

LESSON 151

853 **beyond** **wild** **fantastic** **expectation**

If you faced south and could look at the horizon from where you're sitting now, which village, town, city or country would be just beyond the horizon?
If I faced ... sitting now, ... would be ...

Has anything ever happened to you which has been beyond your wildest dreams; that is, beyond your most fantastic expectations?
Yes, something has happened to ...
~ No, nothing has ever happened to ...

What?

Who would you say was beyond doubt the greatest person alive today?
I'd say that ... was beyond doubt the ...

coarse

What do we mean by coarse cloth?
By coarse cloth, we mean cloth that feels rough

What do we mean by a coarse person?
By a coarse ..., we mean somebody who has poor manners and behaves in a way that might offend some people

approach

When you're on a train, how can you tell when it's approaching a station?
When you're ..., you can tell ... because the train begins to slow down

854 **firm** **mattress**

Can the quality of a person's sleep be affected by how firm the mattress on their bed is?
Yes, the quality of ...

Do you have a firm idea of what you want to do in life?
Yes, I have a firm idea of ...
~ No, I don't have a firm idea of ...

Which is the biggest firm in your home town?

The biggest firm ... is ...

smart

Do you think you need to be smart to run a successful business?

Yes, I think ... ~ No, I don't think ...

Do some restaurants only allow people to enter if they're wearing smart clothes?

Yes, some restaurants only ...

rot

rotten

Where does meat rot more quickly: in the heat or in the cold?

Meat rots more quickly in the heat

Do rotten vegetables smell horrible?

Yes, rotten ...

sheet

blanket

Do you prefer to sleep under a sheet and blanket, or do you prefer to use a duvet?

I prefer ...

Which is normally thinner: a sheet of paper or a sheet of steel?

A sheet of paper is normally ...

855 **ray**

At what time of day are the rays of the sun at their hottest at this time of year?

The rays of the sun are ...

fever

If a friend of yours had a fever, what would you advise them to do?

If a friend of mine ..., I'd advise them to ...

ski

Is it possible to go skiing in your country?

Yes, it's possible to ...
~ No, it isn't possible to ...

sauce

What's your favourite sauce?

My favourite sauce is ...

veil

Do women wear veils when they get married in your country?

Yes, women wear ... – No, women don't wear ...

give in

mug

Would you give in without a fight if a thief tried to mug you on the street?

Yes, I'd give in without ...

– No, I wouldn't give in without ...

Why or why not?

856 stretch

The basic meaning of the word "stretch" is "extend".

What's the basic meaning of the word "stretch"?

The basic ...

Do you stretch when you get out of bed in the morning?

Yes, I stretch when I ...

– No, I don't stretch when I ...

If someone borrowed a pullover of yours that was too small for them and they stretched it, would you be annoyed?

Yes, if someone ...

I'd be annoyed – No, if someone ..., I wouldn't be annoyed

How far does the road outside this building stretch?

The road outside ... stretches as far as ...

earnest

What do we mean by an earnest person?

By an earnest person, we mean someone who's serious and sincere

run short of

What do you do when you run short of money?

When I run short

of money, I ...

857 altogether

Taking things altogether, do you think this town is a good place to live?

Yes, taking ..., I think ...

~ No, taking ..., I don't think ...

Can you think of a film that you've seen that was altogether terrible?

Yes, I can think of ... ~ No, I can't think of ...

Which? Why?

model

representation

What do we mean by a model aeroplane?

By a model

aeroplane, we mean a small

representation of a real aeroplane

Do top fashion models earn a lot of money?

Yes, top ...

How often do car companies change their models?

Car companies change their

models about once every ... years

Were you a model student when you were at school?

Yes, I was ... ~ No, I wasn't ...

in time

on time

show

The phrase "in time" means "before it's too late". For example, "We got to the theatre in time to have a quick drink before the show". The phrase "on time" means "at the correct, or arranged, time". For example, "My flight from London to Paris left on time".

What's the difference between "in time" and "on time"?

The difference ... is that "in time" means "before it's too late", whereas "on time" means "at the correct, or arranged, time"

- 858 Give me an example of the difference, please. Unfortunately, I didn't arrive on time for the start of the concert, but I did get there in time to hear my favourite song

confidence

secret

keep a secret

self-confidence

in confidence

in secret

Is there anyone you can think of in whom you have such confidence that you could trust them to keep your greatest secrets? Yes, there's

someone I can ... ~ No, there isn't anyone I can ...

What do we mean when we say that someone is full of self-confidence?

When we say that ... we mean that they are sure of themselves and their abilities

How would you feel if you spoke to somebody in confidence about something but they then told other people what you had discussed?

If I spoke ... but they ..., I'd feel ...

Would you be happy if your friends organized a birthday party for you in secret? Yes, I'd be ... ~ No, I wouldn't be ...

drag

figurative

mean to say

What does the word "drag" mean?

The word "drag" means to pull something heavy along the ground, often with some difficulty

We can also use the word "drag" in a figurative sense; for example, "Whatever you do, don't drag me into the argument".

- 859 Give me an example of the word "drag" used figuratively, please.

You mean to say you dragged me all this way just to show me that!

What would I mean if I said "The film was quite good, but it dragged a bit in the middle"?

If you said "The film was ...", you'd mean that it was a bit slow and boring in the middle



Dictation 104

While the patient was unconscious, / a special powder was applied / to his wound /
We cannot call him a liar, / as we have no means of checking / the truth of his
statement. / The actual salary for the job / is based on a fixed scale / which gives the
employee / an increase each year, / with the exact amount / being determined by
the government. / I'm anxious about how idle / that boy is becoming / as he grows
up. / When she woke up, / she was forbidden to eat for twelve hours / after leaving
hospital, / and was advised to remain at home / for several days. / Poison is still often
used / to get rid of rats in buildings. / Pass me that pad / of cotton wool, please.