

12B

Hello!

Welcome to Opportunities for Serendipity English Course!

**OPPORTUNITIES
English!**



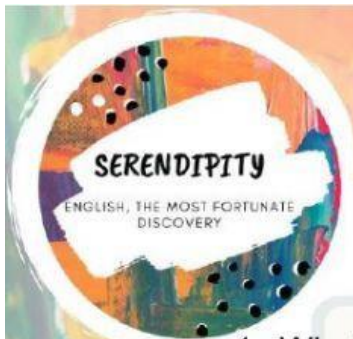
IS GOSSIP GOOD FOR YOU?

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.

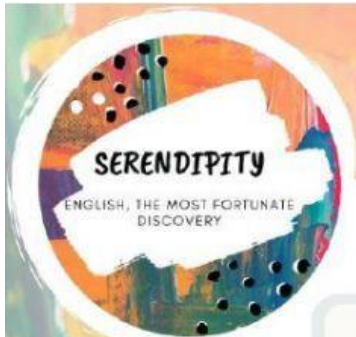
4 He _____ the teacher that he had left his homework at home.

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

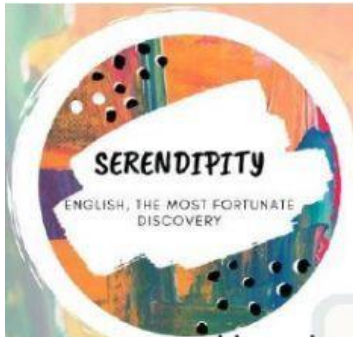
e letter better message umbrella tennis

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?