



MC Academy

MAY



Newsletter

OUR MISSION:
Motivate - Support - Guide

What's the topic?

Find all 10 words in this word search, then use them to guess what the topic is!

Send your answers to
charlotte.portman@themcacademy.co.uk

D	G	A	N	F	F	S	R	O	K	M	N	R	C	C
U	I	S	X	A	H	R	K	S	K	J	Z	O	O	M
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N	J	T	I	H	R	A	M	Y	M	Z	Z	K	P	T
G	Y	F	M	I	S	D	Q	S	W	I	Z	D	O	A
Q	J	L	N	R	Y	I	X	D	S	F	E	D	S	R
M	L	I	T	Y	U	N	D	U	P	P	S	G	X	U
S	B	X	F	Y	F	G	A	M	E	S	B	L	N	E
A	V	M	E	D	I	T	A	T	I	O	N	T	L	L
G	Y	W	K	B	H	V	Y	A	M	Q	N	I	J	F



Viral Videos

Did you know, learners are much more likely to remember English if they watch, listen and learn through videos? Also, it can be a lot more fun! Find clips that help you to study grammar, a specific language skill or even just to relax or laugh. Below is a selection of three videos that you might find useful on your language learning adventure: a grammar explanation, a music video and a bit of fun.

1. English with Lucy - Northern vs. Southern accents / British English



Follow the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QmxksDIL1cw>
Don't forget you can use the subtitles/captions at any time :)

Lucy is British born and bred. She makes videos on accent, idioms and all manner of particularities when learning English. For example, **do you know the difference between *the Northern and Southern accents of England?*** Well, listen and watch the video and you might just find the answer! In this episode, Lucy and Anna teach us the important differences between the two and how to tell the difference when listening. *Ahhfter* this, perhaps you can have a try at using these different accents yourself.

2. Alicia Keys - Empire State of Mind



Follow the link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yQ3fX1tEgVk>

'There's nothing you can't do!' screams Alicia Keys, a New York singer/songwriter. It's a motta we can get behind even if we haven't been to New York ourselves! In this song 'Empire State of Mind', Alicia talks about the liveliest city on Earth and what it means to experience big city life. Like all songs posted here, you might find a lot of useful vocabulary hidden amongst the lyrics while learning a bit of Western culture. **How many words does Alicia use to describe a city or parts of a city? Is everything she describes positive or are there some negatives too?**

3. Hot Ones - Eating Spicy Chicken Wings



Follow the link for a playlist: <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLAzrgbu8gEMJZoWcO2Jrrm647r0oQZgqQ>

Don't forget you can use the subtitles/captions at any time :)

It's the show with hot questions and even hotter wings! Hot Ones is a show that could easily be found on TV. With high production value and flair, the host, Shaun Evans, interviews a variety of celebrities from the basketball star **Shaquille O'Neal** to Game of Thrones' very own **Maisie Williams** while they eat spicy chicken wings! **Watch any video from the playlist to improve your listening and informal vocabulary.**

Not-so-normal News

Rescuing bears from trees? Running marathons in the garden? Learning three languages at once!? Below, you'll find a recent news article that might baffle you or may even restore your faith in humanity.

Thousands left heartbroken over lonely dog who's really had enough of lockdown



Oh.. look at his little face! A three-year-old English bulldog is breaking hearts all over the world right now after his owner shared a photo of him looking sad and fed up during the coronavirus lockdown

If you've been on social media in the last few days, you might have come across Big Poppa. Big Poppa, real name Pop, is a three-year-old English bulldog who lives in Atlanta, Georgia. Pop is owned by 38-year-old costume designer Rashida Ellis and the pooch loves playing with the children in his building. However due to the coronavirus pandemic and lockdown, the bulldog hasn't been able to see any of his friends as they're all social distancing. As a result, Big Poppa has been feeling pretty down lately, sitting on the balcony, watching people from afar. Earlier this week Rashida snapped a picture of her dog looking pretty miserable and the photo quickly went viral after she posted it on social media.

She shared it on Twitter, writing: "Big Poppa has been so sad today, I think he misses playing with the kids in the building. He just watches them from the patio." So far more than 662,000 people have liked the tweet and over 73,000 have retweeted it. The touching photo is breaking hearts and people are vowing to do anything they can to help cheer up Pop. One person said: "I would throw myself in front of the virus if it meant Big Poppa could go play with the kids." Another posted: "My COVID-19 priorities have now shifted to whatever is best for Big Poppa."

Pop's owner Rashida spoke to Buzzfeed about the photo and why people are finding it so moving. She explained: "I think when people look at that photo, we can all relate right now. We can't do the things that we used to do, we can't hang out with our friends. I think it just happened to be this dog — and not only is he so sad and cute and you want everything to change for him, but you want everything to change for yourself, too, because we're all in this situation."

Follow this link to the original report and photos: <https://www.mirror.co.uk/news/weird-news/thousands-left-heartbroken-over-lonely-21914179>

Keep calm during Covid



During these uncertain times it is important to look after your mental and physical health. In this edition of *Keep Calm During Covid* we have two great ideas for healthy activities: a calming meditation, if you want to relax, and a super fun workout if you want to get moving!

Adriene Mishler is a popular online yoga teacher, and her YouTube channel *Yoga with Adriene* has hundreds of free yoga and meditation classes. Meditation is a fantastic tool for calming the mind during times of stress or anxiety. This meditation can be done at the start of your day and will help you feel relaxed. Follow this link to access the meditation: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k0PSUDvLi8E>



Feeling a bit more energetic? Have a go at this fun 80's themed workout! Exercise releases endorphins in the brain which make you feel happy, so follow this 15-minute workout and you will be in a better mood in no time! 80's workout clothes optional! https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=119_3TU7kh8



Idiom Corner ..IN

THIS PART OF THE NEWSLETTER WE ARE CHALLENGING YOU TO LEARN SOME NEW IDIOMS! IDIOMS ARE USEFUL EXPRESSIONS THAT ARE OFTEN USED BY NATIVE SPEAKERS.



Here's another **great short video** for you to brush up on your idioms!

With all the time we're spending at home there is no better time to get those **cleaning** gloves out.

Watch [this video](#) on **idioms related to cleaning** and test your English

Can you guess the **3 idioms related to cleaning** in 15 seconds?

Can you use them in a sentence?

Try to use them in your next class!

Do you remember the idioms from **last month related to the house?**...

The elephant in the room - a difficult subject everyone knows but doesn't want to discuss

The writing's on the wall - it is clear something bad is going to happen

Everything but the kitchen sink- a lot of or too many things

JOKE JUNCTION

DO YOU KNOW ANY ENGLISH JOKES? SEE IF THESE JOKES BELOW MAKE YOU LAUGH!

Why shouldn't you put the letter 'M' into the refrigerator?

Q: Why shouldn't you put the letter 'M' into the refrigerator?

A: Because it turns ice into mice!

Why did the Cyclops stop teaching?

Q: Why did the Cyclops stop teaching?

A: Because he only had one pupil.

Why didn't the skeleton go to the party?

Q: Why didn't the skeleton go to the party?

A: Because he had no-body to go with!

Why was the crab sent to prison?

Q: Why was the crab sent to prison?

A: Because he kept pinching things!

Do you know any better jokes?...

Send them into harrylhargreaves@gmail.com and we'll show them in next month's newsletter!

Star Students IELTS



"I would like to put forward
Aeshah Hassan A Salami
from IELTS 5.5.
Well Done!"

"**Wasim Asghar**'s been a very active student, asking lots of questions in class and trying various ways to improve his English skills. He is an enthusiastic student who has made tremendous progress in his short period of study. Wasim has practised and demonstrated a strong command of grammar and has always made an effort to do extra work. He has done amazingly well in class tests too!"



"I'd like to put forward my student, **Hajar** for star student this month! She has been outstanding, always contributing to class, supporting other learners and staying motivated when I know times are tough. She was one of a few students to come in and do her Friday IELTS writing test on the first day of Ramadan! I'll be sad to see her go as she has been a real asset!"



Star Students

General English



"I'd like to nominate **Filipe** as the star student this month. He's really committed to improving his English and works hard every week - rain or shine!
He always asks questions if he doesn't understand anything and his writing has improved so much since he joined the class!"



"I'd like to nominate **Saed** from my Class One. He has been super dedicated to improving his English, even during these difficult times! He has taken to studying online really well and is always keen to carry out extra study out of class time."



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