



Learn English Through Stories.

U Series

U48

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## **Contents**

**Vocabulary.**

**Eleven tests.**

## Driving

1. Put each of the following verbs, in the past tense, in its correct place in the passage below.

accelerate

Fasten

pull up

Sound

adjust

Dip

release

Skid

apply

Indicate

reverse

start up

check

overtake

swerve

turn on

Another hundred miles to go. Dark night. Heavy traffic. He glanced at the dashboard. He was OK for fuel and well within the speed-limit. He (a) .....that he was pulling out, put his foot down, (b) ..... and (c) .....two cars in front. It began to rain. He (d)..... the windscreen wipers and settled back comfortably into the leather upholstery. For a moment he was mesmerised by the rhythmic movement of the wipers. He looked at the road ahead. An oncoming car! He (e)..... his head-lights but was dazzled by the other driver's. He (f) ..... his horn. The other car seemed to be coming straight towards him! He (g) ..... to avoid it. He was confused. He (h)..... his brakes, but (i) .....on the wet surface. He went off the road and collided with a tree. Slowly he (j) .....onto the road again, drove ten metres forward and (k)..... He got out and inspected the car for damage. Some scratches on the bodywork. Dented bumper. He lifted the bonnet and (l) ..... the engine. It appeared to be OK. He got into the car again, (m)..... his seat-belt, (n)..... the mirror and (o)..... the engine nervously. It purred sweetly. Good. He (p).....the hand-brake. The car moved forward. Another hundred miles to go.

## Food

### Ways of Eating

2. Put each of the following verbs into its correct place in the sentences.

chew      lick      polish off      swallow      gnaw  
consume      peck at      gorge      digest      bolt

(a). The children have no appetite. They just..... their food. They hardly eat anything.

(b). My mother always used to say to me. 'Now make sure you .....meat carefully before you..... it.'

(c). Statistics show that we..... more fruit and meat than 10 years ago.

(d). He has an enormous appetite. I've seen him .....four hamburgers and a pile of chips at a sitting.

(e). As children we used to .....ourselves on ice-cream, chips and chocolate, and then feel very sick.

(f). The starving prisoners were so desperate they would .....any meat bones they could find.

(g). It's not good for your body to .....your food so quickly. Eat slowly so that you can .....it properly.

(h). He was so hungry that when he'd finished his food, he began to .....the plate!

3. Some meat is given a different name from the animal it comes from. What animals do the following meats come from?

- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| (a) pork    | (e) veal   |
| (b) beef    | (f) mutton |
| (c) bacon   | (g) ham    |
| (d) venison |            |

## Food preparation

4. Match each verb on the left below with the food item on the right it is most often associated with.

- |              |                 |
|--------------|-----------------|
| (a) to pluck | cheese          |
| (b) to crack | an orange       |
| (c) to grate | a chicken       |
| (d) to knead | a nut           |
| (e) to peel  | a rabbit        |
| (f) to skin  | a joint of meat |
| (g) to slice | dough           |
| (h) to carve | a loaf          |

5. Match each verb on the left below with the food item on the right it is most often associated with.

- |              |                   |
|--------------|-------------------|
| (a) to mince | cream             |
| (b) to shell | meat              |
| (c) to toss  | a hard-boiled egg |
| (d) to whip  | eggs              |
| (e) to stuff | a cake            |
| (f) to mash  | a chicken         |
| (g) to beat  | a pancake         |
| (h) to ice   | potatoes          |

## 6. What do these sentences mean?

1. I carried on studying.

a I started studying.   b I continued studying.   c I put off studying.

2. I nodded off.

a I agreed.   b I felt sick.   c I fell asleep.

3. We were ripped off.

a We were attacked.   b We paid too much.   c Our clothes were torn.

4. I told them off.

a I criticised them.   b I was satisfied with them.   c I told them to go away.

5 .They don't get on.

a They don't like each other much.    b They are lazy.    c They don't know each other.

6. He was showing off.

a He was joking.    b He was trying to impress us.    c He wasn't telling the truth.

**7. Complete each sentence using a verb + on or off.**

1. We can't ..... spending money like this. We'll have nothing left soon.

2. I'm not ready to go home yet. I have a few things to .....

3. 'Shall I stop the car here?' 'No,..... a bit further.'

4. Dan paid too much for the car he bought. I think he was .....

5. Emma is enjoying her course at university. She's..... very well.

6. The fire alarm .....and everybody had to leave the building.

7. Ben was .....by his boss for being late for work repeatedly.

8. The meeting has only just finished. It .....longer than expected.

9. I really like working with my colleagues. We all..... really well together.

10. I .....making the same mistake. It's very frustrating.

11. I've just had a coffee break, and now I must..... with my work.

12. Peter likes people to know how clever he is. He's always.....

13. We decided not to go to the concert. We were .....by the cost of tickets.

14. Jack paused for a moment and then..... with his story.

15. I was so tired at work today. I nearly .....at my desk a couple of times.

**8. Complete the sentences. Use a verb (in the correct form) + on or off. Sometimes you will need other words as well. Choose from:**

carry finish get get go keep rip tell

1. a: How ..... in your new job?

b: Fine, thanks. It's going very well.

2. a: What's Tanya like?

b: She's very nice and easy-going. She .....everybody.

3. a: Is Gary going to retire soon?

b: No, he likes his job and wants to..... working.

4 a: Have you written the letter you had to write?

b: I've started it. I'll .....tomorrow.

5 a: We took a taxi to the airport. It cost £40.

b: £40! Normally it costs about £20. You .....

6 a: Why were you late for work this morning?

b: I overslept. My alarm clock didn't..... .

7 a: Some children at the next table in the restaurant were behaving very badly.

b: Why didn't their parents..... ?

8 a: Is Kate good at making decisions?

b: No, she isn't. .... changing her mind.

9. Complete these dialogues with an idiom from the box.

No way    no such luck    a small world    how time flies  
the more, the merrier    can take it or leave it  
it's six of one and half a dozen of the other    don't make me laugh

1. A: My new neighbour was at school with you!

B: .....

2. A: Is it OK if I bring Jeff to your party?

B: .....

3. A: Do you think Anne or Brian is to blame for their break-up?

B: .....

4. A: Goodness! It's nearly midnight!

B: .....

5. A: Did you manage to get tickets for the concert in the end?

B: .....

6. A: Do you like caviar?

B: .....

7. A: He says he's going to be Prime Minister one day.

B: .....

8. A: Would you agree to do overtime for no extra pay?

B: .....



**10. Complete these sentences with an idiom from the box.**

**That's life!    This is the life!    Get a life!    You haven't lived!**  
**That's the story of my life!**

1. A: I can't come out with you because I've got to wash my hair.

B: .....

2. A: I've never swum in the Mediterranean.

B: .....It really is wonderful!

3. A: Your new girlfriend has dropped you already!

B: .....

4. A: As soon as I moved into my new flat, the roof started leaking.

B: .....

5. A: It's wonderful being here on the river when everyone else is at work!

B: You're right.....

**11. Correct the mistakes in these idioms.**

1. It's a lovely present. Thanks a thousand.

2. You won't find it difficult to learn to ski. There's really nothing to that.

3. It's either here or there which hotel you decide to stay in — they're both excellent.

4. Let's have a really big wedding. The more, the merry.

5. You may say that again! I couldn't agree with you more!

6. He's travelled a lot. You say it, he's been there.

## Answers

**1. Put each of the following verbs, in the past tense, in its correct place in the passage below.**

Another hundred miles to go. Dark night. Heavy traffic. He glanced at the dashboard. He was OK for fuel and well within the speed-limit. He **indicated** that he was pulling out, put his foot down, **accelerated** and **overtook** two cars in front. It began to rain. He **turned** the windscreen wipers and settled back comfortably into the leather upholstery. For a moment he was mesmerised by the rhythmic movement of the wipers. He looked at the road ahead. An oncoming car! He **dipped** his head-lights but was dazzled by the other driver's. He **sounded** his horn. The other car seemed to be coming straight towards him! He **swerved** to avoid it. He was confused. He **applied** his brakes, but **skidded** on the wet surface. He went off the road and collided with a tree. Slowly he **reversed** onto the road again, drove ten metres forward and **pulled up**. He got out and inspected the car for damage. Some scratches on the bodywork. Dented bumper. He lifted the bonnet and **checked** the engine. It appeared to be OK. He got into the car again, **fastened** his seat-belt, **adjusted** the mirror and **started up** the engine nervously. It purred sweetly. Good. He **released** the hand-brake. The car moved forward. Another hundred miles to go.

**2. Put each of the following verbs into its correct place in the sentences.**

**chew**      **lick**      **polish off**      **swallow**      **gnaw**  
**consume**      **peck at**      **gorge**      **digest**      **bolt**

(a). The children have no appetite. They just **peck at** their food. They hardly eat anything.

(b). My mother always used to say to me. 'Now make sure you **chew** meat carefully before you **swallow** it.'

(c). Statistics show that we **consume** more fruit and meat than 10 years ago.

(d). He has an enormous appetite. I've seen him **polish off** four hamburgers and a pile of chips at a sitting.

(e). As children we used to **gorge** ourselves on ice-cream, chips and chocolate, and then feel very sick.

(f). The starving prisoners were so desperate they would **gnaw** any meat bones they could find.

(g). It's not good for your body to **bolt** your food so quickly. Eat slowly so that you can **digest** it properly.

(h). He was so hungry that when he'd finished his food, he began to **lick** the plate!

**3. Some meat is given a different name from the animal it comes from. What animals do the following meats come from?**

(a) The meat of a pig is called pork.      (b). The meat of a cow is called beef.

(c). Bacon is the meat of the pig.      (d). The meat of deer is called venison.

(e). Calf meat is called veal.      (f). Mutton is the meat of sheep or goat.

(g). Ham is the meat of the pig.

**Food preparation**

**4. Match each verb on the left below with the food item on the right it is most often associated with.**

(a). You pluck a chicken before it can be cooked and eaten.

(b). You crack a nut before you eat it.

(c). Banta grated the cheese and made his sandwiches.

(d). Knead the dough until it is very smooth, and then you make the chapattis.

(e). Please peel two oranges for me.

(f). What are you doing, Mum? I am skinning a rabbit.

(g). What are you doing, Dad? I am slicing a loaf of bread.

(h). What are you doing, Mr Butcher? I am carving a joint of meat for my girlfriend Kasai.

**5. Match each verb on the left below with the food item on the right it is most often associated with.**

- (a). What are you doing, Mr Butcher? I am mincing some meat for a customer.
- (b). What are you doing, Mother? I'm shelling the hard-boiled eggs.
- (c). Please toss the pancake.
- (d). Please bring some whip cream from the shop.
- (e). What are you doing, Father? I'm stuffing chicken.
- (f). What is for dinner? Chicken and mashed potatoes.
- (g). Beat eggs before adding sugar.
- (h). It was an excellent match! The third goal was the icing on the cake.

**6. What do these sentences mean?**

- 1. I carried on studying. I continued studying.
- 2. I nodded off. I fell asleep.
- 3. We were ripped off. We paid too much.
- 4. I told them off. I criticised them.
- 5. They don't get on. They don't like each other much.
- 6. He was showing off. He was trying to impress us.

**7. Complete each sentence using a verb + on or off.**

- 1. We can't **go on** spending money like this. We'll have nothing left soon.
- 2. I'm not ready to go home yet. I have a few things to **finish off**.
- 3. 'Shall I stop the car here?' 'No, **go on/drive on/carry on** a bit further.'
- 4. Dan paid too much for the car he bought. I think he was **ripped off**.
- 5. Emma is enjoying her course at university. She's **getting on** very well.
- 6. The fire alarm **went off** and everybody had to leave the building.
- 7. Ben was **told off** by his boss for being late for work repeatedly.
- 8. The meeting has only just finished. It **went on** longer than expected.
- 9. I really like working with my colleagues. We all **get on** really well together.

10. I **keep on** making the same mistake. It's very frustrating.
11. I've just had a coffee break, and now I must **get on / carry on** with my work.
12. Peter likes people to know how clever he is. He's always **showing off**.
13. We decided not to go to the concert. We were **put off** by the cost of tickets.
14. Jack paused for a moment and then **went on / carried on** with his story.
15. I was so tired at work today. I nearly **dozed off / dropped off / nodded off** at my desk a couple of times.

**8. Complete the sentences. Use a verb (in the correct form) + on or off. Sometimes you will need other words as well. Choose from:**

1. a: How **are you getting on** in your new job?  
b: Fine, thanks. It's going very well.
2. a: What's Tanya like?  
b: She's very nice and easy-going. She **gets on with** everybody.
3. a: Is Gary going to retire soon?  
b: No, he likes his job and wants to **carry on / keep on / go on** working.
- 4 a: Have you written the letter you had to write?  
b: I've started it. I'll **finish it off** tomorrow.
- 5 a: We took a taxi to the airport. It cost £40.  
b: £40! Normally it costs about £20. You **were ripped off**.
- 6 a: Why were you late for work this morning?  
b: I overslept. My alarm clock didn't **go off**.
- 7 a: Some children at the next table in the restaurant were behaving very badly.  
b: Why didn't their parents **tell them off**?
- 8 a: Is Kate good at making decisions?  
b: No, she isn't. **She keeps on** changing her mind.

**9. Complete these dialogues with an idiom from the box.**

1. A: My new neighbour was at school with you!

B: **It's a small world.**

2. A: Is it OK if I bring Jeff to your party?

B: No problem. **The more, the merrier.**

3. A: Do you think Anne or Brian is to blame for their break-up?

B: **It's six of one and half a dozen of the other. Or: It takes two to tango.**

4. A: Goodness! It's nearly midnight!

B: **How time flies!**

5. A: Did you manage to get tickets for the concert in the end?

B: **No such luck!**

6. A: Do you like caviar?

B: **I can take it or leave it.**

7. A: He says he's going to be Prime Minister one day.

B: **Don't make me laugh.**

8. A: Would you agree to do overtime for no extra pay?

B: **No way!**

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B: **Get a life!**

2. A: I've never swum in the Mediterranean.

B: **You haven't lived!** It really is wonderful!

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B: **That's the story of my life!**

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B: **That's life!**

5. A: It's wonderful being here on the river when everyone else is at work!

B: You're right. **This is the life!**

**11. Correct the mistakes in these idioms.**

1. It's a lovely present. Thanks a **million**.

2. You won't find it difficult to learn to ski. There's really nothing to **it**.

3. It's **neither** here **nor** there which hotel you decide to stay in — they're both excellent.

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6. He's travelled a lot. You **name** it, he's been there.