

Talk a Lot

Problems

Features of Non-Literal English – Part 2

1. PUNS

A pun is a kind of joke that is based around a word or phrase which has two meanings: one which is natural in the sentence, and one which is relevant to what you are talking about.

Example:

[Somebody is making bread in the kitchen. You go up to them and ask:]

“Do you *need* any help?”

[You stress the word “need” because it is a pun on the word “knead”, which is an action in the bread-making process. “Knead” and “need” are homophones – words that sound exactly the same but which have different meanings and different spellings.]

When:

For fun! When you want to brighten up your spoken English; to make somebody smile or laugh – or groan, because your joke is so corny [old and too obvious].

2. PHRASAL VERBS

See *Unit 1: Hotel – Features of Non-Literal English – Part 1*

3. NON-STANDARD GRAMMAR

Non-standard grammar is a grammatical form that, although incorrect, is often used on purpose in place of the correct form by a person who knows what the correct form *should* be.

Example:

[You phone your friend and leave a voice message:]

“Y’alright mate? You comin’ down town later, or what, innit?”

[Translation: “Y’alright, mate?” = “Hello” or “Are you alright, my friend?”; “You comin’ down town later” = “Are you coming down to the town later?”; “or what, innit?” = speech markers (see *Unit 1: Hotel – Features of Non-Literal English – Part 1*). These phrases are simply a form of verbal punctuation and have no real meaning in the sentence, apart from perhaps reinforcing the question.]

When:

When you want to show that you belong to a particular group, or class of people, who all speak in the same way – as a means of fitting in. When you don’t want to appear too “posh”, or middle-class, or too highly educated.

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4. CULTURAL REFERENCES

A cultural reference is a word, phrase, or saying that has entered popular culture, e.g. a song, reference to or dialogue from a film or TV programme, an advert, a catchphrase (e.g. by a comedian), or any other memorable phrase that has been featured in the media.

Example:

"Hayley! Are you responsible for breaking that window?"

"Yeah... but, no... but, yeah... but no..." [her evasive and rather cheeky reply copies a well-known catchphrase from the popular BBC comedy series *Little Britain*.]

When:

When you want to show that you are aware of and a part of the general national popular culture that extends beyond your home town.

5. IDIOMS

See Unit 1: *Hotel – Features of Non-Literal English – Part 1*

6. POLITICALLY CORRECT (PC) LANGUAGE

Politically correct language (known as PC language) consists of polite words and phrases that are used to replace potentially derogatory or insulting language, so that we can talk about something negative or controversial *without causing offence*. There are two kinds of politically correct language:

1. Extreme Politically Correct Language: phrases that we don't use very often in everyday life, because they seem too extreme or sound silly.

Example:

"My little Billy isn't fat, he's just *big-boned*." The aim is to try to see something positive in something negative. But taken to extremes, political correctness can become a bit of a joke, and can lead people to exclaim in frustration: "It's political correctness gone mad!"

2. Everyday Politically Correct Language: phrases that we *do* need to use in everyday life, to avoid offending or stigmatising other people, especially people who belong to minority groups.

Example:

"We're planning a special lunch for senior citizens next week." [Not for *old people*.] More respectful or neutral phrases replace blunter, more potentially insensitive, offensive, or alienating language. Politicians, for example, are keen to use inclusive PC language, which comes across as inclusive to as many people as possible. Another example of required politically correct language is the use of gender-neutral terms, e.g. "police officer" rather than "policeman", to reflect changes in our workforce and culture.

When:

When you don't want to cause offense to anybody who belongs to a minority group. Or when you want to draw attention to something in a humorous or ironic way, e.g. "Tom *hasn't* gone a big nose. No. He's just a bit nasally challenged!"

Note: a related non-literal form is *Euphemism*.

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7. HINTS

A hint is an indirect reference to an object or situation. The speaker hopes that the person listening will understand what they mean, without them having to mention it directly. However, it is not guaranteed that the listener *will* understand and therefore “get the hint”.

Example:

[A young couple in love are passing a jeweller’s shop window. She says:]

“Oh, what a beautiful ring! Do you like it?”

[She means: “When are you going to ask me to marry you?”]

When:

When you want to say something or ask for something indirectly – in a subtle way. In the example, the woman hopes that her partner will “read her mind” regarding getting married, after which she can pretend that *he* thought of proposing without having to be asked or reminded. She can therefore tell herself that her beloved is more thoughtful and sensitive than he really is – and that she is really lucky to be with him!

8. SLANG

Slang is informal language consisting of words and phrases that replace standard dictionary words and phrases. It is used far more often in spoken English than in written English. Slang words are known and used by members of a particular group of people, which might be based on: class, race, gender, age, education, interests, job, etc.

Example:

“Do you like my new t-shirt?”

“Yeah, man!” [“Yes, my friend.”] “It’s totally sick!” [“It’s really nice!”]

When:

When you want to show that you belong to a particular group. By adopting their slang and customs you will feel closer to them, and they will be more likely to accept you as a legitimate member of their group.

9. CATCHPHRASES

A catchphrase is a phrase that is repeated often by somebody, particularly somebody famous, usually for comic effect so that it becomes associated with them through repetition. It may not be very funny if said only once, but by being repeated often it can become amusing, or annoying – or both.

Example:

“You wouldn’t let it lie!” [In the early ‘90s, surreal British comedian Vic Reeves introduced this catchphrase via his late night cult TV show, which became very popular among students, and is now always associated with him. To let something lie = to stop talking about a particular thing.]

When:

When you want to build an audience of initiates who feel part of your imaginative world because they are “in on the joke” (your catchphrases), as opposed to other people who don’t know them. Catchphrases can also be in-jokes, that enable your followers to feel that they belong to your “gang”.

See also: *Cultural References*, above.

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20 Common English Idioms

1. to have nothing to do with sby / sth	to avoid sby / sth completely	2. to play the property market	to invest in property
3. to struggle to make [both] ends meet	to have trouble earning enough to pay daily bills	4. share and share alike	divide sth equally; allow equal access
5. to pay through the nose	to pay too high a price	6. to pile on the pounds	to become fatter quickly
7. neither a borrower nor a lender be	don't take out or make loans	8. to give sby the boot	to end a romantic relationship with sby; to fire sby
9. to get / be up the duff	to become or be pregnant	10. to be up to your eyes in debt	to owe a lot of money
11. to spend money like it's going out of fashion	to spend a lot of money quickly	12. to follow the crowd	to do what everybody else is doing
13. to give sby a second chance	to forgive sby and be friends with them again	14. to be worth your while [to do sth]	to profit more by doing sth than by not doing it
15. to bore sby to tears	to make sby very uninterested in sth	16. to pin your hopes on sby / sth	to hope that sby or sth will be successful for your benefit
17. to have too much time on your hands	to have too much spare time	18. against all [the] odds	despite all obstacles and difficulties
19. on your own	alone; without anybody's help	20. "It's your own time you're wasting, not mine!"	"I get paid to teach, so if you misbehave, only you suffer."

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English Idioms – Matching Game

Match each sentence below with one of the idioms from this unit. Change forms where necessary:



Our love has survived – _____!
I'm afraid that when it comes to music and fashion I've always _____.
Back in the '80s, when I was a poor student, I _____.
"Can you lend me a tenner?" "I'm sorry. Remember the saying: _____."
I told the careers adviser that I'd only get a job if it _____ to do so.
Since Jon swore at me I _____.
Please take me back, Lionel! Please! Can't you _____?
Since I lost my job things have been really dull. I've got _____.
Brenda _____ recently, hasn't she? She used to be so slim.
Lizzie is a total shopaholic! She _____.
We _____ for about ten years now. Ever since we bought our first house.
You <i>will</i> get the tickets, <i>won't</i> you, Jack? I _____!
"Did you know that Joe ____ Kim ____?" "Wow! She doesn't look it!"
The opera went on for over four hours! It nearly _____!
Tracey ____ Daniel ____, and she's got another guy already!
You can mess about as much as you want, McCaskill. _____!
Come along, Toby; let your little sister play with it too. _____.
My parents _____. It looks like they might have to go bankrupt.
We _____ for that sculpture; but it was worth it.
"Did anybody help you paint that fence?" "No, I did it _____."

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Problems – English Idioms Activities

Meaning and Context

1. Check for new vocabulary. Are there any idioms that you know already? Explain each meaning and give an example sentence or situation in which you could use it. Find the meaning of the rest by using a dictionary, then match the definition cards with the idiom cards.
2. Do any of the idioms exist in your first language? Translate each idiom.
3. Divide the idioms into four categories: **Children**, **Teenagers**, **Adults**, and **Elderly People**.
4. Take some cards. Describe the idiom on a card without saying it.
5. How many idioms can you remember when they are all turned over?

Practice Activities

Choose a random idiom (or one that particularly interests you) and...

1. think of a time or situation in your life when you... a) could have said this idiom (past), and b) might say this idiom (future).
2. say the name of a person you know who would be the *most likely* to say this. In what kind of situation?
3. others guess while you act it out without speaking, although you can make sounds!
4. others guess while you draw a picture to represent both forms – idiomatic and literal.
5. analyse the words. Is it at all possible to guess the meaning from the words – or completely impossible? Research the origin and background of this idiom.
6. replace the idiom in a sentence with the literal (boring) meaning. Compare the two sentences. Which sounds better? Why?
7. think of another idiom or saying that has the same or a similar meaning.
8. tell a story or devise a dialogue/role play by linking one idiom to the next.

Topic Questions

1. Choose the correct idiom. 2. Make a sentence about... a) yourself, b) a friend.

1. I might use this when talking to somebody about a car they've just bought, which was, in my opinion, far too expensive.
2. A parent or teacher could use this idiom to rebuke two kids who are fighting over a computer.
3. This rather crude idiom might be used to say that somebody has got his partner pregnant.
4. This is a moralistic saying that warns against the dangers of getting into debt.
5. This is perhaps a problem for people who are unemployed or retired, and lack motivation.
6. I would use this idiom to show that I can do something without anybody else's help.
7. This idiom describes what people do when they are "sheep" and don't think for themselves.
8. This phrase shows a rather cavalier or casual approach towards investing in property.
9. Somebody who has put on weight recently might use this idiom to moan about the fact.
10. You could use this idiom to advise somebody to leave their current partner...
11. Or, if they don't like that advice, use *this* idiom to advise them to *stay* with their partner.
12. This is an expressive way to describe feelings provoked by long, tedious lessons about idioms!

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20 Common English Phrasal Verbs

1. break up ---	end a relationship	2. bang up ---	put in prison
3. take out ---	arrange sth, e.g. a loan	4. fit in ---	be accepted as part of a group
5. end up ---	reach a place which you neither planned nor wished to reach	6. bunk off ---	be absent without permission
7. pick up ---	acquire sth, e.g. an illness	8. pass away ---	die
9. get on ---	have a good relationship	10. knock up ---	make a woman pregnant
11. make up ---	become friends again after an argument	12. lash out ---	attack suddenly and violently
13. set aside ---	save; keep sth separate	14. drop out ---	leave a course or programme before the end
15. sign on ---	declare that you're unemployed; receive unemployment benefits	16. stand up to --- ---	defend yourself
17. long for ---	desire sth very much	18. give up ---	finish a habit; stop trying
19. rack up ---	accumulate; collect a lot of sth	20. be on ---	take; be dependent on

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English Phrasal Verbs – Matching Game

Match each sentence below with one of the phrasal verbs from this unit. Change forms where necessary:



Hilda _____ peacefully last night – in her sleep.
It's much better to _____ people, rather than let them walk all over you!
She got really upset and _____ at all her former colleagues.
Tony _____ a lot of debts since taking up poker.
I _____ with Mark yesterday. Things weren't working out.
After I _____, I'm going to ask my adviser to help me with my CV.
Do you fancy _____ school tomorrow? Go on! It'll be fun!
Aren't you going to _____ with Kim? She said she was sorry.
Cassie said she would _____ smoking, if you quit gambling.
Bryan _____ in this dump for nearly twelve years – poor guy.
We _____ this money for our trip to Greece next year.
We drove around in circles for ages, before _____ on the edge of a cliff in the middle of nowhere!
Me and Molly really _____ well. She's one of my best friends.
Up to 15% of students _____ before the end of the first year.
We went to the bank and _____ a loan for fifteen thousand.
How long had he _____ methadone?
"Where did Zoe _____ the cold?" "At her friend's house, I think."
Frank _____ Gemma – while she was still seeing his brother!
"Why have you stopped choir practice?" "I felt like I didn't _____."
I've been _____ a baby my whole life.

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Problems – English Phrasal Verbs Activities

This is a handy table showing **collocations** – words that go well with these phrasal verbs. You could use it to make a quick quiz for students after they have learned the meanings, e.g. “Which phrasal verb is to do with prison?” Or, “Find a phrasal verb that’s transitive separable.” Or guess the preposition linking phrasal verb and object, e.g. “To get on **with** somebody...” Or encourage students to make sentences (positive, negative, and question forms) by linking content words together using function words, e.g. “The **students** are going to **bunk off** school **tomorrow**.” etc.

#	subject (person)	p/verb*	tr?	sep?	object e.g.	place / time e.g.
1.	a pronoun, e.g. I, you, he, she, it, we, they, etc.	break up	✓	✗	with somebody	over dinner
2.		bang up	✓	✓	a criminal / a prisoner	in prison / in jail
3.		take out	✓	✓	a loan / a mortgage	at the bank / online
4.		fit in	✓	✗	with a group / a class	at school / at work
5.		end up	✓	✗	alone / getting fired	if you’re not careful
6.		bunk off	✓	✗	school / a lesson	tomorrow
7.		pick up	✓	✓	an infection / a cold	at nursery / at the pool
8.		pass away	✗	-	-	in bed / peacefully at home
9.		get on	✓	✗	with somebody / friends	at school / at work
10.		knock up	✓	✓	his girlfriend / his partner	at his parents’ house
11.	a person or thing, e.g. the students, my sister, Max, the children, Sarah’s grandma, our good friends, etc.	make up	✓	✗	with somebody	in the staff canteen
12.		lash out	✓	✗	at sby / because...	at the nightclub
13.		set aside	✓	✓	some money / savings	for a rainy day**
14.		drop out	✓	✗	of school / of the concert	last week / for good
15.		sign on	✓	✗	the dole***	for two years
16.		stand up to	✓	✗	my boss / a bully	in the office / at school
17.		long for	✓	✗	a child / a holiday	all the time / every day
18.		give up	✓	✗	smoking / gambling	yesterday / forever
19.		rack up	✓	✗	some debts / a high score	over a period of time
20.		be on	✓	✗	drugs / medication	for the past few months

Notes: **tr = transitive** – the phrasal verb can have an object. **sep = separable** – some transitive phrasal verbs are separable, which means that the object, e.g. an object pronoun like “him” or “it”, or somebody’s name, can go before the particle or after it. Some transitive phrasal verbs are **inseparable** – the object has to go after the particle. **Intransitive** phrasal verbs do not have an object, therefore cannot be separable or inseparable. Remember, some phrasal verbs, e.g. “pick up”, can have many different meanings. The information here relates to the definitions given on the “20 Common English Phrasal Verbs” handout.

* Choose any verb form, e.g. Present Perfect Continuous, Third Conditional, Future Perfect, etc.

** Idiom meaning “for a time when I won’t have enough money”. *** Slang for “unemployment register”

Topic Questions

Choose the correct phrasal verb, and make a sentence about... a) yourself, b) a friend:

- worrying about starting a new school.
- losing your job and having to claim benefits.
- wishing that you could buy your own house with a garden.
- shouting at somebody, then hitting them after getting drunk.
- deciding to quit college and do something different.
- how a favourite uncle died at the weekend.
- putting somebody in prison.
- getting somebody pregnant.
- how you finally stopped somebody from bullying you.
- not wanting to take tablets prescribed by your doctor.
- leaving class early when nobody was looking.
- getting a bad cold after visiting some friends who were ill.
- trying hard to maintain a working relationship with a colleague.
- saving for a holiday in Portugal.

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20 Common English Slang Words and Phrases

1. to be brown bread	(rhyming slang) to be in a lot of trouble; to be dead	2. "Like it or lump it!"	(phr.) it will be easier for you, if you accept this unpleasant thing
3. to get bladdered	(v.) to become very drunk	4. a zit	(n.) a spot [acne]
5. on the rock'n'roll	(rhyming slang) on the dole [claiming unemployment benefit]	6. to be in the red	(v.) to be in debt
7. Billy no-mates	(n.) a person who doesn't have any friends	8. a hoodie	(n.) a teenage hooligan; a hooded top
9. a junkie	(n.) a drug addict	10. a bookie	(n.) a betting shop; a person who works in a betting shop
11. a pushover	(n.) a person who is very easily persuaded / defeated	12. a minger	(n.) an unattractive person
13. hand-me-downs	(n. un.) second-hand items, usually clothes	14. a one-night stand	(n.) a date when two people have sex, but don't meet again
15. a coffin dodger	(n.) an old person who doesn't seem to be able to die	16. to do time	(v.) to serve a prison sentence
17. a bit on the side	(n.) the person with whom a married person has an affair	18. the pill	(n.) contraceptive tablets for women
19. a red bill	(n.) a letter from a utility company demanding payment which is overdue	20. mardy	(a.) grumpy because you can't have what you want

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English Slang Words and Phrases – Matching Game

Match each sentence below with one of the slang words and phrases from this unit.
Change forms where necessary:

✂
Kenny's cousin is currently _____ for armed robbery.
How can you fancy her? She's an absolute _____!
Oliver never reads _____. He just chucks them in a drawer.
I don't want your old _____! I'm going to buy some new trousers!
If I don't hand in this essay tomorrow, I'll be _____.
Clara had been on _____ for a year, when she found out she was pregnant.
A few of the lads went out on the town last night and _____.
Paul the security guard was keeping his eye on some _____, who were hanging around outside the chippie [chip shop].
Can you believe this _____ is still on TV? I thought he was dead!
You're coming to see Grandma, and that's final! You can _____!
"Do you know Kevin?" "Yes, we had _____, but nothing more."
Sally went overdrawn last month and now she's still _____.
We're going down the _____'s to put a bet on the horse in the 2.45.
Don't be so _____! We can stay with your parents <i>next</i> Christmas!
Please don't squeeze your _____ while I'm eating my tea!
"Is that James's girlfriend?" "No, it's just his _____."
Chantal never goes out any more. She's a right [complete] _____.
Tom became a _____ after first trying drugs at his mate Jim's flat.
Trevor's uncle's been _____ for a year. He says there aren't any jobs.
You know, you should tell him that you can't work on Saturday! Don't be such a _____.

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Problems – English Slang Words and Phrases Activities

Meaning and Context

1. Are there any words/phrases that you know already? Explain each meaning and give an example sentence or situation in which you could use it. Find the meaning of the rest by using a dictionary, then match the definition cards with the slang cards.
2. Who would you be speaking to when you used these words and phrases? Are there any words or phrases that you wouldn't use with certain people? If yes, why not?
3. Do any of the slang words and phrases exist in your first language? Translate them.
4. Divide the slang into four categories: **Children, Teenagers, Adults, and Elderly People.**
5. Take some cards. Describe the slang word or phrase on a card without saying it.
6. How many slang words/phrases can you remember when they are all turned over?

Practice Activities

Choose a random slang word or phrase (or one that particularly interests you) and...

1. think of a time or situation in your life when you... a) could have used this slang (past), and b) might use this slang (future).
2. say the name of a person you know who would be... a) the *most likely* to say this, and b) the *least likely* to say it. In what kind of situation?
3. others guess while you act it out without speaking, although you can make sounds!
4. others guess while you draw a picture to represent both forms – slang and dictionary (literal).
5. analyse the word(s). Is it at all possible to guess the meaning from the words – or completely impossible? Research the origin and background of this slang word or phrase.
6. replace the slang word or phrase in a sentence with the literal (boring) meaning. Compare the two sentences. Which sounds better? Why?
7. think of another slang word or phrase that has the same or a similar meaning.
8. tell a story or devise a dialogue/role play by linking one slang word/phrase to the next.

Topic Questions

1. Choose the correct slang word or phrase. 2. Make a sentence about... a) yourself, b) a friend.

1. This is a slang word for a pimple or spot.
2. This is a person who is unpopular and who nobody really likes.
3. This is a person who has to score their next fix.
4. This is what happens to a criminal who is locked up.
5. This is a person who could either help you win or lose money.
6. This is a very informal way to talk about getting drunk – but it isn't swearing.
7. This phrase means that I owe money to somebody, for example, a bank.
8. This is a person who always gives in too easily and doesn't stand up to other people.
9. If I had had an older brother, I would probably have worn these while I was growing up.
10. We can use this rather unkind phrase to describe an old person who doesn't seem to be in any hurry to depart this mortal coil.

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Focus on Non-Literal Speech

Answers

English Idioms – Matching Game

- Since Jon swore at me I've had nothing to do with him.
- We've been playing the property market for about ten years now. Ever since we bought our first house.
- Back in the '80s, when I was a poor student, I struggled to make [both] ends meet.
- Come along, Toby; let your little sister play with it too. Share and share alike.
- We paid through the nose for that sculpture; but it was worth it.
- Brenda has piled on / has been piling on the pounds recently, hasn't she? She used to be so slim.
- "Can you lend me a tenner?" "I'm sorry. Remember the saying: neither a borrower nor a lender be."
- Tracey gave Daniel the boot, and she's got another guy already!
- "Did you know that Joe's got Kim up the duff?" "Wow! She doesn't look it!"
- My parents are up to their eyes in debt. It looks like they might have to go bankrupt.
- Lizzie is a total shopaholic! She spends money like it's going out of fashion.
- I'm afraid that when it comes to music and fashion I've always followed the crowd.
- Please take me back, Lionel! Please! Can't you give me a second chance?
- I told the careers adviser that I'd only get a job if it was / were worth my while to do so.
- The opera went on for over four hours! It nearly bored me / us to tears!
- You will get the tickets, won't you, Jack? I'm pinning my hopes on you!
- Since I lost my job things have been really dull. I've got too much time on my hands.
- Our love has survived – against all [the] odds!
- "Did anybody help you paint that fence?" "No, I did it on my own."
- You can mess about as much as you want, McCaskill. It's your own time you're wasting, not mine!

English Idioms – Topic Questions

- | | |
|---|----------------------------------|
| 1. To pay through the nose. | 7. To follow the crowd. |
| 2. Share and share alike. | 8. To play the property market. |
| 3. To get / be up the duff. | 9. To pile on the pounds. |
| 4. Neither a borrower nor a lender be. | 10. To give sby the boot. |
| 5. To have too much time on your hands. / To be worth your while [to do sth]. | 11. To give sby a second chance. |
| 6. On your own. | 12. To bore sby to tears. |

English Phrasal Verbs – Pronunciation and Linking

Phrasal Verb:	What Happens?	IPA Spelling:	Phrasal Verb:	What Happens?	IPA Spelling:
1. break up	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'breɪ'kʌp/	11. make up	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'meɪ'kʌp/
2. bang up	L: (cv) remains (cv) ¹	/'bæŋ'ʌp/	12. lash out	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'læʃ'ʌʊt/
3. take out	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'teɪ'kaʊt/	13. set aside	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'se.tə'saɪd/
4. fit in	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'fɪ'tɪn/	14. drop out	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'drɒ'pʌʊt/
5. end up	L: (cv) changes to (cc) ²	/'en'dʌp/	15. sign on	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'saɪ'nɒn/
6. bunk off	L: (cv) remains (cv) ³	/'bʌŋ'kɒf/	16. stand up to	L: (cv) changes to (cc) ⁴	/'stænd'ʌ.ptu:z/
7. pick up	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'pɪ'kʌp/	17. long for	L: (cc) remains (cc) ⁵	/'lɒŋ'fɔ:z/
8. pass away	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'pɑ: sə'weɪ/	18. give up	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'gɪ'vʌp/
9. get on	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'ge'tɒn/	19. rack up	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'ræk'ʌp/
10. knock up	L: (cv) changes to (vc)	/'nɒ'kʌp/	20. be on	l: (vv) changes to (vc)	/'bi: 'jɒn/

The following connected speech techniques are used to make the words easier to say together quickly:

L = Linking I = Intrusion

Connecting sounds: (cc) = consonant sound to consonant sound (cv) = consonant sound to vowel sound
(vc) = vowel sound to consonant sound (vv) = vowel sound to vowel sound

¹ The sound connection /ŋ/ to /ʌ/ is already easy to say, so it doesn't need to be made easier

² It's easier to make the sound connection /n/ to /d/ than /d/ to /ʌ/

³ It's easier to make the sound connection /ŋ/ to /k/ than /k/ to /ɒ/

⁴ It's easier to make the sound connection /n/ to /d/ than /d/ to /ʌ/

⁵ The sound connection /ŋ/ to /f/ is already easy to say, so it doesn't need to be made easier

Talk a Lot

Problems

Focus on Non-Literal Speech

English Phrasal Verbs – Matching Game

1. I **broke up** with Mark yesterday. Things weren't working out.
2. Bryan **has been banged up / was banged up** in this dump for nearly twelve years – poor guy.
3. We went to the bank and **took out** a loan for fifteen thousand.
4. "Why have you stopped choir practice?" "I felt like I didn't **fit in**."
5. We drove around in circles for ages, before **we ended up / ending up** on the edge of a cliff in the middle of nowhere!
6. Do you fancy **bunking off** school tomorrow? Go on! It'll be fun!
7. "Where did Zoe **pick up** the cold?" "At her friend's house, I think."
8. Hilda **passed away** peacefully last night – in her sleep.
9. Me and Molly really **get on** well. She's one of my best friends.
10. Frank **knocked up** Gemma – while she was still seeing his brother!
11. Aren't you going to **make up** with Kim? She said she was sorry.
12. She got really upset and **lashed out** at all her former colleagues.
13. **We set aside / have set aside / are setting aside** this money for our trip to Greece next year.
14. Up to 15% of students **drop out / dropped out** before the end of the first year.
15. After I **sign on / 've signed on**, I'm going to ask my adviser to help me with my CV.
16. It's much better to **stand up to** people, rather than let them walk all over you!
17. I've been **longing for** a baby my whole life.
18. Cassie said she would **give up** smoking, if you quit gambling.
19. Tony **has racked up / had racked up** a lot of debts since taking up poker.
20. How long had he **been on** methadone?

English Phrasal Verbs – Topic Questions

- | | | | |
|-------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|
| 1. fit in | 5. drop out | 9. stand up to | 13. get on |
| 2. sign on | 6. pass away | 10. be on | 14. set aside |
| 3. long for | 7. bang up | 11. bunk off | |
| 4. lash out | 8. knock up | 12. pick up | |

English Slang Words and Phrases – Matching Game

1. If I don't hand in this essay tomorrow, I'll be **brown bread**.
2. You're coming to see Grandma, and that's final! You can **like it or lump it!**
3. A few of the lads went out on the town last night and **got bladdered**.
4. Please don't squeeze your **zits** while I'm eating my tea!
5. Trevor's uncle's been **on the rock'n'roll** for a year. He says there aren't any jobs.
6. Sally went overdrawn last month and now she's still **in the red**.
7. Chantal never goes out any more. She's a right [complete] **Billy no-mates**.
8. Paul the security guard was keeping his eye on some **hoodies**, who were hanging around outside the chippie [chip shop].
9. Tom became a **junkie** after first trying drugs at his mate Jim's flat.
10. We're going down the **bookie's** to put a bet on the horse in the 2.45.
11. You know, you should tell him that you can't work on Saturday! Don't be such a **pushover**.
12. How can you fancy her? She's an absolute **minger!**
13. I don't want your old **hand-me-downs!** I'm going to buy some new trousers!
14. "Do you know Kevin?" "Yes, we had **a one-night stand**, but nothing more."
15. Can you believe this **coffin dodger** is still on TV? I thought he was dead!
16. Kenny's cousin is currently **doing time** for armed robbery.
17. "Is that James's girlfriend?" "No, it's just his **bit on the side**."
18. Clara had been on **the pill** for a year, when she found out she was pregnant.
19. Oliver never reads **red bills**. He just chucks them in a drawer.
20. Don't be so **mardy!** We can stay with your parents *next* Christmas!

English Slang Words and Phrases – Topic Questions

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. a zit | 6. to get bladdered |
| 2. Billy no-mates | 7. to be in the red |
| 3. a junkie | 8. a pushover |
| 4. to do time | 9. hand-me-downs |
| 5. a bookie | 10. a coffin dodger |