

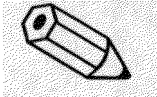
English as she should be spoken/Written

We are now going to have a listen to a contemporary article from The Guardian: this deals with the concern expressed at the lack of ability of even business managers to spell and write English correctly in their letters and commercial dealings.

There is we have to recognize so much dependence on the computer today that it is becoming increasingly difficult for many to put pen to paper (or finger to keyboard) and produce good well written scripts. Please listen to your CD in the fashion indicated previously and answer the questions.



Turn on CD Track 9 (7 mins 48 secs)

Activity 2	Intensive Care for English Patients By Anna Tobin (The Guardian, April 12 2003)
	<p>Please listen carefully; as before there will be pauses for you to write notes. You are advised as before to play the CD three times. Then answer the following questions:</p> <p>) Explain the "joke" behind these expressions from the piece: they are all based on "puns, check The meaning and use of "pun" in your dictionary.</p> <p>"Doctors may be able to use their claws to break up a colon, but they don 't always know how to use a colon to break up a clause..."</p> <p>"Judges may be able to pass sentences, but they are being told they need to learn how to write them."</p> <p>" General Managers may have the language of command but, all too often no command of language."</p> <p>b) i) Find out the difference between: dependent, and dependant...</p> <p>Which is correct: people such as myself, or people like myself?</p> <p>) Which is correct: between you and I; or between you and me? (Not in Passage...)</p>

	<p>) Rewrite the following sentences removing the words in bold and changing to plain English:</p> <p>"Ben was a lawyer who was sent on a course to brush up his spelling and grammar."</p> <p>"I'm not dyslexic."</p> <p>"I'm just crap at spelling."</p> <p>"Over-familiarity in written or verbal communication."</p> <p>"We use the analogy of the speedometer."</p> <p>) Write down in about 150 words the advantages of improving one's spelling and grammar...</p>
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Turn on CD Track 10 (4 mins 04 secs)

The CD will now play over a story (or part of one) for you to listen to: it is taken from the comic novel *CAKES AND ALE* by the distinguished author of the 'thirties *W. SOMERSET MAUGHAM*. He is not so well known now, although many of his novels and short stories are still in print, but in his day he was a best-seller, with West End play successes in addition to his other writing.

This extract is taken from the beginning of the Novel written in 1930, and sets the tone admirably for what is to follow.

Please listen to the CD and reproduce the story in your own words: approximately 150-200 words.

Try not to tell the story in the 1st Person, but refer to the storyteller as Ashenden. That was his name in the book, *Willie Ashenden*, who appears again in Maugham's only spy novel *ASHENDEN*, made into a film *The Secret Agent* by Alfred Hitchcock).

Before you start, look back at the hints in Lesson Eighteen on Story Telling, also at the other types of Narrative in that Lesson.

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