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Intermediate Level (CEFR B2)

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Topic: Englishness



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Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

The English Condition

Englishness



The natural condition of the English is:

an unusually strong natural fear of embarrassment / shame –
of “looking bad” in the opinion of other people

The desire to avoid this outcome can lead to:

over-politeness

indirect actions

lack of involvement

a desire for privacy

a desire to please,
at the expense of
their true feelings

passive-aggression

detachment

insularity

which creates misunderstandings and a reputation for:

insincerity

stiffness

being antisocial

vagueness

evasiveness

two-facedness

formality

laziness

stand-offishness

inhospitality

Test Your Vocabulary Skills

40 Discussion Words

Englishness



Translate each English word or phrase into your first language:

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|-------|----------------------|-------|
| 1. privacy | _____ | 21. tutting | _____ |
| 2. class | _____ | 22. embarrassment | _____ |
| 3. manners | _____ | 23. multiculturalism | _____ |
| 4. shame | _____ | 24. freedom | _____ |
| 5. queueing | _____ | 25. hidden feelings | _____ |
| 6. moaning | _____ | 26. stiff upper lip | _____ |
| 7. insincerity | _____ | 27. tea | _____ |
| 8. fair play | _____ | 28. humour | _____ |
| 9. independence | _____ | 29. island nation | _____ |
| 10. ready meals | _____ | 30. personal space | _____ |
| 11. politeness | _____ | 31. detachment | _____ |
| 12. conservatism | _____ | 32. irony | _____ |
| 13. pub | _____ | 33. understatement | _____ |
| 14. modesty | _____ | 34. empire | _____ |
| 15. indirect language | _____ | 35. sarcasm | _____ |
| 16. the BBC | _____ | 36. neighbours | _____ |
| 17. tolerance | _____ | 37. history | _____ |
| 18. immigration | _____ | 38. the weather | _____ |
| 19. reserve | _____ | 39. pessimism | _____ |
| 20. cynicism | _____ | 40. democracy | _____ |

Test Your Vocabulary Skills

Collocations

Englishness



A. Write an infinitive verb that collocates with each noun:

1. _____ the weather
2. _____ embarrassment
3. _____ manners
4. _____ the pub
5. _____ independence
6. _____ shame
7. _____ freedom
8. _____ a nice cup of tea
9. _____ immigration
10. _____ privacy

B. Think of an adjective and/or adverb that collocates with each phrase, then write the new phrase as part of a full sentence:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Test Your Vocabulary Skills

English Spelling Statements

Englishness



Find the stressed syllable in each word below, then study the 8 spelling statements*, and put each word into the appropriate box:

*p.66, Purland, Matt. You Are The Course Book – Syllabus. Ostróda: 2013. Hardback. Available for free download: <http://purlandtraining.com/>

politeness moaning queueing reserve immigration tolerance
neighbours sarcasm weather manners cynicism tea freedom
humour conservatism embarrassment class shame tutting pub

1. Short vowel sounds are written with 1 vowel letter:

2. Long vowel sounds are written with an "r":

3. "ee" and "oo" represent long vowel sounds:

4. Long vowel sounds are written with a vowel digraph:

5. Vowel + consonant + vowel = the vowel says its name:

6. Diphthongs are written with an "r" in the spelling:

7. Diphthongs are written with a vowel digraph:

8. Other consonants appear in the vowel sound spelling:

Exception(s):

Test Your Vocabulary Skills

English Idioms

Englishness



A. Match an English idiom on the left with a literal translation on the right:

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. it could be worse | a) the home is the ultimate place of security and privacy |
| 2. nice weather for ducks | b) to be insincere |
| 3. to live and let live | c) to get your first mortgage |
| 4. to go as red as a beetroot | d) you are in a bad situation |
| 5. to be two-faced | e) to be tolerant towards other people |
| 6. to keep a stiff upper lip | f) to maintain a positive attitude |
| 7. to get onto the property ladder | g) to discuss trivial matters |
| 8. to look on the bright side (of life) | h) it is raining heavily |
| 9. to make small talk | i) to be very embarrassed |
| 10. an Englishman's home is his castle | j) to be brave and not complain |

B. Write a sentence with each idiom. Say it aloud, then change the idiom for the literal phrase (above). Which sounds more natural?

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____
7. _____
8. _____
9. _____
10. _____

Test Your Grammar Skills

Tense Conversion

Englishness



Read the present simple sentence, then change it into 20 other verb forms (where possible):

1. *Present Simple:* Graham cuts his grass every Saturday morning.
2. *Present Continuous:* _____
3. *Past Simple:* _____
4. *Present Perfect:* _____
5. *Future Simple:* _____
6. *Future with 'going to':* _____
7. *With any modal verb:* _____
8. *First Conditional:* _____
9. *Past Continuous:* _____
10. *Present Perfect Continuous:* _____
11. *Future Continuous:* _____
12. *Past Perfect:* _____
13. *Second Conditional:* _____
14. *Third Conditional:* _____
15. *Zero Conditional:* _____
16. *Imperative Form:* _____
17. *Passive Voice:* _____
18. *Past Perfect Continuous:* _____
19. *Future Perfect:* _____
20. *Future Perfect Continuous:* _____
21. *Reported Speech:* _____

Extension: write the negative form of each sentence, then a question form.

Test Your Grammar Skills

5 Forms of the Verb

Englishness



1) *Regular verbs – complete the table:*

infinitive	s form	past tense	past participle	ing form
avoid				
downplay				
moan				
pretend				
queue				

2) *Irregular verbs – complete the table:*

infinitive	s form	past tense	past participle	ing form
drink				
feel				
hide				
mean				
put up with				

3) *Choose an infinitive verb and a tense and write 3 sentences – positive, negative, and question:*

a) Infinitive: _____ Tense: _____

+ _____

- _____

? _____

b) Infinitive: _____ Tense: _____

+ _____

- _____

? _____



Test Your Grammar Skills

Sentence Blocks

Englishness

Complete the sentence blocks:

Starting sentence A: Jill's invited her friends to a dinner party at her house on Friday.

wh- question: When _____

short answer: _____

yes/no question: _____

short answer: _____

yes/no question to get a negative answer: _____

short negative answer: _____

long negative answer: _____

Extension: make more sentence blocks using: **what (x2), who (x2), where**

Starting sentence B: Barry will consult his neighbours before cutting his hedge, because he wants them to be happy with his decision.

wh- question: What _____

short answer: _____

yes/no question: _____

short answer: _____

yes/no question to get a negative answer: _____

short negative answer: _____

long negative answer: _____

Extension: make more sentence blocks using: **who (x2), when, why**

Test Your Pronunciation Skills

Word Stress

Englishness



1. *Mark the stressed syllable in each word or phrase and write the stressed vowel sound with Clear Alphabet:*

democracy politeness the weather fair play cynicism insincerity

manners reserve freedom empire the BBC humour privacy class

ready meals queueing understatement irony independence tea

2. *Write words which have suffixes (usually not stressed):*

3. *Write words which are compound nouns (usually stressed on the first syllable):*

Test Your Pronunciation Skills

English Word Stress Statements

Englishness



Study the 7 word stress statements, then put each word below into the appropriate box:*

*p.61, Purland, Matt. You Are The Course Book – Syllabus. Ostróda: 2013. Hardback. Available for free download:
<http://purlandtraining.com/>

queue up manners understatement privacy moaning embarrassment
conservatism humour accent reserve ITV class hold back
attribute pessimism tea BBC insincerity neighbours dinner party

A. The final syllable is strong:

B. The penultimate syllable is strong:

C. The antepenultimate syllable is strong:

D. Compound nouns are stressed on the first part:

E. Both parts of phrasal verbs are stressed:

F. Acronyms are stressed on the final syllable:

G. Homographs:

Test Your Pronunciation Skills

Sentence Stress

Englishness



- A. Underline the content words in each sentence and make any contractions*
- B. Mark the stressed syllable in each content word*
- C. Write the vowel sound on each stressed syllable with Clear Alphabet. This makes the sound spine*
- D. Read each sentence aloud with stress. Then read only the sound spine*

1. My brother and his fiancée have been trying to get onto the property ladder for three years.
2. Reg is too embarrassed to confront his neighbours about their noisy parties.
3. I like having a little chat with the cashier when I visit the supermarket.
4. It is quite hard to tell when an English person is being sarcastic.
5. My cousin Will tries too hard to be all things to all people.
6. A new family from Lithuania moved in across the road from us last Friday.
7. Debbie went red when I asked her what had happened at the office party last week.
8. The wedding reception went on so late that we did not get home until nearly midnight!
9. We do not know many of our neighbours, because people keep themselves to themselves.
10. English people may be peculiar at times, but I would not live anywhere else.

Test Your Pronunciation Skills

Clear Alphabet Translation

Englishness



A. Translate the words and phrases from Clear Alphabet into normal spelling:

1. Si ni sizm _____
2. Sheim _____
3. Re dii miylz _____
4. Mo d stii _____
5. i mi Grei shn _____
6. Tu ting _____
7. in d Pen dns _____
8. Klars _____
9. Ai r nii _____
10. Nei bz _____

B. Translate the words and phrases from normal spelling into Clear Alphabet:

11. manners _____
12. tea _____
13. reserve _____
14. sarcasm _____
15. detachment _____
16. freedom _____
17. history _____
18. personal space _____
19. empire _____
20. the weather _____

Test Your Pronunciation Skills

Connected Speech

Englishness



1. Read the sentence aloud – at normal speed, then more slowly
2. Make any contractions, then write the sentence syllable by syllable, underline each stressed syllable, and write each stressed vowel sound using Clear Alphabet
3. Write the sound connections: VC, CV, VV, CC, or F (friendly). Circle and number bad connections
4. Write which feature(s) of connected speech would be used for each bad connection
5. Write the sentence in Clear Alphabet, then read it aloud again

A.

1. When we get home we will all have a nice cup of tea.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

B.

1. We had an English teacher from Bradford called Trevor.
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

C.

1. Do you fancy a battered sausage with your chips, Albert?
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Discussion Questions

Englishness



Ask and answer the questions with a partner or small group:

1. What do you know about English people? Do you know many English people? Do they match the definitions of Englishness in this course? What do you think are the essential characteristics of English people? Is it even possible to define a whole nation of people with a few characteristics, or do we just end up with unrepresentative stereotypes?
2. How do English people differ from people in your country? What differences can you list – both positive and negative? Have you ever been to England? If yes, what differences did you notice? How did you feel living there? Did you find it easy or difficult to get used to English people? Why? If no, would you like to visit England – or live there temporarily or permanently? Why? / Why not?
3. Do you have a good sense of humour? Do you think that the English deserve their great reputation for humour? Which English comedy shows / films / comedians / books, etc. do you find funny? What do you like about them? Is there anything about them that makes them typically English?
4. What is your experience of English food and drink? Do you like it? Why? / Why not? How does it compare to food from your country? What English food and drink brands are available to buy where you live? Do you ever buy them?
5. What examples of Englishness do you see in the media that you have access to, e.g. music, films, TV, radio, newspapers, magazines, websites, etc.? Which people best define what *you* think of as Englishness?
6. Would you like to be English? Why? / Why not? What do you think would be the advantages and disadvantages? Would there be more positive points than negative ones? What problems can you imagine encountering that you don't normally have in your culture?
7. Are you easily embarrassed? What is the most embarrassing thing that you have ever done? What happened? Why was it embarrassing? How do you usually avoid embarrassing situations? How successful are you?
8. Are you a straight-talker? Do you say what you mean and mean what you say? What about the English people that you know? Could your friends possibly describe you as two-faced? What would happen if one day all English people suddenly began speaking directly and acting in a confident manner?

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Are You English? – Quiz 1

Englishness



Discuss each situation with a partner. What would you do or say? What do you think an English person would do or say? Check the answers and discuss whether they match your perception and experience of English people:

a) What would you do when...? b) What would an English person do when...?

1. you take a taxi.
2. you are at the hairdressers and your hairdresser doesn't do a good job.
3. you are driving and you stop at a zebra crossing to let somebody cross the road, but they don't wave and smile to thank you.
4. you're standing at a zebra crossing waiting to cross the road and a car stops for you.
5. you're in a queue and somebody (probably a foreigner) tries to push in ahead of you.
6. a foreign family move into the house next door – to add to the foreign family across the road and another one two doors down.
7. you arrive at the bus stop and you are the first one there.
8. you trip slightly as you are walking down the road.
9. you slip and fall flat on your back in the pool changing room.
10. you go to the bar in an English pub and wish to get served.

a) What would you say when...? b) What would an English person say when...?

1. you are on a busy bus or train and a stranger accidentally touches your shoulder.
2. you are in a shop and hand your purchase(s) to the cashier to scan.
3. you are in a shop and hand money to the cashier.
4. you are in a shop and receive your change from the cashier.
5. a stranger at the bus stop tuts and says to you, "Nice weather for ducks!"
6. somebody asks you if you enjoyed the party – and you had a great time.
7. somebody asks you how you feel – and you feel really good.
8. somebody asks you how you feel – and you feel a bit down.
9. somebody asks "How are you?"
10. you want to show sympathy to somebody who feels disappointed.

Results: how many times did your answer match the English person's answer?

- 1-5 times:** You are not English, but it is not impossible to learn the wacky ways of the English.
- 6-10 times:** There are some English characteristics in you! Keep going!
- 11-15 times:** You are doing well and may yet become fully English in the future!
- 16-19 times:** Englishness is within your grasp! A world of cringe-making embarrassment awaits you!
- 20 times:** You are English and you didn't need a quiz to tell you that, did you? Never mind.

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Are You English? – Quiz 2

Englishness



Discuss each situation with a partner. What would you do or say? What do you think an English person would do or say? Check the answers and discuss whether they match your perception and experience of English people:

a) What would you do when...? b) What would an English person do when...?

1. you have to stand during your journey on a crowded bus or train.
2. you are in your front garden.
3. you are at the dentist's and they don't wear gloves or a mask during proceedings.
4. you see the same commuters at the train station every week day for years.
5. you are queueing at the gate at a foreign airport and there are foreign people all around you who are not respecting your personal space, e.g. pushing you.
6. another driver slows down to let you pull out of a side road onto a busy main road.
7. you are in a queue at the supermarket and the person in front of you leaves briefly to get a bottle of milk, then returns to join the queue, back in front of you.
8. a friend borrowed one of your favourite DVDs two years ago but has not returned it.
9. a plumber arrives to fix your sink.
10. you are in the pub with your friends and they are all having a good moan.

a) What would you say when...? b) What would an English person say when...?

1. you want to show sympathy to somebody who has just been dumped by their partner.
2. somebody compliments you on some really good work that you have done.
3. somebody congratulates you on your fantastic new job.
4. somebody congratulates you on your amazing new car.
5. you mishear somebody.
6. you want to pass somebody in a crowded place.
7. somebody bumps into you in the street by accident.
8. you make accidental contact with somebody – briefly invading their personal space.
9. the bus driver hands you your change.
10. you get off the bus or train (if you are close to the guard).

Results: how many times did your answer match the English person's answer?

- 1-5 times:** You are not English, but it is not impossible to learn the wacky ways of the English.
- 6-10 times:** There are some English characteristics in you! Keep going!
- 11-15 times:** You are doing well and may yet become fully English in the future!
- 16-19 times:** Englishness is within your grasp! A world of cringe-making embarrassment awaits you!
- 20 times:** You are English and you didn't need a quiz to tell you that, did you? Never mind.

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Are You English? – Quiz 3

Englishness



Discuss each situation with a partner. What would you do or say? What do you think an English person would do or say? Check the answers and discuss whether they match your perception and experience of English people:

a) What would you do when...? b) What would an English person do when...?

1. in a supermarket a friendly female cashier (in her 50s) gives you your receipt and says, "There you go, love." (Or in parts of the North, "There you go, duck.")
2. at a function where there are about twenty other people in the room, a man keels over and falls on the floor; you think he might have had a heart attack.
3. you are a man and you meet a male colleague for the first time.
4. you are a man and you meet a female colleague for the first time.
5. your neighbours' music is too loud.
6. you get stopped in the street by a charity worker ("chugger") who wants your money.
7. somebody in a car asks you for directions to a place that you don't know.
8. your phone rings loudly during a very important – and tense – moment at the theatre.
9. at home, you hear a loud argument taking place in the street outside.
10. you wish to get changed into your swimming costume on the beach.

a) What would you say when...? b) What would an English person say when...?

1. you ask somebody for something.
2. you don't get the exam results that you so badly needed.
3. a friend is not able to help you as they had promised to.
4. you are talking with a friend about another friend's handsome new boyfriend.
5. Everything that could possibly go wrong has gone wrong.
6. Your school play was a total disaster.
7. your friend asks you what you think of their new bag, which you don't like.
8. the gig you were looking forward to has been cancelled.
9. several negative things happen to you or your family in short succession.
10. your football team loses an important match.

Results: how many times did your answer match the English person's answer?

- 1-5 times:** You are not English, but it is not impossible to learn the wacky ways of the English.
6-10 times: There are some English characteristics in you! Keep going!
11-15 times: You are doing well and may yet become fully English in the future!
16-19 times: Englishness is within your grasp! A world of cringe-making embarrassment awaits you!
20 times: You are English and you didn't need a quiz to tell you that, did you? Never mind.

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Describe the Pictures

Englishness



Picture A:

- Describe the picture
- Speculate about the picture
- Compare it with **Picture B**

1. Who is in the picture?
2. What is their relationship?
3. How do you know?
4. What do they want? Why?
5. Do you think they will achieve their goal? Why? / Why not?
6. What problems could arise?
7. Do you own your own home?
8. If yes, when did you buy it?
9. If no, would you like to?
10. What does owning your own home mean to you?
11. Describe your current home.
12. Are you thinking of moving? Why? / Why not?
13. Is it easy to get on the housing ladder in your country?
14. Describe your ideal home? Will you ever live there? How?



Picture B:

- Describe the picture
- Speculate about the picture
- Compare it with **Picture A**

1. What sport is this?
2. Do you like watching / playing it?
3. What is the aim of the game? What are the rules?
4. Compare it with other sports.
5. Is sport boring?
6. Do you play or watch sport?
7. What sports do you prefer?
8. Should sport be subsidised by local government? Why? / Why not?
9. Why don't more people get fit?
10. What do you do to exercise?
11. Are mobile devices killing sport?
12. Is sport only for the elite?
13. Which sports stars do you admire?
14. Does keeping fit make you vain?



Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

50 Phrases to Start a Conversation about the Weather in England



Englishness

If you ever find yourself with an English person and there's an awkward silence, you can always talk about the weather! Here are some useful phrases to get the conversation started. Match each phrase to a type of weather. Check any phrases you don't know in the dictionary:

A

**warm
weather**

B

**wet
weather**

C

**windy
weather**

1. It's blowing a gale outside!
2. I can't cope with this heat.
3. Nice weather for ducks!
4. It was like four seasons in one day.
5. What a scorcher!
6. Could be a white Christmas.
7. I feel like I'm going to melt.
8. We got caught in a downpour.
9. I got soaked on the way home!
10. It's a bit overcast, isn't it?
11. It looks like rain, doesn't it?
12. It's hotter here than in Spain!
13. I don't like the look of that!
14. It'd be quicker to use a sledge.
15. What an amazing light show!
16. Look, the sun is trying to get out.
17. Those black clouds look ominous.
18. It can't make up its mind.
19. It's good for the garden, though.
20. I'm sweating cobbles!
21. Wind's getting up.
22. Turned out nice again!
23. I've been staying in the shade.
24. I had to wrap up warm today.
25. It's freezing, isn't it?

26. My umbrella's just turned inside out.
27. I don't like this slush very much.
28. Looks like summer is finally here.
29. It's sleeting.
30. It's going from one extreme to the other!
31. At least it's only spitting.
32. I had to get the de-icer out today.
33. It's a bit parky isn't it?
34. This weather is just *miserable*.
35. It's drizzling.
36. A bit of sun wouldn't go amiss.
37. It's a little bit chilly!
38. It was chucking it down all night!
39. The hailstones were as big as golf balls.
40. I wish I'd got the washing in.
41. It's enough to take your head off!
42. It's just glorious weather!
43. I'd take an umbrella, just in case!
44. I can't keep up with this weather!
45. We've been lucky with the weather so far.
46. The weather doesn't know what to do.
47. I hope the sun will make an appearance.
48. There'll be a hosepipe ban soon.
49. It's been raining cats and dogs!
50. We never know what to expect, do we?

D

**cold
weather**

E

**cloudy
weather**

F

**changeable
weather**

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Fun Fact Quiz

Englishness



How much do you know about England and the English? Work with a partner and find out:

1. What is the capital of England?
2. How many people in England have ginger hair? a) 1.1 m, b) 2.1 m, c) 4.1 m.
3. What is the name of the flag of England? Draw a picture of it.
4. How much (in pounds and pence) do these everyday items cost in a typical English supermarket? a) a Mars bar, b) a loaf of white bread, c) a pint of milk, d) a kilogram of apples, e) a 400ml bottle of shampoo, f) a 500g packet of dry spaghetti?
5. Who are the three greatest English people of all time?
6. What percentage of Great Britain (England, Scotland, and Wales) is covered by woodland? a) 11.6%, b) 26%, c) 40.6%.
7. What percentage of English households keep pets – and what are the top three?
8. English food is famous around the world! Say which ingredients make up these renowned English dishes: a) bubble and squeak, b) shepherd's pie, c) toad in the hole, d) a full English breakfast, e) a ploughman's lunch, f) bangers and mash?
9. When is St. George's Day and how do we celebrate it?
10. True or false – an English person has a variety of different identities, e.g. a man from Bradford can be a Bradfordian, a Yorkshireman, a northerner, English, British, a UK citizen, and a European – all at the same time!
11. How many people live in England? a) 53 million, b) 63 million, c) 73 million.
12. What percentage of people living in England are from ethnic minorities?
13. What is Big Ben?
14. How many plays did William Shakespeare write? a) 7, b) 27, c) 37.
15. After English, what is the second most popular language in England and Wales?
16. What are the top three things that make English people feel happy?
17. Try saying this sentence with different English accents, e.g. Scouse, Brummie, Geordie, and RP: "I would like a first class train ticket to Nottingham, please."
18. What are the five most desired jobs in Britain?
19. How much do English people spend on clothes and shoes per week (on average)?
20. How many British people live abroad, and which top 5 countries do they choose?

Answers –

p.3 40 Discussion Words:

Answers will vary.

p.4 Collocations:

Answers will vary. Sample answers:

A. 1. discuss 2. experience 3. expect 4. visit 5. value 6. feel 7. need 8. make 9. welcome/fear 10. respect

B. 1. Tony and Heather were discussing the abysmal weather animatedly for twenty minutes.

p.5 English Spelling Statements:

1. manners, embarrassment, tutting, pub 2. reserve, sarcasm, conservatism 3. freedom 4. moaning, tea 5. politeness, immigration, humour, shame 6. none 7. none 8. neighbours, cynicism Exceptions: queueing (does not match statement 4.); tolerance (does not match statement 5.); weather (does not match statement 1.); class (does not match statement 1.)

p.6 English Idioms:

A. 1. d) 2. h) 3. e) 4. i) 5. b) 6. j) 7. c) 8. f) 9. g) 10. a)

B. Answers will vary. Sample answer: 2. (idiom) Hi John – nice weather for ducks! / (literal) Hi John – it's raining.

p.7 Tense Conversion:

Answers will vary. Sample answers:

1. Graham cuts his grass every Saturday morning. / Graham doesn't cut his grass every Saturday morning. / Does Graham cut his grass every Saturday morning?

2. Graham is cutting his grass. / Graham is not cutting his grass. / Is Graham cutting his grass?

3. Graham cut his grass last Saturday morning. / Graham did not cut his grass last Saturday morning. / Did Graham cut his grass last Saturday morning?

4. Graham has cut his grass today. / Graham has not cut his grass today. / Has Graham cut his grass today?

5. Graham will cut his grass on Saturday morning. / Graham will not cut his grass on Saturday morning. / Will Graham cut his grass on Saturday morning?

6. Graham is going to cut his grass on Saturday morning. / Graham is not going to cut his grass on Saturday morning. / Is Graham going to cut his grass on Saturday morning?

7. Graham has to cut his grass on Saturday morning. / Graham does not have to cut his grass on Saturday morning. / Does Graham have to cut his grass on Saturday morning?

8. If Graham cuts his grass on Saturday morning, he can relax in the afternoon. / If Graham does not cut his grass on Saturday morning, he will not be able to relax in the afternoon. / Will Graham be able to relax in the afternoon, if he cuts his grass on Saturday morning?

9. Graham was cutting his grass on Saturday morning, when his neighbour popped round. / Graham was not cutting his grass on Saturday morning, when his neighbour popped round. / Was Graham cutting his grass on Saturday morning, when his neighbour popped round?
10. Graham has been cutting his grass all morning. / Graham has not been cutting his grass all morning. / Has Graham been cutting his grass all morning?
11. Graham will be cutting his grass on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. / Graham will not be cutting his grass on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock. / Will Graham be cutting his grass on Saturday morning at 9 o'clock?
12. Graham had cut his grass on Saturday morning before his neighbour popped round. / Graham had not cut his grass on Saturday morning before his neighbour popped round. / Had Graham cut his grass on Saturday morning before his neighbour popped round?
13. If Graham cut his grass on Saturday morning, he wouldn't have to do it on Saturday afternoon. / If Graham didn't cut his grass on Saturday morning, he would have to do it on Saturday afternoon. / Would Graham have to cut his grass on Saturday afternoon, if he didn't do it on Saturday morning?
14. If Graham had cut his grass on Saturday morning, he wouldn't have had to do it on Saturday afternoon. / If Graham hadn't cut his grass on Saturday morning, he would have had to do it on Saturday afternoon. / Would Graham have had to cut his grass on Saturday afternoon, if he hadn't done it on Saturday morning?
15. If Graham cuts his grass on Saturday morning, he relaxes in the afternoon. / If Graham does not cut his grass on Saturday morning, he does not relax in the afternoon. / Does Graham relax in the afternoon, if he cuts his grass in the morning?
16. Cut your grass on Saturday morning, Graham! / Don't cut your grass on Saturday morning, Graham! / Cut your grass on Saturday morning, would you, Graham?
17. Present simple passive: The grass is cut by Graham every Saturday morning. / The grass is not cut by Graham every Saturday morning. / Is the grass cut by Graham every Saturday morning?
18. Graham had been cutting his grass for an hour before his neighbour popped round. / Graham had not been cutting his grass for an hour before his neighbour popped round. / Had Graham been cutting his grass for an hour before his neighbour popped round?
19. Graham will have cut his grass by the time his neighbour pops round. / Graham will not have cut his grass by the time his neighbour pops round. / Will Graham have cut his grass by the time his neighbour pops round?
20. Graham will have been cutting his grass for an hour by the time his neighbour pops round. / Graham will not have been cutting his grass for an hour by the time his neighbour pops round. / Will Graham have been cutting his grass for an hour by the time his neighbour pops round?
21. (From present simple) He said that Graham cut his grass every Saturday morning. / He said that Graham didn't cut his grass every Saturday morning. / He asked whether Graham cut his grass every Saturday morning.

p.8 5 Forms of the Verb:

1. Regular verbs:

infinitive	s form	past tense	past participle	ing form
avoid	avoids	avoided	avoided	avoiding
downplay	downplays	downplayed	downplayed	downplaying
moan	moans	moaned	moaned	moaning
pretend	pretends	pretended	pretended	pretending
queue	queues	queued	queued	queueing

2. Irregular verbs:

infinitive	s form	past tense	past participle	ing form
drink	drinks	drank	drunk	drinking
feel	feels	felt	felt	feeling
hide	hides	hid	hidden	hiding
mean	means	meant	meant	meaning
put up with	puts up with	put up with	put up with	putting up with

3. a) & b)

Answers will vary. Sample answers:

infinitive: avoid tense: present perfect continuous

+ Tim's friend has been avoiding him.

- Tim's friend has not been avoiding him.

? Has Tim's friend been avoiding him?

p.9 Sentence Blocks:

Starting sentence A:

Jill's invited her friends to a dinner party at her house on Friday.

When has Jill invited her friends to a dinner party at her house?

On Friday.

Has Jill invited her friends to a dinner party at her house on Friday?

Yes, she has.

(Answers will vary from this point:)

Has Jill invited her friends to a dinner party at her house on Thursday?

No, she hasn't. Jill hasn't invited her friends to a dinner party at her house on Thursday.

Extensions:

What has Jill invited her friends to? / A dinner party at her house.

What has Jill done? / Invited her friends to a dinner party at her house on Friday.

Who has invited her friends to a dinner party at her house on Friday? / Jill has.

Who has Jill invited to a dinner party at her house on Friday? / Her friends.

Where has Jill invited her friends to a dinner party on Friday? / To her house.

Starting sentence B:

Barry will consult his neighbours before cutting his hedge, because he wants them to be happy with his decision.

What will Barry do before cutting his hedge?

Consult his neighbours.

Will Barry consult his neighbours before cutting his hedge?

Yes, he will.

(Answers will vary from this point:)

Will Barry have a cheese and pickle sandwich before cutting his hedge?

No, he won't. Barry won't have a cheese and pickle sandwich before cutting his hedge.

Extensions:

Who will consult his neighbours before cutting his hedge? / Barry will.

Who will Barry consult before cutting his hedge? / His neighbours.

When will Barry consult his neighbours? / Before cutting his hedge.

Why will Barry consult his neighbours before cutting his hedge? / Because he wants them to be happy with his decision.

p.10 Word Stress:

1. The stressed syllable is underlined; the stressed vowel sound with Clear Alphabet is in brackets:

democracy (o) politeness (ai) the weather (e) fair play (ei) cynicism (i) insincerity (e)

manners (a) reserve (er) freedom (ee) empire (e) the BBC (ee) humour (oo) privacy (ai) class (ar)

ready meals (e) queueing (oo) understatement (u) irony (ai) independence (e) tea (ee)

2. Words with suffixes (underlined): democracy, privacy; the weather, manners; ready meals, irony; politeness; cynicism; insincerity; reserve; freedom; empire; humour; independence; queueing; understatement.

3. One word is a compound noun: under | statement.

p.11 English Word Stress Statements:

Stressed syllables are underlined: A. reserve, class, tea B. manners, moaning, humour, accent, neighbours C. privacy, embarrassment, conservatism, pessimism, insincerity D. understatement, dinner party E. queue up, hold back F. BBC, ITV G. attribute (noun), attribute (verb)

p.12 Sentence Stress:

u o ai e o a ee iy

1. My brother and his fiancéeve been trying to get onto the property ladder for three years.

e oo a u ei oy ar

2. Reg is too embarrassed to confront his neighbours about their noisy parties.

ai a i a iy i oo

3. I like having a little chat with the cashier when I visit the supermarket.

ai ar e i er a

4. Its quite hard to tell when an English persons being sarcastic.

u i ai oo ar or i or ee

5. My cousin Will tries too hard to be all things to all people.

oo a ei oo i o eu u ar ai

6. A new family from Lithuania moved in across the road from us last Friday.

e e e ar a o ar ar ee

7. Debbie went red when I asked her whatd happened at the office party last week.

e e e o eu ei i e eu iy i

8. The wedding reception went on so late that we didn't get home till nearly midnight!

eu eu e ei ee ee e e

9. We don't know many of our neighbours, because people keep themselves to themselves.

i ee oo ai uu i e e

10. English people may be peculiar at times, but I wouldn't live anywhere else.

p.13 Clear Alphabet Translation:

A. 1. cynicism 2. shame 3. ready meals 4. modesty 5. immigration 6. tutting 7. independence 8. class 9. irony
10. neighbours

B. 11. Ma nz 12. Tee 13. ri Zerv 14. Sar kazm 15. di Ta chmnt 16. Free dm 17. Hi st rii 18. per s nl Speis 19. Em paiy
20. th We th

For more about Clear Alphabet, see: Purland, Matt. Clear Alphabet Dictionary. Ostróda: 2012. Hardback. Available for free download: <http://purlandtraining.com/>

p.14 Connected Speech:

A.

1. When we get home we will all have a nice cup of tea.

e eu or a ai u ee

2. When we get home we'll all have a nice cup of tea.

3. F vc 1cc F 2cv F 3cv vc 4cc 5cv 6cc

4. 1elision (t) & glottal stop 2FCL (l) 3FCL (v) & assimilation (f) 4FCL (s) 5FCL (p) 6FCL (v) & assimilation (f)

5. wen wi Ge_ Heum wi Lorl Ha f Nai Sku p Ftee.

B.

1. We had an English teacher from Bradford called Trevor.

a i ee a or e

2. We had an Eng lish tea cher from Brad ford called Tre vor.

3. vc 1cv 2cv F 3cc vc vc F 4cc 5cc 6cc vc

4. 1FCL (d) 2FCL (n) 3FCL (sh) 4FCL (d) & assimilation (t) 5FCL (d) & assimilation (t) 6elision (d) = F

5. wi Ha d Ning gli Shtee ch frm Bra tf Tkorl Tre v.

C.

1. Do you fancy a battered sausage with your chips, Albert?

a a o i a

2. D'you fan cy a ba ttered sau sage with your chips Al bert?

3. vc F 1vv vc vc 2cc vc 3cc 4cc vc 5cv F

4. 1intrusion (y) 2FCL (d) & assimilation (t) 3FCL (j) & assimilation (ch) 4FCL (th) & assimilation (tt) 5FCL (ps)

5. j Fan sii y Ba t Tso si chwi tty Chi Psal bt?

For more about connected speech, see: Purland, Matt. Talk a Lot Foundation Course. Ostróda: 2011. Hardback. Available for free download: <http://purlandtraining.com/>

p.15 Discussion Questions:

Answers will vary.

pp.16-18 Are You English? – Quizzes 1-3

See following pages.

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Are You English? – Quiz 1

Englishness



Discuss each situation with a partner. What would you do or say? What do you think an English person would do or say? Check the answers and discuss whether they match your perception and experience of English people:

Answers:

a) What would you do when...? b) What would an English person do when...?

An English person would:

1. keep their head down and pray that the taxi driver does not try to engage them in conversation.
2. not complain, but make a mental note to go somewhere else for their haircut next time.
3. feel deeply hurt and curse them quietly under their breath, so that they can't hear them.
4. wave and smile enthusiastically and mouth "Thank you!"
5. let them push in, but seethe inwardly and mutter something about "There's a queue here, you know" to the person behind. They would make sure this is not loud enough for the queue jumper to hear.
6. worry about the seemingly tremendous rise in the rate of immigration, and complain about it with their close friends, but not say anything and act in a friendly but distant manner if they happen to have any contact with any of the foreign families.
7. begin the queue by standing close to the bus stop sign. They would not, under any circumstances, sit on the bench provided, in case somebody else comes and takes their place at the head of the queue.
8. feel terribly embarrassed, but pretend it was part of a pre-planned little dance by skipping or jogging for a few more steps.
9. feel utterly humiliated, but get up quickly and pretend that it did not happen, that nobody saw them fall down, and that – in fact – they do not exist.
10. stand and wait, safe in the knowledge that their place in the "queue" has been noticed and logged by the bar staff and all the other waiting customers, and that they will get served in the correct order.

a) What would you say when...? b) What would an English person say when...?

An English person would say:

1. "Sorry."
2. "Thank you."
3. "Thank you."
4. "Thank you."
5. "You're not wrong!" It would be rude to disagree with somebody's comments about the weather, which are no more than a friendly, non-threatening greeting used to break the awkward silence.
6. "It was OK."
7. "Not bad, thanks. You?"
8. "Not bad, thanks. You?"
9. "Fine thanks. And you?" This is the correct standard answer to this question. The person asking is probably not really interested in your ailments or problems!
10. "Never mind. Worse things happen at sea." / "Better luck next time."

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Are You English? – Quiz 2

Englishness



Discuss each situation with a partner. What would you do or say? What do you think an English person would do or say? Check the answers and discuss whether they match your perception and experience of English people:

Answers:

a) What would you do when...? b) What would an English person do when...?

An English person would:

1. try to avoid all forms of contact with the strangers around them and preserve the invisible barrier of personal space which surrounds them at all times.
2. work diligently to make it look beautiful, but never enjoy themselves or relax, e.g. sit in a chair. Also, they would take the opportunity to spy on their neighbours as they prune, and inwardly seethe with rage at the slightest unexpected noise, e.g. a barking dog, windchimes, music from a neighbour's house, etc.
3. seethe inwardly, but remain quiet and not complain; they would simply resolve to keep going to them, until they have the opportunity to find a new dentist, even if it takes five years.
4. avoid eye contact and never speak to them, but feel privately reassured that they are there, as if they are really their friends, and secretly make up backstories about them in their head to pass the time.
5. feel close to panic in their head, but maintain a cool and dignified outer appearance, while moving slowly and carefully to avoid touching anybody's body or belongings. They would not, at any time, give up their place in the queue or jump the queue.
6. wave and smile enthusiastically, and mouth "Thank you!" – while almost crashing their car in the process.
7. smile and nod in a friendly, supportive manner, but feel secretly aggrieved, as if a minor injustice has been committed. At no time would they speak to the other customer.
8. let them keep it – it's not worth the awkwardness of mentioning it to them.
9. welcome them effusively, offer them a cup of tea and biscuits (the best they have), and hang around awkwardly while they do the work – but cringe inwardly that they are not practical enough to be able to fix their own sink.
10. join in and enjoy it. Moaning is a national pastime for the English!

a) What would you say when...? b) What would an English person say when...?

An English person would say:

1. Never mind. There are plenty more fish in the sea."
2. "It was nothing."
3. "Yeah, it's alright."
4. "Oh, I got a really good deal, actually." i.e. it wasn't too expensive.
5. "Sorry?"
6. "Sorry."
7. "Sorry."
8. "Sorry."
9. "Thank you."
10. "Thank you."

Test Your Speaking & Listening Skills

Are You English? – Quiz 3

Englishness



Discuss each situation with a partner. What would you do or say? What do you think an English person would do or say? Check the answers and discuss whether they match your perception and experience of English people:

Answers:

a) What would you do when...? b) What would an English person do when...?

An English person would:

1. enjoy it and get a warm feeling inside – it's like meeting a friend, rather than somebody giving a service.
2. look for an exit and slowly sidle towards it; somebody else better qualified will help, and they would only embarrass themselves if they tried to get involved.
3. shake hands. At subsequent meetings they do not need to shake hands.
4. unsure of whether they should kiss her on the cheek – once or twice? – they would awkwardly try to shake hands, then think better of it and just say "Hello", without touching.
5. put on their headphones and try to pretend it isn't happening – and that they do not exist, in fact – while seething inside and swearing they will get revenge, which, of course, will never happen.
6. if they can't ignore them by walking in a wide arc around them – or even taking a different road – they would avoid eye contact and mutter rapidly, "Sorry! I'm late for work – may be later..."
7. tell them they are not sure, but they think it could be "straight on, turn right and keep going..." The shame of not being able to help them would be greater than telling a lie to somebody they will never have to meet again. Unless the person in the car turns out to be their new boss – or neighbour!
8. die inside. Then fumble in their coat pockets or bag, with panic rising inside them as they can't find it. Then hurry up the aisle guiltily and out of the theatre – and outside – with their phone still ringing loudly.
9. switch off the light and gingerly peep around the edge of the net curtains to see what is going on.
10. ask a family member or loved one to hold their towel around them like a temporary wall, so that they can get changed in relative privacy – all the while cringing inside and glancing around frantically to check whether anybody is watching.

a) What would you say when...? b) What would an English person say when...?

An English person would say:

1. "Can you...?" "Could you...?" "Is it possible for you to...?" "Would you mind...?" "Could I trouble you to...?"
"I would be so grateful if you could possibly find the time to..."
2. "Never mind. Better luck next time, old chap."
3. "Never mind. It's OK. No, it's fine. Don't worry about it, really. I'll have to manage."
4. "She could do a lot worse."
5. "Never mind. It could be worse. It could be raining."
6. (With deep irony:) "Well that went well, didn't it?"
7. "It's nice."
8. "Typical." They would take it as a personal insult, as if it is their destiny to be wronged by the universe.
9. "It never rains but it pours!"
10. "Typical." It had to happen – because it was their team. (See answer to no.8.)

Answers (continued) –

p.19 Describe the Pictures:

Answers will vary. Picture B: 1. tennis.

p.20 Research Activities:

1. C	11. E	21. C	31. B	41. C
2. A	12. A	22. A	32. D	42. A
3. B	13. E	23. A	33. D	43. E
4. F	14. D	24. D	34. B	44. F
5. A	15. B	25. D	35. B	45. A
6. D	16. E	26. C & B	36. E	46. F
7. A	17. E	27. D	37. D	47. E
8. B	18. F	28. A	38. B	48. A
9. B	19. B	29. D & B	39. D	49. B
10. E	20. A	30. F	40. B	50. F

p.21 Fun Fact Quiz:

All answers are correct at time of publication (October 2015):

1. London.
2. b) About 2.1 million English people have ginger hair. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2401346/Ginger-genes-Research-reveals-20MILLION-red-hair-gene-carriers-Britain-Ireland.html>
3. The Cross Of St. George: [<http://www.picturesofengland.com/englandflags/>]



4. Answers will vary. Suggested answers; source: <http://www.tesco.com/>): a) 60p. b) £1.25p. c) 80p. d) 45p. e) 40p. f) £1.29. g) £2.00. h) £1.89. i) 20p.
5. In 2002 a TV poll by the BBC stated that the three greatest English people of all time were: 1st: Sir Winston Churchill, 2nd: Isambard Kingdom Brunel, 3rd: Diana, Princess of Wales https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/100_Greatest_Britons
6. 11.6%. [http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/nigreatbritain.pdf/\\$FILE/nigreatbritain.pdf](http://www.forestry.gov.uk/pdf/nigreatbritain.pdf/$FILE/nigreatbritain.pdf)

7. In 2014 it was estimated that 13 million (46%) of households kept pets. The top three pets were: 1. Fish kept in tanks, 2. Fish kept in ponds, 3. Dogs. (Cats were fourth and rabbits fifth.) <http://www.pfma.org.uk/pet-population-2014/> Statistics relate to the UK, which includes England, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland. 84% of people in the UK live in England.
8. Answers will vary. Suggested answers: a) fried vegetables, including cabbage and potatoes. b) meat casserole topped with mashed potatoes. c) sausages in Yorkshire pudding batter. d) bacon, eggs, fried tomatoes, fried mushrooms, fried bread, sausages, and baked beans. e) suet pudding with dried fruit. f) a kind of sausage made from pig's blood. g) sausages in mashed potatoes. h) a cold meal including a selection of cheeses, pickle, bread, pickled onions, ham, a crescent of crisps (optional), and hard-boiled eggs. i) peas that have been soaked in water before cooking, which helps them form a kind of lumpy pea soup – best served with fish and chips! j) baked beans that have been cooked and then poured over one or more slices of hot buttered toast. k) a popular summer dessert which includes strawberries or bananas, meringue, and cream.
<http://www.telegraph.co.uk/foodanddrink/foodanddrinkpicturegalleries/9973633/10-British-foods-with-strange-names.html?frame=2528064>
9. 23rd April. Most English people don't celebrate it and many barely remember when it is. It is not a public holiday. Why not? Of course, we feel too embarrassed to make a big song and dance about being English!
10. True.
11. a) 53 million (2011).
12. b) 13%.
13. It is the nickname for the Great Bell inside the clock in the Clock Tower at the Palace of Westminster in London.
14. c) 37.
15. The second most popular main language was Polish (one per cent, 546,000), followed by Panjabi (half of one per cent, 273,000) and Urdu (half of one per cent, 269,000). <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/rel/census/2011-census/key-statistics-and-quick-statistics-for-wards-and-output-areas-in-england-and-wales/STB-2011-census--quick-statistics-for-england-and-wales--march-2011.html>
16. 1. Sleeping in a freshly made bed. 2. Feeling the sun on your face. 3. Being thanked, or a random act of kindness from a stranger. <http://www.independent.co.uk/news/uk/home-news/study-reveals-top-50-things-that-make-people-in-britain-feel-great--and-they-are-mostly-free-10178763.html>
17. Answers will vary. Try using YouTube for tips on how to speak with the different accents!
18. 1. author, 2. librarian, 3. academic, 4. lawyer, 5. interior designer. <https://yougov.co.uk/news/2015/02/15/bookish-britain-academic-jobs-are-most-desired/>
19. £23.40. <http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2521821/Families-spending-revealed-Biggest-cost-heating-looking-homes.html>
20. c) Between 4.5 million and 5.5 million Britons live abroad, which accounts for around 7-8% of the UK population.
1. Australia, 2. USA, 3. Canada, 4. Spain, 5. New Zealand. <http://www.statlife.org.uk/social-sciences/1910-how-many-british-immigrants-are-there-in-other-people-s-countries>

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Other Sources:

1. Fox, Kate. *Watching the English*. London: Hodder, 2005. Paperback. Available from: <https://www.hodder.co.uk/>
2. *Forty-plus years of life experience as an anxious and embarrassed Englishman*. :)

Test Your Vocabulary Skills

Discussion Words

Englishness



1. privacy	2. class	3. manners	4. shame
5. queueing	6. moaning	7. insincerity	8. fair play
9. independence	10. ready meals	11. politeness	12. conservatism
13. pub	14. modesty	15. indirect language	16. the BBC
17. tolerance	18. immigration	19. reserve	20. cynicism
21. tutting	22. embarrassment	23. multiculturalism	24. freedom
25. hidden feelings	26. stiff upper lip	27. tea	28. humour
29. island nation	30. personal space	31. detachment	32. irony
33. understatement	34. empire	35. sarcasm	36. neighbours
37. history	38. the weather	39. pessimism	40. democracy