



Learn English Through Stories.

U Series

U34

**Adapted and modified by
Kulwant Singh Sandhu.**

<https://learn-by-reading.co.uk>

Contents

Vocabulary.

Eleven tests.

1. Complete the collocations in each sentence with an appropriate word from the box.

broadcast bulletin coverage forecast media brochure
campaign edition manual novel

- a). Read the instructionbefore using your new word-processor.
- b). 'David Copperfield' is an autobiographical
- c). What did it say on the weather..... ?
- d). This is a party politicalon behalf of the Democratic Party.
- e). What time is the next news ?
- f). This channel doesn't have very good sports
- g). A first of this book is worth a fortune.
- h). The mass in most countries is dominated by advertising.
- i). When does our new advertisingbegin?
- j). I spent all of yesterday evening looking at this holiday.....

2. Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best completes each collocation or fixed phrase.

After more than fifty years of television, it might seem only too obvious to conclude that it is (1) to stay. There have been many objections to it during this time, of course, and on a variety of grounds. Did it cause eye-strain? Was the screen bombarding us with radioactivity? Did the advertisements contain subliminal (2)..... , persuading us to buy more or vote Republican? Did children turn to violence through watching it, either because so many programmes taught them how to shoot, rob, and kill, or because they had to do something to (3)..... the hours they had spent (4)to the tiny screen? Or did it simply create a vast passive audience, drugged by glamorous serials and inane situation comedies? On the other hand, did it increase anxiety by (5)..... the news and (6)our living rooms with war, famine and political unrest?

- | | | | |
|-------------------|------------|---------------|--------------------|
| 1) A around | B there | C ready | D here |
| 2) A information | B messages | C data | D communications |
| 3) A counteract | B negate | C offset | D compensate |
| 4) A attached | B fixed | C glued | D adhered |
| 5) A scandalising | B hyping | C dramatising | D sensationalising |
| 6) A filling | B loading | C stuffing | D packing |

3. Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best completes each collocation or fixed phrase.

With the advent of so-called 'Reality TV, which puts the emphasis on ordinary people doing ordinary things on TV, the BBC has been much criticised for (1) down its schedules. But it worries me that the biggest victims of this never-ending diet of violent cartoons, immoral dramas and banal docu-soaps is the nation's children. The sheer quantity of TV watched by the under 16's is truly alarming, with the national (2)..... for Britain placed at three and a half hours per day. The programmes that are rubbish easily (3)..... the programmes that are decent and watchable. There will no doubt be howls of (4)..... out there from people who believe that TV is educational. Educational my foot. Fast-moving visual images (5)no useful educational purpose and will be forgotten by the next day. A young family near me has recently taken a (6) against TV and given their set away. Their children now do something truly educational. They read books.

- | | | | |
|------------------|-------------|-------------|---------------|
| 1) A dimming | B dumping | C dumbing | D duncing |
| 2) A medium | B norm | C average | D par |
| 3) A outdistance | B outdo | C outreach | D outnumber |
| 4) A protest | B complaint | C objection | D disapproval |
| 5) A fill | B serve | C make | D form |
| 6) A position | B place | C stand | D stage |

4. Complete each sentence, using one of the words from the box.

**fiction; illiterate; literature; outline; shorthand;
gist; illegible; manuscript; prose; unprintable**

- a). The first chapter is based on fact, but the rest of the book is complete
- b). David was unable to read the postcard because the writing was
- c). I understood the of the article, but I didn't read it in detail.
- d). Brenda's comments were so insulting they were
- e). Bill had decided to study French at university.
- f). I managed to make notes of the speech in
- g). Old Mrs Brown never went to school and is
- h). Some people feel that Davis's is better than his poetry.
- i). Sheila left the of her novel on a train by mistake.
- j). Just tell me the of the story, don't go into too much detail.

5. In most lines of the letters below, there is either a spelling or punctuation error. Correct these mistakes.

Dear Editor,

I am writing to express my dissatisfaction with the pictures, recently published in your newspaper, of the soap actress Kathy Walter, shown sunbathing, topless on a beach in the Mediterranean. Was the approval of Ms Walter sought for this tasteless invasion of her privacy? Of course not. Ms Walter's face appears on TV every day, so she is public property. Well, Ms Walter may be a public figure, but that does not give you the right to photograph her in an embarrassing situation, purely in the interest of your circulation figures. And she still has a right to enjoy private moments with her friends in a quiet location of her choice. The growing phenomenon of newspapers deliberately seeking scandal in order to outdo each other is one that this reader finds both offensive and insulting to one's intelligence.

Yours sincerely,

Geoff Rope

Dear Mr Rope,

With all due respect, your letter is based on some extraordinary assumptions regarding famous people. First of all, we are in the business of selling newspapers, and if we had to ask the permission of the subject of every photograph, no copies would ever make it to the printing press. You should also remember, that Ms Walter's career has benefited enormously from the Press and other media, and indeed she has often used the media to her own advantage. She is one of the most photographed personalities in the country, and can not expect to dictate when and where, she wants media attention and when she does not. In short, we feel that we were fully justified in our decision to publish the photographs concerned.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Hull

Editor

6. Both options make sense. Underline the one which forms a common collocation.

- a). I do like Channel 4's *reporting/coverage* of the big sporting events.
- b). We do not have the book in stock. It is *out of circulation/out of print*.
- c). This report comes from our political *correspondent/journalist*, Edward Ross.
- d). The 'Sunday News' has the highest *circulation/output* of any newspaper in Britain.
- e). They are bringing out Sue's book in a new *edition/publication* soon.
- f). Are books subject to *banning/censorship* in your country?
- g). Through market research the advertising company identified their *intended/target* customer.
- h). They are very concerned with the image that the advert *projects/gives*.
- i). At least 50 members of the *population/public* wrote in to complain about the ad.
- j) He sits there for hour after hour, staring *calmly/blankly* at the screen.

7. Complete each space in the text with a word formed from the word in capitals.

- 1. SPOON 2. HEAD 3. TERRIFY 4. CONTROVERSY 5. ACCEPT**
6. IMPLY 7. INTERPRET 8. INTENTION 9. CONSCIOUS
10. ENCOURAGE

A man takes a single (1) of a substance and puts it in his mouth. Instantly he is transported to another world, a place of surreal visions and swirling colours. He rushes (2) into this parallel universe. What is this (3) compound with the power to induce such a mind-blowing trip? Is it some kind of drug that makes the user hallucinate? No, it's just a humble cereal ad on TV. The Fruity Wheat ad is the latest in a long line of (4) ads whose imagery appears to draw on the effects of mind-altering substances. Colin Rees of the 'Stop TV Advertising' group, said: 'I find this and other such ads totally (5) Take this stuff and you will experience something out of this world – the (6) of the ad seems clear to me. The companies who make them will say that any relation to drugs is just one (7)of the advert, and not one that they (8)..... . When I complained about this ad, I was told that it didn't contain any (9)messages. I thought that was a bit rich — I think the message in it is blatantly obvious! And I don't think we should be giving TV viewers any (10) in that respect.

8. Memory

Complete the second sentence so that it has a similar meaning to the first sentence, using the word given. Do not change the word given.

a). This house makes me think of the place where I grew up. **reminds**

This house the place where I grew up.

b). I used to remember things a lot better. **memory**

Myit was.

c). Please say hello to your mother for me. **remember**

Please to your mother.

d). Edward couldn't remember anything about the crash. **memory**

Edwardthe crash.

e). I'm sorry, but I've forgotten your name. **slipped**

I'm sorry butmy mind.

f). Remind me to put the rubbish out. **forget**

Don'tput the rubbish out.

g). That makes me think of something that happened to me. **brings**

That something that happened to me.

h). I can never remember anything. **forgetful**

I ammy old age.

i). I will never forget seeing Nureyev dance. **unforgettable**

Seeing experience.

j) Brenda is very good at memorising phone numbers. **by**

Brenda is very good at

9. Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence using a metaphor from the box.

heading has an eye for kept everyone on their toes
foot the bill faced the facts shouldered the blame

1. The presidential visit meant no one had time to relax.
2. Rosetta took full responsibility for the failure of the project.
3. I don't think Greg will ever win Rosie's heart; it's time he accepted that.
4. The company had done so well that year that it agreed to pay for a staff night out.
5. I'm glad I'm not in charge of this team.
6. Eva is very good at finding a bargain.

10. In each of these conversations, the second speaker uses an idiom to repeat what the first speaker says.

food for thought get the message put the record straight
know where I stand teach someone a lesson learnt my lesson
a figment of your imagination put it down to experience lost sight of

1. Ben: Well, Luke has finally learnt that he can't expect everyone else to pay for him.

Philip: Yes, I think he's..... .

2. Anne: Well, Sara will certainly learn never to do that again!

Ross: Yes, that should definitely

3. Frances: His suggestions are worth taking seriously, aren't they?

Brad: Yes, they've certainly given us

4. Will: Joe's convinced himself that his neighbours are drug smugglers. He's just crazy!

Nick: Yes, I'm sure the whole thing is

5. Grace: Well, I think we were right to tell her what really happened, don't you?

Steve: Yes, it was important to.....

11. Complete each of these idioms.

1. I want to know.....I..... . One day you say you love me, the next day you say I'm just a friend. It's driving me crazy.

2. He spent £500 of my money. I'll never lend him my credit card again. I've my..... .

3. I don't know all the..... and.....of the situation, but I think one of the directors is going to resign. There must be a big problem.

4. I can understand that she needed help, but.....me is that she should ask someone as stupid as Leon to help her!

Answers

1. Complete the collocations in each sentence with an appropriate word from the box.

- a). Read the instruction **manual** before using your new word-processor.
- b). 'David Copperfield' is an autobiographical **novel**.
- c). What did it say on the weather **forecast**?
- d). This is a party political **broadcast** on behalf of the Democratic Party.
- e). What time is the next news **bulletin**?
- f). This channel doesn't have very good sports **coverage**.
- g). A first **edition** of this book is worth a fortune.
- h). The mass **media** in most countries is dominated by advertising.
- i). When does our new advertising **Campaign** begin?
- j). I spent all of yesterday evening looking at this holiday **brochure**.

2. Read the text and decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best completes each collocation or fixed phrase.

After more than fifty years of television, it might seem only too obvious to conclude that it is **here** to stay. There have been many objections to it during this time, of course, and on a variety of grounds. Did it cause eye-strain? Was the screen bombarding us with radioactivity? Did the advertisements contain subliminal **messages**, persuading us to buy more or vote Republican? Did children turn to violence through watching it, either because so many programmes taught them how to shoot, rob, and kill, or because they had to do something to **counteract** the hours they had spent **glued** to the tiny screen? Or did it simply create a vast passive audience, drugged by glamorous serials and inane situation comedies? On the other hand, did it increase anxiety by **sensationalising** the news and **filling** our living rooms with war, famine and political unrest?

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With the advent of so-called 'Reality TV', which puts the emphasis on ordinary people doing ordinary things on TV, the BBC has been much criticised for **dumbing down** its schedules. But it worries me that the biggest victims of this never-ending diet of violent cartoons, immoral dramas and banal docu-soaps is the nation's children. The sheer quantity of TV watched by the under 16's is truly alarming, with the national **average** for Britain placed at three and a half hours per day. The programmes that are rubbish easily **outnumbered** the programmes that are decent and watchable. There will no doubt be howls of **protest** out there from people who believe that TV is educational. Educational my foot. Fast-moving visual images **serve** no useful educational purpose and will be forgotten by the next day. A young family near me has recently taken a **stand** against TV and given their set away. Their children now do something truly educational. They read books.

4. Complete each sentence, using one of the words from the box.

- a). The first chapter is based on fact, but the rest of the book is complete **fiction**.
- b). David was unable to read the postcard because the writing was **illegible**.
- c). I understood the **gist** of the article, but I didn't read it in detail.
- d). Brenda's comments were so insulting they were **unprintable**.
- e). Bill had decided to study French **literature** at university.
- f). I managed to make notes of the speech in **shorthand**.
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- h). Some people feel that Davis's **prose** is better than his poetry.
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This house **reminds me of** the place where I grew up.

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My **memory is a lot worse than** it was.

c). Please say hello to your mother for me.

Please **remember me** to your mother.

d). Edward couldn't remember anything about the crash.

Edward **had no memory of** the crash.

e). I'm sorry, but I've forgotten your name.

I'm sorry but **your name has slipped** my mind.

f). Remind me to put the rubbish out.

Don't **forget to tell me to** put the rubbish out.

Or: Don't **let me forget to** put the rubbish out

g). That makes me think of something that happened to me.

That **brings to mind** something that happened to me.

h). I can never remember anything.

I am **very forgetful in** my old age.

i). I will never forget seeing Nureyev dance.

Seeing **Nureyev dance was an unforgettable** experience.

j) Brenda is very good at memorising phone numbers.

Brenda is very good at **remembering phone numbers by heart**.

Or: Brenda is very good at **learning phone numbers by heart**.

9. Rewrite the underlined part of each sentence using a metaphor from the box

1. The presidential visit meant **kept everyone on their toes**.
2. Rosetta **shoulder the blame** for the failure of the project.
3. I don't think Greg will ever win Rosie's heart; it's time he **faced the facts**.
4. The company had done so well that year that it agreed to **foot the bill** for a staff night out.
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4. I can understand that she needed help, but **what beats** me is that she should ask someone as stupid as Leon to help her!