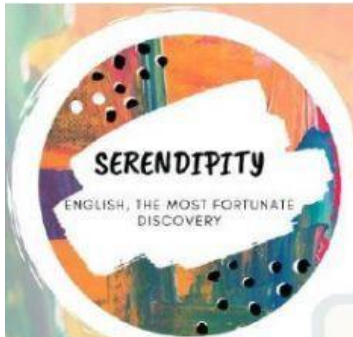




12B

Hello!

Welcome to Opportunities for Serendipity English Course!



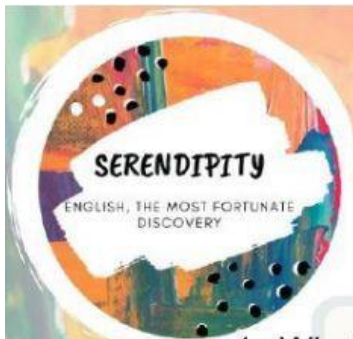
IS GOSSIP GOOD FOR YOU?

Gossip is good for you.

1. Speaking & Listening.

a Read the dictionary definition and then answer the questions.





1. What kind of people gossip more?
 - a people in cities or people in small towns
 - b young people or old people
 - c men or women
2. Who do people most often gossip about?
 - a their neighbours
 - b people at work or school
 - c celebrities
3. Do you have any friends who gossip a lot?
4. How do you feel when people gossip about you?

b Listen to a conversation between Rosemary and Iris. What has happened to Jack and Emma? Listen again and answer the question.

5.21

- 1 Jack and Emma are the woman's ...
 - a. neighbours.
 - b. friends.
 - c. children.
- 2 Rosemary thinks she heard them having ...
 - a. a conversation.
 - b. a party.
 - c. an argument.

3 According to Rosemary, Emma said she was ...

- a. seeing another man.
- b. looking for a new job.
- c. going to stay with her mother.

4 She said she had ...

- a. left the dog with a neighbour.
- b. left the children with her sister.
- c. left the dinner in the microwave.

5 Iris is going to ...

- a. tell her husband.
- b. tell her family.
- c. tell another neighbour.

c. Now listen to what Jack and Emma **really** said last night. Was Rosemary right about everything? 5.22

2. Grammar; reported speech.

a Look at some extracts from the conversations. Compare what Emma said (direct speech) with what Rosemary says that she said (reported speech). Which words are different in the highlighted reported speech?

1 What Emma said

I'm going to stay with my mum.

I won't come back ...

I've taken the children to my sister ...

2 What Rosemary and Iris said

She said that she was going to stay with her mum! She told him that she wouldn't come back.

Ooh, how awful. What about the children?

She said she'd taken them to her sister.

direct speech

'I love you.'

'I've just arrived.'

'We'll come at eight.'

'I don't want to go to the party.'

reported speech

He said (that) **he loved me**.

She said (that) **she had just arrived**.

He told me (that) **they would come** at eight.

Jack told Anna (that) **he didn't want**
to go to the party.

- Use reported speech to report (to tell somebody) what another person said.
- We often introduce reported speech with *said* or *told* (+ person).
After *said* or *told* **that** is optional, e.g. *He said (that) he loved me*.
- Pronouns often change in reported speech, e.g. *I* changes to *he* or *she*.
'I'm tired.' **She** told me (that) **she** was tired.

- Verb tenses change like this:

direct speech

'I **can** help you.'

(present simple)

'I'm **watching** TV.'

(present continuous)

'I'll **phone** you.'

(will)

'I **met** a girl.'

(past simple)

'I've **broken** my leg.'

(present perfect)

reported speech

He said (that) he **could** help me.

(past simple)

She said (that) she **was watching** TV.

(past continuous)

He told me (that) he **would** phone me.

(would)

John told me (that) he **had met** a girl.

(past perfect)

Sara said (that) she **had broken** her leg.

(past perfect)

! say or tell?

You can use *said* or *told* in reported speech but they are used differently.

You can't use *said* with an object or pronoun.

He **said** (that) he loved me. **NOT** ~~He said me (that) he loved me.~~

You must use *told* with an object.

He **told me** (that) he loved me. **NOT** ~~He told (that) he loved me.~~

b Listen to some sentences in direct speech. Say them in reported speech. Begin He said ... or She said ...
5.24

- I'm in a hurry.

She said that she was in a hurry. -

- I'll write.

He said that he would write. -

3. Vocabulary; say or tell?

Complete the sentences with the right form of say or tell.

1 'I have a problem,' Annie _____.

2 Annie _____ us that she had a problem.

3 Lisa _____ that she was leaving her husband.

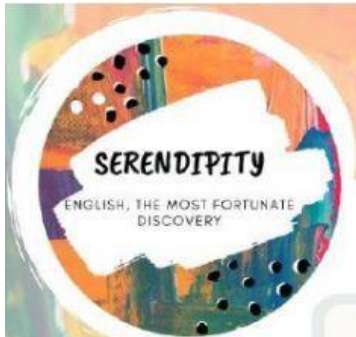
4 He _____ the teacher that he had left his homework at home.

5 His teacher _____ that he didn't believe him.

6 Can you _____ Mark that I can't meet him tonight?

7 What did you _____ to her?

8 When I was a child my mother used to _____ us not to _____ hello to people we didn't know.



4. Speaking.



5. Pronunciation; double consonants.

a Look at five groups of words. Match each group to a vowel sound.



a gossip offer sorry bottle robber

b hurry rubbish runner summer butterfly

c written miss bitten different middle

d happy married nappies rabbit baggage

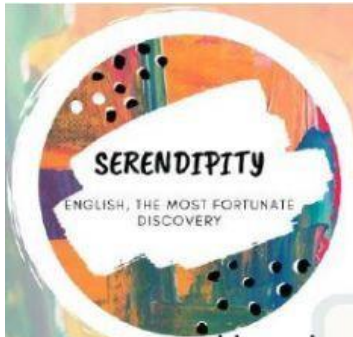
e letter better message umbrella tennis

b Listen and check. 5.25

Double consonants

The vowel sound before a double consonant is normally short when it is the stressed syllable, e.g. *gossip*, *hurry*, *written*, *happy*, and *letter*.

Double consonants are pronounced the same as single consonants.



c How do you think you pronounce the words below? Check the pronunciation and meaning with your dictionary.

kettle nanny pottery slippers supper

6. Reading.

Here's a secret: Gossip might be good for you.

a Read the article and mark the sentences T (true) or F (false).

1 We sometimes feel bad after we gossip.

☐

2 Professor McAndrew says that we are programmed to gossip.

☐

3 Gossiping can be good or bad- it depends on why we do it.

☐

4 People enjoy sharing bad news about people they like.

☐

5 Men gossip with their friend more than with their family.

☐

b Look at the highlighted words and phrases. Guess their meaning.

c Do you agree with what the article says about the way men and women gossip?