

ADULTS



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Activity 1

Nip and Tuck

A. Find the correct order

Here are seven lines from the play. Put them in a logical order.

- Dawn No, listen, he said if I sign up for the liposuction now, he'll give me a 25% discount!
- Erica The surgeon just wants your money!
- Dawn Got to be before the end of the month
- Erica What?
- Dawn Having a bit of 'lipo' done next.
- Erica So when's that, then?
- Dawn Well, the surgeon said ...

B. Vocabulary

Match these words from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Nip | a. a medical operation to remove fat from part of someone's body |
| 2. telltale | b. go somewhere quickly and just for a short time |
| 3. jowl | c. interfere with |
| 4. mess with | d. obvious signs of something |
| 5. liposuction | e. a substance injected into the face to make the skin look younger |
| 6. botox | f. the lower part of the cheek , especially if the skin hangs over the jaw |

C. Find the colloquial expression

Look at the play and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a noun meaning *man*
2. a noun meaning *not illegal* or *dishonest*

3. a noun meaning *breasts*
4. a noun meaning *someone who makes it difficult for other people to enjoy themselves*
5. a three-word expression meaning *every possible thing*
6. a three-word expression meaning **accept it because you cannot change it**

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. Got an appointment at two.
2. Specialist, apparently.
3. Good, aren't they?
4. Having a bit of 'lipo' done next.
5. Got to be before the end of the month.
6. Just starting to get those tell-tale jowls.

E. Chunks

Rearrange the words to make phrases from the text.

1. come now mention you it to
2. bit side on a small the
3. the it end worth it'll in be
4. my I've up mind made
5. know mean you I what do ?
6. live it with just

F. Discussion

What do you think of cosmetic surgery? Would you have it done? Why? Why not?

Activity 2

The bus stop

A. What are they discussing?

1. Read this short extract from the beginning of the play:

Lilian Goodness me! Rotten thing. I only bought it last week! It's supposed to come on automatically.

Mark Can I help?

Lilian Oh! ... Err... Go on then, see if you can make it work.

Mark There we are.

Lilian Well, I never! How did you do that?

Mark Just press that little button there. It's switched on now.

Lilian You youngsters, you can do anything, can't you? No trouble at all.

Mark Well, not always; it's just that my mum's got one exactly the same.

- What do you think Lilian bought last week? Why?

a. a watch b. a mobile phone c. a radio

2. Why was Mark able to solve the problem?

- a. He's young.
- b. His Mum showed him how to do it.
- c. He's familiar with this type of device.

B. Vocabulary

Match these words from the text with their meanings.

1. a cough drop a. drive past very fast

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 2. a regular | b. cease to exist |
| 3. whizz by | c. a ticket that allows you to travel without paying each time |
| 4. due | d. a type of sweet containing medicine |
| 5. a bus pass | e. supposed to arrive |
| 6. die off | f. a passenger who often makes the same journey |

C. Find the colloquial expression

Look in the play and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear.

1. a five-word expression meaning *it's started raining heavily*
2. a three-word expression meaning *almost no-one*
3. a three-word expression meaning *the journey to school by car each morning and back again in the afternoon*
4. a two-word expression meaning *a car that is expensive to drive because it uses too much petrol*
5. a three-word expression meaning *something that makes you think about things in a serious way*
6. a three-word expression meaning *do what we can to help*

D. Colloquial language

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. Been like this for weeks.
2. You been waiting long?
3. Wouldn't bother looking at that.
4. You a regular then?
5. Know what you mean.
6. You ever thought of becoming a comedian?

E. Discussion: Topic

Which of these topics do you think is the main topic of the play?

- a. modern technology
- b. transport problems
- c. the weather
- d. global warming
- e. anti-social vehicles

Activity 3

Air-Travel

A. Complete the phrases

The two people in the play are complaining about how they are treated by budget airlines. Complete the sentences using the words in the box.

cheques	tax	toilets	credit card	baggage
---------	-----	---------	-------------	---------

1. There's a charge for payment by _____.
2. Then they add on the _____.
3. And there's the extra _____ charge.
4. And they won't accept _____.
5. The _____ are still free, though!

Now listen to the play and check your answers.

B. Vocabulary

Match these words from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. shove | a. a piece of equipment used in airport security |
| 2. scanner | b. make a short high-pitched electronic sound |
| 3. beep | c. push something or someone with force |
| 4. filling | d. search someone with your hands |
| 5. frisk | e. free of charge |
| 6. complimentary | f. a small amount of metal used to fill a hole in a tooth |

C. Find the colloquial expression

Look at the transcript and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a three-word expression meaning *earn a lot of money*
2. a three-word expression meaning *very often*
3. a four-word expression meaning *completely finished*
4. a five-word expression meaning *enjoy it while you can*
5. a two-word phrasal verb meaning *afford*
6. a three-word expression meaning *in all possible ways*

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. Could've had a cuppa while we're sitting here.
2. Regular as clockwork.
3. Just can't win.
4. Probably better for the environment too.
5. Heard it on the bus.

6. Wouldn't worry you though, would it?

E. Discussion

- Have you ever flown with a budget airline? If so, describe your experience.
- Are budget airlines a good thing? Why? Why not?

Activity 4

The Supermarket

A. Extracts from the play

Look at these six lines from the play. Put them into the order in which you think they appear in the play. Then read the play to check your answer.

- a. We got enough spuds, Stace?
- b. But we're here nearly every day!
- c. Nothing wrong with chips, my girl.
- d. I just need a few things for tonight's dinner.
- e. I doubt it. We've had chips three times this week already.
- f. Stop moaning, Stace. We won't be long.

B. Vocabulary

Match these colloquial words from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. moan | a. a dishonest plan or method for making someone give you money |
| 2. toms | b. throw |
| 3. spuds | c. tomatoes |
| 4. con | d. potatoes |
| 5. mess about | e. complain |
| 6. chuck | f. behave in a silly way |

C. Topic

Which of these is the main topic of the play?

- a. organic food
- b. the price of food
- c. swine flu
- d. holidays
- e. fitness training
- f. food and fitness

D. Colloquial language

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. Where they from?
2. Course.
3. We got enough spuds, Stace?
4. Nothing wrong with chips, my girl.
5. Tell you what ...
6. You still playing netball, Stace?

E. Discussion

What do you regularly buy when you shop for food? Are you interested in knowing where your food comes from? Why? Why not?

Activity 5

The train

A. Complete the extract

Use these words to fill the gaps in this short extract from the play.

limit because admit cough given up

Angela At least you got rid of that (1) _____, though. I'd rather have you fat than having that cough. Used to drive me mad.

Colin Who are you calling fat?

Angela Well, you've got to (2) _____ you're a bit on the chubby side these days.

Colin It's because I've (3) _____ smoking. I told you!

Angela It's (4) _____ you drink eight pints of lager a day more like.

Colin I never have more than six. Six is my (5) _____.

B. Vocabulary

Match these words from the play with their meanings.

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 1. reckon | a. overweight |
| 2. a quick one | b. a unit for measuring liquid, equal to 0.57 litres |
| 3. fags | c. think |
| 4. chubby | d. cigarettes |
| 5. angina | e. an alcoholic drink consumed in a short space of time |
| 6. a pint | f. a medical condition in which the blood flow to the heart is restricted |

C. Find the colloquial expression

Listen to the play and find the following words and phrases. They are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a four-word expression meaning finish it
2. two two-word phrasal verbs meaning stop doing something that you are addicted to
3. a three-word expression meaning makes sense
4. a six-word expression meaning it is not possible to have everything you want at the same time
5. a three-word expression meaning to make a person feel angry
6. a noun meaning alcoholic

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. Depends how quick it is at the doctor's.
2. Remember last time?
3. Used to drive me mad.
4. Supposed to be better for your blood pressure than the others.
5. Never out of the Red Lion.
6. Doesn't get the bad headaches you get with the ones I'm on now.

E. Discussion

In the UK and many other countries, it is illegal to smoke in public places and workplaces. Should similar measures be taken against drinking alcohol?

Activity 6

The Pub

A. What is the play about?

Here are some words and phrases from the play:

cutting down	Friday night	darts	a splitting headache
clubbing	dance music	booze	get into shape

1. Where do you think the play is set?

- a. in a restaurant b. in a pub c. in a doctor's surgery

2. What do you think the play will be about?

- a. going out at the weekend b. drinking too much c. violence

B. Vocabulary

Match these words from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. plonker | a. go somewhere quickly and for a short time |
| 2. peckish | b. alcoholic drink |
| 3. booze | c. a stupid person |
| 4. love handles | d. unpleasantly wet and soft |
| 5. nip | e. slightly hungry |
| 6. soggy | f. areas of fat at the sides of someone's waist |

C. Find the colloquial expression

Look in the play and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a three-word expression meaning *it's my turn to buy the drinks*
2. a four-word expression meaning *a fight has started*
3. a four-word expression meaning *to give your opinions about something in a loud and annoying way*

4. a three-word expression meaning *the police*
5. a three-word expression meaning *wait a second*
6. a three-word expression that is a euphemism for *toilet*

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. You clubbing tonight?
2. ... know what I mean?
3. Said to tell you she was just nippin' next door ...
4. Think I'll join you, Dave.
5. Yes, you got a point there, Dave.
6. No, think I'll stay here ...

E. Phrasal verbs

Match the verbs with their meanings.

- | | |
|---------------|--|
| 1. sort out | a. start |
| 2. cut down | b. force someone to leave |
| 3. kick off | c. do physical exercise to keep fit |
| 4. work out | d. reduce the amount of something |
| 5. chuck out | e. dilute a liquid to make it weaker |
| 6. water down | f. deal with a difficult person successfully |

F. What's the topic?

Which of these topics do you think is the main topic of the play?

- a. keeping fit
- b. losing weight
- c. drinking too much

d. diet

e. violence

f. relationships

G. Discussion

What action should the authorities take to stop young people drinking too much alcohol?

Activity 7

Relationships

A. Complete the extract

Here is a short extract from the play. Fill the gaps in the sentences using the words in the box. Then check your answers in the play's transcript.

funny type ages innermost honest
--

Lesley I don't know why you're so worried. You've been seeing him for
(1) _____. Surely you can be (2) _____ with
each other.

Sarah-Jane Yes, but he gets a bit (3) _____ if I go all emotional on him.

Lesley Tell me about it! I know the (4) _____!

Sarah-Jane No! You've got him all wrong. It's just that he can't express his
(5) _____ feelings.

B. Vocabulary

Match these words from the text with their meanings

- | | |
|---------------|---|
| 1. confiscate | a. affected by a bad reaction to something that you eat, breathe or touch |
| 2. hangover | b. end a romantic or sexual relationship |
| 3. commitment | c. the feeling of being tired and sick after drinking alcohol |
| 4. allergic | d. a duty and responsibility you have |
| 5. heartache | e. emotional pain and sadness |
| 6. dump | f. officially remove someone's possessions |

C. Find the colloquial expression

Look at the transcript and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a three-word expression meaning *hurry up and say it*
2. a two-word expression meaning *nervous because you don't know what's going to happen*
3. a three-word expression meaning *willing to do something*
4. a three-word expression meaning *show people how attractive you look*
5. a five-word expression meaning *with no hair at all*
6. a two-word expression meaning *someone who considers themselves to be extremely attractive*

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. Drunk again?
2. Doesn't want commitment, more like.
3. Doesn't like cats.
4. Done it.
5. Told him I met Chris.
6. Can't wait.

E. Discussion

Which of the following things would you do / not do in a relationship?

- try to make your partner jealous
- lie
- tell your partner your innermost feelings
- tell your partner you love him/her by text message
- dump your partner by text message

Activity 8

The bank

A. Find the correct order

Here are five lines from the beginning of the play. Put them in a logical order.

- Ssh! A pain in the backside, that's what it is!
- What do they care? The hole in the wall's run out of cash, and they still send most of the cashiers to lunch!
- What is this, a bank holiday?
- Oh, no, not again! Would you look at that queue?
- Just my luck! This is my lunch hour!

2. Now look at the play and check your answers.

B. Vocabulary

Match these nouns from the text (1-6) with their meanings (a-f).

- | | |
|-----------------|--|
| 1. ploy | a. a situation in which a bank regains ownership of a property because the owners are unable to continue paying for their loan |
| 2. gimmick | b. money borrowed from a bank to buy a house |
| 3. bailiff | c. a way of tricking someone to make them do what you want |
| 4. repossession | d. an official whose job is to take away the possessions of someone who has not paid money they owe |
| 5. mortgage | e. extra money paid in addition to your usual salary |
| 6. bonus | f. something that is intended to impress you but is not really useful at all |

C. Find the colloquial expression

Look in the play and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a four-word expression meaning *cash machine* (ATM)

2. a four-word expression meaning *believing something completely, usually something that is not true*
3. an informal noun which is short for *sandwich*
4. a two-word expression meaning *not willing to tolerate someone or to accept something that someone has done*
5. a two-word phrasal verb meaning *admit something is true or that you have done something wrong*
6. a four-word expression meaning *to make you feel very angry*

C. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. See the blonde girl on the end?
2. Chats away to all the customers.
3. You know Christine?
4. She still living in Epping?
5. Must be tough, though.
6. Probably gonna discuss her juicy bonus this year.

D. Phrasal verbs

Match the verbs (1-6) with their meanings (a-f).

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| 1. run out (of) | a. believe that a trick is true |
| 2. sign up | b. suddenly leave a person who needs you |
| 3. fall for | c. cheat |
| 4. keep up with | d. agree to join something |
| 5. walk out on | e. use all of something and not have any left |
| 6. rip off | f. continue with |

E. What's the topic?

Which of these topics do you think is the main topic of the play?

- a. queuing
- b. the poor performance of banks
- c. lazy staff
- d. winning competitions
- e. social housing
- f. relationships

F. Discussion

Is it right for governments to give money to banks that have made mistakes and caused huge economic problems? Why? Why not?

Activity 9

Nightmare Neighbours

A. Complete the extract

Use these words to fill the gaps in this short extract from the play.

row drives slept eye swear

Eric Well, do you know, I thought I heard something, but I was so knackered last night, I must have _____ (1) through it!

George Well, I'm not surprised. No one round here has been getting much sleep with all that _____ (2).

Eric Know what you mean. I've had to take time off! If I've heard that song once, I've heard

it a thousand times! Over and over again, she plays it. I _____ (3) I'll go off my trolley soon.

George Oh, I know, _____ (4) you round the twist! What's her name?

Always on the telly. MTV channel. My son watches it.

Eric I can see her in my mind's _____ (5). Does all that erotic dancing. Can't think of her name. George It'll come to me in a minute.

Now listen to the play or look at the transcript and check your answers.

B. Vocabulary

Match these words from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| 1. swoop | a. something unpleasant done in revenge for something |
| 2. jumped up | b. make a sudden and unexpected attack on a place |
| 3. reprisals | c. large, strong men paid to persuade someone using threats |
| 4. knackered | d. think |
| 5. heavies | e. very tired (informal) |
| 6. reckon | f. thinking you are more important than you really are |

C. Listen

What is the main topic of the play?

1. violent neighbours
2. noisy neighbours
3. nosey neighbours

Listen to the recording and choose the best answer.

D. Find the colloquial expression

Look at the transcript of the play and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a two-word expression meaning *yes, definitely*
2. a four-word expression meaning *to go crazy*
3. a five-word expression meaning *to make someone crazy*
4. a two-word expression meaning *£5,000*
5. a two-word expression meaning *an old car in a bad condition*
6. a four-word expression meaning *an unkind or unpleasant person*
7. a four-word expression meaning *help someone*
8. a two-word expression which is an insulting term meaning *an annoying person, usually someone who is not very tall*

E. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

Which words are missing from these examples from the play?

1. Probably took the kitchen sink while they were at it.
2. ... drives you round the twist.
3. No respect, is there?
4. Nasty piece of work.
5. Does all that erotic dancing.
6. No need, mate.

F. Discussion

Anti-social behaviour (vandalism, drunkenness, theft and so on) is a major problem in many countries. What action should be taken against people who make the lives of other people a misery?

Activity 10

Celebrities

A. Complete the extract

Here is a short extract from the play. Fill the gaps using these words. Then check your answers in the play.

bull	sign	stars	load	rubbish
------	------	-------	------	---------

1. Andy You read your _____?
2. George No. Don't believe in that _____.
3. Andy What's your _____?
4. George Taurus – the _____.
5. Andy Sagittarius, me. _____ of rubbish!

B. Vocabulary

Match these words from the text with their meanings.

- | | |
|------------------|---|
| 1. paparazzi | a. start looking or feeling happier |
| 2. dreary | b. part of a newspaper about famous people's private lives |
| 3. brighten up | c. photographers who follow famous people |
| 4. lurid | d. a sexual relationship |
| 5. gossip column | e. full of unpleasant or sexual details that are meant to shock you |
| 6. liaison | f. making you feel bored and unhappy |

C. Find the colloquial expression

Listen to the play and find the following words and phrases. Note that they are in the order in which they appear in the play.

1. a three-word expression meaning *to be arrested/prosecuted for*
2. a three-word expression meaning *punch very hard*
3. a noun meaning *stupid and unimportant things that someone says or writes*

4. a noun meaning *someone who is easily tricked or persuaded to do something*
5. a two-word expression meaning *annoying children who behave badly if they don't get what they want*
6. a four-word expression meaning *back to work*

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

1. Which words are missing from these examples from the play?
2. Been done for possession, hasn't he?
3. Didn't know you could read.
4. Probably telling you to stop blocking the road ...
5. Can't beat it.
6. Shouldn't be allowed.
7. You read your stars?

E. Discussion

What topics to George and Andy talk about during their conversation? Mention at least three.

Answer Key

Activity 1: Nip and tuck

A. Find the correct order

5; 4; 7; 2; 1; 6; 3

B. Vocabulary

1. b; 2. d; 3. f; 4. c; 5. a; 6. e

C. Find the colloquial expression

1. bloke; 2. kosher; 3. boobs; 4. killjoy; 5. the full monty; 6. live with it

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

1. I've got an appointment at two.
2. He's a specialist, apparently.
3. They're good, aren't they?
4. I'm having a bit of 'lipo' done next.
5. It's got to be before the end of the month.
6. I'm just starting to get those telltale jowls

E. Chunks

1. Now you come to mention it ...
2. ... a bit on the small side.
3. It'll be worth it in the end.
4. I've made up my mind.
5. Do you know what I mean?
6. Just live with it.

F.

Students' own answers.

Activity 2: The bus stop

A. What are they discussing?

1. b; 2. c

B. Vocabulary

1. d; 2. f; 3. a; 4. e; 5. c; 6. b

C. Find the colloquial expression

1. the heavens have opened up; 2. hardly a soul; 3. the school run; 4. gas guzzler; 5. a sobering thought; 6. do our bit

D. Colloquial language

1. It's been like this for weeks.
2. Have you been waiting long?
3. I wouldn't bother looking at that.
4. Are you a regular, then?
5. I know what you mean.
6. Have you ever thought of becoming a comedian?

E. Discussion: Topic

There is no single answer to this question but the most likely overall theme of the play is d.

Activity 3: Air Travel

B. Complete the phrases

1. credit card; 2. tax; 3. baggage; 4. cheques; 5. toilets

B. Vocabulary

1. c; 2. a; 3. b; 4. f; 5. d; 6. e

C. Find the colloquial expression

1. rake it in; 2. regular as clockwork;
3. over and done with; 4. make the most of it;

5. stretch to; 6. every which way

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

1. We could have had a cuppa while we're sitting here

2. You just can't win.

3. (It's) as regular as clockwork.

4. It's probably better for the environment too.

5. I heard it on the bus.

6. It wouldn't worry you though, would it?

Activity 4: The Supermarket

A. Extracts from the play

f; d; b; a; e; c

B. Vocabulary

1. e; 2. c; 3. d; 4. a; 5. f; 6. b

C. Topic

There is no single answer to this question but the most likely overall topic of the subjects discussed is f.

D. Colloquial language

1. Where are they from?

2. Of course.

3. Have we got enough spuds, Stace?

4. There's nothin' wrong with chips, my girl.

5. I'll tell you what ...

6. Are you still playing netball, Stace?

Activity 6: The Train

A. Complete the extract

1. cough; 2. admit; 3. given up; 4. because; 5. limit

B. Vocabulary

1. c; 2. e; 3. d; 4. a; 5. f; 6. b

C. Find the colloquial expression

1. have done with it
2. give up, pack in
3. (it) stands to reason
4. you can't have it both ways
5. drive someone mad
6. alky

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

1. It depends how quick it is at the doctor's.
2. Do you remember last time?
3. It used to drive me mad.
4. It's supposed to be better for your blood pressure than the others.
5. She's never out of the Red Lion.
6. She doesn't get the bad headaches you get with the ones I'm on now.

Activity 6: The Pub

A. What is the play about?

1. b; 2. students' own answers

B. Vocabulary

1. c; 2. e; 3. b; 4. f; 5. a; 6. d

C. Find the colloquial expression

1. it's my shout; 2. it's all kicking off; 3. shout one's mouth off; 4. the Old Bill; 5. hold your horses;
6. little boy's room

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

1. Are you clubbing tonight?
2. Do you know what I mean?
3. She said to tell you she was just nippin' next door.
4. I think I'll join you, Dave.
5. Yes, you've got a point there.
6. No, I think I'll stay here.

E. Phrasal verbs

1. f; 2. d; 3. a; 4. c; 5. b; 6. e

F. What's the topic?

There is no single answer to this. Keeping fit and losing weight are mentioned, as is violence and, indirectly, relationships. The fact that the play is set in a pub and that 'a splitting headache' is referred to suggests that c is the main theme, however.

Activity 7: Relationships

A. Complete the extract

1. ages; 2. honest; 3. funny; 4. type; 5. innermost

B. Vocabulary

1. f; 2. c; 3. d; 4. a; 5. e; 6. b

C. Find the colloquial expression

1. spit it out; 2. on tenterhooks; 3. up for it; 4. strut your stuff; 5. as bald as a coot; 6. God's gift

D. Colloquial language – Ellipsis

1. Were you drunk again?

2. He doesn't want commitment, more like.
3. He doesn't like cats.
4. I've done it.
5. I've told him I met Chris.
6. I can't wait.

Activity 8: The bank

A. Find the correct order

4; 5; 2; 3; 1

B. Vocabulary

1. c; 2. f; 3. d; 4. a; 5. b; 6. e

C. Find the colloquial expression

1. hole in the wall; 2. hook, line and sinker; 3. sarnie; 4. can't stand; 5. fess up; 6. make your blood boil

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

1. Can you see the blonde girl on the end?
2. She chats away to all the customers.
3. Do you know Christine?
4. Does she still live in Epping?

Activity 9: Nightmare neighbour

A. Complete the extract

1. slept; 2. row; 3. swear; 4. drives; 5. eye

B. Vocabulary

1. b; 2. f; 3. a; 4. e; 5. c; 6. d

C. Listen

2. There is a suggestion at the end that the neighbours might be violent too, but the main theme is the noise they make.

D. Find the colloquial expression

1. not 'alf; 2. go off your trolley; 3. drive someone round the twist; 4. five grand; 5. old banger; 6. nasty piece of work; 7. give someone a hand; 8. little squirt

E. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

1. They probably took the kitchen sink while they were at it.
2. It drives you round the twist.
3. There's no respect, is there?
4. He's a nasty piece of work.
5. She does all that erotic dancing.
6. There's no need, mate.

Activity 10: Celebrities

A. Complete the extract

1. stars; 2. rubbish; 3. sign; 4. bull; 5. load

B. Vocabulary

1. c; 2. f; 3. a; 4. e; 5. b; 6. d

C. Find the colloquial expression

1. be done for; 2. lay one on; 3. drivel; 4. sucker;
5. spoiled brats; 6. back to the grindstone

D. Colloquial language: Ellipsis

1. He's been done for possession, hasn't he?
2. I didn't know you could read.
3. He's probably telling you to stop blocking the road.

4. You can't beat it.
5. It shouldn't be allowed.
6. Did you read your stars?

E. Discussion: Topic

There are a number of topics mentioned during George and Andy's conversation. Suggested topics could include celebrities, tabloid newspapers, astrology, laziness, relationships, bad drivers. The main topic of their conversation is probably celebrities, as they begin by talking about one who has been arrested for possession of drugs, go on to mention publicity, paparazzi, etc., and then discuss a footballer's indiscretions. It could be argued that the men are lazy but, as George points out, it is their lunch break. Bad drivers are mentioned, but only in passing.