

The Learn Hot English *Proficiency Pack*

Ready-to-go lessons for proficiency-level students!

Level: Proficiency, C2. September to December 2019



Introduction

The aim of these lessons is to get your proficiency-level students speaking and writing after reading or listening to authentic, native-level materials.

The practical lessons will allow your students to use lots of useful language and apply all the essential skills: speaking, listening, reading and writing. The follow-up activities will help reinforce learning and give students opportunities to put any newly-acquired language into practice. This will ensure dynamic classes and rapid learning.

The video files consist of mostly English-speakers speaking naturally (they aren't scripted texts). The reading texts are from online native-level sources. Some of these activities come with video or listening files.

You can download the compressed file from www.learnhotenglish.com/teachers onto your smartphone, tablet computer, laptop, etc.

For students with a high listening level, you might just let them watch the videos once to challenge them a bit more. In most cases, this will mean skipping the "first viewing" activity and going straight to the "second viewing" task.

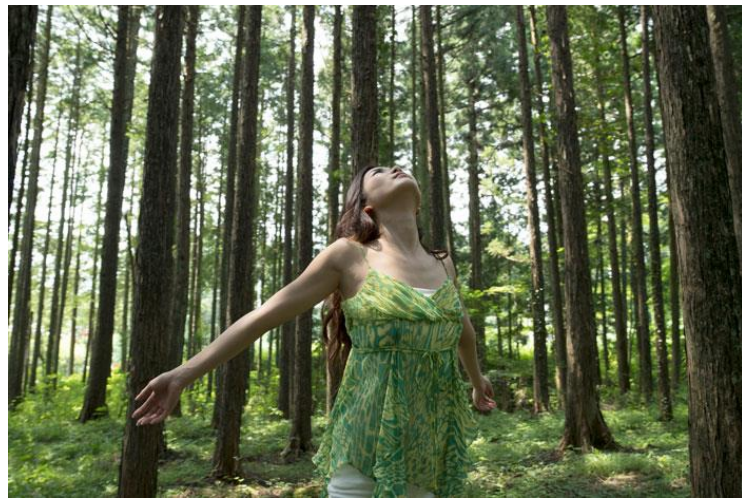
You could also use this authentic material with Advanced (C1) or even Upper-Intermediate (B2) level students. For example, if there are 4 points in the article, give them the first 2 or 3 to read over.

Please e-mail us with any other ideas you may have, or any comments in general:

andy@learnhotenglish.com

Good luck!





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Afraid of the gym? Here are 3 socially-distanced outdoor alternatives! www.euronews.com

Even if your local gym has re-opened its doors, you may not be all that keen to return just yet – and you aren't alone in feeling that way. A survey in the US shows that only 5% of people are happy to return to fitness facilities. Medical professionals support this wariness too. Dr James Voos, chairman of orthopaedic surgery at University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center authored a study which considered just how contagious spaces like gyms are. “When you have a relatively high density of people exercising and sweating in a contained space, you have conditions where communicable diseases can spread easily,” explains Dr Voos. So, what are the best outdoor alternatives? Here are three suggestions for you.

Paddle-boarding

Paddle-boarding isn't the most conventional form of exercise, but if you want to social distance and enjoy nature, there's nothing like paddle-boarding. It's a great full body exercise, really putting your core to the test, without being a high impact workout like running or a fitness class. Sure, it's not the most accessible sport, but more and more beach areas rent out paddle-boards, and most basic boards are pretty stable and easy to get to grips with.



Cycling

Cycling is another low-impact sport, so it's somewhat easier on your joints, while still ensuring you get a proper workout. There are far fewer cars on the road right now, which makes riding safer and easier than usual. Plus, if you get into cycling now, you've developed a great new commuting method for the future. Though cycling is obviously a great way to experience nature and see the area around you, if the weather isn't great, or you aren't confident on the roads, consider setting yourself up with Zwift – a virtual training for running and cycling program that enables users to interact, train and compete online. So, you can spend your mornings cycling around Paris or New York's Central Park, without ever leaving your home.



Plogging

Plogging is effectively running or jogging while litter-picking at the same time. It's a Swedish craze, and a portmanteau of 'jogging' and the Swedish word for 'pluck' – where runners collect rubbish as they run. Simply put on a pair of gloves and pick up a bin bag and you're ready to go. It's a great way of keeping parks and beaches clean and getting some exercise at the same time. There are several plogging communities around the world, particularly on social media, so if you fancy making some new friends, this is the sport for you.



So, which one do you want to try?

Warmer

What forms of exercise do you enjoy doing? (jogging, going to the gym, doing exercise at home, cycling...)

What forms of outdoor exercise do you like? Why?

What are your top tips for staying motivated to do exercise on a long-term basis?

Video

Watch this video on plogging and answer these questions:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=v0c8xMAd3eA>

- How does the reporter describe plogging?
- Why does Michelle (the leader of a group in LA) say it's popular?
- Why does Arwin (the woman on the beach) like plogging?
- Where does the term "plogging" come from?

Article build

Complete this extract from the article with the missing words.

Paddle-boarding isn't the most conventional form of _____, but if you want to social distance and enjoy _____, there's nothing like paddle-boarding. It's a great full body exercise, really putting your core to the _____, without being a high impact workout like running or a _____ class. Sure, it's not the most accessible _____, but more and more beach areas rent out paddle-boards, and most basic boards are pretty stable and easy to get to _____ with. Cycling is another low-impact sport, so it's somewhat easier on your _____, while still ensuring you get a proper _____. There are far fewer cars on the road right now, which makes riding _____ and easier than usual. Plus, if you get into cycling now, you've developed a great new commuting _____ for the future. Though cycling is obviously a great way to experience _____ and see the area around you, if the _____ isn't great, or you aren't confident on the roads, consider setting yourself up with Zwift – a virtual training for running and cycling program that enables users to interact, train and _____ online. So, you can spend your mornings cycling around Paris or New York's Central Park, without ever leaving your _____.

Zoom meeting fails!

Source: Daily Mail & BBC news

Zoom is proving to be the tech solution for the pandemic. But things don't always go according to plan as these stories clearly show.

The driver

A senior councillor who joined a virtual council meeting while driving a lorry has been blasted for putting himself and other road users in a 'dangerous situation'. Councillor David Brown – who held the tourism, arts and culture brief on Boston Borough Council –

appeared at the cabinet meeting on Wednesday, September 9 from the cab of his moving vehicle. His dangerous actions have been captured in a video which shows him driving while using a device to connect to the meeting and has sparked outrage. He is seen looking at the screen and adjusting it on several occasions as he drives and at one point even takes his hand off the wheel to wave at the device to show his attendance when he discovers his microphone is muted. He drove for at least 20 minutes before disappearing from sight – and then reappeared on the screen for the rest of the meeting after he seemingly parked up. He has since quit his job with the council and the matter is being investigated by Lincolnshire Police and the council.



The robbery

In another story, a schoolgirl was robbed during a Zoom lesson in Ecuador as horrified teacher and students watched helplessly. The attack on the girl, named as Maria Jose, took place while she was on the Zoom chat with 25 others including her teacher in the city of Ambato in Tungurahua, central Ecuador, on Friday. The thieves were apparently unaware that their threats against the student were being filmed, which allowed her classmates to alert authorities and the victim's family, and cops were able to detain four suspects after they fled the scene. During the robbery, one of the pupils says: 'Does anyone have the address or the number of her parents?' Another replies: 'I have her mother's number'. A third classmate then says 'call her straight away'. The image appears to freeze on the screen after one of the thieves closes down the laptop in order to steal it together with other valuables from the property.

The passion

And in a final story, a couple were caught having sex during a Rio de Janeiro council video conference. Rio de Janeiro city council were discussing guaranteeing food for students in municipal system. The meeting was chaired by a member of the Socialism and Liberty Party, Leonel Brizola, who continued the discussion despite the scenes being relayed through the video feed. It was a meeting for the Rio de Janeiro city council, which local newspaper Metropoles reported was about how to guarantee food for students in the municipal system during the pandemic. The footage shows how the Zoom participant in the middle row on the right-hand side of the screen 'left' the meeting and started having sex on the bed in the background. The meeting reportedly continued for another four hours without further interruption. The other councillors in the meeting reportedly noticed the scenes but decided to ignore it and continue to discuss the matter at hand. In a statement, Brizola said the episode was an 'involuntary indiscretion' and regretted that the actual topic of the meeting was not being highlighted in media reports.

WARNING: the third story mentions sex, although not explicitly. So, you might not want to use this article with certain students.

Warmer

Watch the video on Zoom mishaps. What goes wrong? What happens? Why is there a problem? What are the people trying to do? Why can't they proceed normally?

Video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tvMO9TNfdHs>

What problems have you had with zoom or other video conferencing systems? What went wrong? Why? How did you resolve it?

What do you think these words or abbreviations stand for or mean?

- WFH
- Zoom-bombing
- Zumping (zoom + dump)

Article build

Complete the article extract with the correct words.

A senior councillor who **j**_____ a virtual council meeting while **d**_____ a lorry has been blasted for putting himself and other road users in a 'dangerous situation'. Councillor David Brown – who **h**_____ the tourism, arts and culture brief on Boston Borough Council – **a**_____ at the cabinet meeting on Wednesday, September 9 from the cab of his moving vehicle. His dangerous actions have been **c**_____ in a video which shows him driving while using a device to **c**_____ to the meeting and has sparked outrage. He is seen **l**_____ at the screen and adjusting it on several occasions as he **d**_____ and at one point even takes his hand off the wheel to **w**_____ at the device to show his attendance when he discovers his microphone is **m**_____. He drove for at least 20 minutes before **d**_____ from sight – and then reappeared on the screen for the rest of the meeting after he seemingly **p**_____ up. He has since **q**_____ his job with the council and the matter is being **i**_____ by Lincolnshire Police and the council.

Speaking

Choose one of the stories and explain what happened from your point of view. Then, answer any questions your classmates might have for you!

Answers

WFH: WFH stands for "Work from Home" - which has become the new normal in several countries.

Zoom-Bombing: Zoom-bombing is when an uninvited guest gate-crashes a virtual meeting and takes control of it, perhaps even sharing inappropriate content.

Zumping: For break-ups in the time of social distancing, zumping is a slang for dumping someone over Zoom, or any video calling service.

How having an alter ego can empower you!

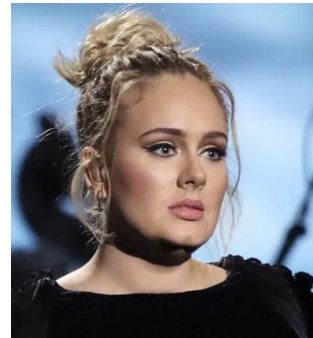
Source: BBC news

How do the world's top stars gather the courage and determination to stand on stage, despite the nerves and anxiety of giving a bad performance? For both Beyoncé and Adele, the secret has been the creation of an alter ego – a separate entity. According to the experts, thinking of yourself as a separate entity can reduce anxiety, while also kicking up some major benefits for your confidence and determination.



Beyoncé's alter ego was the assertive and empowered 'Sasha Fierce'. This apparently allowed her to perform with extra self-confidence. "Usually when I hear the chords, when I put on my stilettos, like the moment right before when you're nervous... then Sasha Fierce appears, and my posture and the way I speak and everything is different," she told Oprah Winfrey in 2008. It was a strategy that she continued to use until 2010, when she felt she had matured enough to avoid the psychological crutch.

Inspired by an emotional meeting with Beyoncé, Adele followed suit, telling *Rolling Stone* magazine in 2011 about her creation of 'Sasha Carter'. The persona was a combination of Beyoncé's Sasha Fierce persona and the (real) country music star June Carter. Adele said the strategy helped her give her best to every performance during her breakout year.



Although the embodiment of a fictional persona may seem like a gimmick for pop stars, new research suggests there may be some real psychological benefits to the strategy. Adopting an alter ego is an extreme form of 'self-distancing', which involves taking a step back from our immediate feelings to allow us to view a situation more dispassionately.

"Self-distancing gives us a little bit of extra space to think rationally about the situation," says Rachel White, assistant professor of psychology at Hamilton College in New York State. It allows us to rein in undesirable feelings like anxiety, increases our perseverance on challenging tasks, and boosts our self-control.

Why not try it for yourself? The best thing is to pick a different person for different types of goals: maybe a wise member of your family for a personal dilemma, or a work mentor for a professional problem, or you could simply invent your own alter ego. And then take it from there. Good luck!

Warmer

What do you do to build up your confidence?

How would you prepare yourself for a public event such as giving a presentation or going on stage for some reason?

How do you motivate yourself to do things?

What are some tricks do you know for motivating yourself or getting yourself ready to do something scary or challenging?

Article build

Complete the extract from the article with the correct forms of the words in brackets.

How do the world's top stars gather the courage and _____ (**determine**) to stand on stage, despite the nerves and _____ (**anxious**) of giving a bad _____ (**perform**)? For both Beyoncé and Adele, the secret has been the _____ (**create**) of an alter ego – a separate entity. According to the _____ (**expertise**), thinking of yourself as a separate entity can _____ (**reduction**) anxiety, while also kicking up some major benefits for your _____ (**confident**) and determination.

Beyoncé's alter ego was the _____ (**assertion**) and empowered 'Sasha Fierce'. This apparently allowed her to _____ (**performance**) with extra self-confidence. "Usually when I hear the chords, when I put on my stilettos, like the moment right before when you're _____ (**nerves**) ... then Sasha Fierce appears, and my posture and the way I speak and everything is _____ (**differences**)," she told Oprah Winfrey in 2008. It was a _____ (**strategic**) that she continued to use until 2010, when she felt she had _____ (**maturity**) enough to avoid the _____ (**psychologist**) crutch.

Speaking

Give a summary of the main ideas in the article.

Nursery nurse steps in to pay for a stranger's shopping bill!

A kind-hearted nursery nurse came to the rescue of a stranger who was unable pay for his more than £100 coronavirus lockdown shopping because he had forgotten his wallet. Kelsey Frost, 27, stepped in to help fellow shopper Joe Bakowski when he ended up stuck at a checkout in Sainsbury's, in Oadby, Leicester at the weekend.

Kelsey spotted Joe patting each of his pockets in turn before realising he had left his wallet at home. After overhearing him explaining his situation to the cashier, she walked over and told him she would happily pay for his shopping, which came in at well over £100. She later said it was 'the right thing to do' and said people need to come together amid the coronavirus pandemic.



Joe, who repaid the cash a short time later, was so touched by her random act of kindness that he was moved to share it with the world to express his gratitude. He said: 'Queuing outside in the sunshine, it was great to see the Sainsbury's team working away calmly and professionally, but sharing a laugh with the queuing customers, too. 'I was shopping for my parents and my uncle as well as for my own family, so ended up spending over an hour inside searching the shelves for unfamiliar products, only to find that - once I'd run everything through checkout - I'd left my wallet at home.

'A young lady who had just finished at the next checkout immediately offered to pay for me - well over £100 - despite not knowing me from Adam. 'Not only that, she then waited around, with her young child, while I ran my parents' and my uncle's shopping through, too, and paid for that as well. 'Thank you Sainsbury's staff for keeping calm and carrying on, but more than anything, thank you Kelsey F for showing how wonderful people can be when the chips are down.'

Currently furloughed from work, Kelsey, from Oadby, said she had been shopping with her daughter, five-year-old Bella, when she spotted Joe and realised he was in a pickle. She said: 'I was at the self-service checkout and he was just a short distance away. 'I could see him tapping his pockets and then I heard him say to the cashier that he didn't have his wallet with him. 'I just said to him that I would pay for his shopping. 'It just seemed like the right thing to do - I wasn't sure whether he'd have to go home for his wallet and come back to the supermarket and queue up all over again. 'I paid for his shopping and then he paid me back later because he has online banking. 'This is a difficult time and everyone has to come together and help each other where and when we can.'

Warmer

- Has anyone ever done anything nice for you out of the blue?
- What kind gestures have you ever witnessed?
- What kind things have you done for other people?
- Have you ever offered to help a stranger? What happened?
- Has anyone ever offered to help you? What happened?
- What would you do if someone offered to pay for your shopping if you'd left your wallet or purse at home?

Gap fill

Complete the text with the correct verbs.

A kind-hearted nursery nurse came to the _____ of a stranger who was unable pay for his more than £100 coronavirus lockdown shopping because he had forgotten his _____. Kelsey Frost, 27, stepped in to help fellow _____ Joe Bakowski when he ended up stuck at a _____ in Sainsbury's, in Oadby, Leicester at the weekend.

Kelsey spotted Joe patting each of his _____ in turn before realising he had left his wallet at home. After overhearing him explaining his _____ to the cashier, she walked over and told him she would happily pay for his _____, which came in at well over £100. She later said it was 'the right thing to do' and said people need to come together amid the coronavirus _____.

Joe, who repaid the _____ a short time later, was so touched by her random act of _____ that he was moved to shared it with the world to express his _____. He said: 'Queuing outside in the sunshine, it was great to see the Sainsbury's _____ working away calmly and professionally, but sharing a _____ with the queuing customers, too. 'I was shopping for my parents and my uncle as well as for my own _____, so ended up spending over an hour inside searching the _____ for unfamiliar products, only to find that - once I'd run everything through checkout - I'd left my wallet at home.

Speaking

Summaries

Give an oral summary of the story.

Which companies have done well during the pandemic?

Source: www.forbes.com

Despite the well-documented plight of some industries, others have been booming during the pandemic. Here are a few of them:

Online Retailing

Online retailers have done well during the pandemic. While Amazon's sales growth has been impressive for the past decade, the company received a big boost from the quarantine as consumers could not go to stores to make purchases. On March 12, the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown, the company's stock price closed at \$1,676.61. By the end of June, it was nearly \$1,000 higher.



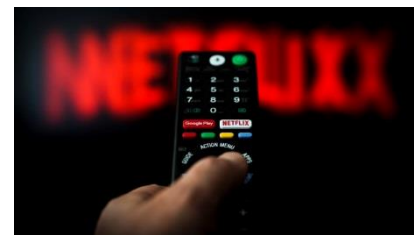
Hand-sanitizing products

Chicago-based Terraboost Media is an advertising agency. It has built a network of more than 72,000 hand-sanitizing billboards that dispense a dose of sanitizer below its advertisers' messages to consumers entering major supermarket chains, grocery stores and pharmacies. During the pandemic, the number of hand-sanitizing kiosks in the US has grown to 90,000 nationwide and is expected to approach 150,000 kiosks by the end of the year. Terraboost has had to dramatically increase its production to keep up with demand from its existing customers and others that are looking for hand-sanitizing solutions.



Entertainment

Netflix, added nearly 16 million new subscribers during the first quarter of 2020, and its growth numbers more than doubled what the company predicted. Quarter 1 2020, was the largest three-month jump in the streaming service's 13-year history, as people looked for entertainment options while theatres, cinemas, nightclubs and concert venues closed. Netflix boss Reed Hastings says coronavirus was 'a lucky break' for his company. Hastings co-founded Netflix in the nineties, and to begin with it was a DVD mail-order firm. Now, it has nearly 193 million paying members in 190 countries.



Warmer

- Which companies do you think have been doing well during the pandemic? Why do you think they've been doing so well? (entertainment companies, online retailers, tech companies, food companies, supermarkets...)
- What have you bought online during the pandemic? Which online sites have you used?
- Which supermarket have you been using? Why? Have you ordered from any online supermarkets? Which ones?
- How often have you been cleaning your hands? What do you use to clean your hands? How often do you use plastic gloves? What about hand sanitizer?
- What forms of entertainment have you been using? Which streaming service have you been using? What have you been watching?

Article build

Complete this extract from the article with the missing words.

Online retailers have done well during the _____. While Amazon's sales _____ has been impressive for the past decade, the company received a big _____ from the quarantine as consumers could not go to stores to make _____. On March 12, the beginning of the COVID-19 lockdown, the company's _____ price closed at \$1,676.61. By the end of June, it was nearly \$1,000 _____.

Chicago-based Terraboost Media is an advertising _____. It has built a network of more than 72,000 hand-sanitizing billboards that _____ a dose of sanitizer below its advertisers' messages to consumers entering major supermarket chains, grocery stores and pharmacies. During the pandemic, the number of hand-sanitizing _____ in the US has grown to 90,000 nationwide and is expected to approach 150,000 kiosks by the end of the _____. Terraboost has had to dramatically increase its _____ to keep up with demand from its existing _____ and others that are looking for hand-sanitizing _____.

Speaking

Presentation

Imagine you work for one of the companies in the article. Give a summary of how things have been going for you and the company.

Or, choose a type of company or shop (see list below) that has been doing well during the pandemic and imagine that you're the owner of this company. Then, give a short presentation and explain what's been happening during the pandemic and why you've been doing so well. Give a short presentation and then answer any questions. Think about the following: *what changes you have made, why have things been going so well, what the future might hold, what other changes you might have to make...*

Try to use some of these words: *profit, cashflow, turnover, revenue, budget, sales, customers, clients, contracts, marketing, advertising, communication...*

Shops & businesses to choose from

A pharmaceutical company, a food producer, a supermarket, a law firm, a building firm, an electronics shop, a farm, an advertising company...

How many of these popular lockdown items have YOU bought?

Source: www.dailymail.co.uk

Britain may now technically find itself in a recession but households have still splashed the cash during lockdown. Purchases include a wide range of objects, from garden features such as pizza ovens to products to entertain the family and annoy the neighbours such as karaoke machines.

While the shutters came down on shops in mid-March and Britons were forced to stay indoors unless under certain circumstances, many households took to online shopping to spend money instead. Some of the buys were practical with e-retailers seeing a large increase in active wear and grooming kits while others were much more unusual. Not only did eBay see a rise in people shopping for Beatles' branded clothing, Argos saw a surge in customers purchasing Play-Doh with it being the number-one toy sold between March and April.

Those lucky enough to have gardens made the most of it during lockdown as temperatures soared to record levels. Hot tubs were widely considered the hottest commodity of lockdown with Argos reporting a sales increase of 242 percent year on year in March to April 2020. *Love the Sales*, an online site that tracks sales from over 1,000 online retailers operating in the UK, added that hot tub sales increased by a massive 646 percent on its site between March to June 2020, when compared to the same time last year.

It said garden furniture sets and outdoor pizza oven sales were also both up by 306 percent while hedge trimmers saw an 82 percent increase year on year. Fire pits were also a popular choice for customers with e-commerce site, Etsy, reporting a 232 percent increase in searches for the garden feature in the last three months compared to the same time the previous year.

Dayna Isom Johnson, Etsy trend expert, said: 'With shoppers spending more time at home than ever, they are turning their attention to their gardens. Fire pits are becoming increasingly popular this summer giving people a reason to stay outside after dark keeping you warm and cosy.' Unable to go to festivals as planned, consumers took to taking the party to their back garden as searches for camping chairs were up 47 percent compared to 2019, and projectors were up by 126 percent on eBay as Britons streamed the best of Glastonbury from their gardens. Patio heaters also increased by 201 percent on Argos while sales of kids' ball games increased by 360 percent, paddling pools by 192 percent and water guns by 273 percent.

A large number of people planned to get fit during lockdown with active wear and fitness gear seeing huge leaps in interest this year as Britons decided to make the most of their allocated hour of exercise. Sales of fitness equipment increased by 132 percent at Argos during March and April this year, compared to last, with the Opti Basic exercise mat named as the number one selling fitness product.



Article memory

Choose the name of a product for each percentage increase in sales.

1. 646 percent = hedge trimmer / hot tub
2. 306 percent = pizza oven / fitness equipment
3. 82 percent = hedge trimmer / water guns
4. 47 percent = projectors / camping chairs
5. 126 percent = projectors / camping chairs
6. 201 percent = water guns / patio heaters
7. 360 percent = kids' ball games / pizza ovens
8. 192 percent = paddling pool / camping chairs
9. 273 percent = pizza oven / water guns
10. 132 percent = patio heaters / fitness equipment

Speaking

Presentation

Choose one of the popular lockdown items and create a mini sales presentation for it. Describe the product, explain how it works, explain some of its features, but most importantly say why it's important or necessary to have one, and go over its principal benefits. When you're ready, deliver your sales presentation. When everyone has finished, each person chooses one item (not their own) that they'd like to buy. Then, you can see which one is the most popular, and the winner. Top tips: give your product a name; ask the audience questions to get them to say "yes": *Do you want to relax after work?*, etc.

Products to choose from: *hot tub, garden furniture, pizza oven, hedge trimmer, fire pit, camping chair, projector, patio heater, kids' ball games, paddling pool, water gun, exercise, gym mat, grooming kit, hair clippers, skincare, facial masks, hair treatments, self-tanning products, blonde wigs, adult costumes, loungewear, karaoke machines, microphones, Beatles menswear, tambourine, ukulele, board games, Play-Doh, Playstation 4, Xbox One, flat-screen TV, bread maker, electric fireplace*

Answers

1. hot tubs;
2. Garden furniture sets and outdoor pizza oven;
3. Hedge trimmers;
4. Camping chairs;
5. Projectors;
6. Patio heaters;
7. kids' ball games;
8. Paddling pools;
9. Water guns;
10. Fitness equipment

Social media revenge as pizza delivery guy is 'belittled' at car business

Source: CNN news

The situation began Saturday, when Palace Pizza delivery guy Jarrid Tansey delivered \$42 worth of pizzas and drinks to a Westport car dealership. He was paid \$50 in two \$20s and two \$5s, said Palace Pizza manager Adam Willoughby.

When he returned from the delivery, someone from the car dealership called Willoughby, asking for the driver to return with change – roughly \$7 and some coins.



The video begins when Tansey returns to the dealership with the money. Upon handing over the change to a man seated behind a desk, Tansey can be heard saying, "It just doesn't make sense why you'd hand me a bill that you were just gonna have me drive back here to give you back anyway."

The man says to Tansey, "I gave you everything they gave me so we would get the correct change." The two go back and forth a few more times, neither giving up his position. "I'm not mad, I just had to waste my resources coming back here," Tansey says as he starts to leave. The man says to Tansey, "The manager apologized once for you, do you want him to apologize again for you?" To which Tansey responds, "You got your \$7 back, so the world is right now."

One female employee follows Tansey out of the office, saying to him, "Get out the door before I put my foot in your ass," which prompts her co-workers to erupt in laughter. That woman's employment has since been terminated, according to Batista's statement. One of those involved was not an employee, he said. The video ends after another man, also using expletives, instructs his colleague to get Tansey's "owner and manager" on the phone. "I want him fired," he says.

Amanda Rogers, a former waitress, was so moved after seeing Tansey's video on LiveLeak, she called the pizza shop to find out the driver's name so she could send him a check. "For them to call him back over money he should've (should have) received anyway," Rogers said, "I decided to take it one step further." "Why not get the kid more than he deserves?" she said.

Rogers set up the fundraising page for Tansey. It's entitled "Get Jarrid his tip money!" Many left donations in \$7 increments, the amount Tansey drove back to return to the dealership. One commenter wrote, "You are a good example of someone treating people the way you want to be treated." Rogers, who was a stranger to Tansey and his wife before this all started, said she hopes the response would prove that, "people are actually nice out there." At the time of writing, the fundraising page for the driver had topped \$11,000.

Warmer

Have you ever had a problem not getting the right change? Have you ever been given too little change? What did you do? Has the opposite ever happened – you were given too much change? Where were you? What happened? What did you do or say? What happened in the end?

Have you ever seen someone being rude or nasty to another person – especially someone in a lower, weaker position? Where was it? What happened? What did you do? *On a train, at a restaurant, in a hotel, at work, in the street...*

What's happening in the picture? What's the man doing, saying or thinking? What's the woman doing, saying or thinking?

I don't think I would do anything
I think I would do nothing

Article build

Complete this extract from the article with the missing words.

One female employee _____ Tansey out of the office, saying to him, "Get out the door before I _____ my foot in your ass," which prompts her co-workers to _____ in laughter. That woman's employment has since been _____, according to Batista's statement. One of those _____ was not an employee, he said. The video _____ after another man, also using expletives, _____ his colleague to get Tansey's "owner and manager" on the phone. "I want him _____," he says. Amanda Rogers, a former waitress, was so _____ after seeing Tansey's video on LiveLeak, she called the pizza shop to _____ out the driver's name so she could _____ him a check. "For them to call him back over money he should've _____ anyway," Rogers said, "I _____ to take it one step further." "Why not get the kid more than he _____?" she said.

Follows, put, erupt, terminated, involved, ends, instructs, fired, moved, find, send, received, decided, deserves

Speaking

Role play

Student A (or several students) work in the office. Student B (or several students) work for the pizza company. Explain your side of the story and then answer any questions.

Watch a CNN video report on the pizza delivery guy incident, then explain what happened.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Y2d2HLdBF88>

“Tyre” revenge – the tables are turned on fly-tipper who dumped 400 tyres in countryside!

Source: www.dailymail.co.uk

A landowner has shared hilarious footage as he gets his revenge on an alleged fly tipper who supposedly dropped more than 400 tyres on his land.

The unnamed landowner filmed himself using a dump truck to take the rubbish, which had been left on his land in Haydock (Liverpool) back to the culprit.

A man called Gary Rothwell posted videos on Facebook on August 13 showing the moment the truck deposits the tyres in the alleged fly tipper's garden.



In the first clip he films himself talking to the camera standing in front of the mound of tyres on his land. He said: 'We have come to my land at Haydock and somebody has put these tyres here overnight. Luckily, we found out who it was, so we are going to take them back to the person who put them here.'

A second video shows a truck full of tyres reversing back into a **driveway**, before depositing them on the unsuspecting homeowner's **lawn**. As the tyres begin to fall Gary can be heard saying: 'Fantastic!' At least eight men at the scene throw the tyres into a **garden** and Gary shouts: 'I got to about 421 tyres, but there might be a bit more.'

A photo then shows the house's front garden completely covered in the rubber. The landowner takes another video of himself saying: 'Done now, given them back, so thank you.' Gary Rothwell posted the scene on Facebook and it has delighted social media users.

Several people seemed to support the move. Naomi Shaw wrote: 'I have lost count of the number of days I wake up and find some low life has fly tipped on our land! Good on you for finding the culprit.' The penalty for fly tipping can be a fine of up to £50,000 and up to 12 months imprisonment if convicted in a Magistrates' Court.

Warmer – rubbish and litter

Have you ever seen anyone throwing away rubbish or littering an area? Did you say anything? What happened?

Have you ever seen litter and wanted to report it? Where? When? What happened?

What could be done to reduce the amount of litter? What penalties or fines should there be?

A rubbish truck / a bin

Corrugated cardboard

Fly-tipping

Article build

Complete this extract from the article with the missing **prepositions**.

A man called Gary Rothwell posted videos _____ Facebook _____ August 13 showing the moment the truck deposits the tyres _____ the alleged fly tipper's garden. _____ the first clip he films himself talking _____ the camera standing in front _____ the mound of tyres _____ his land. He said: 'We have come to my land _____ Haydock and somebody has put these tyres here overnight. 'Luckily, we found _____ who it was, so we are going to take them _____ to the person who put them here.'

A second video shows a truck full of tyres reversing _____ into a driveway, before depositing them _____ the unsuspecting homeowner's lawn. As the tyres begin to fall Gary can be heard saying: 'Fantastic!' At least eight men _____ the scene throw the tyres _____ a garden and Gary shouts: 'I got to about 421 tyres, but there might be a bit more.' A photo then shows the house's front garden completely covered _____ the rubber. The landowner takes another video _____ himself saying: 'Done now, given them _____, so thank you.' Gary Rothwell posted the scene _____ Facebook and it has delighted social media users.

Speaking

Role play

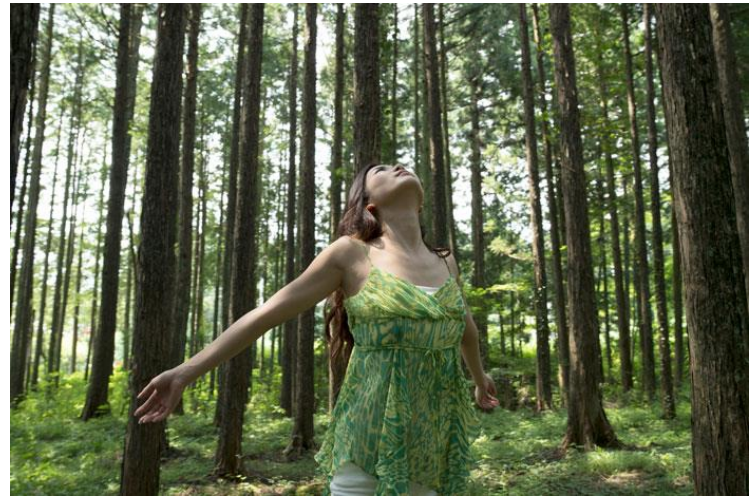
Student A (or several students) is the fly-tipper, Student B is the landowner, and Student C is a journalist.

You're going to talk about this from your point of view, and explain what happened and why. You can also ask or answer any questions about the incident.

5 Benefits of Forest Bathing!

Source: www.mamanatural.com

Looking for a way to unwind? How about experiencing the sights, sounds and feel of the forest, soaking it all in for its therapeutic value? This practice originated in Japan in the late 1980's and was coined by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries as "Shinrin-yoku," which roughly translates as "forest bathing." Here are some benefits.



1. Creating Natural Killer Cells

Natural killer, or NK, cells seek out and destroy cancer cells and bacterial infections in the body.

They're also smart enough to target a viral infection inside of one of your cells, without destroying the entire cell.

One Japanese study demonstrated that after a three-day camping trip in the forest, participants averaged a 50 percent increase in NK cell activity. However, not only does forest bathing enhance NK cell activity, but it also increases their number, and for a significant length of time: the positive effects lasted for more than a week after the forest excursion.

2. Decreased Risk of Heart Attack

Multiple forest bathing studies have demonstrated its ability to significantly reduce blood pressure, stress levels and pulse rate. A trip through the woods will also increase your body's adiponectin levels. These have an anti-inflammatory effect on blood vessel cells and have been shown to decrease the risk of heart attack.

3. More Energy and Better Sleep

Many of us notice the revitalized feeling we get from taking a deep breath in a natural location. It's not just your imagination – forest bathing has been shown to increase vigour and fight fatigue. At the same time, it triggers hormones and processes in our body that improve sleep. It's also been shown to reduce dopamine and cortisol levels, meaning it reduces stress and calms the body and mind.

4. Mood-Boosting Effects

A small study of 19 men showed that anxiety, depression and confusion levels were improved after a forest bathing trip. They compared the forest walking group to one walking through an urban area. Even though both groups had the health benefits of exercise, the forest bathing group clearly won out. This is just one example of the many studies showing the mood boosting effects of forest bathing.

5. Decreased Inflammation

Forest air is noticeably fresher than city air, or even other nature environments, since the trees are busy converting CO₂ into fresh oxygen for our lungs. Not only is the air fresher, but the compounds naturally released by the trees decrease inflammation. The D-limonene found in some forest air reduces lung inflammation. Those with breathing problems like asthma have shown improvement after forest bathing as oxygen is increased and inflammation is lessened.

Warmer

What do you do when you want to feel good?

What do you do when you need to de-stress?

What type of contact do you have with nature? How does it make you feel?

What are your top tips for feeling fit and healthy?

Article build

Complete the extract with the correct words.

Natural killer, or NK, cells seek out and _____ cancer cells and bacterial infections in the body. They're also smart enough to _____ a viral infection inside of one of your cells, without destroying the entire cell. One Japanese study _____ that after a three-day camping trip in the forest, participants averaged a 50 percent _____ in NK cell activity. However, not only does forest bathing _____ NK cell activity, but it also increases their number, and for a significant length of time: the positive effects _____ for more than a week after the forest excursion.

Multiple forest bathing studies have demonstrated its ability to significantly _____ blood pressure, stress levels and pulse rate. A trip through the woods will also _____ your body's adiponectin levels. These have an anti-inflammatory effect on blood vessel cells and have been shown to _____ the risk of heart attack.

Many of us notice the revitalized feeling we get from _____ a deep breath in a natural location. It's not just your imagination – forest bathing has been shown to increase vigour and _____ fatigue. At the same time, it _____ hormones and processes in our body that improve sleep. It's also been _____ to reduce dopamine and cortisol levels, meaning it reduces stress and calms the body and mind.

Speaking

Role play

Student A (or several students) is a government spokesperson giving this information to the press. Student B (or several students) is a journalist who listens then asks questions.

Quick debating language

- It's clear that...
- It's obvious that...
- I firmly believe...
- I think... because...
- In my opinion...
- It's been proved that..
- It's been shown that...
- There's some evidence to suggest that...
- There's no doubt in my mind that...
- A lot of people claim that...
- Some people claim that...
- It's clear that...
- Without a doubt,...
- It's a hoax / It's fake news

Coronavirus: Spanish regions ban smoking over Covid-19 risk

Source: www.bbc.com

The Spanish region of Galicia has effectively banned smoking in public places over concerns it increases the risk of Covid-19 transmission. It issued a blanket ban on smoking in the street and in public places, such as restaurants and bars, if social distancing is not possible. The north-western region is the first to introduce such a measure, but the Canary Islands followed suit shortly after.

The move is supported by health ministry research, published recently, that outlined the link between smoking and the increased spread of coronavirus. It said the risk was heightened because people **project** droplets - and potentially Covid-19 - when they exhale smoke. It also said smokers risked infection in other ways, such as by touching their cigarette before bringing it to their mouth and by handling face masks when taking them on and off.



The research also pointed to the wider negative health effects of smoking. "It has been proven that tobacco use, in any of its forms, worsens the course of respiratory diseases," it said. "Current evidence indicates that smoking is associated with a higher risk of developing a severe form of symptoms," it added. "Smoking with no limits... with people close by and without any social distancing poses a high risk of infection," regional President Alberto Núñez Feijóo told the news conference. "We know that this is an unpopular measure for smokers," added Alberto Fernández Villar, a member of the clinical committee advising government, according to the El País newspaper. "But I believe we are in an exceptional situation."

On Thursday, the Canary Islands announced a similar measure and banned smoking outdoors where social distancing cannot be **guaranteed**. It came into force on Friday alongside another order that makes face masks mandatory in public spaces. Officials in areas including Madrid, Andalusia and Valencia also implemented smoking restrictions of their own. Similar measures have been imposed elsewhere, such as in South Africa where the sale of tobacco was banned at the end of March. It justified the ban on health grounds **based** on advice from its own medical experts as well as from the World Health Organization (WHO).

And in the UK, a survey showed that more than one million people had given up smoking since the Covid-19 pandemic hit. UK government advice says smokers may be at risk of more severe Covid-19 symptoms. Doctors say smokers are more likely to get **respiratory** infections and are more likely to develop complications such as pneumonia at a later stage.

Warmer

What's your opinion of smoking bans in general? What do you think of taking the ban further and stopping smoking in outdoor areas too?

Word formation

Write the correct forms of the words in brackets.

The Spanish region of Galicia has effectively _____ (**to ban**) smoking in public places over concerns it increases the risk of Covid-19 _____ (**to transmit**). It issued a blanket ban on _____ (**a smoker**) in the street and in public places, such as restaurants and bars, if social _____ (**distance**) is not possible. The north-western region is the first to _____ (**an introduction**) such a measure, but the Canary Islands has since followed suit. The move is supported by health ministry research, _____ (**a publication**) recently, that outlined the link between smoking and the _____ (**to increase**) spread of coronavirus. It said the _____ (**risky**) was heightened because people _____ (**projection**) droplets - and potentially Covid-19 - when they exhale smoke. It also said smokers risked infection in other ways, such as by _____ (**to touch**) their cigarette before bringing it to their mouth and by _____ (**to handle**) face masks when taking them on and off. The _____ (**a researcher**) also pointed to the wider negative _____ (**healthy**) effects of smoking. "It has been proven that tobacco use, in any of its forms, _____ (**worst**) the course of respiratory diseases," it said. "Current evidence indicates that smoking is _____ (**association**) with a higher risk of developing a severe form of symptoms," it added.

Banned, transmission, smoking, distancing, introduce, published, increased, risk, touching, handling, research, health, worsens, associated

Speaking

Debate

Group 1 = you're in favour of extending the smoking ban to outdoor areas.

Group 2 = you're against extending the smoking ban to outdoor areas.

After being assigned your role in the debate, think of arguments to defend your position. Then, when you're ready, explain your arguments. After that, listen to the other arguments. Finally, ask questions, or challenge the other viewpoints.

Quick debating language

- It's clear that...
- It's obvious that...
- I firmly believe...
- I think... because...
- In my opinion...
- It's been proved that..
- It's been shown that...
- There's some evidence to suggest that...
- There's no doubt in my mind that...
- A lot of people claim that...
- Some people claim that...
- It's clear that...
- Without a doubt,...
- It's a hoax / It's fake news

Turkey turns iconic Istanbul museum into mosque

Source: BBC news

The world-famous Hagia Sophia museum in Istanbul – originally founded as a cathedral – has been turned back into a mosque. Turkey's President Erdogan announced the decision after a court annulled the site's museum status.

Built 1,500 years ago as an Orthodox Christian cathedral, Hagia Sophia was converted into a mosque after the Ottoman conquest in 1453. In 1934 it became a museum and is now a UNESCO World Heritage site. Islamists in Turkey long called for it to be converted to a mosque, but secular opposition members opposed the move.



Defending the decision, President Erdogan stressed that the country had exercised its sovereign right in converting it back to a mosque. "Like all our mosques, the doors of Hagia Sophia will be wide open to locals and foreigners, Muslims and non-Muslims," he added. Turkish officials also say Christian emblems, including mosaics of the Virgin Mary on the golden dome, will not be removed.

Making changes at Hagia Sophia is profoundly symbolic. Kemal Ataturk, the founder of modern Turkey, decreed that it should be a museum. President Erdogan is now taking one more step to dismantle Ataturk's secular legacy, and remould Turkey according to his vision. The Turkish leader – who presents himself as a modern-day conqueror – says anyone who doesn't like it is attacking Turkey's sovereignty.

UNESCO has said it "deeply regrets" the decision to turn the museum into a mosque and called on the Turkish authorities to "open a dialogue without delay." The organisation had urged Turkey not to change its status without discussion.

Hagia Sophia's complex history began in the year 537 when Byzantine emperor Justinian built the huge church overlooking the Golden Horn harbour. It remained in Byzantine hands for centuries apart from a brief moment in 1204 when Crusaders raided the city. In 1453, in a devastating blow to the Byzantines, Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II captured Istanbul (formerly known as Constantinople) and the victorious conqueror performed Friday prayers inside Hagia Sophia. The Ottomans soon converted the building into a mosque, adding four minarets to the exterior and covering mosaics with Arabic religious calligraphy. After centuries at the heart of the Muslim Ottoman empire, it was turned into a museum in 1934 in a drive to make Turkey more secular. Today Hagia Sophia is Turkey's most popular tourist site, attracting more than 3.7 million visitors a year.

Complete the text with the correct verbs

Hagia Sophia's complex history **be** _____ in the year 537 when Byzantine emperor Justinian **bu** _____ the huge church overlooking the Golden Horn harbour. It **re** _____ in Byzantine hands for centuries apart from a brief moment in 1204 when Crusaders **ra** _____ the city. In 1453, in a devastating blow to the Byzantines, Ottoman Sultan Mehmed II **ca** _____ Istanbul (formerly known as Constantinople) and the victorious conqueror **per** _____ Friday prayers inside Hagia Sophia. The Ottomans soon **co** _____ the building into a mosque, adding four minarets to the exterior and **co** _____ mosaics with Arabic religious calligraphy. After centuries at the heart of the Muslim Ottoman empire, it was **tu** _____ into a museum in 1934 in a drive to **m** _____ Turkey more secular. Today Hagia Sophia is Turkey's most popular tourist site, **at** _____ more than 3.7 million visitors a year.

Began, built, remained, raided, captured, performed, converted, covering, turned, make, attracting

Doctors to prescribe cycling and country walks in new obesity strategy!

Source: BBC news

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has set out his strategy to tackle obesity on Monday, including a 12-week plan for people to lose weight and GPs prescribing cycling. It comes after Public Health England research found that being overweight or obese puts people at greater risk of serious illness or death from Covid-19.

Ministers estimate that about two-thirds of adults in the UK are above a healthy weight. Mr Johnson has admitted that his own weight was a factor in how badly he suffered from coronavirus. The government estimates that overweight and obesity related conditions are costing the NHS more than £6bn each year.

There were nearly 900,000 obesity related hospital admissions in 2018/19, with obesity a risk factor for chronic diseases including type 2 diabetes, some cancers, liver and respiratory disease. The "Better Health" campaign will aim to reach 35 million people in a bid "to help them lose weight and live healthier lives", the government said. This will be supported by a 12-week plan that people can use to develop healthier eating habits, get more active and lose weight.

In a similar move, doctors are being told to prescribe country walks to boost patients' physical and mental health under new proposals to ease burden on NHS. In a recent speech, Environment Secretary George Eustice said that instead of simply handing out pills, GPs and other health professionals should start issuing 'green prescriptions' telling patients to visit Britain's beauty spots. Under the £4million scheme, doctors will also be able to urge people to do gardening, join cycling and walking groups, take part in outdoor 'green gym' sessions and even help plant trees in their local area.

The plan could also be used to send vulnerable people – such as care home residents – on coach trips to Britain's national parks and areas of outstanding natural beauty. It is hoped that the scheme will boost the country's mental health, help tackle the obesity problem and also help coronavirus sufferers to recover.



Complete the text with the correct forms of the words in brackets.

Prime Minister Boris Johnson has set out his strategy to tackle _____ (**obese**) on Monday, including a 12-week plan for people to lose _____ (**weigh**) and GPs prescribing cycling. It comes after Public Health England _____ (**researcher**) found that being overweight or obese puts people at greater risk of serious _____ (**ill**) or death from Covid-19. Ministers _____ (**estimation**) that about two-thirds of adults in the UK are above a _____ (**health**) weight. Mr Johnson has admitted that his own weight was a _____ (**fact**) in how badly he suffered from coronavirus. The government estimates that overweight and obesity related _____ (**conditional**) are costing the NHS more than £6bn each year. There were nearly 900,000 obesity related hospital _____ (**admit**) in 2018/19, with obesity a _____ (**risky**) factor for chronic diseases including type 2 diabetes, some cancers, liver and _____ (**respiration**) disease. The "Better Health" campaign will aim to reach 35 million people in a bid "to help them lose weight and live _____ (**healthy**) lives", the government said. This will be supported by a 12-week _____ (**planning**) that people can use to develop healthier eating habits, get more _____ (**activity**) and lose weight.

Obesity, weight, research, illness, estimate, healthy, factor, conditions, admissions, risk, respiratory, healthier, plan, active

Useful phrases

Complete the useful expressions with your own ideas, or the ones from the text.

- They have set out their strategy for... / to...
- Research has found that...
- The government estimates that...
- He has admitted that...
- The campaign aims to...
- Doctors are being told to...
- Instead of simply... they should...
- They will also urge people to...
- The plan could also be used to...
- It's hoped that the scheme will...



Transport for London REMOVES Banksy's sneezing rats artwork

Source: Daily Mail

Graffiti artist Banksy's latest work inside a London Underground train carriage has been removed by Transport for London (TfL).

The guerrilla artist, dressed in a high-vis jacket, boiler suit, goggles and face mask, painted a black rat coughing and sneezing green paint across the carriage's window and walls to encourage people to cover their faces in public.

The piece, named 'If you don't mask - you don't get', is encouraging Britons to wear masks to halt the spread of Covid-19

Using the same pressure sprayer used by London Underground staff to disinfect trains, Banksy also tagged the door leading to the driver's cab. He later painted other rats using face masks as parachutes or shooting antibacterial hand gel.

TfL confirmed on Tuesday evening that the work was removed due to a strict anti-graffiti policy, but that it would welcome Banksy to recreate his message 'in a suitable location'. A TfL spokesperson said: 'We appreciate the sentiment of encouraging people to wear face coverings, which the vast majority of customers on our transport network are doing.'

A British Transport Police spokesperson said: 'Banksy's strength of feeling towards the importance of wearing face coverings on public transport mirrors our own. This is why we have hundreds of officers out across the capital every day encouraging passengers to wear their face coverings. 'Regardless, please remember that it is an offence to deface any Tube or train carriage, or other station property.'

Fans have hailed his work, calling it 'powerful' and 'crucial'. However, critics were shocked that he was able to graffiti a train while posing as a Tube worker before walking off and out of the station minutes later. It also appears he was able to graffiti a wall on a platform with nobody noticing.



Article build

Complete this extract from the article with the missing words.

TfL confirmed on Tuesday evening that the work was _____ due to a strict anti-graffiti policy, but that it would welcome Banksy to _____ his message 'in a suitable location'. A TfL spokesperson said: 'We _____ the sentiment of encouraging people to wear face coverings, which the vast majority of customers on our transport network are _____.' A British Transport Police spokesperson said: 'Banksy's strength of feeling towards the importance of _____ face coverings on public transport mirrors our own. This is why we have hundreds of officers out across the capital every day _____ passengers to wear their face coverings. 'Regardless, please _____ that it is an offence to _____ any Tube or train carriage, or other station property.'

Removed, recreate, appreciate, doing, wearing, encouraging, remember, deface

Useful speaking phrases

Complete any 3 of these expressions with your own ideas.

- The work has been removed because...
- He wanted to encourage people to...
- This was aimed at halting...
- Transport police confirmed that...
- Please remember that it is an offence to...
- Fans have called the work...
- However, critics were shocked that...
- He was also able to... without anyone noticing.

#BloggerGate – publicity for a free stay at a hotel!

A British YouTube vlogger has accused a Dublin hotel of bullying her after it refused her request to stay there for free.

Elle Darby, 22, of Bath, Somerset, wrote to Paul Stenson, the owner of the White Moose Café in Dublin. She asked about a “possible collaboration” involving free accommodation for her and her partner, who were planning to visit for an early Valentine's Day weekend.

'I would love to feature you in my Youtube videos, dedicated Instagram stories and posts to bring traffic to your hotel and recommend others to book up in return for free accommodation,' she wrote.

But her note was greeted with disdain by Mr Stenson. He not only poured scorn on the request but he also posted the exchange online - and has now banned bloggers from his hotel. In Mr Stenson's reply, he told her she lacked 'self-respect and dignity.'

'It takes a lot of balls to send an email like that. If I let you stay here in return for a feature in your video, who is going to pay the staff who look after you? Who is going to pay waiters who serve you breakfast? The receptionist who checks you in? Who is going to pay for the light and heat you use during your stay? The laundering of your bed sheets? The water rates? 'Maybe I should tell my staff they will be featured in your video instead of receiving payment for work carried out while you're in residence?'

The Facebook post was greeted with mixed reactions, with some accusing Mr Stenson of bullying. Others accused Ms Darby of being a 'spoiled brat'. Ms Darby claimed Mr Stenson's actions had led to her being targeted by online trolls. 'As a 22-year-old girl, who's running her own business from her home, I don't feel like I did anything wrong,' she said. She added: 'These were all 30 years plus people bullying a 22-year-old girl who is just trying to run her own business and raise awareness of what appeared to be a stunning Dublin hotel.'

In a more recent development, Paul Stenson sent the blogger an INVOICE for €5,289,000 'for all the publicity it's given her'.



Warmer

Have you heard any stories of vloggers/bloggers doing things to get publicity? What famous bloggers are there in your country?

Article build

Complete this extract from the article with the missing prepositions.

In, on, to, for, about, at, up, through, with...

A British YouTube vlogger has accused a Dublin hotel _____ bullying her after it refused her request to stay there _____ free. Elle Darby, 22, of Bath, Somerset, wrote _____ Paul Stenson, the owner _____ the White Moose Café and Charleville Lodge Hotel _____ Dublin. She asked _____ a “possible collaboration” involving free accommodation _____ her and her partner, who were planning to visit _____ an early Valentine's Day weekend. 'I would love to feature you _____ my Youtube videos, dedicated Instagram stories and posts to bring traffic _____ your hotel and recommend others to book _____ in return _____ free accommodation,' she wrote.

Word formation

Write the correct forms of the words in brackets.

- A British YouTube vlogger has accused a Dublin hotel of _____ (bully) her.
- She asked about a “possible _____ (collaborate).
- 'I would love to _____ (recommendation) others to book up in return for free _____ (accommodate).
- He told her she lacked 'self-_____ (respectful) and dignity.'
- 'It takes a lot of balls to send an email like that, if not much _____ (dignified).
- Who is going to pay for the light and _____ (hot) you use during your stay?
- 'Maybe I should tell my staff they will be _____ (featuring) in your video instead of _____ (reception) payment for work carried out while you're in residence?'
- The Facebook post was greeted with mixed _____ (react), with some _____ (accusation) Mr Stenson of bullying.
- Others _____ (accuser) Ms Darby of being a 'spoiled brat'.
- She said she was just trying to run her own business and raise _____ (aware) of what appeared to be a stunning Dublin hotel.'
- In a more recent _____ (develop), Paul Stenson sent the blogger an INVOICE for €5,289,000 'for all the _____ (public) it's given her'.

Speaking

Role play

Student A (or several students) are bloggers who were involved in the incident; Student B (or several students) are hotel owners. Make notes. Then, each side explains what happened using at least 7 of the key words from the article. Then, they can ask each other questions.

Answers: Of, for, to, of, in, about, for, for, in, to, up, for

Could this conspiracy theory kill thousands?

Source: Daily Mail

Disgraced British doctor Andrew Wakefield, who lost his licence for saying the **MMR jab*** caused autism, is at the heart of a movement that says the pandemic is a hoax... and that NO ONE should have a vaccine.

It was, said the disgraced British former doctor, a cynical plot by pharmaceutical giants – aided by governments, scientists and the media – to force the world to be unnecessarily and dangerously vaccinated.

'We have to stand and fight,' the 63-year-old declared. 'As Nelson Mandela said at his trial, there are ideals worth dying for... I don't want to get too dramatic, but it's better to die as a free man than live as a slave. We have to fight to preserve our freedom. If we don't, it'll be stripped from us in a very short space of time.'

But he isn't alone. A poll found nearly a third of British people are either unsure or definitely wouldn't take a vaccine for coronavirus. The survey was conducted for the Centre for Countering Digital Hate, which also found that almost 60 million people in the UK and U.S. subscribe to anti-vaxxer content on social media.

Meanwhile, Health Secretary Matt Hancock says he is meeting Facebook PR chief Sir Nick Clegg this week to increase pressure on the social media giant to crack down on anti-vaccination propaganda that is 'putting lives at risk'. This is aimed at countering the appearance of posts on social media by anti-vaxxers, including one that described vaccines as 'poison'.

In the US, the chief coronavirus expert, Anthony Fauci, has warned that the anti-vaccine movement deserves much of the responsibility for America's abysmal Covid-19 record. In a recent survey in America, 44 per cent of Republican voters and 19 per cent of Democrats said they believed the absurd theory that Microsoft billionaire Bill Gates would use Covid-19 jabs to implant microchips in people to track their movements and collect data to further his own power.

*MMR jab

The MMR vaccine is a vaccine against measles, mumps, and rubella (German measles). The first dose is generally given to children around 9 to 15 months of age, with a second dose at 15 months to 6 years of age, with at least 4 weeks between the doses. [sarampión, paperas, rubeola]



Article build

Complete the text with the correct words (mostly prepositions).

Disgraced British doctor Andrew Wakefield, who lost his licence _____ saying the **MMR jab*** caused autism, is _____ the heart of a movement that says the _____ is a hoax... and that NO ONE should have a _____. It was, said the disgraced British former doctor, a cynical plot _____ pharmaceutical giants – aided by governments, scientists and the _____ – to force the world to be unnecessarily and dangerously _____. 'As Nelson Mandela said _____ his trial, there are ideals worth dying _____ ... I don't want to get too dramatic, but it's better to die _____ a free man than live as a slave. We have to fight to preserve our _____. If we don't, it'll be stripped _____ us in a very short space of _____.' But he isn't alone. A poll found nearly a third _____ British people are either unsure or definitely wouldn't take a vaccine _____ coronavirus. The survey was conducted _____ the Centre for Countering Digital _____, which also found that almost 60 million people _____ the UK and U.S. subscribe to anti-vaxxer content _____ social media.

For, at, pandemic, vaccine, by, media, vaccinated, at, for, as, freedom, from, time, of, for, by, hate, in, on

Stolen art is returned to its rightful owners!

Source: www.euronews.com

A 1911 oil painting of Ivan the Terrible that was believed to have been destroyed during World War II is to be returned to Ukraine after it was found hanging in a Connecticut house.

"Secret Departure of Ivan the Terrible Before the Oprichnina" by Mikhail N. Panin and depicting the famous 16th-century Russian czar went missing from an art museum in Ukraine during World War II.



But it was revealed to have hung for decades in a house in Connecticut, US, where it was passed from seller to seller. They were unaware of its history because it was considered too large to move.

It was discovered in 2017 when homeowners Gabby and David Tracy called a Virginia auction house to sell their art collection because they were downsizing and included the century-old painting in the lot.

Anne Craner, The Potomack Company's European paintings specialist, researched its origins to determine its value and confirmed that it was indeed Mikhail N. Panin's work. Curators of the art museum had included it in a list of works "taken to Germany during the war."

She contacted the FBI's division dedicated to recovering stolen artwork which launched an official procedure. The Ukrainian embassy provided evidence to the court and the painting was handed over to the embassy ahead of its return trip to the eastern European country.

The US embassy in Kiev, the Ukrainian capital, congratulated US and Ukrainian law enforcement agencies for their joint efforts to repatriate the painting. "The FBI is proud to work with our partners to mark this important art repatriation and return the painting to the Ukrainian Embassy. The FBI works to return stolen art and other property to preserve the history and culture of countries around the world," said Timothy M. Dunham, special agent in charge of the Washington Field Office's Criminal Division.

Article build

It was _____ in 2017 when homeowners Gabby and David Tracy called a Virginia auction house to _____ their art collection because they were downsizing and _____ the century-old painting in the lot. Anne Craner, The Potomack Company's European paintings specialist, _____ its origins to determine its value and _____ that it was indeed Mikhail N. Panin's work. Curators of the art museum had included it in a list of works " _____ to Germany during the war.

Discovered, sell, included, researched, confirmed, taken

Useful expressions

Complete these with your own ideas.

- It went missing from...
- It was believed to have...
- They were unaware of...
- It was discovered when...
- They researched its origins to determine...
- It was handed over to...
- They congratulated... for...

Cosmetic surgeons see rise in patients amid pandemic

Source: BBC

A number of cosmetic surgery clinics around the world are reporting a rise in people getting treatment during the coronavirus outbreak as they can hide their treatment behind a mask or work from home.

Despite the virus shutting businesses across the globe, a number of plastic surgery clinics have remained open, adopting stricter measures such as Covid-19 tests and more frequent cleaning.



Clinics in the US, Japan, South Korea and Australia have all seen a rise in patients coming in for treatment including lip fillers, botox, face lifts and nose jobs. Botox buttocks nalgas

"I decided to get procedures done during quarantine because it allowed me to heal at my own pace," Aaron Hernandez, who had lip fillers and buccal (cheek) fat removal in Los Angeles, told the BBC.

"Getting your lips done is not something that all men tend to do, so some people might find it a bit strange. So, I wanted to stay home and recover fully without people knowing what work I had done."

The last time he had the procedure done before quarantine, he said, he had to go out in public for work and his lips were "extremely swollen and bruised".

Rod J Rohrich, a cosmetic surgeon based in Texas, said he was seeing a lot more patients. "Even more than I would say is normal. We could probably operate six days a week if we wanted to. It's pretty amazing," he told the BBC.

He said usually people would have to factor in recovery at home when considering surgery. However, now that many people are working from home, this doesn't need to be considered.

"They can actually recover at home. Also, they can have a mask that they wear when they go outside after a facelift. People want to resume their normal lives and part of that is looking as good as they feel."

Article build

Rod J Rohrich, a cosmetic _____ based in Texas, said he was seeing a lot more _____. "Even more than I would say is _____. We could probably _____ six days a week if we wanted to. It's pretty amazing," he told the BBC. He said usually people would have to _____ in recovery at home when considering _____. However, now that many people are working from _____, this doesn't need to be considered. "They can actually _____ at home. Also, they can have a _____ that they wear when they go outside after a facelift. People want to _____ their normal lives and part of that is looking as good as they feel."

Surgeon, patients, normal, operate, factor, surgery, home, recover, mask, resume

Useful phrases

Complete these with your own ideas.

- They're reporting a rise in...
- They've all seen a rise in...
- Despite... many people are...
- I decided to... because...
- He said he was seeing a lot more...
- Usually people would have to factor in...
- Normally... However, now...

How to stay alive as a doctor!

Source: Daily Mail

A doctor has revealed exactly what she eats in a day to promote healthy ageing, as well as her food rules for good health. Dr Kate Gregorevic, from Melbourne, said she is 'very conscious' that what she eats has a big impact on how her body functions now and in the future. So, she tries to include as many plant-based foods and wholefoods as possible.

'While I do enjoy a little meat or fish for vitamin B12 and iron, vegetables and wholegrains (like oats or brown rice) make up the bulk of my diet,' Dr Gregorevic told the Sydney Morning **Herald**.

Dr Gregorevic said that alongside eating mainly plants, another of her food rules is to avoid ultra-processed foods like biscuits, cakes and many popular breakfast cereals. Here's a typical day for the doctor:

- * 5.30am: Large flat white upon waking.
- * 6:30am: Porridge with oats, chia seeds, pear, raw cacao and pine nuts.
- * 10am: Coffee with two pieces of 90% cocoa chocolate.
- * 12.30pm: Leftover mushroom and brown rice risotto with some kale and half an avocado. An apple with peanut butter.
- * 4pm: A handful of raw nuts.
- * 5.30pm: Roast chicken with lentils, leeks and peas.

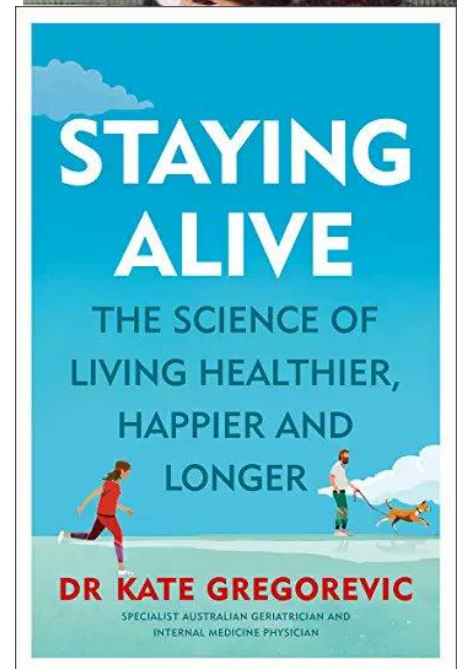
'I never have soft drinks or fruit juice as they're full of empty kilojoules, and they have no effect on satiety and its consumption is so strongly linked with obesity that some countries have introduced a tax on drinks with added sugar,' Dr Gregorevic said.

'There is some evidence that giving ourselves a break for a few hours from eating is another strategy for cellular repair. So, I give myself a 12-hour eating break in a day, which just means not eating again until breakfast after an early dinner,' she explained.

What are Dr Gregorevic's seven tips to age well?

- * Eat more protein as you get older. To maintain or build muscle, older adults actually have a higher protein requirement than younger adults, of approximately 1.2g/kg.
- * Eat plenty of healthy fats each day, particularly omega-3, as these can decrease the risk of heart attack and stroke.
- * Eat the rainbow and as varied a diet as possible, and try to avoid eating the same foods each day as different foods have different micronutrients.
- * Eat plenty of fibre to help create more feelings of fullness.
- * Eat a diet of mainly plant-based foods, but incorporate a little meat in order to get vitamin B12 and iron.
- * Avoid ultra-processed foods.
- * Give your digestive system a break between eating - ideally up to 12 hours.

Staying Alive by Dr Kate Gregorevic is out now, Pan Macmillan, \$34.99.
satiety. (pr: suh·tai·uh·tee



Article build

A doctor has _____ exactly what she eats in a day to _____ healthy ageing, as well as her food rules for good _____. Dr Kate Gregorevic, from Melbourne, said she is 'very _____' that what she eats has a big _____ on how her body functions now and in the _____. So, she tries to _____ as many plant-based foods and _____ foods as possible. 'While I do enjoy a little meat or _____ for vitamin B12 and iron, _____ and wholegrains (like oats or brown rice) _____ up the _____ of my diet,' Dr Gregorevic told the Sydney Morning Herald.

Revealed, promote, health, conscious, impact, future, include, whole, fish, vegetables, make, bulk

Useful expressions

Complete these with your own ideas.

- A doctor has revealed...
- She is very conscious that...
- She tries to include...
- While I do enjoy...
- Another of her food rules is...
- I try to avoid...
- Its consumption is linked with...
- There is some evidence that...
- Give your... a break because...
- _____ makes up the bulk of my diet.

FYRE: The Greatest Party That Never Happened

Source: Newsbeat

Fyre Festival was the most talked about festival experience of 2017, but not because anyone had any fun there. Advertised by famous faces including model Bella Hadid, it was billed as a glamorous party on a deserted island. Tickets cost up to \$100,000 and guests who booked were promised luxury accommodation and "the best in food, art, music and adventure" in the Bahamas.

Instead they turned up to mattresses on rain-soaked floors, meals of cheese slices on bread and their luggage thrown into an unlit car park. Fyre Festival is now the subject of two documentaries, one of which premiered on Netflix. Seth Crossno, a blogger and podcaster, and his three friends spent \$45,000 on tickets, travel and luxury accommodation. But when they turned up, they found it was still practically a building site. "There were still workers, pick-up trucks and 18-wheelers everywhere," he told Radio 1 Newsbeat.

The Netflix documentary, *Fyre: The Greatest Party That Never Happened*, focuses on the disastrous build-up to the event – which was organised by businessman Billy McFarland on the Caribbean island of Great Exuma, in the Bahamas. "The organisers had six to eight weeks to pull off something that should have taken close to a year," says Chris Smith, who directed the documentary. "But what was most surprising to me was going to the Bahamas and seeing the aftermath of what was left behind and the effect on the people there."

Fyre Festival wasn't just a miserable experience for the people who paid to party, it also had a major impact on the local people of the island who helped organisers build the festival. "They had engaged with so much of the local community to try and pull this off. There were hundreds of day labourers working," says Chris. One restaurant owner in the documentary admits she used up over \$50,000 providing the catering for Fyre Festival staff in the build up to the event. "She put in a huge part of her savings," says Chris. "But in the end, when things fell apart everyone just left, and no one paid her a dime."

Following Fyre's collapse, con artist Billy was convicted of fraud and jailed for six years. Rapper Ja Rule was originally described as a co-organiser of the event - but was not arrested or charged in connection with the fraud. His lawyers have argued that McFarland used his name and connections to promote the event. "Six years doesn't seem to fit with what he did and the impact he had on everyone else," says Seth.



Article build

Fyre Festival wasn't just a miserable _____ for the people who paid to party, it also had a **major** _____ on the local people of the island who helped organisers build the festival. "They had engaged with so much of the local _____ to try and pull this off. There were hundreds of day _____ working," says Chris. One restaurant _____ in the documentary admits she used \$50,000 of her life-savings catering for Fyre Festival in the build up to the _____. "She put in a huge part of her _____ to help," says Chris. "In the end, when things fell _____ everyone just left, and no one paid her a dime.

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uZ0KNVU2fV0>

Watch the trailer. Make a note of anything you understand about the party, festival or people involved. "I mean, that's fraud!" / "This is not a music festival." / "Oh, my God!"

Experience, impact, community, labourers, owner, event, savings, apart, deal

Useful expressions for speaking

Complete these with your own ideas.

- Guests were promised...
- They turned up to find...
- They spent _____ on...
- The documentary focuses on...
- What was most surprising was...
- It had a major impact on...
- One person admitted that...
- In the end, when things fell apart, everyone...
- They were left having to deal with...
- They argued that...

Role play

Tell the story from the point of view of the person you are assigned. Use 10 of the words or expressions from the article.

- Billy – the organiser
- Joe – a party goer
- Jessica – a party goer
- Stan – a party promoter who wasn't aware it was a fraud
- Bob – an islander who owns a restaurant



Top Health Benefits of Playing Golf

Let's find out how good the game is for your mind and body! www.travelexperta.com

#1 Relationships

Golf gives you the opportunity to interact with old friends. But talking to fellow golfers is also a great way to foster new relationships. And I'm sure you know all about businessmen and women striking major deals on the turf.

#2 Nature

Most golf courses are at least 200 acres large, which means 200 acres of nature. Studies have shown that regular exposure to green tends to reduce stress and relax the body. Another fact is that exposure to the sun's rays allows a sufficient amount of Vitamin D to enter your body. And this boosts bone health and eliminates the chances of developing depression, cancer and heart disease.

#3 Stress

Golf is a sport that you indulge in around nature, allowing you to walk in an open, natural environment. In such a setting and with such a mood, your body releases endorphins. These compounds are mood enhancers that our brain produces. And they are responsible for relaxing your mind and making you feel happy.

#4 Calories

Playing a single round of golf means covering a distance of anything between 30 and 200 acres. And this is a lot of physical activity. When you don't choose to use a golf cart, you end up walking for at least 7 kilometers. And with your golf clubs on your back, the physical movements burn even more calories – as many as 1,000 calories for each round of golf.

#5 Heart health

Playing golf doesn't only mean physical exercise but heart exercise too. Movements such as swinging, carrying the golf clubs, and walking burn calories. When that happens, it increases the heart rate. This means healthy blood flow in the body. And such activity goes a long way in reducing the chances of developing heart diseases. Playing golf regularly also contributes to decreasing the bad cholesterol in your body.

#6 Vision

Every "10 health benefits of playing golf" list discusses how the game improves vision. Zooming in on the tiny, round white ball requires good vision. Sometimes the ball tends to be quite far away, but you still manage to spot it.

#7 Safety

Golf is a sport that doesn't involve human contact, so the chance of injuries is eliminated. The game demands the use of accuracy, coordination, and strategy more than anything else. And the only physical movements that you have to perform are swinging, pivoting and walking. The best part about golf is that it keeps your muscles engaged while also reducing the risk of developing injuries.

#8 Bladder

Out of the 10 health benefits of playing golf, strengthening the bladder is the most surprising. If you're a regular golfer, then you know how important it is to keep yourself hydrated on the course. And when you're consuming those drinks, your bladder is getting full too. But you can't make frequent visits to the bathroom. So holding it tends to strengthen bladder capacity.

Article build 4 & 5

Playing a single round of golf means _____ a distance of anything between 30 and 200 acres. And this is a lot of physical _____. When you don't choose to use a golf cart, you _____ up walking for at least 7 kilometers. And with your golf clubs on your back, the physical movements _____ even more calories – as many as 1,000 calories for each _____ of golf.

Playing golf doesn't only _____ physical exercise but heart exercise too. _____ such as swinging, carrying the golf clubs, and walking burn calories. When that happens, it increases the heart _____. This means healthy blood _____ in the body. And such activity goes a long way in reducing the chances of _____ heart diseases. Playing golf regularly also contributes to _____ the bad cholesterol in your body.

Covering, activity, end, burn, round, mean, movements, rate, flow, developing, decreasing

Useful sentence structures completion

- Golf gives you the opportunity to... (infinitive)
- Talking to fellow golfers is also great way to... (infinitive)
- Studies have shown that regular exposure to green...
- Exposure to the sun's rays allows...
- This boosts...
- This eliminates the chances of developing...
- Mood enhancers are responsible for... (preposition = verb + *-ing*)
- Playing a single round of golf means covering...
- When playing golf, you end up walking...
- **Such activity goes a long way in**... (preposition = verb + *-ing*)
- **Playing golf regularly also contributes to**... (preposition = verb + *-ing*)
- The game demands the use of...
- The best part about golf is that it keeps your muscles...

US conspiracy theorists attack masks

Source Global Times

Anti-mask sentiment is running high in the US. There have been several examples.

On May 1, an argument broke out at a grocery shop in Manhattan's Chinatown between the owner and two customers. Eventually, police were called, and all parties were arrested. The owner of the store had asked the customers to wear masks in line with the city's recommendation. The stubborn customers declined.



At another shop in Illinois, a customer who didn't want to wear a mask threatened to shoot a staff member. And at various protests around the country, those opposed to the lockdowns have carried rifles and handguns, but not masks. In Oklahoma City, a requirement for wearing masks in public survived only for a few hours before the mandatory measure was turned into a “recommendation” after public resistance.

This bizarre anti-mask movement is being encouraged from the top. President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence have stood side by side with cabinet officials at daily briefings throughout the crisis without masks. Trump visited a mask manufacturing factory recently, and Pence a hospital – neither wearing masks in places where they should have had one.

Some Trump supporters have interpreted this as a signal that no one should be forced to wear a mask. They feel these rules infringe on their civil liberties. There are also boycotts against possible mandatory vaccines; and many conspiracy theorists claim that the whole **pandemic** is a plot to turn humanity into robots – using vaccines of course.

At a public meeting in Palm Beach, Florida, anti-mask members of the public verbally attacked officials. One told the commissioners that they would be "punished by God" if they voted to make it obligatory to wear face masks in public. Another referred to the county commissioners as “communist dictators” who follow “the devil’s laws”. Many felt that the measure would violate the Constitution and threaten freedom by imposing the measure. One speaker threatened to perform a citizen’s arrest on the officials for going “against her freedom of choice.”

Article build

At another shop in Illinois, a _____ who didn't want to wear a mask threatened to _____ a staff member. And at various _____ around the country, those opposed to the _____ have carried rifles and handguns, but not masks. In Oklahoma City, a _____ for wearing masks in _____ survived only for a few hours before the mandatory measure was _____ into a “recommendation” after public resistance.

This bizarre anti-mask movement is being _____ from the top. President Donald Trump and Vice President Mike Pence have _____ side by side with cabinet officials at daily briefings throughout the crisis without _____. Trump visited a mask manufacturing _____ recently, and Pence a hospital – neither wearing a mask in a _____ where they should have had one.

Customer, shoot, protests, lockdowns, requirement, public, turned, resistance, encouraged, stood, masks, factory, place

Useful speaking expressions

Complete them with your own ideas.

- An argument broke out between...
- They declined to comment on...
- The protesters threatened to...
- He politely asked customers to...
- The local government introduced a requirement to...
- The measure was turned into a “recommendation” after...
- Staff are being encouraged to...
- The visitors weren't... in a place where they should have...
- They feel that no one should be forced to...
- They claim that the pandemic is...
- Many felt that the measure would...
- Many felt that the measure should...

Speaking

Debate

Student A (or several students) are against wearing masks. Student B (or several students) are in favour. Put forward your points of view. Then, discuss these and the opposing ones.

Quick debating language

- It's clear that...
- It's obvious that...
- I firmly believe...

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Check out our **blog** for more material: www.learnhotenglish.com/blog

- I think... because...
- In my opinion...
- It's been proved that..
- It's been shown that...
- There's some evidence to suggest that...
- There's no doubt in my mind that...
- A lot of people claim that...
- Some people claim that...
- It's clear that...
- Without a doubt,...
- It's a hoax / It's fake news

Anti-maskers in Florida

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=433b5RJ9BME>

 **Sophie Rapp** @SophieSRapp · 19h

Medical lab tech Katie Corley coughed on two petri dishes, one while wearing a mask, and one without a mask. (From her public FB post.)



The crazy world of tennis star Novak Djokovic

Source: Daily Mail

Lockdown has not been kind to the Serbian tennis world No 1, who has stumbled from PR disaster to disaster.

Djokovic has previously claimed that he holds a friendship with a fig tree in Brazil that he climbs. It was also revealed in the New York Times that he would rise every day before sunrise with his family to take part in tree hugging and singing sessions, as well as group yoga. And he has come out as an anti-vaxxer, saying he would resist any attempts to get vaccinated against the coronavirus. This has thrown Djokovic's reputation as a face for his sport into serious doubt. But it gets worse.

In June 2020, the Serb was roundly condemned for holding an unsanctioned tennis tournament, during which several players, including himself, contracted Covid-19. After completion of the Adria Tour, Djokovic and fellow tennis stars partied in a Belgrade nightclub. Djokovic was also pictured grappling with Grigor Dimitrov during a game of basketball while they were competing in this event, paying minimal attention to social distancing. Both players have now tested positive for Covid-19.

Djokovic has also been criticised for his relationship with wellness guru Chervin Jafarieh. A former real-estate agent, he earned his original fortune through his company Blaqq Diamond. However, Jafarieh has now moved into the world of nutrients through his company Cymbiotika. This "innovative wellness brand" claims to inspire everyday people to reclaim control of their lives by achieving optimal health".

This brand, as well as Jafarieh's world views, have been given plenty of air-time on Djokovic's Instagram page. In rambling, long-winded talks that can last for over an hour, the pair share their own views of the world, taking in beliefs such as how bending your body in certain ways can rid it of toxins, or how using a trampoline can detoxify the body. One of Jafarieh's most animated arguments is for positive thought, and how this can change the molecular structure of water.



Article build

In June 2020, the Serb was roundly _____ for holding an unsanctioned tennis tournament, during which several players, including himself, _____ Covid-19. After completion of the Adria Tour, Djokovic and fellow tennis stars _____ in a Belgrade nightclub. Djokovic was also _____ grappling with Grigor Dimitrov during a game of basketball while they were _____ in this event, paying minimal attention to social _____. Both players have now _____ positive for Covid-19.

Condemned, contracted, partied, pictured, competing, distancing, tested

Useful expressions for speaking

- She claimed that...
- The report revealed that...
- He said he would resist attempts to...
- She was condemned for...
- They were criticised for...
- She earned her fortune...
- The book claims to inspire people to...
- They shared their views on...

The 5G Coronavirus Conspiracy Theory Has Taken a Dark Turn

Source: Wired

Mobile phone masts in the UK are being attacked by arsonists on a daily basis. This is because of a conspiracy theory linking 5G to the spread of coronavirus.



New data seen by WIRED UK reveals that dozens of attacks have taken place. **Conspiracy** theorists target both **infrastructure** and key workers in the belief that they are somehow spreading coronavirus. In one incident, a broadband **engineer** was spat at in the face by an enraged member of the public. The engineer is now ill with suspected coronavirus.

Since 30th March, there have been 77 arson attacks on mobile phone masts across the UK. Staff working on mobile **infrastructure** have also reported 180 incidents of abuse. There have been 13 additional incidents of sabotage reported. These range from failed arson attacks, **to** attempts to damage mobile network **infrastructure**.

The **conspiracy** theory linking 5G to coronavirus has spread rapidly through Facebook and YouTube. It was given further **prominence** when a number of celebrities – including TV star Amanda Holden, Hollywood actor Woody Harrelson, and boxer Amir Khan – shared it on social media. Despite social networks **pledging** to take more concerted action against it, the **conspiracy** theory has continued to spread.

The figures from the mobile phone sector are mirrored by Openreach. This company is responsible for maintaining much of the UK's broadband **infrastructure**. The company has recorded 63 incidents of abuse directed towards its staff while out working since 1st April. **Conspiracy** theorists often film such encounters while shouting and swearing at terrified key workers. Footage of these confrontations is then shared on social media. In the last two weeks of April, Openreach recorded 20 incidents of this nature.

Warmer

Conspiracy theories

- President John F Kennedy
- The first man on the moon
- 9-11
- Princess Diana's death
- Roswell aliens

Lee Harvey Oswald / It was staged

Kevin Costner The Irishman

ARTICLE BUILD

The figures from the mobile phone sector are _____ by Openreach. This company is _____ for maintaining much of the UK's broadband _____. The company has recorded 63 _____ of abuse directed towards its _____ while out working since 1st April. Conspiracy theorists often film such _____ while shouting and _____ at terrified key workers. Footage of these confrontations is then _____ on social media. In the last two weeks of April, Openreach recorded 20 incidents of this _____.

Mirrored, responsible, infrastructure, incidents, staff, encounters, swearing, shared, nature

Useful speaking phrases

- There's a **conspiracy** theory about / linking...
- Many attacks have taken place in/at...
- Staff at the company have reported...
- The incidents range from... to... (use nouns, or verbs in the gerund *-ing*: walking)
- Despite efforts to stop this,...
- The company is responsible for... (use nouns, or verbs in the gerund)
- She is responsible for... (use nouns, or verbs in the gerund)
- They have recorded a number of incidents involving...
- They were shouting at...
- They shared... on social media

Quick debating language

- Personally, I think...
- It's clear that...
- It's obvious that...
- I firmly believe...
- I think... because...
- In my opinion...
- It's been proved that..
- It's been shown that...
- There's some evidence to suggest that...
- There's no doubt in my mind that...
- A lot of people claim that...
- Some people claim that...
- Without a doubt,...
- It's a hoax / It's fake news

Air passengers urged not to carry hand baggage

Source: BBC news

Britain's airline travellers have been given instructions to minimise the risks of spreading coronavirus – and urged to take cabin baggage.

The Department for Transport (DfT) recommends passengers check in all baggage, saying: “This will speed boarding and disembarking and minimise the risk of transmission.” The intention is to reduce the amount of standing and waiting in the airport.



not

up

The smallest 15kg checked-in bag on easyJet for the first domestic flight, from Gatwick to Glasgow, costs £25.49. The new DfT rules say passengers should check-in online to avoid face-to-face contact at the airport.

The guidance also says: “Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds after using self-service check-in, luggage trolleys and other frequently touched surfaces.” Travellers should not be seen off or met at airports, unless they need assistance.

On board the aircraft, the DfT says passengers should:

- Remain seated as much as possible
- Follow instructions and guidance from crew
- Use contactless payment where possible
- Be aware there is likely to be a reduced food and drink service
- Make the cabin crew aware if you become ill

On arrival, passengers are told: “Leave the airport as quickly as possible.”

The transport secretary, Grant Shapps, said: “We are taking the necessary steps to ensure a framework is in place for the aviation industry to bounce back when it is safe for restrictions on travel to be lifted.”

Warmer

What hand luggage do you take with you on flights? What do you do during the flight? What devices do you take with you on flights? How do you pass the time on flights?

Article build

Complete this extract from the article with the missing words.

Britain's airline travellers have been given _____ to minimise the risks of spreading coronavirus – and urged not to take cabin _____. The Department for Transport (DfT) recommends _____ check in all baggage, saying: “This will speed up _____ and disembarking and minimise the risk of _____.” The intention is to reduce the amount of _____ and waiting in the airport.

Useful speaking phrases

Complete any 3 of these expressions with your own ideas.

- They've been given instructions to...
- They're urged not to...
- They recommend that passengers...
- The intention is to reduce...
- They should follow instructions on...
- They should be aware that...
- There is likely to be...
- We're taking the necessary steps to...
- We must ensure that...

Speaking

Role play

Student A (or several students) is a government spokesperson giving this information to the press. Student B (or several students) is a journalist who listens then asks questions.

Exercise prevents 26,600 early deaths in the UK every YEAR... and almost four million around the world, new study shows

Source: Daily Mail

Getting plenty of exercise prevents 26,600 early deaths in the UK every year – and almost four million around the world, a study shows.

Researchers at Cambridge and Edinburgh universities calculated the figures after deciding that too much focus is given to the negative health consequences of modern sedentary lifestyles. Instead of repeatedly telling people they will die if they sit on the sofa, health leaders should celebrate the benefits of getting active, they say.



Health experts often frame the debate in terms of the number of early deaths due to lack of physical activity – estimating that 3.2 million die prematurely each year.

Now there is a growing emphasis on health leaders to praise exercise benefits, rather than simply issuing warnings regarding the detriment effects of not getting out and about.

Dr Tessa Strain, of the Cambridge MRC Epidemiology Unit, said: ‘We’re used to looking at the downsides of not getting enough activity – whether that’s sports or a gym or just a brisk walk at lunchtime. But by focusing on the number of lives saved, we can tell a good news story of what is already being achieved.’ She added: ‘We hope our findings will encourage governments and local authorities to protect and maintain services in challenging economic climates.’

SENTENCE BUILDING

Researchers at Cambridge and Edinburgh universities calculated the figures _____ deciding that too much focus is given _____ the negative health consequences _____ modern sedentary lifestyles. Instead _____ repeatedly telling people they will die if they sit _____ the sofa, health leaders should celebrate the benefits _____ getting active, they say.

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Dr Tessa Strain, of the Cambridge MRC Epidemiology Unit, said: ‘We’re used _____ looking at the downsides _____ not getting enough activity – whether that’s sports or a gym or just a brisk walk at lunchtime. But by focusing _____ the number of lives saved, we can tell a good news story of what is already being achieved.’ She added: ‘We hope our findings will encourage governments and local authorities _____ (NOT A PREPOSITION) protect and maintain services _____ challenging economic climates.’

Useful phrases completion

- These days, we should be focussing more on...
- I should be focussing more on...
- Some of the negative consequences of X can lead to Y.
- Instead of doing X, the government should be doing Y.
- Instead of doing X, I should be doing Y.
- The benefits of X are...
- The benefits of doing X are...
- Due to X, we can’t...
- Due to X, the government can’t...
- Due to X, my colleagues can’t...
- These days, there’s a growing emphasis on...
- I’m getting used to...
- At work, I’m getting used to...
- Some of the downsides of doing X are...
- I hope we can encourage people to...
- I’d like to encourage my colleagues to...
- One day, I’d like the government to encourage people to...

Swiss authorities search for the person who left \$191,000 of gold bars on a train

Source: CNN

Swiss police are looking for a forgetful individual who left something rather important on a train: a package full of gold bars, worth more than \$190,000.

The parcel containing the gold bars was found in the carriage of a Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) train travelling from the north-eastern Swiss town of St Gallen to Lucerne, a city in the centre of the country.

Despite "extensive investigations," the owner of the package had not been tracked down, officials said.

After authorities failed to track down the owner of the precious cargo, the gold bars were confiscated by the public prosecutor's office.



Now, authorities have decided to publicise their attempt to find the mysterious owner.

In a bulletin dated June 2, officials said the owner has five years to make a claim for the treasure. A spokesperson for the prosecutor's office said that several inquiries had been made about the gold and were being checked.

ARTICLE BUILD

Swiss police are looking _____ a forgetful individual who left something rather important _____ a train: a package full _____ gold bars, worth more than \$190,000.

The parcel containing the gold bars was found _____ the carriage of a Swiss Federal Railways (SBB) train travelling _____ the north-eastern Swiss town _____ St Gallen _____ Lucerne, a city _____ the centre of the country.

For, on, of, in, of, from, of, to, in

Useful phrases speaking

- The most forgetful person I know is... (give examples)
- I once forgot to...
- I once left... on a (train, bus, plane...)
- Police are trying to track down...
- I once managed to track down...
- I once had difficulty tracking down...
- The government has failed to...
- At work, they once failed to...
- They did a series of press conferences to publicise...

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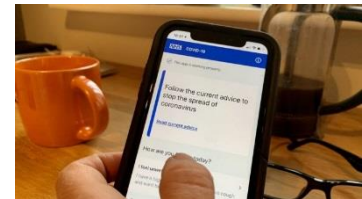
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- The government wants to publicise information about...
- I once made an attempt to
- The government are making an attempt to...
- At working, they're making an attempt to...
- Several inquiries have been made about...
- At work, someone once made an inquiry about...

Ministers consider NHS contact-tracing app rethink

Source: BBC news

The UK's contact-tracing app has run into a number of difficulties involving privacy issues and the effectiveness of Bluetooth.



Contact-tracing apps are designed to prevent a second wave of infections by keeping a log of when two people are in close proximity to each other and for how long.

If one of the users later tests positive for the disease, the records are used to determine how likely it is they have infected the other person. If required, an alert is triggered to help prevent the further spread of the virus. People who are alerted have to go into quarantine for 14 days.

The UK has adopted what is known as a "centralised" approach, meaning that the contact-matching process is carried out on a remote computer server. One benefit is it offers epidemiologists more data. France and India are other countries to have adopted this model.

By contrast, Apple and Google's "decentralised" approach carries out the matches on the handsets themselves. They say this better protects users' privacy. Switzerland, Ireland, Germany, Italy and Latvia are among others to have adopted the tech giants' design.

Health Secretary Matt Hancock had originally said the NHS Covid-19 app was to be launched across England - and possibly other parts of the UK - by 1 June. But he subsequently said the government had decided it would be better to establish a network of human contact tracers first.

However, the BBC has discovered that one of the main reasons the initiative is running behind schedule is that developers are having problems using Bluetooth as a means to estimate distance. Signal strength "can vary substantially" depending on:

- ...how deeply a handset is placed in a bag
- ...whether the signal has to pass through a human body to reach the other phone
- ...if the two people are walking side-by-side or one behind the other
- ...if the devices are indoors rather than outdoors
- ...whether the smartphone is surrounded by metal objects

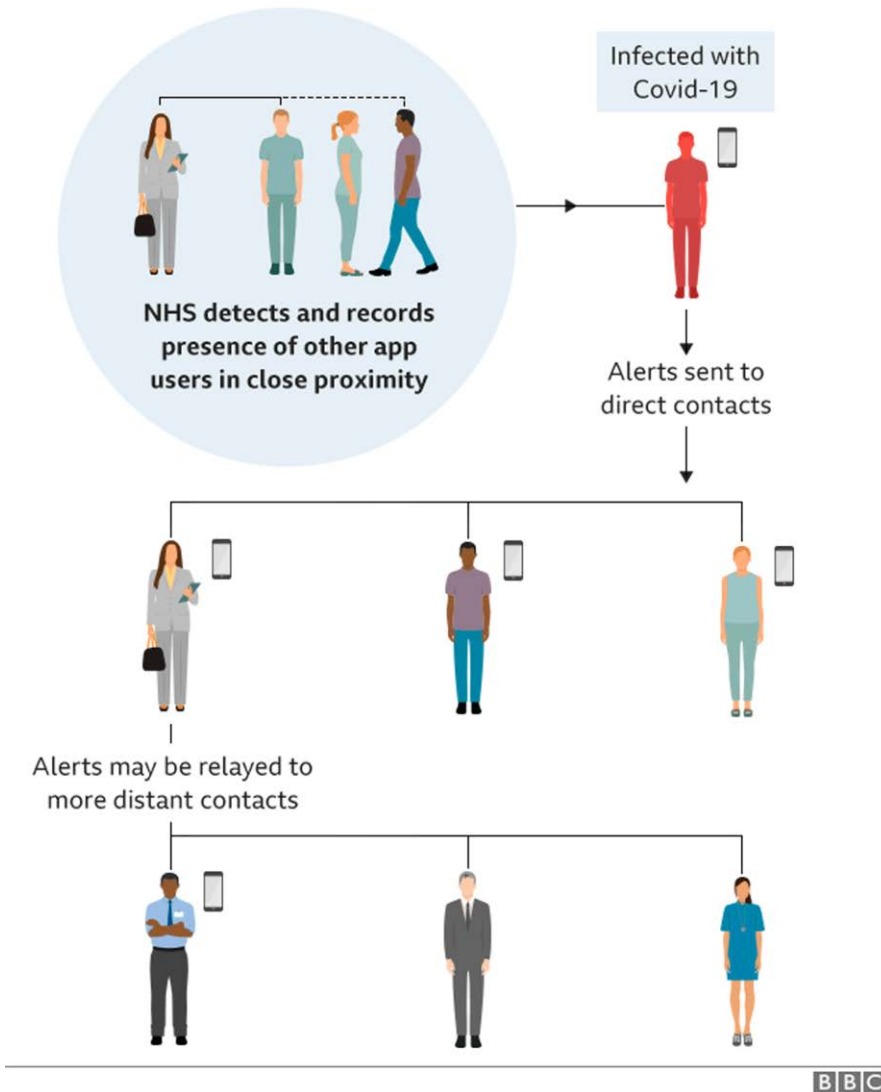
TEXT BUILDING

If one of the users later _____ positive for the disease, the records are used to determine how likely it is they have _____ the other person. If required, an alert is _____ to help prevent the further _____ of the virus. People who are alerted have to go into _____ for 14 days.

The UK has adopted what is known as a "centralised" _____, meaning that the contact-matching process is carried out on a remote computer _____. One benefit is it offers epidemiologists more _____. France and India are other countries to have adopted this _____.

Tests, infected, triggered, spread, quarantine, approach, server, data, model

How app contact tracing works



'Princess Diana's favourite' restaurant will not reopen after lockdown

Source: The Daily Mail

The exclusive restaurant Le Caprice in central London was popular with several A-list stars, including Princess Diana, Elton John and Hollywood star Tom Cruise. However, the restaurant will not be reopening after the coronavirus lockdown is lifted.

Le Caprice is now permanently closed after 38 years in its current location. It is one of several exclusive London restaurants that will not be reopening post-lockdown. The restaurant was initially opened in 1947 by Mario Gallati, a former maitre d' at The Ivy, who ran it until 1975.

In 1981, Chris Corbin and Jeremy King took over the restaurant and restored it to its former glory. It went onto become a haven for the stars, including Mick Jagger and Elizabeth Taylor, as well as royals like Princess Margaret and Princess Alexandra. It was later bought by its current owner, businessman Richard Caring.

Just recently, Caring launched a blistering attack on the government recently. He warned that Boris Johnson's 'weakness and indecision' on reopening restaurants, pubs and cafes will cost more than two million workers their jobs. Caring also said that the Prime Minister was 'killing the country' by failing to outline when hospitality venues could reopen and whether they would have to abide by the two-metre social distancing rule.

He told The Mail on Sunday that thousands of businesses and their employees were surviving thanks only to the Government's taxpayer-funded furlough scheme that pays staff wages, and a pause on rent and business rates tax bills.

However, as soon as state aid measures are withdrawn, Caring warned, as many as '50 or 60% of the four-million-strong hospitality workforce could be laid off; and restaurants, cafes and bars shuttered for good. He said the wave of redundancies would be 'like a volcano' erupting, with the worst of the pain coming when the furlough scheme ends.



Article build

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Recently, attack, warned, weakness, indecision, workers, failing, reopen, distancing

Article build – B

The exclusive restaurant Le Caprice in central London was popular with several A-list stars, _____ Princess Diana, Elton John and Hollywood star Tom Cruise. However, the restaurant will not be _____ after the coronavirus lockdown is _____.

Le Caprice is now permanently _____ after 38 years in its current location. It is one of several exclusive London restaurants that will not be reopening post-lockdown. The restaurant was initially _____ in 1947 by Mario Gallati, a former maitre d' at The Ivy, who _____ it until 1975.

Edward Colston: Bristol slave trader statue thrown into river

A statue of a slave trader was torn down during an anti-racism Black Lives Matter protest in Bristol

Mayor Marvin Rees said he felt no "sense of loss" after the controversial bronze statue of Edward Colston was pulled down and thrown into the harbour protesters on Sunday.

But Prime Minister Boris Johnson described it as a "criminal act". Local police said a decision was taken to intervene.

Mr Johnson's official spokesman said: "The PM's view is that in this country, where there is strong opinion, there is a democratic process which should followed.

"People can campaign for the removal of a statue but what happened yesterday was a criminal act and when the criminal law is broken that is unacceptable and the police will want to hold to account those responsible.

Edward Colston (2nd November 1636 – 11th October 1721) was an English merchant, slave trader, Tory Member of Parliament, and philanthropist. Born in Bristol to a family of merchants that had lived in the city since the 1340s, he became a merchant, initially trading in wine, fruits and cloth, mainly in Spain, Portugal and other European ports.

In 1680, he became heavily involved in the slave trade through his membership of the Royal African Company, which held a monopoly of the British trade in African slaves. He became Deputy Governor, the highest office of the company, in 1689. It is uncertain exactly how much of his wealth stemmed from the slave trade. Colston used his wealth to support schools, hospitals, almshouses and churches in Bristol, London and elsewhere. His name is commemorated by several Bristol landmarks, streets and schools.

"The PM absolutely understands the strength of feeling, but in this country we settle our differences democratically and if people wanted the removal of the statue there are democratic routes which can be followed."



by

not

be

The company that sells 700 million sandwiches a year

Source: BBC News

With everyone except key workers being asked to stay at home from late March, convenience food group Greencore suddenly saw a vast drop in customer numbers.

Supplying own-brand sandwiches to all the major supermarkets, and staff canteens - overnight there was hardly anybody in the UK's offices and other workplaces, to pop out in their lunchbreak and buy a BLT or egg mayo.



As a result, Greencore says its main "food-to-go" division, which usually sells 700 million sandwiches per year, plus salads and sushi, saw sales slump by 70% over the following month and a half.

Patrick, who has led the Dublin-based and London-listed company since 2008 says it has been a "period of unprecedented uncertainty". And in an interview with Irish broadcaster RTE, he said it made previous worries about Brexit "seem very trivial.

In response to coronavirus, Greencore has shut three of its 16 UK facilities and furloughed 4,000 of its 11,500 employees. Patrick and his fellow board members have cut their own pay by 30%.

He says he is proud of the staff that have remained in work, making sandwiches that include the "thousands" given for free to NHS workers across 20 UK hospitals.

"Our people have been working around the clock to ensure that we can continue to provide high quality, fresh prepared food to both consumers and frontline workers during the pandemic."

Of the 20,000 motorists polled for the AA (the Automobile Association – a driver insurance company), half said they would walk more and 40% intended to drive less.

It comes after researchers warned the dramatic improvements in air quality in recent weeks could be quickly reversed as the coronavirus restrictions ease.

Austrian president 'sorry' for breaking lockdown rules

Source: BBC

Austria's President Alexander Van der Bellen has apologised after staying at a restaurant beyond the coronavirus-related closing time of 23:00. He remained at the restaurant in the capital, Vienna, until after midnight.

Mr Van der Bellen, 76, said he had lost track of the time while speaking with friends at the Italian restaurant in the centre of the city. Austria was one of the first countries in Europe to follow Italy in imposing a strict lockdown.

It was also one of the first to begin easing its restrictions. Gatherings of up to 10 people have been allowed since the start of May, and public parks, small shops, DIY stores and garden centres have been open since last month.

"I'm sincerely sorry. It was a mistake," Mr Van der Bellen said. "I went out for the first time since the lockdown with two friends and my wife," he wrote on Twitter. "We then lost track of the time while chatting."

The president was spotted by police on the outside dining area of the restaurant shortly after midnight on Sunday, local media report. But the government's latest rules say restaurants and cafés, which were allowed to reopen last week, must close no later than 23:00.

The restaurant could be fined for a breach, but Mr Van der Bellen said he would "take responsibility" if the owner suffers any losses as result of the incident. "We closed after a last round of drinks on time at 23:00, as required by law," the owner told the Krone newspaper. He said he had thought that customers were allowed to stay on the terrace beyond that time if they wished.

