

exercises

Dictionary skills: meaning and use



ACTIVITY 6: All the verbs in the box below are to do with "speaking" in some way. In the dictionary, check the particular meaning of each verb and how it is used. For example, what preposition comes after "refer"? Complete each sentence with an appropriate verb from the box (think about meaning and grammar). Then check the correct answers.

argued	chatted	discussed	insisted	objected
boasted	complained	expressed	mentioned	referred

1. In his speech he to the help he had received from his friends.
2. In the lunch break we about our favourite television programmes.
3. She her ideas simply so that everyone could understand.
4. I that I was going on holiday, but I didn't give any details.
5. He on giving me a lift in his car, even though I wanted to walk.
6. She with her father all day, but he still wouldn't let her go to the party.
7. He about his rich and famous parents and the expensive presents they gave him.
8. The students to the large amount of homework the teacher gave them.
9. Although she had the problem with her doctor, she still felt worried.
10. I have to my neighbours several times about the noise they make late at night.

ACTIVITY 7:

Match each sentence

- | | | | | |
|---|---|-----|---|---|
| 1 | Is the food good there? | - ✓ | A | Yes, she wants the best of both worlds. |
| 2 | She says she can be a good mother and have a successful career. | - ✓ | B | No, he's come down in the world. |
| 3 | Clare looks really happy. | - ✓ | C | Yes, it's out of this world. |
| 4 | Tom doesn't want to lose his secretary. | - ✓ | D | No, he's in a world of his own. |
| 5 | Paul never takes any notice of what's happening. | - ✓ | E | Yes, she's on top of the world. |
| 6 | Luke doesn't have that huge car any more. | - ✓ | F | No, he thinks the world of her. |

READ

English is losing its political and cultural associations and becoming the property of all cultures. Over 70 countries in the world use English as the official or semi-official language, and in 20 more English occupies an important position. It is the main foreign language taught within 10 most school systems. Worldwide, many newspapers are published in English and it is the language of much radio and television broadcasting. English is the language of international business, the main language of airports, air traffic control and international shipping. It is the language of science, technology and medicine, and it is estimated that two-thirds of all scientific papers today are first published in English. It is the language of diplomacy and sport; it is one of the working languages of the United Nations and the language used by the International Olympic Committee. International pop culture and advertising are also so dominated by English. 70% of the world's mail is written in English, and 80% of all information in electronic retrieval systems is stored in English.

ACTIVITY 9: Finally, find the answers to these questions reading carefully the text once again and choosing the answers from the menus. Then check the correct answers.

1. How many countries use English as the official or semi-official language?
2. In how many countries is English important?
3. How many of all scientific papers are first published in English?
4. How much of the world's mail is in English?
5. How much of all information stored in electronic retrieval systems is in English?

ACTIVITY 10: Quickly read the text below and choose the best alternative (**TRUE** or **FALSE**) from the menu. Then check the correct answers.

1. Kissing keeps you healthy.
2. If you kiss someone in public in India, you may be arrested.
3. Animals kiss each other.



1

The kiss - what a pleasant, if unlikely, way of showing your affection for someone! And it's not only pleasant but it seems that it's good for your health too. Research carried out by insurance firms has shown that single men have significantly higher blood pressure than their married contemporaries. And a US study suggests that a man is less likely to cause a traffic accident on his way to work if he has been given a goodbye kiss by his wife.

2

But while the language of love may be universal when two people are from the same culture, the act of kissing can mean very different things in different parts of the world. In China, for example, kissing someone in public is seen as unhygienic and repulsive. As for offering your lips to someone in India, he or she might not just jump back but call the police, since kissing is only done between couples in private. Not surprisingly, Indian film stars are forbidden to kiss on screen.

3

Even if your intentions aren't amorous, you can still run into trouble. Many foreigners have got it wrong when greeting a friend who is Dutch (compulsory three kisses) or French (two, three or four, depending which part of France you are in). The Inuit of Alaska wouldn't dream of doing anything more than rubbing noses - Inuit women tend to use their mouths for more everyday tasks such as cleaning oil lamps and chewing animal skins to soften them up.

4

Animals, on the whole, have a much broader interpretation of kissing's significance than humans. For example, many creatures put their mouths in those of others as a gesture not of affection, but of submission. A wolf will place his mouth inside the jaws of a larger, dominant male. Chimpanzees do the same thing with their superiors. But when they relate to their contemporaries and equals, lip-to-lip contact is intended as a sign of play and friendship.

5

Indeed the expression of affection comes in many different forms in the animal world. Giraffes rub necks, while birds entwine theirs. Cats press their noses together and purr loudly, while elephants stand apart and then gently place their trunks in each other's mouths.

6

The one thing that animals never do, however - and humans, to their discredit, do all too frequently - is to deceive with their kisses. In the case of Judas Iscariot kissing Christ, for instance, or a Mafia godfather kissing a traitor, the act of placing one's lips upon someone else's cheek is to give the kiss of death.

7

The kiss, therefore, is not a simple matter. We receive a wide variety in our daily life: from friends, from lovers, from children, from parents, from enemies, even from team-mates after a goal is scored. If in a 70-year life we were kissed just once a day, it would mean that during our time on earth we could expect to receive a total of around 25,000 kisses. And each one of these carries a different and complex message that has to be received, processed and analysed with care.

ACTIVITY 11: Finally, read the text above all over again and choose from the list A-to-H below, the sentence **which best summarises** each paragraph (1-to-7). There is one extra sentence which you do not need to use. Then check the correct answers.

- | | | |
|--|----------|--|
| | A | There are different ways of greeting a friend from country to country. |
| | B | Animals have different ways of showing they care for each other. |
| | C | A kiss can mean many different things. |
| | D | Different cultures have different attitudes to kissing in public. |
| | E | Not all kisses are given with love or affection. |
| | F | Mouth-to-mouth contact between animals has different meanings. |
| | G | A kiss is a good way of showing how you feel about someone. |
| | H | Kissing is nice - and can be good for you too. |

ACTIVITY 12: For each group of sentences (A-to-D), choose the best verbal alternative (word or phrase) from the menus. **You can use the same word once only.** Then check the answers.

GROUP 1

- A.** She's very ambitious - she'll do anything to her aim of becoming a top politician.
- B.** Usually only a few students in passing all the qualifying exams the first time.
- C.** If my plans to study in Russia I won't be here next term.
- D.** One way to your English is to visit OM Personal Multimedia English.

GROUP 2

- A.** When the hunter could no longer see his dog in the forest, he loudly.
- B.** Her train started to move and she at her friends standing on the platform.
- C.** The tired student several times during the lecture.
- D.** When she couldn't answer the teacher's question, her friend the answer behind her hand.

GROUP 3

- A.** She was at a convent school until the age of 12.
- B.** For the last nine months he has hard for the Marathon.
- C.** He each of his children to drive.
- D.** The reason she is good at tennis is that she is professionally.

GROUP 4

- A.** Congratulations on all your exams!
- B.** No one likes an exam - I hope she does better next time.
- C.** When are you the First Certificate exam - in June or December?

GROUP 5

- A.** For two weeks before the exam they all that they had learned during the year.
- B.** The teacher her students to take a rubber and pencil sharpener to the exam.
- C.** When I was younger, I long lists of vocabulary without difficulty.
- D.** The foreign student lots of slang expressions when working in the restaurant.

GROUP 6

- A.** Speaking a language is a , like playing football - the more you practise, the better you become.
- B.** That student has a good of written German.
- C.** People who live in the jungle have the to understand animal calls.
- D.** Her writing shows great - I think she'll be a famous poet when she grows up.

GROUP 7

- A.** The to attack was a flashing light.
- B.** The librarian left a asking you to call her back.
- C.** The old lady made a welcoming with her hand.
- D.** He failed his driving test because he could not read a traffic at 25 metres.

GROUP 8

- A.** The on the door said 'Out to lunch. Back soon.'
- B.** Your shows drivers in front and behind when you intend to turn right or left.
- C.** We're lost - look out for a that will tell us the way to the village.
- D.** A cheque isn't valid until it has a on it.

GROUP 9

- A.** I have no of speaking to them again.
- B.** I couldn't get what she told me out of my .
- C.** The chairperson asked all those present to state their of the problem.
- D.** A scientist would be able to explain the of that animal's strange movements.

GROUP 10

- A.** The only thing to do with certain idiomatic phrases is to learn them .
- B.** I did the second exercise, not the first one.
- C.** Fill in the answers for Paper 1 .
- D.** the First Certificate papers look difficult, but after some practice you get used to doing the exercises.