



Learn English Through Stories.

U Series

U45

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

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1. Use the word given in capitals below to form a word that fits in the gaps.

USER'S MANUAL

Congratulations on becoming the owner of an Epicview digital camcorder!

The **following** advice is designed to help you get maximum **enjoyment** out of using your camera and viewing the results. You now have the chance to demonstrate your **creativity** to your friends and family. Since most video **productions** are of everyday occasions, it's only your talent which can make them look **extraordinary**.

- Pay attention to the **composition** of your shots. Include only what you want your audience to see.
- Make sure that the background is **attractive**. Watch out for brightly coloured objects or clothing that could be **distracting**.
- Check that the camera is properly focused — it will be done **automatically** because of the self-focus feature, but you will get greater **clarity** if you use the manual controls.

2. 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. You must use between three and six words, including the word given.

1. There has never been such a large rock festival in this country.

This year's rock festival is **on a larger scale** than any other held in this country.

2. They have to do a lot of preparation before they start shooting each scene.

A lot of **preparation goes into each scene before** shooting begins.

3. The film was an adaptation of a novel by Tom Sharpe.

They **based the film on** a novel by Tom Sharpe.

4. Could you take a quick look at my essay before I hand it in?

Would you mind **casting an eye over** my essay before I hand it in?

5. I can't imagine what Rod is planning to buy me for Christmas.

I don't **have the faintest idea** what Rod is planning to buy me for Christmas.

6. How much I earn is a personal matter!

It's **none of your business** how much I earn!

7. Journalists are expected to work until late at night.

Journalists are expected **to put in long** hours.

8. Have Liz and John decided when they are getting married?

Have Liz and John **set a date for their** wedding?

3. Read the text below and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word in each gap.

A FASCINATING LIFE

One of the **most** memorable biographies I have **ever** read describes the life of Cora Jordan, an 18th-century actress. She first appeared **on** stage at the age of 15, and in **no** time had become a household name. Newspaper gossip about her personal life contributed to her meteoric rise to fame, especially when, in 1791, she began a romance with Prince William, who became king **much** later. Their relationship was **to** last more than 20 years, **during** which time Dora bore him 10 children. She continued her career in the theatre, and remained **in** the limelight, like a modern celebrity. Yet, despite her years of devotion to William and their children, not to mention the financial support she **had** given him, he eventually abandoned her under pressure from his royal advisers in **order** to marry a suitably royal bride. Forbidden to see her children, Dora was forced to leave the country, and died alone in France in 1816. It was fascinating to read about an unmarried working mother in **those** days, about her glamorous life and her tragic end, but the aspect I really enjoyed **was** the portrayal of Dora herself. She comes **across** as a real person – talented and famous, but also a loyal and honest woman **who** loved her children. It's a brilliant book, and **would** recommend it to **anyone** who likes reading about the rich and famous.

4. Choose the word or phrase that best completes the sentence.

1. The jury **is to announce** its verdict tomorrow.

2. To my **annoyance**, I found I had to do more paperwork before the permit could be granted.

3. Management **had been discussing** ways to save money for months before the layoffs.

4. "Look at Courtney in this photo!" "Did she **always use to** be so thin?"
5. Julie was so engrossed **in her book** that she didn't hear her sister come in.
6. When the delay was announced, we realized that we **wouldn't have** enough time to catch our next flight.
7. The firm has doubled its profits since it **broadened** its range of products.
8. "What do you think of these books?" "**In many respects**, the two novels are similar."
9. The recruits **resigned themselves to** a month's hard training.
10. What exactly **does this tax change mean** for lower-income families?
11. The producer refused **outright** to discuss any of the actor's demands for more pay.
12. Iron should not be taken in **conjunction** with certain vitamins.
13. She has shown complete **dedication** to her career.
14. Of course, I thought your song was the **highlight** of the show.
15. His negative attitude **came** across in the interview.
16. Ms Fisher has a very **influential** position on the committee.
17. I wonder if my lecturer can **shed** any light on this essay for me?
18. Ed lost credibility when he forgot his employees' names.
19. He's so ambitious that he'll do anything to **further** his career, even at the expense of others.
20. The novel is basically a **tale** of a brilliant artist living in poverty.

5. Read the passage, then select the word or phrase that best fills the blank in both meaning and grammar.

The Jazz Singer (1927) has gone down in history as the first talkie - a film in which the actors' voices were heard. In films made **prior** to that, dialogues and narration appeared as titles for the **audience** to read. However, moviegoers had never watched these **so called** silent movies in silence. From the **very** beginning, various attempts were **made** to add sound, **starting** with an 1895 mechanism which piped music into the ears of those who were looking into a kinetoscope, the first motion-picture viewing device. This was unpopular, however, and the most common way of providing a sound accompaniment was to have actors and musicians behind the **screen**. The most luxurious **venues** provided an orchestral accompaniment while even the smallest cinema **would** employ an individual pianist.

The technology required to put sound directly on film had been **available** since 1900, but executives of most film studios did not want to invest any of **their** profits in reequipping theatres and retraining casts and **crews**. The Warner Bros studio, however, co-founded a company **which** went on to produce the first talking film, Don Juan, in 1926, followed a year **later** by The Jazz Singer. In **no time**, the entire industry was making the transition to sound. This had implications for both the process of film-making and the films **themselves**. Directors could no longer shout instructions **during** filming, and this meant that **rehearsal** became necessary. Cameras now had to be immobile, and actors had to be close to hidden microphones, severely limiting cinematic creativity **until** further technological **innovations** were introduced.

6. Complete each sentence using a word from the box.

1. Try to make a **habit** of noticing good collocations in any text you read.
2. A railway official asked us to move our luggage to make **room** for the boy's bike.
3. The new CEO has made a lot of **enemies** by being so autocratic.
4. If Pauline makes a **success** of this project, she'll probably get promoted.
5. The old gentleman said he was delighted to make mm **acquittance**.
6. Do you think you'll make an **offer** on the flat you viewed yesterday?
7. Every young scientist dreams of making a **discovery** that will change the world.
8. Rachel made no **attempt** to contact me when she was over here last year.
9. We tried to make a **stand** against the new housing development but to no avail: the contractors started work this morning.
10. The **calculations** that you made contained a few inaccuracies.