

LESSON 179

1084 **storey**

skyscraper

We generally use the word "storey" when we are referring to the architecture or structure of a building, whereas we use "floor" when talking about the different levels within a building. For example, we would say "Mr Brown's cousin lives on the fifth floor of a ten-storey block of flats".

Would you like to work on the top floor of a 30-storey skyscraper?

Yes, ... - No, ...

Why or why not?

attain

mother tongue

Do you think someone with a talent for learning languages can attain the same level of competence in a foreign language as they have in their mother tongue?

Yes, ... - No, ...

clockwork

What would I mean if I said "The wedding day went like clockwork"?

If you ..., you'd mean that every part of the wedding day happened on time and in the way it had been planned

adequate

inadequate

discomfort

Do passengers on long flights suffer discomfort if there isn't adequate leg room on the plane?

Yes, passengers ...

1085 Are accidents in the workplace often a consequence of inadequate safety measures?

Yes, ...

exclude

Excluding the costs of rent and travel, about how much money do you need to get by each week?

Excluding ..., I need ...

Is there any type of food you exclude from your diet to avoid problems with digestion?

Yes, ... ~ No, ...

What?

digestion**aggressive****aggression****growl**

Do airlines give their crew members training in how to cope with aggressive passengers?

Yes, ...

When does a dog growl?

A dog growls when it wants to show aggression

in the event of**helpless**

If a country had no army, would it be completely helpless in the event of a military attack?

Yes, ...

Give me another example of "in the event of".

In the event of an emergency, please alert a member of staff immediately

join in

Why do some children at primary school find it hard to join in with others in the playground?

Some ... they aren't used to interacting with other children, they're shy etc.

1086

instruct**instructor**

The verb "instruct" means "teach" but is generally used to describe teaching someone how to perform an activity. For example, we can say "The staff were instructed on what to do in the event of a fire".

Do you think you'd enjoy the job of driving instructor?

Yes, ... ~ No, ...

Why or why not?

moist

moisten

lick

How do we moisten stamps so that they stick to envelopes?

We moisten ... by licking them

occasional

outbreak

Give me an example of the word "occasional", please. I have the occasional
pint of beer at the weekend

Are there occasionally serious outbreaks of flu in the world that cause a
large number of deaths? Yes, ...

plunge

When swimming in a lake, why should one enter the water carefully
rather than just plunge in?

When ..., ... because the
water may be too shallow, or there may
be rocks close to the surface of the water

1087

register

premises

Why are visitors often asked to register at reception when they enter the
premises of a big business? Visitors are ... for security reasons

troublesome

Do you think your parents would describe you as having been a
troublesome child? Yes, ... - No, ...

alter

philosophy

Why does a person's philosophy on life often alter significantly as they
get older? A person's ...

detached

semi-detached

terraced

bungalow

mansion

drive (driveway)

go for

What's the difference between a terraced house, a semi-detached house, and a detached house?

The difference ...
a terraced house shares a wall with another house on both sides, a semi-detached house shares a wall on one side only, and a detached house stands on its own and doesn't share a wall with any other property

Why might a bungalow be a good choice of accommodation for an elderly person?

A bungalow ... because a bungalow is on one level and has no stairs to climb

1088 Which is most likely to have its own drive (or driveway): a mansion, a bungalow or a terraced house?

A mansion ...

If you had the choice, which would you go for: a mansion in the countryside or a luxury apartment in town?

If ..., I'd go for ...

bug

virus

bacteria

defect (n)

microphone

embassy

What's a bug?

A bug can be an insect, a minor illness caused by a virus or bacteria, a secret hidden microphone (in an embassy for example) or a defect in a computer program

Does it bug you when people have loud mobile phone conversations on public transport?

Yes, ... ~ No, ...

Would you know what to do if your computer were infected by a virus?

Yes, I'd know ... ~ No, I wouldn't know ...

swap

Would you be willing to swap your phone (watch etc.) for mine?

Yes, ... ~ No, ...

cop

What's an informal word for a police officer?

An informal ... a cop

1089

dissolve

How long does sugar take to dissolve in a cup of coffee?

Sugar takes ...

pat

simultaneous

Is it easy to pat one's head and rub one's stomach simultaneously?

No, it isn't ...

hang up

When was the last time you hung up on somebody in anger?

The last ... I've never ...

worth my (your etc.) while

worthwhile

outer

inner

outskirts

If you lived three hours away from this school, would it be worth your while coming here for lessons?

No, if ..., it wouldn't ...

Do you think it's worthwhile exploring outer space?

Yes, ... ~ No, ...

Why or why not?

Why do many people prefer to settle on the outskirts of a city rather than in an inner city area?

Many ...

1090

priceless

worthless

antique

What's the difference in meaning between the words "priceless" and "worthless"?

The difference ... "priceless" means "extremely valuable", whereas "worthless" means "having no value"

Give me an example of each, please.

The palace contains a number of priceless antiques. Most of the stuff in the market was worthless rubbish, so I didn't get anything.

fiction

non-fiction

literature

As regards literature, do you tend to prefer fiction or non-fiction?

As regards ..., I tend ...

Why?

make-up (makeup)

make up

enhance

feeble

fall out with

row

following

Do television presenters normally wear make-up (makeup) to enhance their appearance on camera?

Yes, ...

Give me an example of a feeble excuse that employees often make up in order not to go to work.

A feeble ...

If you fell out with your best friend following a row, how long do you reckon it'd take you to make up with each other again?

If ..., I reckon ...

1091

install

expert

Are you capable of installing a new washing machine, or would you have to get an expert to do it?

I'm capable ... ~ No,

I'm not capable ...; I'd have to ...

blush

comment

Do you blush easily when someone makes a flattering comment about you in front of other people?

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

limp

What am I doing?

You're limping

What does it mean if we describe the flowers or leaves of a plant as limp?

If ..., it means they're softer than they should be, and not firm and healthy

route

Which route do you follow when you go home (or come to school, go to work etc.)?

The route I follow when ...

Phrase exercise 1

From the four options given with each sentence, choose the one word that fits correctly in the gap.

- 1 Your skills are key ... the success of this plan; without them, it'll fail! (to / at / of / by)
- 2 This isn't actually my book; it's on ... from my local library. (lend / borrow / loan / hire)
- 3 If we're ... luck, Richard will be at the party, and he can give us a lift home afterwards. (on / at / in / by)
- 1092 4 Something in the ... of 60% of the population voted in the last election. (excess / reach / majority / region)
- 5 I'm sure it's just ... of time before she becomes a famous actress. (a matter / an issue / a business / a product)
- 6 Janet should try to look at things from a different ...; it might help her understand why her employees are unhappy. (point / aim / angle / way)
- 7 I'm rather behind the ..., so I probably won't know half the bands playing at the festival. (times / crowds / trends / days)
- 8 If we don't get to the wedding party soon, we'll miss ... the food! (up with / out on / up on / out with)
- 9 They both claim to be qualified doctors but they're ... of the sort. (nowhere / none / nothing / nobody)
- 10 You'll make more progress if you try to take on ... what I say. (board / deck / sight / demand)

- 11 We have to tell the public everything is fine but, off the ..., I'm beginning to get a little worried. (register / book / record / file)
- 12 I've got the best of both ...; I love my work and get paid well too. (roads / sides / lives / worlds)
- 13 I quite fancy going to the art gallery this weekend if there's anything new ... show. (in / for / on / to)
- 14 Our football club relies on the experienced players to act as ... models for the younger ones. (role / manner / action / leader)
- 15 I'm in two ... about the plan for a picnic tomorrow. The weather doesn't look very good. (halves / camps / ways / minds)

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