topic. “Actually, did you know the cuckoo sings only when it’s in Europe during its breeding season. It doesn’t sing in Africa.”

“I wonder what they call it over there, then. The silent bird?”

“Good question.” He put her plate on the table in front of her. “Talking of being silent, you’ve been very quiet today. Is something the matter?”

“No, it’s just... I’ve been thinking.” She looked up at him. “It’s nearly time for me to move on. The summer holidays will be starting soon, the river will be full of holiday houseboats. The mooring rules are different in the summer. I can stay for only a few days in each place along the river.”

“Oh, I see. I didn’t know that.”

“And anyway, I’ve been here too long already. It’s been nice, but it’s... too nice. I need to spread my wings.”

In July...?

We would like you to finish the story — in English, of course. Tell us what you think happens in July. Before you start writing, though, consider the length: you have a maximum of 2,000 characters (including spaces). You might also like to think about the following questions:

- Will the story follow the last line of the cuckoo song: “In July she flies away”?
- Will Danni leave? If so, where will she go?
- What will Owen do?
- Do you see the relationship as a friendship or a romance?
- Do you want your story to have a happy ending?
- What would be a happy ending for Danni?
- What would be a happy ending for Owen?

Our competition: how to take part
Visit www.spotlight-online.de/story-competition by 31 May 2018 to find out more about our competition and to upload your story ending. We will publish a selection of the best stories on www.spotlight-online.de in August. Have fun writing, and good luck!
At the vet’s

Do you have a pet? If so, you will be familiar with some of the situations described on this page.

ANNA HOCHSIEDER presents language to talk about going to the vet’s.

All in a day’s work

Polly is a veterinary surgeon. Here, she describes her work at a veterinary practice in south London.

Most of our patients are dogs or cats, but we also treat other small animals, such as pet rabbits, tortoises, birds and even fish.

Before the surgery opens at 8 am., the nurses feed our inpatients and clean out the kennels and cages. The waiting room is always full, but not all our patients are sick.

Our work involves preventive health care, such as giving pet owners advice on nutrition, hygiene, worming, flea treatment and other forms of parasite control. People bring their pets for dental check-ups, vaccinations or to have them microchipped or spayed (also called neutered). We also perform more complex surgery, but some of our patients have to be referred to a specialist.

There’s only one thing I don’t like about my job: telling people that their beloved pet will have to be put down. But it’s all in a day’s work.
Now try the following exercises to practise vocabulary you might need at the vet’s.

Exercise 1
Cross out the word or phrase in each line that does not match the others.

A. cabinet | cage | kennel | pet carrier
B. nurse | pet | specialist | vet
C. budgie | kitten | puppy | trolley
D. neutering | vaccination | waiting room | worming

Exercise 2
Complete definitions A–D with the words from the list.

Elizabethan collar | parasite | syringe | tortoise

A. A(n) ......................... is a small animal or plant that lives in or on another animal or plant and feeds on it.
B. A(n) ......................... is a reptile with a hard round shell on its back that lives on land and moves very slowly.
C. A(n) ......................... is a needle fitted to a plastic tube, used for injecting drugs or drawing blood from a body.
D. A(n) ......................... is a plastic cone worn around the neck by a cat or dog to stop it from scratching or licking wounds.

Exercise 3
Match the problems described by pet owners (A–E) to the vet’s responses (1–5).

A. We don’t want our cat to have any more kittens.
B. I think our dog may be overweight.
C. I’m worried my cat might run away.
D. My dog has had diarrhoea for several days.
E. What can I do to protect my cat against cat flu?

1. When did you last have it wormed?
2. You should have it vaccinated.
3. You should have it spayed.
4. We can give you nutritional advice.
5. Have you considered having it micro-chipped?

Exercise 4
Look at the last sentence in the text on page 46 and choose the best answer to this question: What is the meaning of the idiom “all in a day’s work”?

A. A particular activity takes no more than one day to finish.
B. A particular job consists of only one activity.
C. A particular activity is part of your job and therefore must be done.

“Surgery” and “surgeons”
- In British English, a surgery (countable noun) is a place where a doctor, dentist or vet sees his or her patients. The American word for this is office.
- Surgery (uncountable noun) is medical treatment in which a doctor cuts open a person’s or animal’s body — in other words, an operation.
- A surgeon is someone who is trained to perform surgery.
- In formal British English, a veterinary surgeon is a doctor who treats animals. In American English, the usual term is veterinarian. But in spoken language, the more common word is vet.
Getting things done

DAGMAR TAYLOR presents four dialogues about doing jobs around the house. Read them, and then try the exercises on page 49.

1. It’s the weekend!
Beryl and Joe are getting ready for visitors.

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. I’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.
Joe: Where are we going to put them?
Beryl: In the spare room?
Joe: 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?

2. In the spare room
Beryl and Joe are deciding what needs to be done.

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.
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.
3. What first?

Joe and Beryl have just returned home from their shopping trip.

Joe: Right! What are we going to do first?
Beryl: Have lunch?
Joe: No, come on! Let’s get a few things done first. What would you rather do? Hang the curtains or hoover and dust?
Beryl: I don’t mind. If you put up the curtain rail, I can hang the curtains.
Joe: OK. Any idea where the drill is?
Beryl: I think I last saw it in the utility room. I’ll start hoovering and dusting while you look for it. I think we might need to clean the windows, too.
Joe: Do we have enough pillows and bed linen?
Beryl: Yes. You already asked me that. I’ll go and find it. While you’re downstairs, could you get me the glass cleaner, please?
Joe: Sure!

4. Nearly finished

Joe and Beryl are putting the finishing touches to the spare room.

Beryl: Blimey! It’s already five o’clock, and we still haven’t had lunch.
Joe: Time flies when you’re having fun.
Beryl: I have to say, it’s nice to have a guest room and not an absolute tip. I know. I think it looks lovely. Just the finishing touches now.
Joe: Well, since you’re so much better with the drill, why don’t I make a start on the tea? What did we say we were having again?
Beryl: Steak pie and mash. Before you go, can you just tell me where to hang the pictures?
Joe: Yeah, OK. This room’s nicer than ours now.

Tips

- When you get something done, you make sure that things happen or are done.
- If you are offered a choice, I don’t mind is a polite way of saying that you will be happy to do either or any of the alternatives offered.
- When you put something up, such as a curtain, you fix it in place.
- A utility room contains large pieces of equipment such as a washing machine, freezer, etc.
- Sheets and covers that you put on a bed are called bed linen.

Exercise 1

What do the words in bold refer to?

A. It’ll be lovely to see them again.
B. It just sort of accumulated.
C. I’ll go and find it.
D. This room’s nicer than ours now.

Exercise 2

Fill in the missing words

A. It’s time to sort out the spare room.
B. Don’t worry. Most of it can go to the charity shop.
C. I think I last saw it in the utility room.
D. It’s nice to have a guest room and not an absolute tip.

Answers

1. Joe and Beryl’s bed linen
2. B. all the things in the spare room
3. A. Joe and Beryl’s bedroom
D. utility room

Drill [dril] | Bohrer
dust [dʌst] | Staub wischen
hoover [ˈhuːvər] UK | staubsaugen
pillow [ˈpɪləʊ] | Kissen
rail [reɪl] | Stange
sheet [ʃiːt] | hier: Bettlaken
Using tag questions

ADRIAN DOFF presents and explains this key point of grammar with notes on a short dialogue.

**Explanations**

1. *He’s..., isn’t he?* is a **tag question**, which is a sentence with a short **question tag** added at the end. It is used to check if something is true, or to find out whether or not the other person agrees. Here, the tag repeats the verb **be**. After a **positive sentence** (*He’s...*), a **negative tag** *(isn’t he?)* is added.

2. In this case, the question tag repeats the **auxiliary verb** **has** (*He’s got..., hasn’t he?).

3. After a **main verb** in the **present simple**, the question tag uses **do / does** (*He looks..., doesn’t he?).

4. Here, Jane uses a **negative sentence** (*He’s...*), a **negative tag** *(isn’t he?)* is added.

5. This is another negative tag question, repeating the auxiliary verb **does** (*She doesn’t seem..., does she?).

**Dialogue**

Annie and Jane are at an office party. They’re talking about the other people in the room.

**Annie:** See that guy with the black hair. *He’s* Mira’s new boyfriend, *isn’t he?*

**Jane:** Yes, that’s right. His name’s Ben.

**Annie:** *He’s* got an interesting face, *hasn’t he?*

**Jane:** Yes, he’s very good-looking.

**Annie:** But he looks quite a bit younger than Mira, *doesn’t he?*

**Jane:** Yes, he does. He can’t be more than about 25, *can he?*

**Annie:** No, I guess not. Ah, well, lucky Mira!

**Jane:** Hmm! She *doesn’t seem* to be very interested in him, though, *does she?*

**Annie:** Doesn’t she? Why do you say that?

**Jane:** Well, she’s been ignoring him all evening. She’s spent all her time talking to that older man over there.

**Remember!**

Tag questions are used to check a fact or to find out whether the other person agrees or not:

- The capital of Scotland is Edinburgh, *isn’t it?* (= I think it is, but I’m not sure.)
- It’s cold in here, *isn’t it?* (= I think it’s cold. Do you agree?)

Add a **negative tag** to a positive sentence, and a **positive tag** to a negative sentence.

- It’s really hot today, *isn’t it?*
- It’s not exactly warm today, *is it?*

The question tag repeats the verb **be** (is, are, was, were) and **auxiliary verbs** (have, will, would, can, etc.):

- You’ll be here tomorrow, *won’t you?*
- He wouldn’t lie to us, *would he?*

The question tag uses **do / does** or **did** after the **present** or **past simple**:

- Sue doesn’t eat meat, *does she?*
- They went sailing yesterday, *didn’t they?*

**Beyond the basics**

Tag questions can be expressed in two different ways:

1. **either the voice falls** at the end of the sentence and on the tag:
   - You aren’t *cold, are you?* (I’m fairly sure, but I’m just checking.)

2. **or the voice rises** at the end of the sentence and on the tag:
   - You aren’t *cold, are you?* (I’m not sure, so I’m asking a question.)

**Exercise**

Add the correct tag to form tag questions.

<p>| | |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. He can swim, * ?</td>
<td>B. They work very long hours, * ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. You haven’t got any money on you, * ?</td>
<td>D. That was a brilliant film, * ?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E. She’s cut her hair, * ?</td>
<td>F. You won’t tell anybody, * ?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Answers**

A. *can’t he*
B. *don’t they*
C. *have you*
D. *wasn’t it*
E. *hasn’t she*
F. *will you*
### New words

**manel**

“The only reason they invited her to the podium discussion is that it would otherwise have been a manel.”

### (In)Formal English

Make these statements sound more formal / “correct”:

1. If I *was* younger, I would do things differently.
2. If only he *was* more interested in such things.

### Translation

Translate:

1. Wir haben die Entscheidung *Hals über Kopf* getroffen.
2. Er hat sich *Hals über Kopf* in Erika verliebt.

### Pronunciation

Read the following words of German origin aloud:

- **autobahn**
- **bratwurst**
- **Götterdämmerung**
- **panzer**
- **lumpenproletariat**
- **Übermensch**

### Idiom magic

*bear fruit*

### False friends

**gastronome / Gastronom(in)**

Translate the following sentences:

1. My uncle is the only genuine **gastronome** in the family.
2. Er fing als einfacher Kellner an und wurde später ein berühmter **Gastronom**.
**Global English**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/2018</td>
<td>Spotlight</td>
<td>A &quot;manel&quot; is a panel (Gremium) or public discussion group that consists entirely (komplett) of men. Obviously, the word is a blend (Mischung) of &quot;man&quot; and &quot;panel&quot;.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**New words**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/2018</td>
<td>Spotlight</td>
<td>Standard English:</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>“I’m sick and tired of all his salesman’s smooth talk / doublespeak / nonsense.”</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

This informal British expression refers to the smooth, empty talk that people sometimes use to avoid addressing a difficult subject or situation directly (ausweichendes Geschwafel). "Flannel" can be used both as a noun and a verb.

**Translation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/2018</td>
<td>Spotlight</td>
<td>In informal spoken English, the simple past is often used in “unreal” conditionals containing &quot;be&quot;. In more refined usage, the plural form &quot;were&quot; (subjunctive) is used for all persons, including the first- and third-person singular.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. We made the decision in a great hurry / rush.
2. He fell head over heels in love with Erika.

A number of other idioms that include parts of the body in German can be translated more or less directly into English, such as "an eye for an eye" and "a tooth for a tooth" (Auge um Auge, Zahn um Zahn).

**Idiom magic**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/2018</td>
<td>Spotlight</td>
<td>Some native English speakers will try to pronounce words borrowed from German in a more or less German fashion, but the words are generally pronounced in a specifically English way.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

When you say that something "bears fruit", this means that it leads to positive results. Like many German/English idioms that seem to be translations of each other, this one comes from the Bible.

"It looks as if her idea for that new project is about to bear fruit."

**Pronunciation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Pronunciation</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>[ˈoeɪkəbæn]</td>
<td>[ˈbrætwɑːst]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ˈɡrɑːdəmɑːɾən]</td>
<td>[ˈpænəzə]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>[ˈælmənˌpɾəʊsəlˈtɛrɪəst]</td>
<td>['uːbəmen]</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Grammar**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/2018</td>
<td>Spotlight</td>
<td>The pronoun “one” is used to avoid repeating a countable noun. But it is not used with a possessive determiner unless (außer wenn) there is also an adjective present (example 3). If there is no adjective, a possessive determiner is used instead (example 2).</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Would you prefer the red car or the blue one?
2. Your car is too slow. Let’s take mine.
3. I liked your old car, but not your new one.

**False friends**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Title</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/2018</td>
<td>Spotlight</td>
<td>Both words come from French gastronomie, which goes back to a Greek root meaning “stomach”.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Mein Onkel ist der einzige echte Feinschmecker in der Familie.
2. He started as a simple waiter, but later became a famous restaurateur.
Every month, WILL O’RYAN turns his attention to a particularly interesting word or expression that could be a challenge to translate.

**Advanced**

"The real McCoy" is, quite simply, something that or a person who is genuine. Other phrases used in a similar way are "the genuine article" and "the real thing". There exists a seemingly similar expression in German: *der wahre Jakob*. But this is much older and far less common in modern speech, so it would probably not be a very apt translation in most cases. Depending on the context, more likely candidates would be *der/die/das Echte, das (einzig) Wahre* or *das Original*.

**Usage**

“The real McCoy” is, quite simply, something that or a person who is genuine. Other phrases used in a similar way are “the genuine article” and “the real thing”. There exists a seemingly similar expression in German: *der wahre Jakob*. But this is much older and far less common in modern speech, so it would probably not be a very apt translation in most cases. Depending on the context, more likely candidates would be *der/die/das Echte, das (einzig) Wahre* or *das Original*.

**Example**

“The idea of the virtual tour is not just to allow people to ‘visit’ from home, but to be enticed to come and visit the real McCoy.”

**Background**

“McCoy” is the anglicization of a Scottish surname that is also widespread in Ireland, particularly in a few counties of Ulster and in Limerick and Cork. “The real McCoy” first appeared in print in Canada in the year 1881. The Scottish variant, “the real MacKay”, was first attested in 1883. There are competing theories as to who or what “McCoy” might have been, among them whisky distilled by A. and M. Mackay of Glasgow, boxing champion Charles S. “Kid” McCoy (1872–1940) and a claimant to the leadership of the northern (Scottish) branch of the Mackay clan. The expression became particularly popular during Prohibition to describe liquor — in contrast to non-alcoholic drinks.

**Exercise**

In which of the following contexts would “the real McCoy” make sense?

A. “Is that a fake Rolex you’re wearing, or is it ……………………. ?”

B. “My brother loves to drink vodka. He’s ……………………. .”

**Answer:** A

---

**apt** [æpt]  
- passend, treffend

**claimant** [ˈkleɪmənt]  
- Anwärter(in), Anspruchsteller(in)

**enticed:** be ~ to do sth. [ɪnˈtɪst]  
- hier: angeregt werden, etw. zu tun

**liqour** [ˈlɪkwə]  
- alkoholische(s) Getränk(e) (vor allem Spirituosen)

**Prohibition**  
- Verbot der Herstellung, des Transports und des Verkaufs von Alkohol (1920–33)
Do you want a hand?

How do you make offers in conversational English?

Look at the examples below, read the explanations and try the exercises. By ADRIAN DOFF

Offers

A simple way to offer something to someone in English is to use the imperative form of a verb:

- Take a seat.
- Let me help you with that bag.

To make the offer more emphatic, you can add the words please and/or do:

- Please sit down.
- Do let me help you.

You can also use Would you like…? followed by a noun or to + verb:

- Would you like a beer?
- Would you like to watch TV?

If you want to offer to do something for another person, you can use I’ll… or Shall I…?

- I’ll get some more beer from the cellar.
- Shall I buy the tickets?

After an offer with I’ll…, you can often add …if you like:

- I’ll get some more beer from the cellar if you like.

A slightly more formal way to offer to do things is to use the phrase Would you like me to…?:

- Would you like me to send you the details?
- Can I carry something for you?

Offering to help

You can offer to help by using the expression help (you) with:

- Can I help you with those bags?
- There’s a lot of washing up to do. I’ll lend you a hand.

Instead of “help”, you can also say lend (or give) you a hand:

- Do you want a hand with the boxes? They look very heavy.

Do whatever you like

Sometimes, when you make an offer, you want to give the other person complete freedom to choose. There are two ways to do this in English:

1. using expressions with wherever, whatever, etc. + …you like:

   - Have a seat. Sit wherever you like.
   - Take whatever you like from the fridge.

2. using expressions with any… + you like:

   - Have a seat. Sit anywhere you like.
   - Here’s a key to the front door. Come back any time you like.

Idioms

The following idiomatic expressions are often used when offering something to guests:

help yourself (to) = take what you need

- Help yourself to anything in the fridge.
- The wine’s on the table, so just help yourself.

make yourself at home = feel relaxed, don’t feel as if you have to be polite

- You can have a bath, or you can watch TV — just make yourself at home.

feel free (to) = do something without having to ask

- Feel free to use my bike if you want to. It’s in the garage.

Exercise 1

Sentences A–D are all examples of offers. Match them with the places where you might hear them (1–4).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exercise 1</th>
<th>M</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A. Let me give you a hand with that suitcase.</td>
<td>1. at an airport</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B. Help yourself to anything in the cupboard.</td>
<td>2. at the doctor’s</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C. Please take a seat and wait until you’re called.</td>
<td>3. on the phone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D. Would you like me to call you back later?</td>
<td>4. in someone’s home</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Exercise 2

Complete sentences A–E with words from the list.

free | help | lend | let | whatever

A. ____________ yourself to coffee. There’s plenty left.
B. Feel ____________ to call me if you need anything.
C. It’s an informal party, so wear ____________ you like.
D. ____________ me open the door for you.
E. Can I ____________ you a hand with the gardening?

Answers
Dear Ken

Despite having learned English at school for years, I don’t know when to use “have” and “have got”. Could you help me with an explanation and a little example? Thanks in advance.

Regards

Natascha K.

Dear Natascha

“Have” and “have got” both mean that you possess something. For example, there is no difference in meaning between “I have a bike” and “I have got a bike”. You can also use them interchangeably when talking about relationships (“I have / have got two brothers.”) or characteristics (“She has / has got a positive way of thinking.”).

There are a few things you need to keep in mind, however:

1. “Have got” is considered more informal and is often used in spoken British English. Then it is usually contracted, as in “I’ve got” or “she’s got”. In formal writing, people tend to use “have”, not “have got”. You will also hear “have got” less frequently in American English.

2. Sometimes there can be a slight difference in meaning, depending on the context. “I have a car” means “I own it”. “I have got a car for my birthday” means “I have received it”.

3. “Have” can be used instead of other verbs when describing actions or experiences, such as “I have (= take) a shower every evening”. You cannot use “have got” in sentences such as this. Of course, you can say, “I’ve got a shower”. But that means you own one.

I hope you have / have got the information you need now.

Kind regards

Ken

Dear Ken

I have just been asked to lead a small international team. Our first meeting is next month. What issues should I take up in this meeting to make sure the team starts working in the right way? I would appreciate some advice.

Regards

Markus L.

Dear Markus

Leading an international team is a difficult task. So I agree that it is important to kick off your work together in the right way. You need to make sure that everyone has the same understanding of what the team is supposed to do and how you should work together to achieve good results.

There are some key issues you could take up in your first meeting. You could start by discussing the main purpose of the team. Agree on what your goals are. Define them as clearly as possible, and make a preliminary decision on who should do what.

It’s also important for you to share how you see your role as team leader and to compare that with what the team members expect of you.

Try to agree on some ground rules for working together as a team. Agree on how meetings should be run and how long and frequent those meetings should be. If you work remotely, discuss how you can best communicate with each other between meetings. Discuss the implications of team members working in a second language and how you can overcome linguistic and cultural differences.

You might also like to look ahead to any potential difficulties and brainstorm possible preventive measures.

Discussing these points will lay the foundation for building a good team spirit. Remember, too, that you will certainly need to revisit some of these discussions as the teamwork develops.

Good luck with your project!

All the best

Ken

appreciate [əˈpriːʃiət] ≈ schätzen, begrüßen
contract [ˈkæntrakt] ≈ zusammenziehen
imprecision [ɪˈmprɪkʃən] ≈ Folge
interchangeably [ɪntəˈtʃeɪndʒəbli] ≈ als Synonym, untereinander austauschbar
kick off [ˈkɪk ˌоф] [inf.] ≈ beginnen
preliminary [priˈlɪmənəri] ≈ vorläufig
preventive measures [prɪˈventɪv mɛriˈzəz] ≈ vorbeugende Maßnahmen
remotely [rɪˈməutli] ≈ aus der Ferne
revisit [riˈvɪzɪt] ≈ überdenken
supposed: be ~ to do sth. [səˈpaʊst] ≈ etw. tun sollen
Easy English

Here, you’ll find an interview, with facts and exercises related to it, at the A2 level of English: basic language points you may have forgotten or missed before.
By VANESSA CLARK  EASY PLUS

Interview
Every month, our interview partners tell us about themselves. This time, we talk to Danielle De La Wonk, an English street performer who lives in Santiago, Chile.

What do you do?
I call it ”circus-style street performance”. It’s a mix of clowning, dance, mime and hula-hooping.

Where do you perform?
Everywhere: in the street, at traffic lights, in parks and at festivals and other events. Circus and street performance are more popular here in Chile than in England.

Can you make enough money to live?
I also make vegan cakes for a cafe to earn some extra money.

Are you from a circus family?
No, I’m from a very normal English family. I started hula-hooping to get fit. Then I wanted to learn more and find my own style. I travelled to South America to continue training and to learn Spanish.

Are you learning any new tricks at the moment?
I’m learning to do a handstand with hoops on my feet. To do a good handstand, you need strong muscles in every part of your body: arms, legs, shoulders, stomach... I’m also learning how to do fire-hooping — that’s hula-hooping with fire around the hoop. Everything is possible if you practise enough.

You can see Danielle De La Wonk performing with her hula hoops on YouTube. Just do a search for her name.

Show and tell
Now find out something interesting about clowns and their make-up.

When Danielle performs, she wears clown make-up. For her, it’s white and gold make-up under the eyes, and red lips.

In the circus world, there is a rule: every clown has his or her own face. Every clown designs his or her own make-up and keeps that design forever. It’s unique. You can’t copy the design of another clown, and you can’t change your own design.

Clowns can join an organization called Clowns International and register their make-up and costume. The designs are registered in an interesting way: on eggs. For each clown, an egg is painted like a face, and a little costume is made for it.

The register is kept at the Clowns’ Gallery and Museum in a church in London and at its partner museum in Somerset, southwest England.

Cabinet of curiosities

hoop [hu:p]  •  (Hula-Hoop-)Reifen
mime [maIm]  •  Pantomime
street performer [ˈstreɪt ʃərˌfərmə]  •  Straßenkünstler(in)
unique [juˈni:k]  •  einzigartig, einmalig
**Puzzle**

Danielle is training to do a handstand. Which parts of the body is she using? Match the words in the list below to the picture.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>arm</th>
<th>bottom</th>
<th>foot</th>
<th>hand</th>
<th>head</th>
<th>leg</th>
<th>neck</th>
<th>shoulder</th>
<th>stomach</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Grammar**

Now take another look at two sentences from Danielle’s interview:

- I started hula-hooping to get fit.
- I travelled to South America to continue training and to learn Spanish.

Danielle uses these "to"-phrases to explain why she started hula-hooping and why she travelled to South America. The word "to" doesn’t have a comma before it. You can also use the longer phrase "in order to".

**Exercise 1**

Complete the following sentences, using “to”-phrases with the right verb.

- A. Danielle sells vegan cakes some extra money.
- B. She wears make-up and a costume like a clown.
- C. She writes a blog people about her life in Chile.
- D. You can go to a church in London the clown egg register.

**Exercise 2**

How carefully have you read this double page? Test yourself here by deciding whether the sentences below are true (T) or false (F).

| A. Street performance is more popular in Chile than in England. |
| B. Danielle could speak Spanish before she went to South America. |
| C. She’s learning to do fire-hooping. |
| D. Clowns often copy their make-up designs from each other. |

**Answers**

A. True  B. False: she also went to South America to learn Spanish.  C. True  D. False: every clown has his or her own unique design.
The collocation game

Words that are often used together are called “collocations”. Learning such word combinations will help you read and speak more fluently. This month, we look at collocations that have to do with Easter and springtime. By CLARE MAAS

WORDS THAT GO TOGETHER

The joys of spring

This month, take a look at collocations that use the words Easter and spring. Read our tips on page 59, and decide whether the words in the list below collocate with “Easter” or “spring”. Then match the collocations to the pictures. We have done the first one for you. When you’ve finished, try the exercises on the opposite page.

match [mætʃ]  zuordnen

1. Easter eggs
2. basket
3. bonnet
4. break
5. bunny
6. cake
7. chicken
8. cleaning
9. Easter eggs
10. fever
11. lamb
12. service
13. showers

match [mætʃ] zuordnen

1. Easter eggs
2. basket
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4. break
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6. cake
7. chicken
8. cleaning
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match [mætʃ] zuordnen

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4. break
5. bunny
6. cake
7. chicken
8. cleaning
9. Easter eggs
10. fever
11. lamb
12. service
13. showers
The joys of spring

1. Easter eggs
2. (no) spring chicken
3. Easter bunny
4. Easter bonnet
5. Easter basket
6. spring cleaning
7. spring fever
8. Easter service
9. spring lamb
10. spring break
11. spring showers
12. Easter cake

Exercise 1

Are the sentences below true (T) or false (F)? Correct the sentences you think are wrong.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>T</th>
<th>F</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.</td>
<td>Christians believe Jesus came back to life on Good Friday.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B.</td>
<td>The Easter bunny is said to help with the spring cleaning.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C.</td>
<td>Easter cake often has a religious meaning.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>D.</td>
<td>Spring fever can make you do crazy things.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>E.</td>
<td>Many young Americans hold wild parties during spring showers.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>F.</td>
<td>Easter bonnets are used to carry Easter eggs.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Tips

Easter

- At Easter, Christians remember the death of Jesus Christ and His return to life. They believe He was crucified on what is now called Good Friday, and rose from the dead on Easter Sunday. On that Sunday, Christian churches hold special Easter services.
- Foods traditionally eaten at this time are hot cross buns — spiced buns with a cross on top — and Easter cake (often called “simnel cake”), which is a fruit cake with 11 marzipan balls representing the 11 faithful apostles.
- Another tradition is the making and wearing of Easter bonnets, following the custom of wearing new clothes at Easter to symbolize spiritual renewal.
- Other customs include decorating eggs and giving chocolate Easter eggs as gifts, since eggs also symbolize new life. Children are often told that the Easter bunny carries Easter eggs in his Easter basket and hides them around the house or garden to be found on Easter Sunday.

Spring

- Since springtime is when plants begin to grow again after winter and baby animals are born, other symbols of this period include Easter chicks and spring lambs.
- In English, one usually says that a person is no spring chicken if he or she is no longer young.
- Following the idea of spring and Easter as a time of renewal, many people do spring cleaning. This is when they clean their houses from top to bottom.
- Spring showers (also called April showers) are the typical downpours that can occur at this time of year. They are said to create beautiful flowers in the following months.
- Because of the frequent changes in the weather at this season, some people say they suffer from spring fever, a feeling of restlessness and excitement.
- In the United States, schoolchildren and college students have a week’s holiday in March or April, which is called spring break and is often associated with wild parties.

Answers

- A. False: Christians believe Jesus came back to life on Good Friday.
- B. False: The Easter bunny is said to help with the spring cleaning.
- C. True
- D. True
- E. False: Many young Americans hold wild parties during spring showers.
- F. False: Easter bonnets are used to carry Easter eggs.
The spirit of the game

The words in this puzzle are taken from this month’s “Australia in Germany” article. You may find it helpful to refer to the text on pages 62–65.

EASY MEDIUM ADVANCED

Across
2. A group of people who meet together regularly for a particular activity or sport.
4. To hit something quickly and lightly.
6. “We’re big fans of our local football ……”
9. “Much to her ……, she found her ring in the long grass.”
10. A large Australian bird that can run fast but cannot fly.
11. To move your head up and down to show agreement.
12. The size of something from one end to the other.
14. “Once Julie got used to the exercises, she started to ……”
16. To rise high in the air.
17. Used as a friendly way to address a man.
18. “Don’t believe everything he says. He tends to ……”
19. “If we’re going to succeed, we have to ……”
20. “We need two dice to play the ……”

Down
1. Healthy and strong.
2. A feeling of friendship that a group of people have.
3. A person at a sports competition who makes sure that the rules are not broken.
5. Pieces of soft material used for protection in certain sports.
7. Difficult to control.
8. “Which team will ……” the next World Cup?”
13. “She was very successful in Hollywood, but she preferred to act in the ……”
15. “I’m reading a book about the ……” of the universe.”
16. “At the end of the match, the …… was 2–0.”

Competition

Mitmachen und gewinnen!

How to take part
Form a single word from the letters in the coloured squares. Send it on a postcard to: Redaktion Spotlight, “April Prize Puzzle”, Postfach 1565, 82144 Planegg, Deutschland. Or go to www.spotlight-online.de/crossword

Five winners will be chosen from the entries we receive by 11 April 2018. Each winner will be sent a copy of Holy Moly by courtesy of Langenscheidt. The answer to our February puzzle was operation*.

Congratulations to:
Manfred Kolesnikow (Munich)
Gabriele Schiegl (Zossen)
Herbert Graf (Augsburg)
Hans-Jürgen Schiefer (Kempten)
Eveline Mohr (Barmstedt)

(Issue 2/18)

* In the February crossword, one of the coloured squares was missing. To be fair, we have chosen the winners from entries with the correct answer and from those with another answer based on the letters given. We apologize for any confusion caused by this mistake.
consider myself to be quite courageous. After all, I hitchhiked through Europe, parachuted out of an airplane and gave birth in a VW bus — all while still in my twenties. Now that I have more decades of life experience under my belt, I am somewhat picky about the challenges I choose to take on. But I still like to live outside my comfort zone occasionally.

Perhaps that’s why I recently decided to take my 10-year-old grandson, Josh, to a fair. At the first ring-toss booth, Josh was absolutely certain that he could win that five-foot-tall tiger because, he told me, he was a real expert at tossing rings. You could buy one ring for 50 cents, or three for $1. But if you wanted a real bargain (and I am using the term loosely here), you could get 20 rings for $5.

Of course, Josh said, we should go for the bargain. I thought about arguing with him, that an expert ring-tosser like him would need only one ring — and would win the tiger with his first throw. But I knew this was not an argument I was going to win. So I pulled out the $5 bill and placed it on the counter.

Twenty rings later, he still didn’t have the tiger. “But now I see how to do this,” Josh said. “Let’s buy another 20 rings, and I’ll get it this time.”

Well, he never did get the tiger, but there were plenty more places where we could spend our (I mean my) money. Josh was equally unsuccessful at the next several booths. Then he spotted a sign that said, “Everyone is a winner!” This was the right booth for him, he decided. It didn’t say what you would win. But after all, paying $5 to win a $1 key chain is worth it, right? You’re a winner. And who can turn down the 100 percent certainty of being a winner? Not Josh! And certainly not I.

My wallet was getting thinner. And then we spotted it. The one booth that Josh positively could not miss: the goldfish booth. All you had to do was toss a ping-pong ball into just one of the many fish-bowls, and you could go home with your very own goldfish. Josh was sure he could do it.

As we got down to the last ball, I was secretly relieved that the goldfish would be staying at the fair. But wait! It was the last day of the fair, and the guy in the booth didn’t want to take those fish home. So he was giving them away to anyone who played.

“You’re a winner!” he told Josh as he scooped a goldfish into a plastic bag filled with water and handed it over. The look of pure happiness (not to mention surprise) on Josh’s face made the entire fair experience one to treasure. No amount of money can buy that joy. And I might add that there was another advantage to this little win: Josh decided that we could not spend another second at the fair. No, we had to rush home to get the fish into a proper tank because living in a plastic bag was not a good experience for this darling little creature, which he promptly named Goldie.

GINGER KUENZEL
is a freelance writer who lived in Munich for 20 years. She now calls a small town in upstate New York home.

bargain
Schnäppchen
belt: have sth. under one’s belt
auf seinem Konto haben
booth
Stand, Bude
counter
Theke, Ladentisch
treasure
in Erinnerung behalten

Foto: VSandhakrishna/iStock.com
Australia rules

Es ist eine Art Fußball, aber doch ganz anders, als wir ihn gewohnt sind. GREG LANGLEY stellt uns einen Sport vor, der hart und rasant ist – aber auch fair.
As a teenager playing soccer at his local club, Johannes Binninger imagined — as most boys do — scoring a goal in a game to win both the match and the championship. Later, at the age of 28, Binninger found himself almost living out that dream, when he took to the field for Germany in the final of the last world cup.

The sport, however, was not football as it is known and celebrated around the world. Instead, it was the little-known game of Australian Rules. The 2018 season of the Australian Football League Germany (AFLG) begins this month.

Ask Binninger, and he’ll tell you he liked the game from the moment he first saw it in Munich’s Hirschgarten. An unruly bunch of men were running drills that involved long sprints with an oval ball while trying to evade tackles. "Is this rugby?" he asked one of the guys bent over double after a long run. "Nah, mate," the man replied. "Aussie Rules."
For those unfamiliar with Australian football, it comes, as the name implies, from Australia, where things are a little more rough-and-tumble than elsewhere. Unlike American football, Australian Rules has no padding. Unlike in rugby, you don’t have to pass the ball backwards when moving forwards. Unlike in soccer, you can use your hands to tackle and to pick up the ball. But like basketball, you can jump and, if you’re good enough, use your opponents’ backs to soar more than two metres off the ground.

The game is normally played on an oval field about 180 metres in length. Importantly, as far as Binninger is concerned, there is no offside. The 18 players in each team are free to run as far as they can, but they need to be fit, because games last up to two hours. Binninger is not big, but tough and quick, so he enjoys the running and doesn’t mind the tackles.

“It is the intensity that I love,” he explains. “Australian football is fast flowing. There are lots more goals than in soccer, and the bounce of the oval ball makes it unpredictable. You can’t really plan the game: it becomes chaotic, and you have to stay focused.”

**Fast but fair**

For Germany, 2017 was a banner year: it saw the country’s national team at the Australian Football International Cup for the first time. Also standing in Western Oval in Melbourne last August, before the ball was bounced to start the final, was Basti Esche. A small cannonball of a man, Esche is a backman, or defender, for the Eagles, the German national team. In Germany, Esche, a 33-year-old brewer, plays together with Binninger for the Munich Kangaroos.

Basti took up “footy”, as the Australians call it, at university. He was never impressed by soccer. People exaggerate contact to bring on fouls, he believes, making it more theatre than sport.

“It is a tough game,” Esche says of Australian Rules. “You know you’ve been on the field when you finish. But win, lose or draw, it is the most fun I’ve experienced in any regulated sport.”

He adds that it is “super fair”. “When the umpire blows the whistle, people accept the call and get on with the game. You don’t have everyone arguing,” he says.

There, in the middle of Western Oval, also waiting for the umpire to bounce the ball, was Fabian Cordts, 32. More than two metres tall, Cordts is a ruckman, and it is his job to try to tap the ball down to his smaller teammates. In Germany, Cordts plays for the Hamburger Dockers, one of the Kangaroos’ fiercest rivals. Among the German Eagles’ national team were players from the other six Australian Football League Germany (AFLG) teams: the Berlin Crocodiles, Dresden Wolves, Rheinland Lions, Stuttgart Emus, Freiberg Taipans and the Frankfurt Redbacks.

In spring and summer, the teams travel around Germany playing against each other. On the field, the games are hard and competitive, but afterwards, the teams meet up over some beers, fire up a barbecue and talk. Chris Odenthal, the coach of the Dresden Wolves, started playing in 2006 with his three brothers.

“Afeter a game, everyone gets together for a drink and a BBQ including your opponent,” explains Odenthal. “It is part of the spirit of the game, and I haven’t experienced that type of camaraderie with any other sport.”

**A rough history**

Australian Rules football began in Melbourne in 1858, though its origins are still subject to debate. The game could be influenced by rugby and Gaelic football from Ireland, but others believe aspects come from marngrook, an Aboriginal ball game involving running and high leaping.

Tom Wills, considered to be the father of Australian Rules, grew up in the bush, where he befriended local Aborigines and learned their language. Later, he attended the elite Rugby School in England, captaining their cricket team and playing an early version of a game that later became the sport of rugby.

Whatever its origin, footy is the number one football code in Australia, easily more popular than rugby and soccer. Crowds of more than 50,000 attend the weekly matches between the 18 professional clubs in the Australian Football League. The introduction of a professional women’s league in 2017 is driving the game’s already great popularity amongst women even higher.

The grand final, the equivalent of the National Football League’s Super Bowl in the United States, is when the two best
At the opening of the game, Cordts tapped the ball to a German player and, after a few action-filled minutes of play, Binninger swept on to a loose ball to kick Germany’s first goal. He was greeted joyfully by his teammates, and it was as if his teenage fantasy were becoming reality. Unfortunately for the Eagles, all further celebration was done by the Knights, who kicked the next 11 goals for an easy win.

After the game, Binninger said experiencing Aussie Rules in the birthplace of the sport was amazing. He promised out loud to be back in four years’ time and do better. Esche, Cordts and the other Eagles nodded in agreement.

The new season
The 2018 season starts on 7 April, when the newly formed Württemberg Giants (Freiberg and Stuttgart joined forces) play the Dresden Wolves and Rheinland Lions. For more information, see www.aflg.de
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 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 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. 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 Lycra 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, one day, I was standing in front of a man wearing a blue tie and I thought, “I must be seeing double.” He was so tall and so handsome. It was as though I was looking at a real man. I’m sure he would have been very handsome in a tapestry as well.

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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 city will give us more access to the world in general. At the moment, most of our information comes from reading 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.
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Petra Daniell, language editor, Spotlight magazine

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Do you often feel that you’re wasting your time surfing the internet? If you want to find the interesting stories being talked about there, then Endless Thread could be what you’re looking for. Launched in January 2018 and produced by Boston’s public radio station WBUR and the social news and discussion website Reddit, Endless Thread helps you make an informed decision about what is new, popular and worthy of attention on the Internet. An early episode, called “The Vault”, talked about a vault built into a mountain in Norway that holds the seeds of most edible plants known to man, including those of 35,000 varieties of corn. If that isn’t news, it should be — and Endless Thread will make sure that it is. For details, check www.wbur.org/endlessthread

At the end of the First World War, thousands of soldiers returned to their families. One was A. A. Milne, the creator of Winnie-the-Pooh. The film Goodbye Christopher Robin, directed by British film-maker Simon Curtis, examines the relationship between Milne, already an established writer, and his young son Christopher Robin as they get to know one another after years of separation. The stories invented by Milne to create a bond with his son became hugely successful — but the effects of sudden fame brought their own kind of trauma for Christopher Robin. Curtis generally avoids sentimentality, but it’s Domhnall Gleeson’s subtle performance as Milne that helps us accept a version of events that might not be completely accurate, but which still gets the picture right. Starts 5 April.

America’s youth today appears to be confident and comfortable. Social media make sure that its lifestyles and interests continue to be copied worldwide. But behind the surface glamour, the old conflicts remain. Are we surprised? Not really. There are new ways of reflecting on old problems, though. Taking a wonderfully fresh look at a young person’s growing pains, Lady Bird is the directorial debut of American actress Greta Gerwig. Set in the year 2002, it follows the life of Christine ( Saoirse Ronan) in her final year at high school. Christine prefers to be called “Lady Bird”. Like a bird, she often has just one leg on the ground and two wings ready for take-off, as she plans for life after school. Her main battlefield in the fight to become an adult is her relationship with her mother, Marion ( Laurie Metcalf). Marion walks a fine line between love and frustration, doing her best to provide the reality check of experience for her daughter’s dreams — without destroying them completely.

At 34 years of age, Gerwig is still a young director and very much in touch with her teenage self. The result, already an award-winning film, is a story that takes young people as seriously as they take themselves. But it also finds the humour that helps adults look back and understand their younger selves. Starts 19 April.

**ARTS**

**Bugs, bears and the best stories**


**FILM REVIEW | DRAMA**

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**FILM REVIEW | BIOGRAPHY**

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**PODCAST | MEDIA**

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**ARTS**

What’s your problem? Saoirse Ronan (left) as rebellious teenager _Lady Bird_
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, 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 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.
Boom!
A couple who work in a travelling circus apply to adopt a child. The adoption agency is unsure if the couple’s lifestyle would be suitable for raising a little one. But the couple have pictures of their new motorhome, which has a special section for a child. They also show how they will arrange for a full-time tutor to travel with the circus to provide the child with a proper education. The people from the adoption agency are impressed and ask, “OK, so what age and sex of child are you hoping to adopt?” “We don’t really mind,” replies the husband. “Just as long as the kid fits in the cannon.”

Lizard kings?
Dinosaurs never “ruled the earth”; they were just alive. People should stop giving them credit for administrative skills they almost certainly did not possess.

The love lives of mice
Two mice meet and start chatting. “Look!” says one after a while, “I’ve got a new boyfriend,” and shows the other mouse a picture on her mobile phone. “But that’s a bat!” cries the other mouse. “What? The guy told me he was a pilot.”

A popular customer
“I think I deserve to be paid more money,” a man says to his boss. “Did you know that there are three other companies after me?” “Is that right?” asks the manager. “What other companies are after you?” “The electric company, the phone company and the gas company.”

“Advertising may be described as the science of arresting human intelligence long enough to get money from it.”

Stephen Leacock (1869–1944), Canadian writer and educator
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Dear Spotlight

Your columnist Ginger Kuenzel is driven crazy by reading self-explanatory information, or so she writes in the February edition of “American Life”. So am I — every time I read instructions on how to operate a radio, but also because one is never told the following:

If you want to receive weak FM radio stations, it is essential to adjust the telescopic aerial and — get this — operate the radio using regular batteries instead of the mains! And if you can extend the antenna with another broken-off telescopic antenna, abracadabra, and presto! Best regards

Christoph Ermann, by post

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Dear Ms Stanley

That is indeed correct — and you will find the first two parts of the “The Venetian Violin” by James Schofield in the two previous issues of Spotlight, issues 6/17 and 7/17, respectively. There’s more to all this, though: see issue 1/17 for a special three-part Ms Winslow mystery, all in one magazine. You will find Ms Winslow stories in issues 3–5/17, too. In addition, all three stories are now available as a CD/download. You can order this product online from shop.spotlight-verlag.de

Best regards

Inez Sharp, editor-in-chief

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You may know the famous former Greek Orthodox church of Hagia Sophia, or Saint Sophia, in Istanbul. The jump from Hagia to the English word “hagiography” is a short one. And, if you grew up Catholic, you may have been given a book such as Lives of the Saints to read. In it are described the miracles that marked the lives of holy people. That positive nuance is lost, however, when “hagiography” is used to characterize a work of biography.

Author Conrad Black (a member of the British House of Lords who was famously convicted of fraud in 2007) might be happy to hear that his book was not called a hagiography, as that would imply a lack of objectivity in his treatment of the life of this president, who was in office from 1933 to 1945. FDR was a certainly a great man, but no saint.

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Example:

“This 1,280-page tome... is likely to remain the standard defence of Franklin Delano Roosevelt for a long time. It is not hagiography, far from it.”

— From a review in The Telegraph of the book Franklin Delano Roosevelt: Champion of Freedom by Conrad Black

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WORDPLAY

Literally, a book about a saint or several saints. Figuratively, a biography that treats its subject like a saint.

EASY

hagiography

Example:

“...is likely to remain the standard defence of Franklin Delano Roosevelt for a long time. It is not hagiography, far from it.”

― From a review in The Telegraph of the book Franklin Delano Roosevelt: Champion of Freedom by Conrad Black

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by Claudia Weber-Hof
All eyes on Washington, DC

Washington, DC, is home to the US federal government and to the political power struggles taking place on Capitol Hill. But a visit to the city reveals more sides of American history and identity — beyond just Democrat or Republican. Correspondent Jessica Mann takes us to see the new National Museum of African American History and Culture, the Capitol, the National Portrait Gallery, the vibrant Adams Morgan neighbourhood and more.

Simply better English

How do you master a second language? We speak to an expert about how learning English can influence your way of thinking and your view of the world. We also have lots of useful tips on how to improve your reading, writing, listening and speaking skills — plus 31 easy language-learning ideas for every single day in May. Make May your month for learning!

Spotlight 5/18 is on sale from 25 April
What makes English important to you?
It allows me to communicate with many more people than I could if I just spoke German. It expands my horizons.

When was your first English lesson, and what can you remember about it?
In September 1997: “Please turn to the next page.”

Who is your favourite English-language author, actor or musician?
Favourite actor: Dustin Hoffman for his role in the 1985 film *Death of a Salesman*.

Which song could you sing at least a few lines of in English?
That would have to be “The Boxer” (1970) by Simon & Garfunkel:
“Lie la lie, lie la la la lie lie
Lie la lie, lie la la la la lie la la lie...”

What is your favourite food from the English-speaking world?
The cheeseburger.

Which person (living or dead) from the English-speaking world would you most like to meet?
I would like to have met Mahatma Gandhi. He was a wise man. There is one quote from him about the Bible that I like: “You Christians look after a document containing enough dynamite to blow all civilization to pieces, turn the world upside down and bring peace to a battle-torn planet. But you treat it as though it is nothing more than a piece of literature.”

Which is your favourite city in the English-speaking world?
Frankfurt am Main. The language of the Frankfurt stock exchange is English, the language of aviation is English, and from Frankfurt, I can easily travel to any place on the planet.

Which is your favourite place in the English-speaking world?
I would choose Orlando, Florida. Most of the time the weather is nice and warm there, which is good for my body. Best of all, though, there are roller coasters at the Fun Spot America theme park that are suitable for people with wheelchairs. I really have to take a ride on the Freedom Flyer. They are trying to create something similar here in Germany, but it usually doesn’t get past the TÜV, because if people with a disability can’t be evacuated from a ride, they won’t allow it. It’s such a shame.

When did you last use English (before answering this questionnaire)?
Yesterday. I had a conversation with William P. Young in Leipzig, author of *The Shack* (2007). In addition to that, I shot a short video clip in Frankfurt together with a BBC film team.

What is your favourite English word?

Is there anything in your home from the English-speaking world?
My smartphone.

What would be your motto in English?
“Fun before pleasure” — it can also be inverted. I think it is a useful reminder of how we should set priorities. (It is, of course, based on the expression “business before pleasure.”)
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