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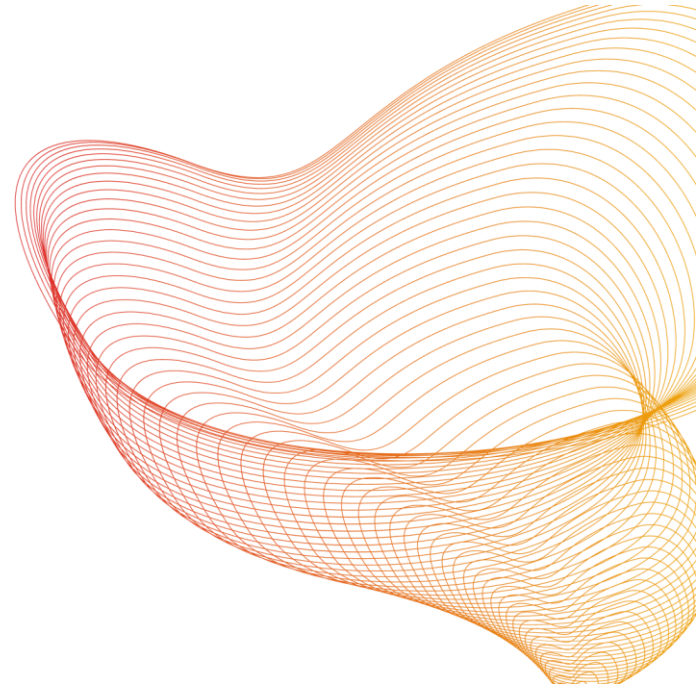
Module 6

- **UNIT 1 - Linking Words**
- **UNIT 2 - Reading Comprehension**
- **UNIT 3 - Listening Comprehension**
 - **UNIT 4 - Use of English**



Introduction

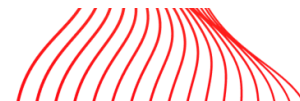
Behind closed doors



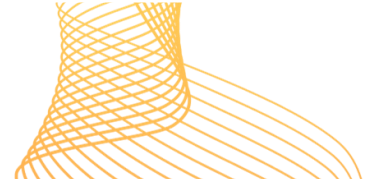


From Downing Street to the Bank of England, let's take a look through the keyhole of some of London's famous front doors

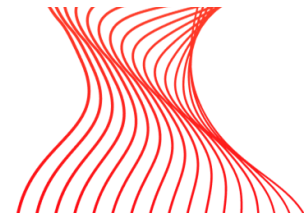
Anyone finding themselves **ambling down** Kensington's Bedford Gardens during the end of April or early May will quickly spot something unusual. **Indeed**, each spring, **pockets of people** armed with selfie sticks stand in front of a particular house, which is gloriously **garlanded** in **wisteria vines**. **Furthermore**, some even **go the extra mile** by dressing for the occasion in a lilac or another tonally appropriate **hue**. **Ultimately**, it's Instagram perfection, and the **cherry on the cake** is the house's pastel-pink front door.



Knock on wood: first impressions



Although we're often told **not to judge a book by its cover**, a smart, well-maintained front door can instantly give the impression of a well-cared-for home," says Harry Buchanan, director of Jackson-Stops Pimlico & Westminster. **Furthermore**, from ornate **doorknockers** to hanging baskets and olive trees, a smart front facade helps to set the tone, and **in the end** can significantly influence the overall perception of a house.



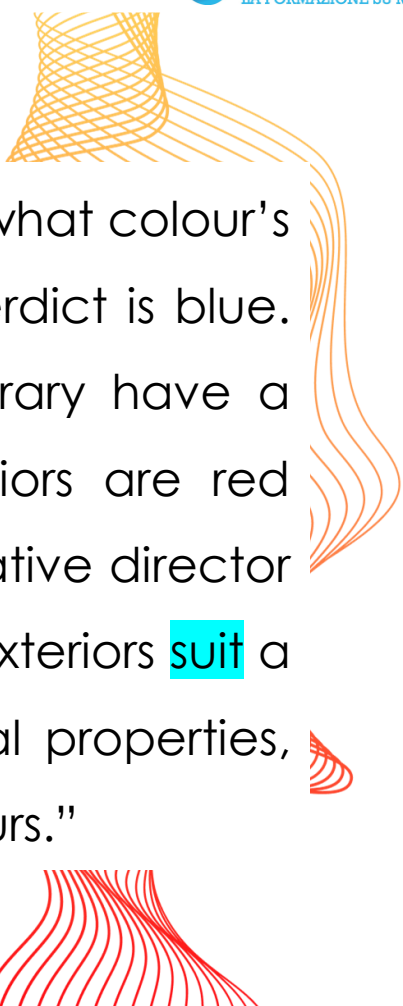
▶ *Notting Hill* iconic front door





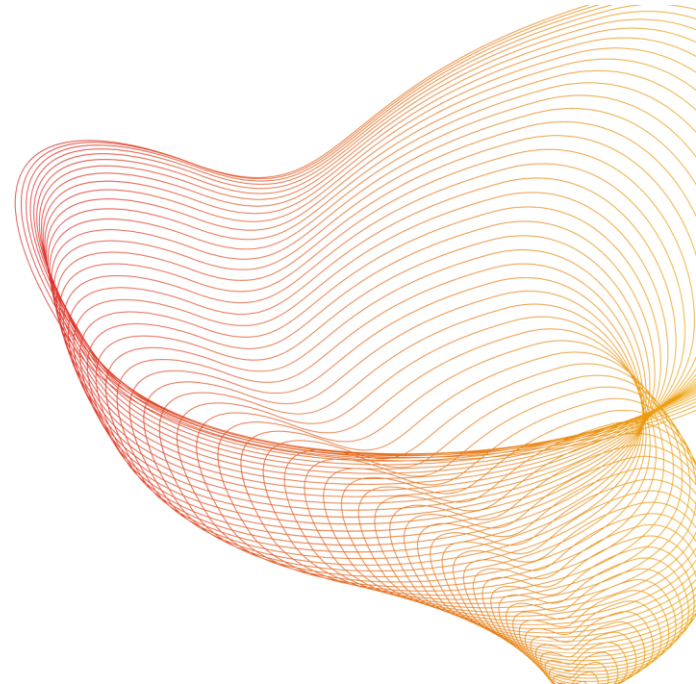
Colours matter

Various surveys have been conducted to find out what colour's best when selling a house, and the unanimous verdict is blue. **Nevertheless**, paint experts at Paint & Paper Library have a more decorative approach. "Many home exteriors are red brick, which pairs beautifully with green," says creative director Andy Greenall. **For instance**, light-coloured stone exteriors **suit** a warm light neutral or grey, **while** grand traditional properties, such as Georgian houses, suit dark, confident colours."





Unit 1 – Linking words





Connecting ideas

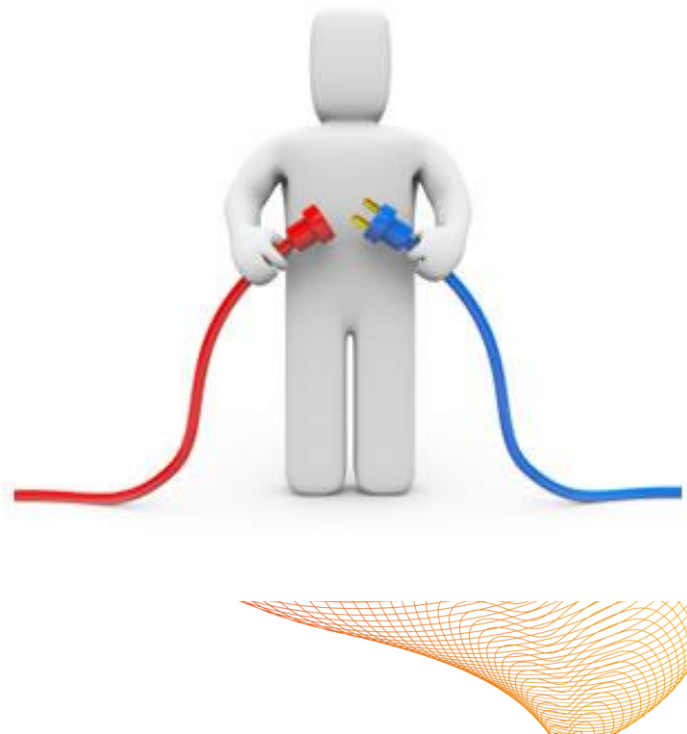
Have a look at these two paragraphs. Which one sounds better?

Paragraph A

The building had structural issues. The engineers were concerned. The project was delayed. The architects proposed a solution. The contractors rejected the proposal.

Paragraph B

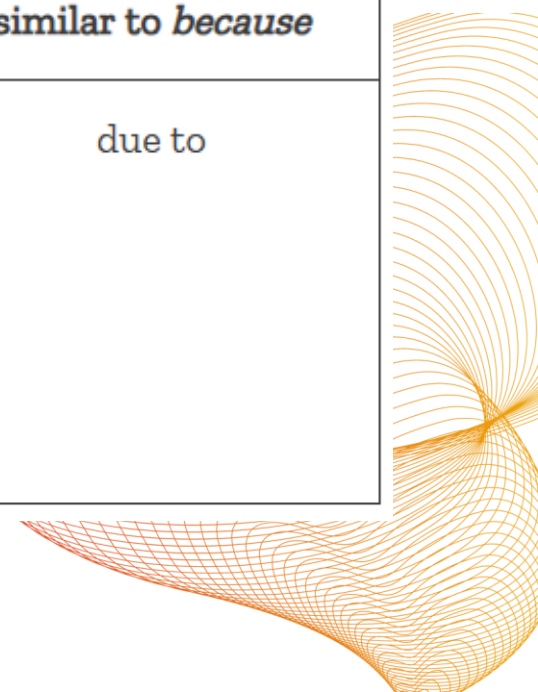
Because of the structural issues, the engineers were concerned. As a result, the project was delayed. However, when the architects proposed a solution, the contractors rejected the proposal.





The most used

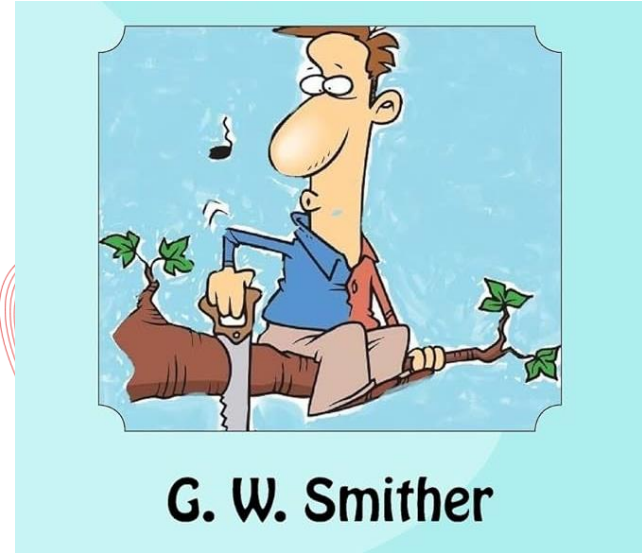
<p>ADDITION similar to <i>and</i></p>	<p>CONTRAST similar to <i>but</i></p>	<p>RESULT similar to <i>so</i></p>	<p>REASON similar to <i>because</i></p>
<p>additionally also moreover besides furthermore</p>	<p>despite however in spite of on the other hand whereas</p>	<p>as a result therefore</p>	<p>due to</p>



▶ Examples of linking words - Consequence

- So
- Hence
- Therefore
- As a result
- Consequently

Example: The design was modified to reduce costs. **As a result**, the project stayed within budget.



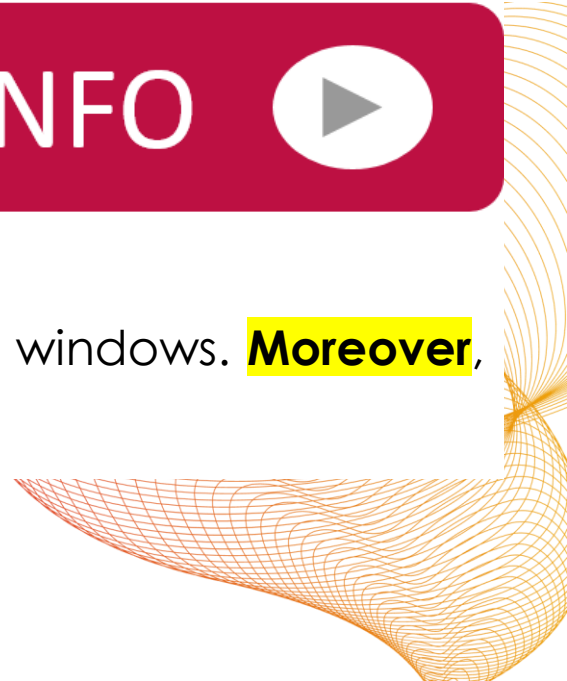


Examples of linking words - Additional information

- And
- Moreover
- In addition
- Furthermore



Example: The design incorporates energy-efficient windows. **Moreover**, the building meets LEED standards.



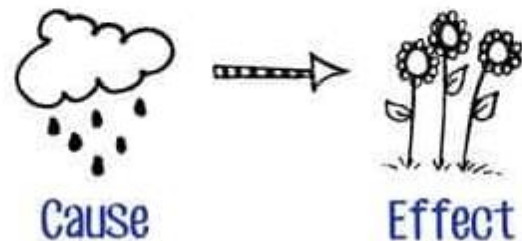
▶ Examples of linking words - Cause and effect

- Due to
- Because
- As a result
- Because of
- Consequently

Example: **Due to** the lack of proper insulation, the energy consumption increased.

Cause: Why something happens

Effect: What happens as a result



▶ Examples of linking words - Contrasting

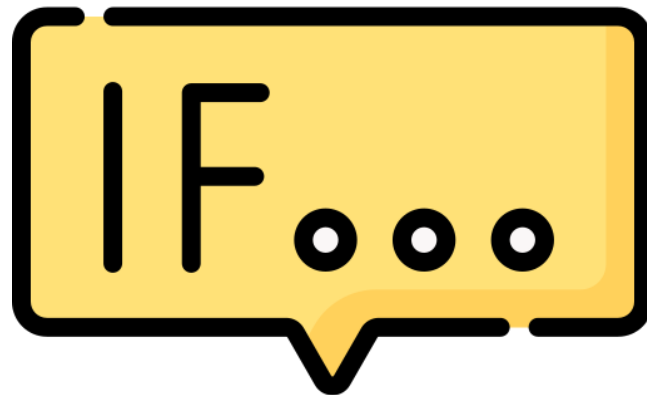
- But
- Besides
- Although
- However
- Even though



Example: The exterior is minimalist. **However**, the interior features intricate detailing.

▶ Examples of linking words – Conditional information

- If
- Unless
- Even if
- Whenever



Example: The façade will be approved **if** the material matches the initial proposal.

▶ Examples of linking words – Showing a different opinion

- On the contrary
- On the other hand

Example: Many architects prefer bold designs. **On the other hand,** traditional styles often blend better with the surroundings.





Examples of linking words – Clarification

- That is
- Simply put
- To be clear
- In other words

Example: The load-bearing walls will carry the weight of the upper floors. **Simply put,** these walls are essential to the building's stability.





Examples of linking words – Concession

- Admittedly
- Nonetheless
- Nevertheless

Example: The project faced delays.
Nevertheless, the team managed to complete it on time.



▶ Examples of linking words – Summary

- In brief/in short
- Overall
- To sum up
- In summary
- In a nutshell
- On the whole
- All things considered

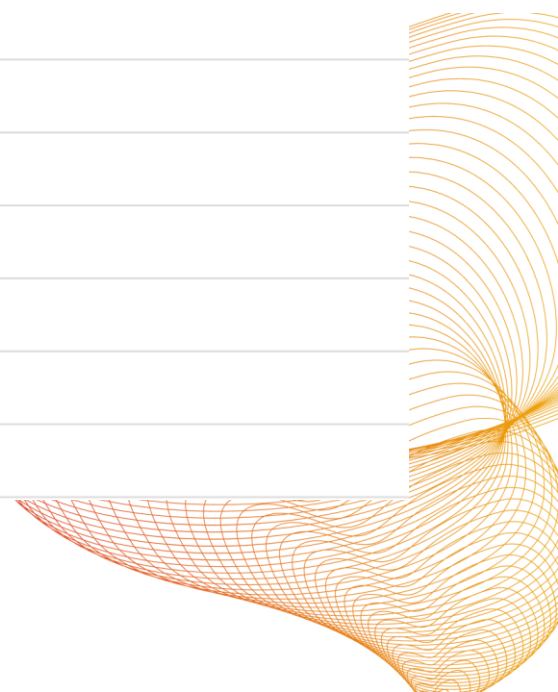


Example: In this report, we reviewed the challenges and solutions. **All things considered**, the project was a success.



Examples of linking words – Conjunctions

Conjunction	Function
for	connects a reason to a result
and	connects equal and similar ideas
nor	connects two negative ideas
but	connects equal but different ideas
or	connects two equal choices
yet	connects equal and contrasting ideas
so	connects a result to a reason





Practice

Quiz

They never made much
money, _____ their success.

Linking words B1



A

such as

B

moreover

C

in spite of

D

although

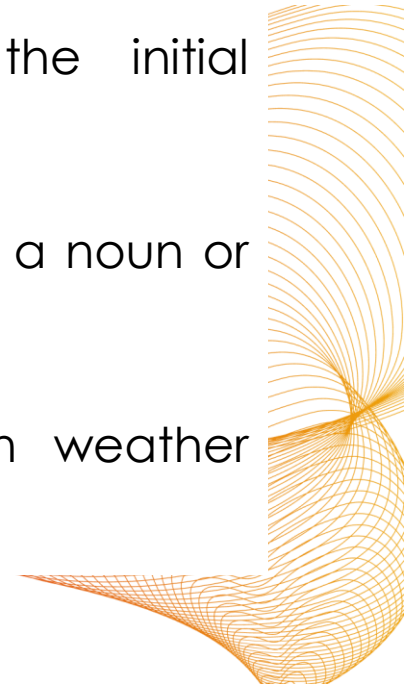
Tricky linking words in writing - Because/Because of

- Because connects two independent clauses:

Example: The team adjusted the plan because the initial measurements were inaccurate.

- Because of connects one complete sentence to a noun or noun phrase:

Example: The delay occurred because of unforeseen weather conditions.



Tricky linking words in writing - Even though/Even if

- Even though introduces surprising facts:

Example: Even though the building uses glass extensively, it is highly energy-efficient.

- Even if introduces hypothetical conditions:

Example: Even if the site is small, the design maximizes available space.



Tricky linking words in writing - If/When/Unless

If describes possible scenarios:

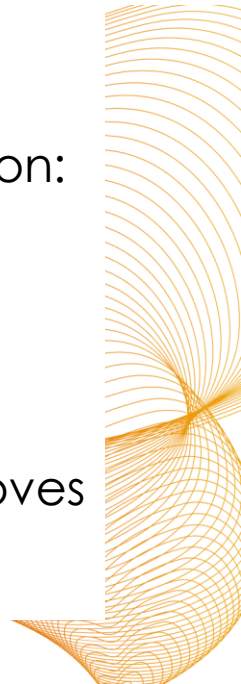
Example: If the steel reinforcement is inadequate, the structure could fail.

The use of **when** often describes **processes** or **stages** of construction:

Example: When the materials arrived, the construction resumed.

Unless is useful for **conditions** in plans or requirements:

Example: The contractor will not proceed unless the client approves the changes.



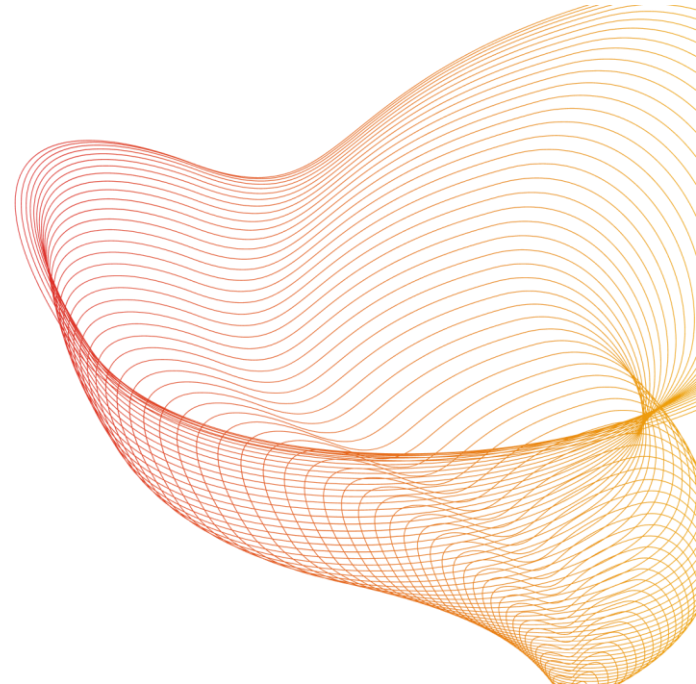


Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate linking word from the options provided.

- because / because of
 - if / when / unless
 - even though / even if
 - however
 - whatever / however / whenever
1. The project was delayed _____ unexpected weather conditions.
 2. _____ the structure is well-designed, it still faces challenges due to external factors.
 3. The design will be approved _____ it meets all the safety regulations.
 4. The architects will begin drafting the plans _____ the client confirms the budget.

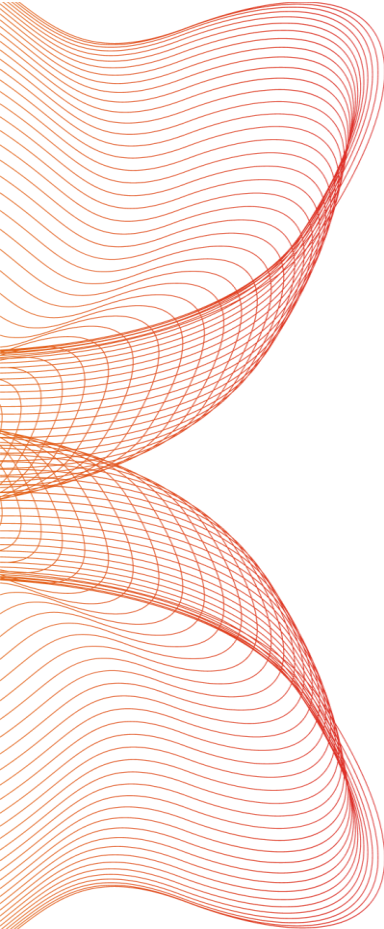


Unit 2 – Reading Comprehension

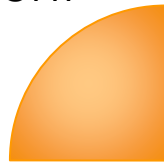





Not happy with safe rooms, the super-rich are building luxury fortresses





Few things appear **to appease** the existential anxieties of the super-rich like a bunker designed to withstand anything short of total nuclear Armageddon. **Yet** it's no longer enough for the security-conscious billionaire to stick an impenetrable safe room in the basement where it might sit empty forever. In today's **uber-prime** properties, bunkers have gone seriously **upmarket** and hi-tech, in some cases growing to the extent that whole homes are becoming 21st century fortresses.






"The house itself is ultra-secure with the blast-proof doors, unbreakable windows and biometric door-entry systems. Then there's the 30-foot-deep moat with a swing bridge, the water canons capable of taking out helicopters, drones or skydivers, and the film of flammable liquid that can be automatically deployed across the surface of the artificial lake and ignited to create a defensive ring of fire. 'Look at medieval times, a moat is one of the greatest deterrents,' said Corbi. 'But they didn't have jet skis back then.' Corbi's client, a business mogul and avid watersports fan, saw a dual use for his moat and plans to use it as a race track for his alpha pals, too."





"Secret doors and passageways have become as much a desirable novelty to **show off** to guests after dinner as a vital safety feature. Creative Home Engineering in Arizona — a company **who specialize in** creating and installing them for clients around the globe — recently built a giant working rotating fireplace that **swivels** to reveal the underground entrance to a shooting range. In another house, an old British **phone booth** has been engineered so that when the right code is entered on the keypad, the glass windows turn opaque, and the back wall opens to reveal a slide leading to a secure basement complex that includes a flight simulator and a **shark tank**."






Choose the best option a, b, or c.

1. According to the text, bunkers are mainly designed to:

- a) Smooth aggressive attacks from strangers
- b) Soothe aggressive attacks from strangers
- d) Solace aggressive attacks from strangers

2. These days, bunkers are:

- a) Seriously handy
 - b) Totally overpriced
 - c) Fully high-end
- 





Choose the best option a, b, or c.

3. According to the text, Mr Corbi's client is:

- a) A huge fan of medieval times, that is why there is a moat surrounding his house
- b) A businessman able to take full advantage of his moat
- d) A businessman finding a cheaper way to entertain his guest

4. Defensive equipment in Mr Corbi's client house are:

- a) Able to knock over flying objects
 - b) Able to point out flying objects
 - c) Able to lit up flying objects
- 
- 



Choose the best option a, b, or c.

5. According to the text, bunkers have become:

- a) Entertaining themes for adults
- b) Entertaining theme venues for adults
- d) Entertaining action themes for adults

Choose the best option a, b, or c. **ANSWER KEYS**

1. According to the text, bunkers are mainly designed to:

b) Soothe aggressive attacks from strangers

2. These days, bunkers are:

c) Fully high-end

3. According to the text, Mr Corbi's client is:

b) A businessman able to take full advantage of his moat

4. Defensive equipment in Mr Corbi's client house are:

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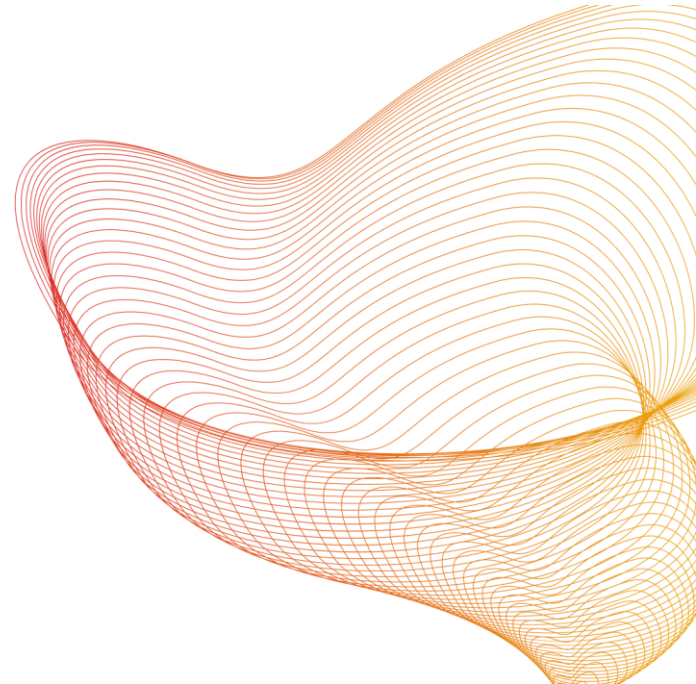
b) Entertaining theme venues for adults



Unit 3 – Listening Comprehension



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5YquWKsi0Q8>



The architecture trend dividing London's elites

Word/Phrase	Meaning
Black sewage	Wastewater that contains harmful contaminants, typically from toilets or industrial waste.
Sludge	A thick, soft, wet mixture of liquid and solid components, often from sewage or waste.
Realtors	Real estate agents who assist in buying, selling, or renting properties.
Haves and have nots	A phrase referring to people who are wealthy versus those who are not.
I am not an architect, nor am I a planner	A statement emphasizing that the speaker's expertise is neither architecture nor urban planning.
Lavish	Extravagant, luxurious, or excessively ornate.



The architecture trend dividing London's elites

Word/Phrase	Meaning
Thunderous crash	A very loud, sudden, and impactful noise, like thunder.
Ginormous scale	Extremely large in size or magnitude.
Striker	In sports, especially soccer, a player whose primary role is to score goals.
To curb permits	To limit or restrict the approval of legal permissions for construction or other activities.
Burrow down	To dig or tunnel downward, often metaphorically meaning to explore deeper.
Compiled through	Gathered and organized from various sources.
Well-off	Wealthy or financially comfortable.
Freehold laws	Legal provisions allowing property owners to own the land beneath their property.



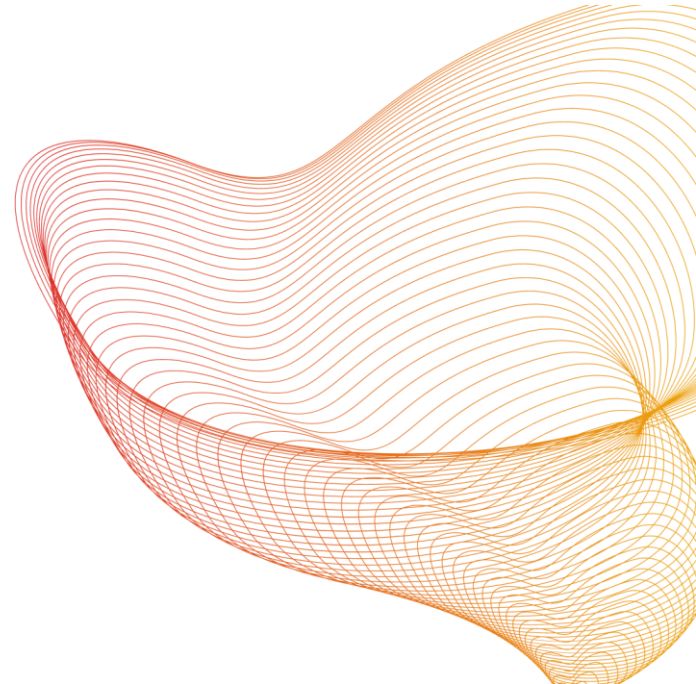


Watch the video and say whether the following statements are True or False.

1. Basements are for rich people. **T/F**
2. The conflict Professor Burrows mentioned is "to have or not to have a yacht." **T/F**
3. Basements are not a thing in the US because of the underground soil. **T/F**
4. The Professor wrote three stories about the megabasements. **T/F**
5. In London, it is forbidden to change the exterior of the buildings. **T/F**
6. Gianluca Vialli once begged the commission to allow him to build a basement. **T/F**



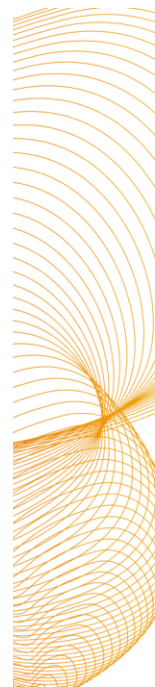
Unit 4 – Use of English





FEATURES OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: PRONUNCIATION - 10 Commonly Confused Words

1. walk, work
2. bought, boat
3. match, much
4. wonder, wander
5. of, off
6. loose, lose, choose, chose
7. leave, leaf
8. bow, bow, row, row, sow, sow
9. bear, beer, beard, bird
10. tough, though, through, thorough, thought

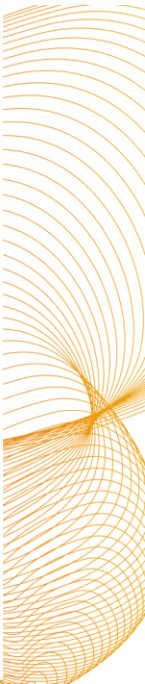




FEATURES OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: PRONUNCIATION - Words Italians tend to mispronounce











1. Management
2. Albeit
3. Chaos
4. Debris
5. Flour
6. Ingenuity
7. Lingerie
8. Pronunciation/Pronunciation
9. Quinoa
10. Wednesday



floor/flower

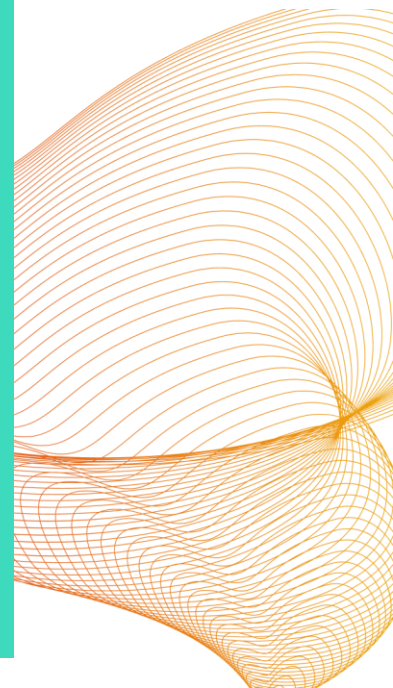




FEATURES OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: PRONUNCIATION – Minimal Pairs

Heat 	Hit 
Bed 	Bad 
Yolk 	Joke 
Sheep 	Ship 
Hole 	Howl 

Sun 	Sung 
Tin 	Thin 
Please 	Peas 
Boat 	Bought 
Bear 	Beer 



Add the consonant sound to the word to make another word.

Example: /g/ + eight = gate

1 /k/ + aim = _____

2 /k/ + ache = _____

3 /L/ + eight = _____

4 /r/ + owes = _____

5 /w/ + eight = _____

6 /s/ + eyes = _____

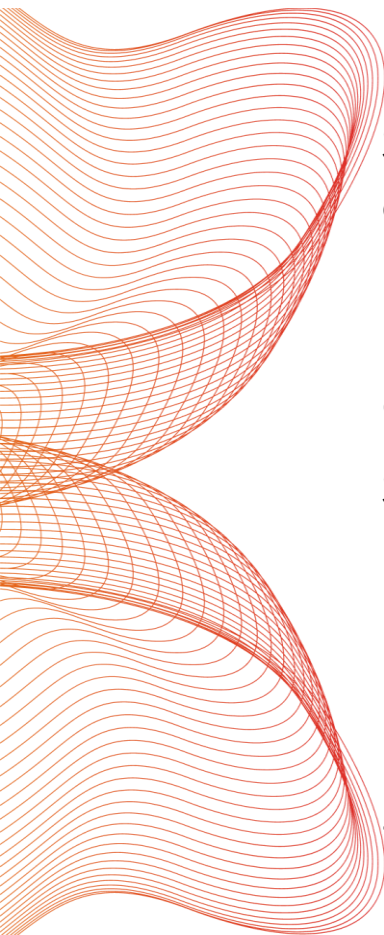
7 /h/ + eye = _____

8 /b/ + air = _____

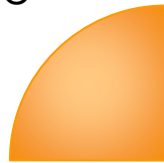
9 /b/ + earn = _____



Someone has dictated this story into a computer but it hasn't caught some sounds. Correct the words written in bold.



I worked **RATE** that day and I didn't **ALIVE** home until 10 o'clock. I was very wet because of the **LANE**. Then, to my **SUPPLIES**, my key didn't fit in the **ROCK**. So I looked closely at my keys and saw that they were the **LONG** ones. I had left my house keys at work. So I got back on my motorbike and **LOAD** back to the office to **CORRECT** them. I got home really tired, so I went to bed, **LED** for half an hour, switched off the **RIGHT** and went to sleep.





FEATURES OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: IDIOMATIC EXPRESSIONS

Behind close doors



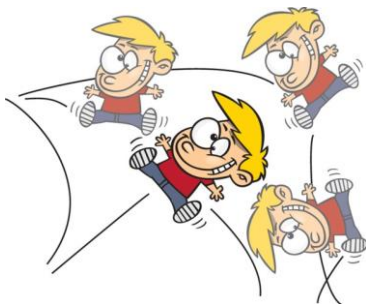
People who live in
glass houses
shouldn't
throw stones.



Sitting on the fence



Bounce off the walls



to take the floor

Talking to a brick wall

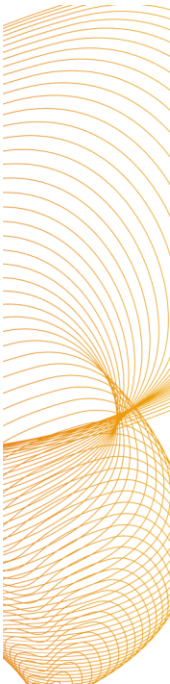




Find the meaning for each idiomatic expression below.

1. **When a presentation "brings the house down," it...**
 - a) Causes the audience to lose interest
 - b) Is a tremendous success
 - c) Creates a general sentiment of depression
 - d) Generates strong criticism

2. **Dreaming of a zero-carbon city without addressing challenges is like...**
 - a) Building castles in the air
 - b) Burning bridges
 - c) Betting the farm
 - d) Crossing that bridge when you come to it





Find the meaning for each idiomatic expression below.

3. When would you say, "Were you born in a barn?" to someone working on an architecture project?

- a) When they forget to label their architectural plans.
- b) When they start drawing new designs for a building.
- c) When they forget to close off a construction site.
- d) When they focus only on aesthetic design, ignoring safety.





Find the meaning for each idiomatic expression below.

4. “The cracks in the foundation are the writing on the wall for this project”, means:

- A) The cracks in the foundation are the architect's signature.
- B) The cracks in the foundation are clearly being ignored by the construction team.
- C) The cracks in the foundation resemble to graffiti.
- D) The cracks are a clear warning.





Find the meaning for each idiomatic expression below.

4. “The cracks in the foundation are the writing on the wall for this project”, means:

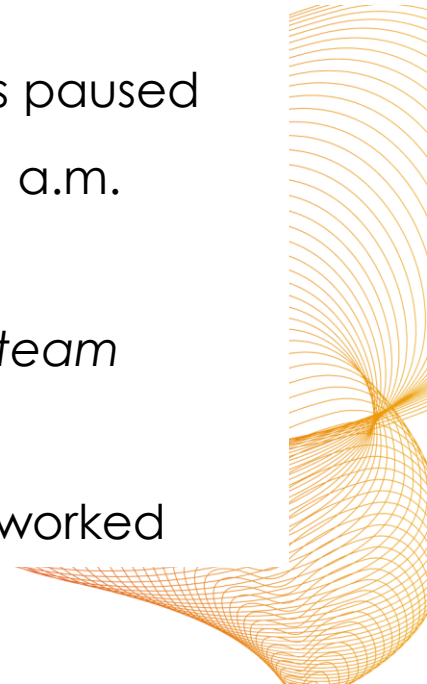
- A) The cracks in the foundation are the architect's signature.
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FEATURES OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: SLANG

1. *During the site inspection, the architects paused for **eleven** to discuss the blueprint updates.*
 - a) The architects paused until 11 a.m.
 - b) The architects paused for eleven minutes
 - c) The architects paused around 11 a.m.
2. *After the grand opening of the new eco-building, the team celebrated so much they ended up **hammered**.*
 - a) Exhausted
 - b) Drunk
 - c) Overworked





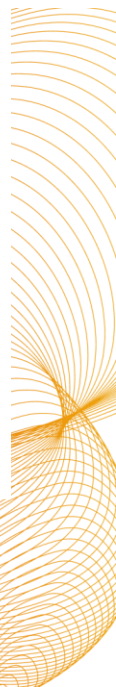
FEATURES OF THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE: SLANG

3. When asked to choose between the two façade designs, the lead architect shrugged and said, "**I'm easy.**"

- a) I'm enthusiastic b) I'm touched c) I have no preference

4. The team working on the outdoor site joked, "**It's brass monkey outside today!**"

- a) Very crowded b) Very noisy c) Extremely cold





Thank you.
Please feel free to ask any questions.