

САРАТОВСКИЙ ГОСУДАРСТВЕННЫЙ УНИВЕРСИТЕТ
ИМ. Н.Г. ЧЕРНЫШЕВСКОГО
ИНСТИТУТ ФИЛОЛОГИИ И ЖУРНАЛИСТИКИ

Соколова Е.Д., Талахадзе В.Т., Шаповалова Т.А., Шур А.М.

**FEMALE DILEMMA: CAREER OR FAMILY?
(READING NOVELS BY H. FIELDING AND S. KINSELLA)**

Учебное пособие для студентов языковых специальностей

Саратов
2012

Sophie Kinsella
The Undomestic Goddess

Саратовский государственный университет имени Н. Г. Чернышевского

Pre-reading

According to the author's biography, Sophie Kinsella is a writer and former financial journalist. She is the author of the popular "Shopaholic" novels, as well as "Can You Keep a Secret?". Unlike her character in "The Undomestic Goddess", Sophie's housekeeping and cooking skills are legendary.

Sophie Kinsella is one of those writers who are excellent at setting the pace and making you feel involved. Her characters are utterly believable. You end up feeling for them. You want them to do well and have that happy ending they so richly deserve.

It is true that "The Undomestic Goddess" is not a deep and meaningful read. It is not intended to be. It is the kind of book you take from the shelf when curling up in bed before sleep, to end the day with a smile on your face. Alternatively, you could take it along with you to the beach, or read it on the train on your way to work. In the latter case, you might get some puzzled looks from other commuters when you get to the funny bits (which will be often).

I would recommend this book to anyone who fancies a smooth, amusing, feel-good reading experience. The added touch of romance is a pleasant bonus.

(Kit Marsters from <http://ezinearticles.com>)

To find out more about Sophie Kinsella you could go to her official website

<http://www.sophiekinsella.co.uk>

A **review** from <http://thebestreviews.com>:

In London attorney Samantha Sweeting works 24/7 on her legal career in order to achieve her objective of becoming the youngest partner at twenty-nine in Carter Spinks law firm's illustrious history. Having sold her soul to run around at hyperspeed and juggling a ton of cases, Samantha makes a horrendous error involving the Glazerbrooks account that cost her client Third Union Bank a bundle and her firm the legal fee. Her escalator to the top stalled ironically on her birthday and stunned how she fumbled the issue, Samantha already suffering from battle fatigue syndrome, mentally collapses unable to face anyone.

She takes the first train out, leaving the city in a mental fog. She disembarks in the middle of nowhere and through a series of misunderstandings obtains a job as a full time housekeeper though she has never cleaned, done laundry or cooked at the Geigers' home. There she meets the gardener Nathaniel, who knows immediately that the newcomer is an "undomestic", but also believes she is a Goddess. As they fall in love, he expects she will leave him once she opts to go back to her real work, which occurs when she begins to unravel a scandal at her law firm.

THE UNDOMESTIC GODDESS is an interesting character study of an up and coming professional mentally struggling with a mistake that has derailed her career. Unable to cope, see anyone, and panicked, Samantha flees the city where she soon finds a life something she gave away at Carter Spinks. Readers will enjoy this fine tale while wondering if Samantha will choose the legal rat race or domestic tranquility.

A **review** from <http://www.amazon.co.uk>:

Fantastic, fantastic, fantastic. I bought this book to read on a flight from the UK to Australia and it had me laughing so loud I was quite an embarrassment! I'm not a 'chick lit' kind of girl but this was a real exception. As an author myself I really admire the talent it takes to write a book where almost every line makes you smile or laugh. Pure escapism, very charming and such good fun, and somehow it also manages to be a book which makes you take stock of what really counts in life. This should be compulsory reading for every workaholic - and certainly every lawyer. In fact I'm going to order a copy for a lawyer who's a close friend right now. Enjoy!

A **review** from <http://www.curledup.com>:

Sophie Kinsella, author of the popular *Shopaholic* series featuring Becky Bloomwood, has introduced a new heroine in her latest novel *The Undomestic Goddess*. The "goddess" in

question is Samantha Sweeting, a twenty-nine-year-old lawyer on the fast track to becoming partner at swanky law firm Carter Spink. Although Sam loves her job and wants nothing more than to be a partner, she has no social life to speak of, is stressed out beyond belief, and her high-powered mother and brother can't even make the time to join her for her latest birthday celebration. All of this seems worth it, though, when she finds out that she has achieved her biggest goal—she has become a partner at Carter Spink. Unfortunately, the joy is short-lived. Sam finds some papers buried on her desk that she apparently forgot to file—and that little mistake has cost one of their clients fifty million pounds.

In a panic, Sam rushes out of the office, takes a train, and ends up in a small suburb of London, lost and terrified. She ends up on the doorstep of Trish and Eddie Geiger, who mistake her for a housekeeper come to apply for a job. Wanting only a place to crash for the night and to get her head in order, Sam unwittingly takes the job. When she finds out that she no longer has a career at Carter Spink, she decides to stick it out at the Geigers for a while. The problem? She doesn't know how to cook or clean. And though Trish and Eddie are easy to fool, the hot gardener isn't so gullible.

Unlike Becky Bloomwood, who was a bit too air-headed and ditzy for my liking, the character of Samantha Sweeting is smart, gutsy and easy to root for. It's easy to see why the gardener ends up falling for her, and their chemistry works beautifully throughout the book. Secondary characters also shine with life. Kinsella rarely makes the mistake of creating a character who falls into the 'good guy/bad guy' mold and most of the supporting cast are realistic and multi-dimensional. Like the *Shopaholic* series, the plot of *The Undomestic Goddess* requires the reader to suspend a bit of belief. For instance, it's a little difficult to buy that a high-powered lawyer would blunder her way into a job as a housekeeper and even harder to believe that a woman who couldn't boil an egg learns how to cook gourmet meals in only a few weeks. However, if you don't take the story too seriously, you won't mind these unrealistic bits and instead focus on the great characters and funny situations.

If you liked the *Shopaholic* series, you'll surely love Kinsella's new book. And, if you're like me and found Becky Bloomwood a bit too flighty, you'll find much more to like in Samantha Sweeting. *The Undomestic Goddess* is recommended to anyone who likes light, cute romances with a generous sprinkling of humor.

Chapter 1

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

High-powered job

Tense

To exercise regularly

Beauty therapist

To assess sth

Birthday treat

To intend to do sth

A robe

Paper knickers

Nutritious, varied diet

To thrive under pressure

Adrenaline rush

Thrill of negotiation

To pile heavy weights on smb

Concrete blocks
Heart rate
Haven of tranquility
To be curious about sth
Retreat
To avoid squashing sth
To confiscate sth
Dutifully
Underneath
Alert
To emit a bleep
To be up for partnership
A deal
A judder
A caller ID
An associate at ...
An inward clutch
To give smb a rueful glance
To bill a client
In chunks
To be worth a lot

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Подарочный сертификат, девиз семьи, оживить, электронное устройство, провезти контрабандой, быть на грани нервного срыва, сидеть сложа руки

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- to judge or decide the amount, value, quality or importance of something
- a loose piece of clothing which is worn before or after a bath or on top of clothing that is worn in bed
- a period of time used to pray and study quietly, or to think carefully, away from normal activities and duties
- doing everything that you should do (adverb)
- a violent shake
- to give or send someone a request for payment of money owed, or the piece of paper on which it is written asking for money that they owe for a product or service
- someone who is closely connected to another person as a companion, friend or business partner

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- We get lazy if we don't _____ enough.
- My friends gave me a _____ for a massage as a New Year present.
- What do you _____ to do today?
- His business _____ as he puts in a lot of hours.
- Teenagers are _____ about celebrities' personal lives.
- The criminals got arrested and the drugs were _____ by the Customs authorities.
- Are you really _____ for promotion?
- This dress is a rip-off! It's not _____ more than two pounds.
- Our teacher wanted us to read this _____ of text by next Friday.

5. Comprehension check:

- What is Samantha's job?

- b) What is she doing in a beauty therapist's office?
- c) What do the readers learn about her lifestyle from the questionnaire?
- d) What is Samantha's family like?
- e) Is Samantha really enjoying the beauty treatment?
- f) Why did Maya get so angry with Samantha?
- g) What is Samantha's prime concern at the moment the readers meet her?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| Beauty | partnership |
| Family | squashing |
| Adrenaline | ID |
| Heart | motto |
| To avoid | therapist |
| To emit | rush |
| To be up for | around |
| A caller | a bleep |
| To sit | rate |

6. Questions for discussion:

- 1) Do you have a kind of a motto?
- 2) Have you ever been to a retreat? Do you often feel like having one?
- 3) Samantha measured time in 6-minute chunks. What's your measurement system for time? Are you good at time-management?

* Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 2 (pp. 21-22) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) Samantha's senior partner at Carter Spink, Ketterman, was not really satisfied with the way her desk looked.
- b) Samantha is quite keen on Ketterman's way of behaviour.
- c) Samantha provided the draft documentation at once.
- d) Arnold seems to be a very likeable person.
- e) Arnold brought a letter from a client who was really happy with the service provided by Samantha.
- f) Samantha was absolutely sure she would be able to complete the assignment given by Ketterman in no time.
- g) Samantha has to deal with a lot of extra work.

Chapter 2

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- Pristine desk
- To give smb the jitters
- To emanate scary, brainy power
- To be on the decision panel
- To shove sth somewhere
- In this shambles
- Genial voice
- A flamboyant taste in ties
- A letter of appreciation

Great esteem
By any remote chance
Folder
Mundane work
To dump the file on the desk
To say in a potential-partner voice
To fancy smb
Vacuum cleaner
To visualize sth
Oven
To sound nonchalant
To terminate the conversation
To sort sth out
Polished lawyer
Devastating smile
To break up with smb
Cosmetic surgeon
The crucial part
To be flawed
Engaged signs
To jinx sth
To do big sums in the head
On purpose
The deal got wrecked as a result
to adopt a pose
to look way too serious
To grab smb
Squiffy
To do a degree in sth
To take a course in sth

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Все под рукой, оказывать протекцию кому-либо, меня посетила идея, мы сразу понравились друг другу, узнать из слухов, произвести на кого-либо впечатление

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- new or almost new, and in very good condition
- to push someone or something forcefully
- friendly and pleasant
- very confident in behaviour, or intended to be noticed, especially by being brightly coloured
- behaving in a calm manner, often in a way which suggests you are not interested or do not care
- causing a lot of damage or destruction
- not perfect, or containing mistakes
- to bring bad luck
- slightly drunk

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- After the party, the house was a complete _____.
- _____ matters such as paying bills and shopping for food do not interest her.
- He could tell she _____ him.
- I didn't do it on _____ - it was an accident.

- e) A mugger _____ her handbag as she was walking across the park.
 f) Tim _____ a three-year _____ in linguistics at Newcastle.
 g) Just look at what you've done to my coat - it's _____.
 h) I have a small gift for my colleague – a _____ in her favourite colour, pink.
 i) Most unluckily, as he came to the _____ part of his story, my boss rang me up, so I had to apologize and leave.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) What does Samantha's desk look like?
 b) Who are Ketterman and Arnold?
 c) Does Samantha have to do any extra work?
 d) Does she do a lot of housework?
 e) Who is Guy?
 f) What extraordinary ability does Samantha have?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|----------------|---------------------|
| To give smb | lawyer |
| A letter of | a pose |
| To emanate | the jitters |
| To terminate | scary, brainy power |
| Polished | the conversation |
| To hear | way too serious |
| To do big sums | appreciation |
| to look | in sth |
| To do a degree | on the grapevine |
| to adopt | in the head |

7. Questions for discussion:

- a) Do you always keep your working place neat and tidy?
 b) Are you good at telling if somebody fancies you? Would you agree to introduce Samantha's "engaged signs" system?
 c) What extra courses would you like to take?

* Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 3 (pp. 29-30) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) In the beginning of the chapter Samantha is describing the atmosphere of the meeting.
 b) The agreement has already been signed by both parties.
 c) Samantha played a very important role in reaching the agreement.
 d) Samantha did not feel fulfilled as soon as the agreement was reached.
 e) Her friend Freya would really disapprove of forgetting about social life in favour of career.
 f) Samantha has to call off many personal arrangements because of work.

Chapter 3

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

In scribbles

Like an ebb in the tide

A draft contract

Revolting
Subsidiary company
Reasonable efforts
Outraged voice
To come first
Jaded
To adjourn
To proceed
I can't help glowing
My smile is intact on my face
To nip into Selfridges
To explain each item
Who am I kidding?
Shadows under my eyes
To get fired
The only item of colour
To exchange sth for sth
Screwed up into a knot
To go together
To catch up
Barrister
Chambers
To be named as...
A breakdown
To spot smb
To disapprove of smb
To be popular with smb
Renowned lawyer
Yummy
To whizz off
To be held up at work
My smile falters
To put sth in
To go stale
In confusion
A plunge of dismay
To blow smb out
To transfer money
To proffer
Chorus
Tray
To relieve smb of the phone
To keep one's chin up
There's a stinging at the back of my eyes
To ring off
To stick one's hand out
Pavement
To walk the tightrope
To be unabashed
A blip
To make sacrifices
To see the world

Intricately worked silver perfume bottle

Kibbutz

Have a fabulous time in India!

To cover for smb

Calculated nonchalance

To cross one's fingers

To be transfixed in horror

Pied-a-terre

Insatiable interest in smb's life

To fetch sth for smb

To log sth in a little book

A stack of sth

To be past sell-by dates

To miss a button

To sew

To give smb a sympathetic pat on the arm

To look pitying

To flick on the telly

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Все возможные усилия, запланированные дела не учитываются, быть предметом чьей-либо гордости, почувствовать волчий голод, перевести на счет, сам по себе, явиться на праздник без приглашения, вести непринужденный разговор, позволять кому-либо совать нос не в свои дела, химчистка, произнести молитву

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

a) a careless piece of writing or drawing

b) when the sea or tide does this, it moves away from the coast and falls to a lower level.

c) extremely unpleasant; disgusting

d) not having interest or losing interest because something has been experienced too many times

e) to have a pause or rest during a formal meeting or trial

f) a type of lawyer in Britain, Australia and some other countries who is qualified to give specialist legal advice and can argue a case in both higher and lower law courts

g) a judge's private office. A judge may have legal discussions with lawyers in private at this place.

h) to lose strength or purpose and stop, or almost stop

i) a feeling of unhappiness and disappointment

j) to offer something by holding it out, or to offer advice or an opinion

k) a path with a hard surface on one or both sides of a road, that people walk on

l) without any worry about possible criticism or embarrassment

m) a date printed on a product such as food after which it should not be sold

n) a farm or factory in Israel where profits and duties are shared and all work is valued equally

o) a small house or apartment in a town or city which someone owns or rents in addition to their main home and which they use when visiting that town or city for a short time

p) to go to another place to get something or someone and bring them back

q) a pile of things arranged one on top of another

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

a) Local people were _____ at the bombing.

b) The UK _____ in the 100m race.

c) Preparations for the festival are now _____ smoothly.

d) Go on to the shops without me, I'll _____ you _____.

- e) I had a _____ (= my car stopped working) in the middle of the road.
- f) Traffic was _____ for several hours by the accident.
- g) The bread had gone _____.
- h) Mr White sang the verses and everybody joined in the _____.
- i) As she gave him an angry answer, he felt upset and there was a _____ at the back of his eyes, he was about to cry.
- j) During the exam period, studies become a bit of a _____.
- k) The watch mechanism is extremely _____ and very difficult to repair.
- l) It was a cruel, _____ crime with absolutely no justification.
- m) The Police Complaints Authority has _____ more than 90 complaints.
- n) He _____ the badge neatly onto his uniform.
- o) He suffers from back trouble too, so he was very _____ about my problem.
- p) As he returned home, he found out that his wallet was _____.
- q) It was impossible to remove the oil stain at home, so I went to the _____.
- r) There is a popular belief that if you have to say a lie, you have to keep your fingers _____.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) What was Samantha's role in the meeting?
- b) Did Samantha's colleagues remember her birthday?
- c) How does Samantha describe her appearance?
- d) What other facts about Samantha's family do the readers find out?
- e) Why couldn't Samantha's mother and brother attend her birthday party?
- f) Who is Freya?
- g) What kind of advice does she give Samantha?
- h) What does Samantha discover on her arrival home?
- i) Why did Samantha get angry with her neighbour, Mrs Farley?
- j) What is "the Waltons"?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|------------------|---------------|
| A draft | stale |
| Subsidiary | off |
| Best | contract |
| Renowned | chin up |
| Prior | engagements |
| To transfer | lawyer |
| To feel | company |
| To go | endeavours |
| To keep one's | money |
| To ring | ravenous |
| To walk | the telly |
| To make | in horror |
| Insatiable | the tightrope |
| To say | pitying |
| To be transfixed | interest |
| To look | grace |
| To flick on | sacrifices |

6. Questions for discussion:

- a) Samantha used to wear only black suits. What colours prevail in your wardrobe? Can you explain why?
- b) Do you visit restaurants often or do you prefer home-cooked meals? Describe your favourite restaurant, cafe, bar, etc.
- c) What is the worst birthday party you had? What would you do if you were Samantha and your party was ruined?
- d) How did you meet your best friend?
- e) Do you get on well with your neighbours?
- f) What is the best way to chill out after a stressful day, you think? Do you like to flop down in front of the telly/computer?

* Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 4 (pp. 49-51) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) Everybody in Samantha's family can boast they have a sound sleep.
- b) Samantha did not look well that morning.
- c) She found out that she did not have enough products in the fridge.
- d) She considered her to-do list a convenient way to remind herself on the things she had to accomplish.
- e) There were no similar entries on this list.
- f) Samantha seems to have few fresh products at home.
- g) The list is not a crucial part of her life.

Chapter 4

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

To totter into the bathroom

To be out of sth

Biro

Reminder

Ink

To resist the temptation to do sth

To go mouldy

To be determined

To feign a life-threatening illness

To retrieve the file off the floor

A poker straight face

A dazzling heat

An urge to do sth

To swivel round

To loathe and detest tidying

Pamphlet

Like a glittering firework

Memo

Debenture

To attend to registration

A loan for...

To delegate sth to smb

To miss the deadline

To register a charge

It's addled my brain
An unsecured loan
To search for a let-out
A queue of creditors
To feel a well of terror
Excruciating
My mind is helter-skeltering
To dive into a swamp full of leeches
Last-ditch attempt to save oneself
To gibber in panic
To double-check sth

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Это у нас семейное, начинаться с..., маленькое зеркало, инструкция, куча бумаг, неправильно понять ситуацию, обанкротиться, практикант, быть на седьмом небе, новости распространяются быстро

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- a) a type of ballpoint
- b) a written or spoken message which reminds someone to do something
- c) to to pretend to feel something
- d) to (cause to) turn round a central point in order to face in another direction
- e) a thin book with only a few pages which gives information or an opinion about something
- f) a type of loan, often used by companies to raise money, that is paid back over a long period of time and at a fixed rate of interest.
- g) to provide a service to someone, especially as part of your job; to care for or deal with someone or something
- h) to make someone feel confused and unable to think clearly
- i) extremely painful, boring or embarrassing
- j) to move quickly and in all directions
- k) to speak quickly in a way that cannot be understood, usually when you are very frightened or confused
- l) to make certain something is correct or safe, usually by examining it again.

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- a) We're all ambitious - it seems to _____ in the family.
- b) She _____ unsteadily down the stairs in her high-heeled shoes.
- c) We're a _____ of coffee - I must get some more.
- d) The computer comes with a 600-page instruction _____.
- e) We taught our dog to _____ a ball.
- f) Did you get my _____ about the meeting?
- g) As a boss you have to _____ responsibilities to your staff.
- h) She had a free haircut done by a _____ hairdresser.
- i) The _____ to steal is very strong in many of the young men we look after here.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) What was wrong with Samantha's to-do list?
- b) What does Samantha feel like the whole morning?
- c) What was the final decision concerning Samantha's partnership and how does she learn about it?
- d) What does she start doing to kill the time?
- e) Why is the memo she discovers on her desk so important?

f) How does Samantha try to figure out if she really made a mistake?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|------------------|------------------|
| To resist | of the world |
| To go | attempt |
| A poker straight | end of the stick |
| A dazzling | the temptation |
| To miss | the deadline |
| To get the wrong | bust |
| To go | heat |
| Last-ditch | face |
| To feel on top | mouldy |

7. Questions for discussion:

- Would you confess you've made a mistake if you were Samantha?
- Do you have a to-do list? What's on it at the moment?
- "A mistake isn't a mistake unless it can't be put right". Have you made any serious mistakes, i.e. something that can not be corrected?

* Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 5 (pp. 60-62) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- Samantha decided to leave the office building.
- Samantha did not want to believe what was happening.
- Samantha was eager to talk to the person calling her on mobile.
- Guy called Samantha with an offer to celebrate her appointment.
- Samantha was walking without watching where she went.
- One more message from Guy said that her colleagues were still waiting to congratulate her on her new position.
- Samantha was panicking because she saw a horrible-looking person.

Chapter 5

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- To keep turning sth over
- To overlook
- To lose five times sth
- To sound jovial
- To make an announcement
- Pedestrians
- To throb
- Bearings
- Blaring announcement
- To feel prickles of dread
- Nausea is rising up inside me
- Concourse
- To cower down
- Exposed
- To stride
- To join the throng

The train pulls out of the station
the chunk of icy fright
to travel for business
Like an automation
A twee country station
To gesture at smb
To be freaked out
Crumbling wall
To blink tears down
Damage-limitation talks
Professional indemnity insurance
My spirits lift
Premium
As his meaning hits me
To feel faint
Wrought-iron gates
A grand house
In a weird shade of peach

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

На автопилоте, поблагодарить свою судьбу, перед глазами мелькают черные точки, я не понимаю, что он говорит, позвонить в дверь, болеутоляющее, мой череп готов расколоться от боли, оставьте меня в покое, увидеть мираж, нахмурить брови

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- if a part of your body does this, you feel pain in it in a series of regular beats
- a large space or room in a public building such as a station or airport which people meet in or pass through
- to lower your head or body in fear, often while moving backwards
- a crowd or large group of people
- artificially attractive or too perfect
- a type of insurance that protects a financial organization against loss if someone is unable to pay back their mortgage
- an amount of money paid to get insurance
- to break, or cause something to break, into small pieces
- when you feel as if you are going to vomit

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- During the circus performance the children were disturbed by _____ martial music.
- She _____ purposefully up to the desk and demanded to speak to the manager.
- His job has a _____ title, but he's little more than a clerk.
- I felt _____ of dread spread across my body.
- The death rate for _____ hit by cars is unacceptably high.
- I think there is one key fact that you have _____.
- The government is involved in _____ talks to minimize the effects of the scandal.
- The road system was so complicated that we had to stop to get our _____ several times.

5. Comprehension check:

- What does Samantha keep thinking about at the beginning of the Chapter?
- Where does Samantha discover herself after walking for several hours?

- c) What does she decide to do as she joins the throng?
- d) Who does she talk about on the train?
- e) What does Guy tell Samantha about her present position?
- f) Where does Samantha finally discover herself?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| To sound | out |
| Icy | faint |
| to travel | at smb |
| To feel | an announcement |
| My spirits | for business |
| To gesture | jovial |
| To make | fright |
| To be freaked | lift |

7. Questions for discussion:

- a) Can you recall a situation when you thanked your lucky stars?
- b) Have you ever lost your way?

* Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 6 (pp. 68-70) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) The woman asked Samantha in.
- b) She was very helpful and offered Samantha several pills to kill the pain.
- c) Trish Geiger was not very surprised at the fact that Samantha was English.
- d) She showed Samantha around the house and told her about the housework.
- e) Samantha asked the owner of the house to come in and have a word with her.
- f) Samantha tried to guess how old Trish Geiger was.

Chapter 6

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- To beckon smb into a hall
- A vaulted ceiling
- To zap a headache
- Grateful
- I can barely think straight
- To look at smb expectantly
- Bemused
- Conservatory
- Sunlounger
- Well-manicured lawn
- To make a flapping motion with one's hand
- To survey smb
- To be detached from reality
- Linen
- To hide one's bewilderment
- At this revelation
- A big set-up

Four-poster bed
To topple
Vicious painkiller
Mullioned windows
A full job description
To comprise
Argument breaks out
To engulf smb
To swirl like a merry-go-round
To sort out the misunderstanding
Befuddled state of shock
A tiny flicker of old Samantha
Ingrained ambition lifted its head
To fire a series of questions at smb
To answer with total confidence
To block out real life
A kernel of determination
To scan the menu surreptitiously
Reference
To be associated with smb
To vouch for smb
To pull cryptic faces at smb
They might as well have ... tattooed on their foreheads
Receiver

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

выдвинуть несколько ящиков, быть взбудораженным чем-либо, «пивной живот», портить кому-либо вечер, показать дом, жить полноценной жизнью, какой у вас рабочий график?, собеседование, с питанием и проживанием в доме, многообещающий претендент на должность, с этого и началась моя карьера, говорит само за себя, коронное блюдо

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- to destroy or kill something or someone, especially intentionally
- slightly confused
- a glass room, usually connected to a house, in which plants are grown and kept
- a comfortable chair on which people can sit or lie in order to relax, especially outside in hot weather
- the way in which things are organized or arranged
- (of windows) having vertical sections, usually made of stone, between the glass parts
- to surround and cover something or someone completely
- mysterious and difficult to understand

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- "Hey you!", she called, _____ me over with her finger.
- If you could get that report finished by Thursday I'd be very _____.
- She has written a book which _____ the history of feminism.
- She seemed a bit _____, as if her mind were on other things.
- Shocking _____ about their private life appeared in the papers.
- The class is _____ mainly of Italian and French students.
- We've _____ the computer system's initial problems.
- My old headteacher said he would give me a glowing _____.
- She picked up the _____ and dialled his number.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) How does Trish Geiger help Samantha?
- b) What is she talking to Samantha about?
- c) What do the Geigers assume of Samantha?
- d) What is one of the side effects of the painkiller?
- e) How does Samantha get the job?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------------|
| A vaulted | of determination |
| Vicious | ceiling |
| Argument | flicker |
| Promising | expectantly |
| A kernel | painkiller |
| To fire | a series of questions at smb |
| To look at smb | applicant |
| A tiny | breaks out |

6. Questions for discussion:

- a) Have you ever gone through any job interviews? Can you think of questions asked at a typical interview? What is the best way to behave at an interview?
- b) Do you like cooking? What is your signature dish?
- c) What is your dream home?

*Supplementary exercises: a dictation-translation test (based on chapters 1-6).

Chapter 7

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- to screw up one's face
- bewilderment
- hangover
- wrecked
- rungs of the career ladder
- to nag at sb
- tangled (hair)
- piping
- under false pretences
- to ring slight alarm bells
- spaced out
- to match one's understated tones
- jolly veneer
- to quiver
- a new edge to one's voice
- to choke
- whatnot
- to prioritize
- gobsmacked
- to wince
- to bundle sb out
- to whirl round
- to put sb up

to take one's mind off things
to run a comb through one's hair
self-conscious
plugged into sockets,
to take in the details,
to improvise
to loiter
to whet one's appetite
a sole
a signature dish
to come clean
to bob a curtsy
to take the piss
to squint
to make sb out

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Солнечное сплетение, раскалывающаяся голова, распланированный до часа, ход мыслей, при полном макияже, попасть в затруднительное положение, поспешный отъезд, принести больше вреда чем пользы, убедительная отговорка, нержавеющая сталь, по-деловому, обезжиренное молоко, подтвердить подозрения, затянуться (сигаретой), играть свою роль.

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a narrow strip of cloth used to decorate the edges of clothes or furniture;
- to make someone stop breathing by blocking their throat;
- to decide which of a group of things are the most important so that you can deal with them first;
- so shocked that you cannot speak;
- to show pain suddenly and for a short time in the face, often moving the head back at the same time;
- to shake slightly, often because of strong emotion;
- the bottom part of a foot which touches the ground when you stand or walk, or the bottom part of a shoe which touches the ground.

4. Comprehension check:

- How did Samantha feel when she woke up next morning?
- What was nagging at her?
- Was Trish friendly and hospitable that morning?
- Why didn't Samantha tell that she wasn't a housekeeper the first time she saw Trish that morning?
- What words did Arnold use to describe the situation Samantha had got herself into?
- What kind of advice did Arnold give? Did he sound supportive?
- Why did Samantha decide to stay at the Geigers? How long was she intending to stay?
- What difficulties did Samantha face during her first visit to the Geigers' kitchen? Describe the Geigers' kitchen.
- Why did Samantha bob a curtsy to the Geigers? Was it appreciated?

5. Listen to the extract and complete the text below.

"I wake the next morning to an _____, _____ white ceiling above me. I stare at it for a few moments in _____, then lift my head a little. The sheets make a strange _____ sound as I move. What's going on? My sheets don't sound anything like that. But of course. They are the Geigers' sheets.

I sink comfortably back into my pillows – until another thought _____ .

Who are the Geigers?

I _____ my face, trying to remember. I feel as though I'm both _____ and still drunk. Snatches of yesterday are _____ in my mind, amidst a _____. I'm not sure what's real and what's a dream. I came on the train ... yes ... I had a _____... Paddington Station ... walking out of the office ...

Oh God. Oh please, no.

With a _____ whoosh the whole nightmare is back un my brain. I feel as if someone's _____ me in the solar plexus. The _____. Third Union Bank. Fifty million pounds. Asing Guy if I had a job left ...

His silence.

I lie very still for a while, letting it all _____ again. My career is _____. I have no chance of partnership.”

6. Match words from each column to form collocations.

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| to whet | a comb |
| to take | a curtsey |
| to take in | one's appetite |
| to ring | the details |
| to come | alarm bells |
| to bob | clean |
| to run | the piss |

7. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary.

- You can buy crisps and _____ at the bar.
- It makes me _____ even thinking about eye operations.
- A gang of youths were _____ outside the cinema.
- She was wearing so much perfume that I nearly _____.
- The sun was shining straight in her eyes which made her _____.
- The police charged him with obtaining money _____.
- I should probably _____ now and admit that I don't really know how to cook at all.

8. Questions for discussion

- At the end of the conversation with Arnold Samantha felt that there was 'no silver lining'. How do you understand that phrase? Do you usually try to stay optimistic in tough situations? Do you know any other sayings or proverbs with an optimistic message?
- Have you ever had to pretend that you were a different person?
- Arnold was the first person Samantha contacted. Who do you usually call or talk to when you are going through a tough time?
- Do you approve Samantha's way of 'thanking' the Geigers?
- "Underneath the make-up, the tans, the expensive clothes, there seems just a hint of uncertainty about the Geigers." How do people sometimes try to hide their uncertainty or a lack of self-confidence?

Chapter 8

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- to keep a lid on sth
- to rummage
- a key fob
- to give a significant look
- to get on with sth
- a window sill

to swivel round
to pat one's hair
wonky
a caterer
to smooth sth down
resignation
to break sb out of one's reverie
famished
to click one's tongue
to arch one's eyebrows
profligate
in the middle of nowhere
out of thin air
to devour
immaculate
to swoon
to sink into a chair
to freak out
unhinged
to lurch off the road
to despise
to plead one's case
scalded
to blur
to one's dismay
gross negligence
to collect the dole
to scrutinize
warped
to heft

2. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) to search for something by moving things around carelessly and looking into, under and behind them;
- b) a shelf below a window, either inside or outside a building;
- c) extremely hungry;
- d) to eat something eagerly and in large amounts so that nothing is left;
- e) to feel a strong dislike for someone or something because you think they are bad or have no value;
- f) to become difficult to see clearly;
- g) to examine something very carefully in order to discover information;
- h) to lift, hold or carry something heavy using your hands.

3. Describe the situations in which the following sentences were used

- "She's speaking slowly and clearly, as though I have the IQ of a rather thick three-year-old"
- "All I can say is, thank God for Yellow Pages and caterers"
- "Slowly I put the knife down in defeat. So this is it. Time for my resignation"
- "I'm so sorry about the numbers mix-up"
- "If I did have a criticism, Samantha, it would be that you were a little profligate"
- "Bloody hell, that's good. Though I say it myself"
- "My mind has narrowed down to a one-track tunnel and all I care about is what's at the end"
- "I can't believe how wrong I've played this. I can't believe how stupid I've been"

“I can’t leave the letter unfinished in the middle of a sentence. It’ll bug me for the rest of the day”

“Lawyers at Carter Spink don’t make mistakes”

Саратовский государственный университет имени Н. Г. Чернышевского

4. Comprehension check

- a) What did Samantha learn from the newspaper that morning?
- b) What was Trish so grateful to Samantha for?
- c) What kind of instruction did Trish give to Samantha? How did Samantha react to it?
- d) Was Samantha's attempt to make a 'light sandwich lunch' a success? Why was she thankful for Yellow Pages' existence?
- e) What did Nathaniel come for?
- f) How did Samantha manage to tackle Nathaniel's questions about her vegetable preferences? Did he look convinced?
- g) What kind of explanation did Samantha come up with when Nathaniel's eyes shifted to her wine glass?
- h) Was Nathaniel impressed by Samantha's curtsy to Trish?
- i) Why couldn't Samantha bring herself to look at Nathaniel when Trish invited him for a sandwich?
- j) Why did Trish call Samantha a little profligate?
- k) What made Samantha throw her resignation letter in the bin?
- l) Did Samantha appreciate Trish's surprise? What was the surprise like?

5. Match words from each column to form collocations.

| | |
|------------|----------------|
| to arch | the dole |
| to plead | off the road |
| to collect | one's tongue |
| to click | one's eyebrows |
| to keep | one's hair |
| to lurch | the lid |
| to sink | one's case |
| to pat | into a chair |

6. Act out

Imagine that Samantha didn't throw away her letter to the Geigers. Role play a conversation between Trish, Eddie and Nathaniel after discovering the letter.

7. Samantha didn't know what *brassicas* were. Check your knowledge of vegetables by dividing the following words into 4 columns: *bulb vegetables*, *stalk vegetables*, *leaf vegetables* and *fruit vegetables*.

asparagus, leek, garlic, avocado, spinach, garden sorrel, spring onion, kohlrabi, aubergine, marrow, celery, garden cress, pumpkin, lettuce, chive, rhubarb, pattypan squash, gherkin, courgette.

8. Questions for discussion

- a) Does Ketterman's phrase "Lawyer at Carter Spink don't make mistakes" sound right to you? Do you agree with Samantha saying "People are allowed to make one mistake in life. It's in the rules"? How do you feel about making mistakes in general?
- b) Samantha couldn't leave her letter unfinished. Does it bug you when you stop doing something without actually finishing it? Do you tend to complete anything you start doing?
- c) In this chapter Samantha is very good at hiding her ignorance about cooking matters by speaking rather vaguely and making up inventive comments. Do you usually try to hide or admit your lack of knowledge or experience?

Chapter 9

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

to get one's spirits back
a blend
to pop out
to faze
to put on hold
a larder
contagious
a debacle
to call in one's favours
complacency
to slack
affronted
ominous
anticipation
confidence trickster
to rip sb off
to stiffen up
to whisk
to stir
to take a gulp
strangled (voice)
smeared (surface)
to track sth down
to pay over the odds
nosy
to delve into sth
on second thoughts
a twinge of guilt
devastated
to reimburse one's costs
consternation

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Ярый интерес, посеченные концы, поверь мне на слово, включить на полную мощность, сдерживаемый гнев, варить яйца вкрутую, обветренная кожа, трястись со смеху, высморкаться, переварить, сияющий в предвкушении, глаза выступили из орбит, толкнуть в бок, поднять зарплату, охваченная новой идеей.

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) describes a disease that can be caught by touching someone with the disease or a piece of infected clothing;
- b) suggesting that something unpleasant is likely to happen;
- c) a cupboard or small room used for storing food in a person's home;
- d) a feeling of excitement about something that is going to happen in the near future;
- e) too interested in what other people are doing and wanting to discover too much about them;
- f) a complete failure, especially because of bad planning and organization;
- g) a mixture of different things or styles.

4. Comprehension check

- a) What did it take Samantha to impress Petula?

- b) Was Guy enthusiastic about Samantha's idea to stay at his house? Why was that not possible?
- c) How did Samantha's mother learn about her daughter's mistake? What opportunity did she offer? Did Samantha jump at it?
- d) At what point did Samantha start to have a kind of frenzied hysteria?
- e) What was wrong with the dishes Samantha was cooking?
- f) What did the kitchen look like when Nathaniel entered it? Why did he look aggressive at some point?
- g) How did Samantha justify her presence in the house? Why did she call her Carter Spink experience a bad relationship?
- h) Why did the previous owners of the house move?
- i) How did the Geigers make their money?
- j) How did Samantha explain her failure at the kitchen to the Geigers? What did they suggest?

5. Listen to the extract and complete the text below.

"It'll be all right. If I say it often enough to myself, it must be true. I know I need to call Guy. I've opened my phone several times to do it. But each time _____ has stopped me. Even though he's my friend; even though he's the person closest to me in the company. I'm the one _____. I'm the one in _____. And he's not. At last I sit up and _____, trying to get my spirits back. Come one. This is Guy. He'll want to hear from me. He'll want to help. I _____ my phone and dial his direct line. A moment later I hear _____ along the wooden floor of the hall. Trish.

_____ I shut the phone, pocket it and reach for a _____ of broccoli. 'How are you getting on?' Trish's voice _____ me. 'Making progress?' As she enters the kitchen she looks a little surprised to see me still sitting in the exact _____ she left me. 'Everything all right?' 'I'm just ... _____ the ingredients,' I improvise. 'Getting the feel of them.'

6. Complete the sentences with prepositions

- a) I catch Nathaniel's eye and a sudden wave of hysteria rises ____ me.
- b) I clamp my hand desperately ____ my mouth, trying to get control of myself.
- c) Two weeks after it was aired, Trish and Eddie arrived ____ the doorstep waving a cheque.
- d) The dinner I created wasn't ____ to my own professional standards. I couldn't allow it ____ of the kitchen.
- e) Trish stares at me in consternation, her blue eyes practically bulging ____ of their sockets.
- f) Three people. All telling me they want me ____ the space of ten minutes.
- g) I take out my mobile phone, call my mother's office and wait till I'm put ____ to voicemail.
- h) You don't need to call ____ any favours.
- i) His shoulders are shaking ____ silent laughter.

7. Label the pictures of kitchen utensils.

| | | | | | |
|------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-------------|----------|
| lid | garlic press | bowl | grater | spatula | whisk |
| pot holder | potato masher | colander | meat hammer | rolling pin | saucepan |
| frying pan | | measuring jug | cutting boards | | apron |

8. Questions for discussion

- a) How often do you cook? Are you good at cooking?
- b) What's the last thing you cooked? Can you describe the way you did it?
- c) Have you got a favourite recipe? What is it?
- d) Can you keep your emotions in line when something is going wrong?

9. Imagine that you are going to give a dinner party. Make up your own dinner party menu.



Chapter 10

Active vocabulary

- 1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:**
to set one's alarm

a domain
to flip sth through
to sip
to bustle around
to tilt sideways
to sprawl
disheveled (hair)
smudged make-up
to crack with nerves
with relish
reconciled
prudish
to get to grips
to gape
to mollycoddle
to get the hang of sth
avuncular (tone)
to charge an arm and a leg
gibberish
a mish-mash
to be intimidated
to get one's head round sth
to raise a hand in reproof
to make a stab at sth

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Пришло в голову, потягивать кофе, шелковая ночная рубашка, боковое зрение, сохранять самообладание, отодвинуть в сторону, список обязанностей, с наслаждением, обсудить условия, разрезать пополам, подмигнуть, пробежать глазами, эксплуататор, кафельный пол, руководство по эксплуатации, отскочить, пригладить волосы, потянуть за рычаг, не обращай на меня внимания, выпустить облако пара.

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) an area of interest or an area over which a person has control;
- b) a person who is easily shocked by rude things, especially those of a sexual type;
- c) to give someone too much care or protection;
- d) spoken or written words which are nonsense and have no meaning;
- e) friendly, kind or helpful, like the expected behaviour of an uncle;
- f) the enjoyment you get from doing something;
- g) to drink, taking only a very small amount at a time.

4. Listen to the extract and complete the text below.

“The next morning I _____ early and arrive downstairs in the kitchen before seven, in my overall. The garden is _____ and there are no sounds, except a couple of magpies chacking at each other on the lawn. I feel _____ I'm the only person awake in the world. As quietly as I can I _____ and put everything away in the cupboards. I _____ under the table. I make a cup of coffee. Then I look around at the _____ granite counters. My _____.
It doesn't feel like my domain. It feels like someone else's scary kitchen.

So ... what do I do now? I _____, just standing here. I should be occupied. My _____ an old copy of the Economist in the magazine rack by the table and I pick it up. I _____, and start reading an interesting piece on international monetary controls, _____.

Then, as I hear a sound from upstairs, I hastily put it down again. Housekeepers _____ to read articles on international monetary controls. I should be _____, making jam or something.

Except there's already a cupboard full of jam. And I don't know how to make it anyway.

What else? What do housekeepers do all day? _____ the kitchen again it looks perfectly clean to me. I could get the breakfast, it _____. But not until I know what they want...

5. Describe the situations in which the following sentences were used:

"Housekeepers aren't supposed to read articles on international monetary controls"

"I can't get my head around this idea. I don't think I've had a totally free weekend since I was about twelve"

"I pick up a pencil and automatically start correcting the text, rephrasing, scoring out and adding queries in the margin"

"Come on. I have a degree from Cambridge. I know Latin, for God's sake. I can work this out"

"I'm pulling harder and harder, till I'm hot with the effort, but the bloody thing won't budge"

6. Comprehension check

- How did Samantha want to return a favour to Trish? Was it a timely idea?
- What did the Housekeeper's Contract look like? Why was Samantha amused by it?
- Did Samantha's degree from Cambridge help her get the hang of the washing machine?
- What was K3 program designed for?
- Did Samantha have any idea about ironing? What saved her at the moment when Trish was breathing down her neck?

7. Questions for discussion

- Have you ever showed up at inappropriate moments?
- Have you ever read any legal documents? What is special about their language? Have you ever signed a document without reading its terms and conditions?
- Do you ever read manuals for electronic devices or prefer to learn about their work by trial and error method?

Chapter 11

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

to beckon

a tub

to dump

to flinch

squelchy

to solidify

a droplet

feather duster

to scribble

a remedy

torture

candy floss

personal shopping department

to hope to heaven

to regenerate

to dispose of sth
knackered
a streak
grease
smeary (glass)
to regain one's cool
snort

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Оставить в одиночестве, звучать непринужденно, рваные джинсы, иметь в виду, отвлекать, резиновые перчатки, вопрошающе смотреть, с чувством собственного достоинства, натянуть на руки, смести крошки со стола, совок, пришить пуговицу, плавно переходить от одного дела к другому, привнести порядок, полная катастрофа, прилив оптимизма, отбеливатель, на середине списка, бросаться от одного неоконченного дела к другому, красные глаза, уксус, выбивать коврики, предложение еще в силе.

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) to put down or drop something in a careless way;
- b) to make a sudden small movement because of pain or fear;
- c) to write or draw something quickly or carelessly;
- d) a sucking sound like the one produced when you are walking on soft wet ground;
- e) to get rid of someone or something or deal with something so that the matter is finished;
- f) to move your hand or head in a way that tells someone to come nearer;
- g) a large soft ball of white or pink sugar in the form of thin threads, which is usually sold on a stick and eaten at fairs and amusement parks.

4. Comprehension check:

- a) Did Samantha accept Nathaniel's help at once? Why so?
- b) Who did Nathaniel tell about Samantha? What did that person offer?
- c) How did Samantha plan to tackle all her tasks at first? Why did she get behind her time sheet?
- d) What went wrong with the laundry? What kind of solution did Samantha find to rescue the spoiled clothes?
- e) Did Samantha learn the ironing basics?
- f) What happened to Samantha's hair?
- g) How did Samantha feel by three o'clock? What did she look like at that time?
- h) Why did Samantha accept Nathaniel's offer in the end?

5. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary.

- a) I finally decided to _____ all the useless souvenirs in my apartment.
- b) The minister's speech drew loud _____ of derisive laughter.
- c) The chemical reaction _____ the resin.
- d) The best _____ for grief is hard work.
- e) I didn't have enough time so I just _____ a note to her.
- f) Distancing him from the situation will help him _____.

6. Questions for discussion

- a) Do you always accept other people's help? How do you feel about getting unsolicited advice?
- b) Have you ever had to replace anything?
- c) Have you ever had any unlucky laundry experience? What happened?
- d) Do you like making lists of your daily tasks? What do they look like?

Chapter 12

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

to contemplate

giddy

exhilaration

to wallow

to linger over sth

to drip

to stick up on sth

to end up doing sth

to boss sb about

to chill out

crockery

a hedge

garish

to itch to do sth

to sue

a badger

to be on secondment

saunter

to knead dough

flustered

to appraise

fragrant

asperity

to hem

to fall to bits

a furnace

to ponder

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Сморщить бровь, срочная встреча, от корки до корки, ароматизированная вода, из любопытства, направиться, луч надежды, прикованный к месту, руководить собственным делом, калька, грудная клетка, не пускать слова на ветер, полотенце в красную клеточку, дать задний ход, закатать рукава, собрать волосы, загустеть, откупорить бутылку, разделить курицу, расстегнуть рубашку.

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

a) unpleasantly bright;

b) to spend time considering a possible future action, or to consider one particular thing for a long time in a serious and quiet way;

c) excitement and happiness;

d) cups, plates, bowls, etc., used to serve food and drink, especially made of china;

e) a line of bushes or small trees planted very close together, especially along the edge of a garden, field or road;

f) to want to do something very much and as soon as possible;

g) to take legal action against a person or organization, especially by making a legal claim for money because of some harm that they have caused you;

h) to walk in a slow and relaxed way, often in no particular direction.

4. Paraphrase:

- a) She tends **to spend too much time** on her breakfast.
- b) The picture seemed **too bright** to me.
- c) She has really got into the habit of **giving orders** to everyone around.
- d) I decided to stay by the pool and **relax**.
- e) My brother has gone **on a business trip** to Japan.
- f) I think I'll have **to take legal action** against him.
- g) He **thought** about the matter **carefully**.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) Why was Samantha so overwhelmed by the idea of having a day off?
- b) Was she satisfied by the way she was spending her first day off?
- c) Where did Samantha get her new outfit? Did it suit her?
- d) How did Samantha spend her time in the garden?
- e) Who was the text message from?
- f) Why did Nathaniel compare Samantha to a badger?
- g) What was Samantha stunned by on the way to Nathaniel's mother?
- h) What was Nathaniel's mother like? Describe her.
- i) What is cooking all about according to Nathaniel's mother? Describe the episode with the gravy.
- j) What did Samantha learn during the weekend?

8. Listen to the extract and complete the text below.

"I wake up on Saturday, heart _____, and leap to my feet, my mind racing with everything I have to do ...

And then it stops, like a car _____ to a halt. For a moment I can't move. Then, _____, I sink back into bed, overcome by the _____, most extraordinary feeling I've ever experienced. I have nothing to do.

No contracts to go over, no emails to reply to, no _____ at the office. Nothing. I _____, trying to remember the last time I had nothing to do. But I'm not sure I can. It seems like I've never had nothing to do, ever since I was about seven. I get out of bed, walk to the window and _____ at the early morning, translucent blue sky, trying to get my head around my situation. It's my day off. No one has any _____.

No one can call me up and demand my presence. This is my own time. My own time.

As I stand there at the window, _____ this fact, I start to feel a weird feeling inside. Light and _____, like a helium balloon. I'm free. A smile of _____ spreads across my face as I meet the eyes of my own reflection in the glass. For the first time ever, I can do whatever I like."

6. Questions for discussion

- a) What do people usually do on their days off? How do you usually spend your days off? What's the best day off you have recently had?
- b) What do people usually do in their gardens?
- c) How do you usually feel when you get an unexpected message on your mobile phone?
- d) Do you think that Nathaniel's mother was a good cooking teacher? Tell about the best teacher you've had.

Chapter 13

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

to revert to the behaviour of a 14-year-old adolescent

It's all about...
Overall
Pupils
Chef
As though reading my mind
Full crush alert
I am discretion itself
Innuendo
Poise
To catch one's foot on the wall
Averted face
To get over a relationship
Implausible
To have great reserves of resilience
To feel trapped
To rush into sth
To go after smb
A speeded-up reality
To hover around the kitchen
Apoplectic
To stop short
To shoot smb a flinty look
A swell of dismay
To put sth on hold
To feel hackles rising
In stupefaction
To clear everything up
To sink one's head down onto one's arms
To be slumped
A shrug
To inspect sth
In a frenzied chaos
To adopt a stony expression
To backtrack
Inconsistent
unperturbed

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Под предлогом, нечто среднее между..., изобрести причину, обидеть кого-то, это к лучшему, давать вечеринку, за тебя!, утешить свою раненую гордость, пробирка, получать крошечную долю прежней зарплаты, очевиднее и быть не могло

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- a) a skilled and trained cook who works in a hotel or restaurant, especially the most important cook
- b) a remark or remarks that suggest something sexual or something unpleasant but do not refer to it directly
- c) calm confidence in a person's way of behaving, or a quality of grace (=moving in an attractive way) and balance in the way a person holds or moves their body
- d) difficult to believe, or unlikely
- e) ability to quickly return to a previous good condition
- f) to try to get, to chase or follow someone in order to catch them

- g) extremely and obviously angry, or in a state of violent excitement, usually caused by great anger
- h) to stand somewhere, especially near another person, eagerly or nervously waiting for their attention
- i) a movement when you raise your shoulders and then lower them in order to say you do not know or are not interested
- j) to be having your head low and shoulders forward
- k) not worried

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- a) She put on the _____ and got out a tin of paint.
- b) Pupils _____ contract in bright light, and dilate in darkness.
- c) Discretion "Can you trust him with this?" "Yes, he's the soul of _____."
- d) The film's been _____ until the financial situation improves.
- e) She held the bank note up to the light and _____ it carefully.
- f) The office was a scene of _____ chaos this morning.
- g) We went the wrong way and had to _____ till we got to the right turning.
- h) These findings are _____ with those of previous studies.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) Why is Samantha trying to look more attractive than usual?
- b) What does she do as professional chef equipment arrives?
- c) What does Samantha talk to Nathaniel about?
- d) Why does she feel upset?
- e) Why does Samantha have so much to do in the kitchen?
- f) Why don't the Geigers want to try Samantha's delicious dinner?
- g) Does Nathaniel appreciate Samantha's efforts?
- h) What do they finally agree on?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|--------------|--------------------|
| Full crush | a stony expression |
| Averted | short |
| To feel | reality |
| To stop | dismay |
| In | trapped |
| A swell of | alert |
| A speeded-up | stupefaction |
| To adopt | face |

6. Questions for discussion:

- a) How do you behave when you have a crush on somebody?
- b) Do you think it's appropriate for a woman to go after a man?
- c) Have you ever thrown a dinner party?
- d) What is an inconsistent person like, in your opinion? Are you often being "inconsistent"?

*Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 14 (pp.202-205) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) Samantha got partially used to her new job and made fewer mistakes than the week before.
- b) Samantha did not feel frightened when her employer called her.
- c) Trish wanted Samantha to go to the hairdressing salon with her.
- d) Trish and her hairdresser looked alike.

- e) Annabel was amazed by the sight of Samantha's hair.
- f) She suggested dying Samantha's hair blonde because she looked too pale.
- g) Apparently Anabel and Trish believed in astrology.

Chapter 14

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

A vast improvement on last week

A quailing inside

Welded to smb's skin

Tarty blonde

To flinch

A little dim

A lady of leisure

To shimmer

To feel abashed

To flick up one's hair

To look hyped up

To serve sth out

A property-investment deal

This man doesn't care two jots if smb understands

With practiced speed

Innocuous-looking little clause

To fund a shortfall

To rip smb off

It's very urgent

In exasperation

Liabilities

To get fleeced

There's total mayhem

In a flustered voice

To pass sth to a lawyer for a look-see

To harangue smb

At stake

To look awestruck

I'll make every effort to do better

To look livid

Priority

To be engrossed in the article

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Без особых проблем, это входит в мою работу, съежиться от страха, подавать закуски, очень умно с твоей стороны, согласиться с чем-либо, сказать в сотый раз, отменить свидание

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- a) feeling or showing fear; wanting to be able to move away from something because you fear it
- b) to join two pieces of metal together permanently by melting the parts that touch
- c) intentionally attracting sexual attention in a way that is too obvious

- d) to make a sudden small movement because of pain or fear
- e) too excited or nervous and unable to rest or be calm
- f) to shine in such a way that the light seems to shake slightly and quickly
- g) completely harmless (= causing no harm)
- h) an amount which is less than the level that was expected or needed
- i) in anger
- j) when you are legally responsible for something (noun)
- k) to take someone's money dishonestly, by charging too much money or by cheating them
- l) a situation in which there is little or no order or control
- m) to speak to someone or a group of people, often for a long time, in a forceful and sometimes angry way, especially to persuade them
- n) extremely angry

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- a) A series of _____ ruined them - floods, a failed harvest and the death of a son.
- b) He's a nice chap, but a little _____.
- c) She could see her reflection in the water, _____ in the moonlight.
- d) Windscreen wipers _____ from side to side.
- e) She performed the song with _____ skill.
- f) He stopped at a bar for a little _____.
- g) The most _____ thing in a fire is to make sure everyone is out of the building.
- h) If I look _____ it's because I'm trying to do about twenty things at once.
- i) "Have they arrived yet?" "I'll take a _____".
- j) Thousands of lives will be _____ if emergency aid does not arrive in the city soon.
- k) My first _____ is to find somewhere to live.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) What does Trish insist on doing instead of housework?
- b) Is Samantha satisfied with Annabel's work?
- c) How does she notice a trick in the contract?
- d) How does she help her boss?
- e) Does Trish feel grateful?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| A vast | in fear |
| It's part | off |
| To be seized up | for the millionth time |
| A property-investment | of you |
| To rip smb | deal |
| Very thoughtful | improvement |
| To put up | a date |
| To call off | in the article |
| To be engrossed | with doing sth |
| To say | of the service |

6. Questions for discussion:

- a) Do you go to the hairdresser's often? How do you choose your hairstyle?
- b) What's the best piece of advice that you have ever given to anybody or received yourself?
- c) How often do you call arrangements off?

*Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 15 (pp.214-216) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) In the evening Trish seemed to be in a better mood.
- b) Samantha decided to wear her best evening dress to the date with Nathaniel.
- c) Trish disapproved of Samantha's appearance.
- d) Samantha was keen on the way she looked wearing all the pieces of Trish's jewellery.
- e) Eddie Geiger had a problem with figures and calculations.
- f) The Geigers were shocked to hear that Samantha could do difficult calculations in her head.
- g) Samantha tried to explain herself.

Chapter 15

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

To transform unaccountably

A fairly informal outfit

Jazzy

Glitz

Clip

A gilt chain

Charms

Appraisingly

To goggle at smb

To shoot smb an agonized look

Self-righteous

To aim higher

To give smb a brush-off smile

Scrutiny

An abused wife

A story of disaster and woe

To perch on a barrel

The initial melee of the evening

To pull pints

To banter with customers

Forecourt

He was the life and soul

To tilt sth

In a blissful happy haze

Without a flicker

To be aghast

To punch smb

To beat smb at sth

Archery

Invoice

To be bound up in sth

To rally round in a heartwarming way

To sing a lament

To strap-hang on the Tube

To keep sth to a minimum

To entwine

Callousness

A prude
Nonplussed
Unbearable frenzy of frustration

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Быть не в себе, получить образование, рассказать обо всем, связка ключей, ударить по большому месту, постоянные клиенты (завсегдатаи), приятная атмосфера, объявление гласит, такова жизнь, судебное дело, крошечные точки, запутанная история

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- a) a small usually metal or plastic object used for fastening things together or holding them in position
- b) to look with the eyes wide open because you are surprised
- c) believing that your ideas and behaviour are morally better than those of other people
- d) a large noisy uncontrolled crowd, in which people are moving in different directions and sometimes fighting with each other
- e) to have a conversation which is funny and not serious
- f) the careful and detailed examination of something in order to get information about it
- g) a flat area in front of a large building
- h) the art or sport of shooting arrows
- i) a list of things provided or work done together with their cost, for payment at a later time
- j) surprised, confused and not certain how to react

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- a) The party's electoral message may be obscured by the _____ and glamour of its presentation.
- b) I've got a cowboy _____ for the fancy dress party.
- c) We _____ on bar stools and had a beer.
- d) She _____ him on the nose.
- e) Simon always _____ me at tennis.
- f) The poem opens by _____ the death of a young man.
- g) Unkindness or cruelty, lack of sympathy or feeling for other people is called _____.
- h) I don't consider myself _____ but I do think the sex scenes in the film were a bit excessive.
- i) Anna looked up at him with her head _____ to one side.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) What does Trish want to do with Samantha's outfit?
- b) What surprising fact do the Geigers find out about Samantha?
- c) What is Nathaniel's second job?
- d) What does Samantha learn about his family?
- e) Did Samantha confess the truth about her past to Nathaniel?
- f) Why don't they have the chance to kiss?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| gilt | aghast |
| to aim | way |
| a brush-off | pints |
| an abused | chain |
| to pull | of frustration |
| to be | smile |

a heartwarming higher
frenzy wife

6. Questions for discussion:

- a) Imagine you are going to have a date tonight. What would you wear?
- b) Have you ever considered moving to a village? What are the advantages and disadvantages of it?
- c) There were some regulars present in Nathaniel's pub the evening he and Samantha had a date. Are you a regular somewhere?
- d) Would you like to own/run a pub/café? What would it be like?

*Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 16 (pp.231-233) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) In the morning Samantha did not have time to think the previous night over.
- b) Samantha was afraid that her employers found out the truth about her occupation.
- c) Trish Geiger did not care about Samantha's previous place of work.
- d) At first Samantha did not believe that her friend was calling.
- e) Freya did not understand why Samantha left the job of her dream.
- f) Samantha confessed that she had been dismissed.

Chapter 16

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

To fib to smb
To give smb a penetrating look
Unassuming
A wind-up
Insane
To abandon sth
To feel an odd little tweak inside
To lap sth up
To loiter behind the chair
The names segue
To handle the financing
Acquisition
To be erased from somewhere
Debacle
To go AWOL
To survey a wrecked bridge
In the pit of my stomach
Idyllic
Out of sorts
To bash all your worst enemies
The burn of injustice
Feeling of simplicity and earthiness
Turmoil
To feel on top of oneself
To ferment inside
To hop with tension
Offended

To have a trauma
To get immersed in sth
For smb's memory
To flounder
To hold on to sth
Fish darting around
Oblivious of everything
Shell-shocked
Timing

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Переносной телефон, известные персоны, оборвать кого-либо на полуслове, почувствовать прилив нежности к кому-либо, у кого-либо за спиной, в чем заключается моя цель жизни, ощупью искать путь, искать повод для ссоры, быть в курсе событий

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- to tell a small lie which does not cause any harm, sometimes in a playful way
- someone who is unassuming is quiet and shows no wish for attention or admiration
- to annoy or upset someone
- to leave a place, thing or person forever
- to enjoy something very much
- to go slowly, stopping often
- to move easily and without interruption from one piece of music, part of a story, subject or situation to another
- a complete failure, especially because of bad planning and organization
- absent without leave: describes a member of the armed forces who is away without permission
- a state of confusion, uncertainty or disorder
- to jump on one foot or to move about in this way
- to experience great difficulties or be completely unable to decide what to do or say next
- extremely tired and nervous or frightened, especially after an unpleasant and unexpected event, or extremely surprised.

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- Getting both sides to agree was a _____ achievement.
- For the last ten years of his life he was clinically _____.
- Some people are brilliant with computers, but have no idea how to _____ other people.
- Tiger Woods is determined to _____ the memory of a disappointing Cup debut two years ago.
- I've been feeling tired and headachy and generally _____.
- He _____ his arm against a shelf.
- I think she was a bit _____ that she hadn't been invited to the party.
- She got some books out of the library and _____ herself in Jewish history and culture.
- Absorbed in her work, she was totally _____ her surroundings.
- "Have we arrived too early?" "No, your _____ is perfect - dinner is almost ready."

5. Comprehension check:

- Why is Samantha woken up by her employer?
- What does Samantha talk to her employer about?
- Why does Samantha get so furious after visiting Carter Spink's website?
- What else does she discover?

- e) Is Samantha enjoying her cookery class with Iris?
- f) What important thing does Iris teach her?
- g) Does Samantha's relationship with Nathaniel become more romantic?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|---------------|--------------------|
| To give smb | inside |
| In the pit of | a trauma |
| The burn of | darting around |
| To ferment | memory |
| To have | a penetrating look |
| For smb's | injustice |
| Fish | my stomach |

7. Questions for discussion:

- a) What was the biggest whopper (lie) you have ever told?
- b) Do you agree with the saying: "You don't have to have the big picture, or know where you're heading. Sometimes it's just enough to know what you're going to do next"?
- c) Do you remember any situations when you floundered? What actions did you take?

*Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 17 (pp.249-251) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) Samantha was not very good at dealing with relationships.
- b) As she went downstairs she discovered that the Geigers were getting ready to go out.
- c) Trish was confident about the way she looked.
- d) Samantha gave her a hand with a piece of clothing.
- e) Samantha was asked to give Trish a compliment.
- f) Trish was satisfied with all the compliments she received.
- g) Samantha managed to guess Trish's age.

Chapter 17

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- To deliberately sabotage sth
- To rack one's brains
- To be flummoxed
- To be self-deluded
- Smug expression
- To be dedicated
- Nursery
- Intent, purposeful gaze
- To give off vibes
- To dress low key
- To reciprocate
- To pluck
- To play truth or dare
- In a courtly dance
- Stupefied
- Groggy head
- Slacker
- Twitchy
- To take one's frustrations out on smb

To run sth
To ditch sth
Dumbfounded
To create a diversion
Deathlike gestures
Your sole purpose in life is...
To be disturbed
To put two and two together

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Прекратить постоянно думать о чем-либо, сказать хором, нежные друг к другу, забыть о времени, быть уволенным, играть в прятки, мне это ни о чем не говорит

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- a) confused so much that they do not know what to do
- b) too pleased or satisfied about something you have achieved or something you know
- c) a place where plants and trees are grown, especially for sale
- d) the general mood a person or place seems to have and the way they make you feel
- e) to share the same feelings as someone else, or to behave in the same way as someone else
- f) tired and unable to think clearly
- g) weak and unable to think clearly or walk correctly, usually because of tiredness or illness
- h) a person who does not work hard enough

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

This was a deliberate attempt to _____ the ceasefire.
I've been _____ my brains all day but I can't remember her name.
The Green Party is _____ to protecting the environment.
Try to sing in _____ if you can.
He gave his girlfriend an _____ kiss.
Two workers got the _____ for fighting in the warehouse.
The name doesn't _____ and I can't remember if I have heard it before.
How did you know they were having an affair?" "I'd seen them out together a couple of times so I just _____."

5. Comprehension check:

- a) How did Samantha help Trish with her clothes?
- b) What did Nathaniel come for?
- c) Did he and Samantha have a nice time together?
- d) Why did the Geigers arrive earlier?
- e) What kind of news does Samantha learn at the end of the chapter?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| To stop | gestures |
| To be | self-deluded |
| To dress | obsessing |
| To lose | a diversion |
| To create | hide and seek |
| To play | sense of minutes |
| Deathlike | low key |

7. Questions for discussion:

- a) Do you obsess about anything? What's the best way to stop doing this?

- b) To your mind, what is the best age?
- c) Have you ever been caught red-handed? How did you react?

*Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 18 (pp.268-270) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- a) Samantha did not try to change her appearance.
- b) Nathaniel was shocked by the way Samantha had changed.
- c) Nathaniel was not given special orders concerning the arrival of the guest.
- d) Samantha was very nervous about the Geigers' visitor.
- e) The visitor turned out to be completely different from what Samantha expected.
- f) Melissa seemed to be a pretentious person.
- g) Samantha felt relieved when she learned more about Melissa.

Chapter 18

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- To opt for sth
- To tiptoe
- A pert face
- A qualified lawyer
- To give a world-weary sigh
- Pretentious
- Social life
- A shot of foreboding
- With a patronizing smile
- To pander to smb's little whims
- To slip out
- To run after smb
- To summon smb
- Just for the record
- To have selective deafness
- To get resentment under control
- To tolerate sth
- To attempt a civilized voice
- Flattering garment
- Notch
- Subside
- To feel bubbles of disquiet
- To wriggle free
- To play dumb
- To arrange a reunion
- Flapping sound
- To emit jazz
- To be touched
- A let down
- Two-tier birthday cake
- To puff at the flame
- I couldn't wish for better employers
- To dab eyes
- To accept a champagne refill
- It's just a one-off

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| Social | deafness |
| To run | sound |
| selective | bracelet |
| Flapping | lawyer |
| A let | life |
| Charm | down |

7. Questions for discussion:

- In your opinion, what is the best way to deal with people like Melissa?
- What is the best birthday party you had? Would you like a surprise birthday party?
- Describe your most flattering garment.

*Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 19 (pp.290-292) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- Samantha's attitude to time has completely changed.
- She looked better as she spent a lot of time outside.
- The pace of life in summer has become faster.
- Samantha did not look through the brochure.
- Melissa was sure she would not have to work hard as soon as she gets a job at Carter Spink.
- Melissa was going to be interviewed by Arnold.
- Samantha expected Arnold to take an early retirement.

Chapter 19

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

To tick past in rigid chunks

To be in full throttle

To hold a charity lunch

To leaf through

Haggard

Pinched

To be out of touch

Prickles of curiosity

An early retirement

Entry

With a weird frisson

To chime

To be tucked away

To keep sth quiet

To disclose the information

To swim over the ledge

Conspiracy theorist

To dial the number

To hold one's head up

To give smb best wishes

A glutton for punishment

To be involved in sth untoward

To cut smb off

Scribbled facts

To go into receivership

That's the scum

| | |
|-------------|--------------|
| early | action |
| Prickles | through |
| Conspiracy | best wishes |
| Scribbled | receivership |
| To take | facts |
| To give smb | retirement |
| To go into | of curiosity |

7. Questions for discussion:

- Do you think of Internet as of an addiction or a meaningful part of your life?
- Do you find websites like Friends Reunited useful?

*Supplementary exercises for Listening practice. Listen to the beginning of Chapter 20 (pp.304-306) and check whether the following statements are true or false:

- Samantha wrote a letter to Guy explaining her worries.
- She thought her letter sounded convincing enough.
- Samantha was not sure anybody could believe her theory.
- Although her career was ruined, Samantha could not think of Arnold as of her worst enemy.
- Samantha received a message from Nathaniel.
- Nathaniel took Samantha out but did not mention where exactly they were going.
- Samantha was listening very attentively to what Nathaniel was telling her.

Chapter 20

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

To sound like a paranoid
 Ex-employee with a grudge
 Crook
 Jocular smile
 To grovel
 Convertible
 No credibility
 To manoeuvre the car
 To wrench one's mind
 Ramshackle house
 A horticultural business opportunity
 Entrepreneurial
 To take over
 Patchwork quilt
 To be off the string
 Awkwardness
 Heartfelt speech
 To play for time
 To be twigged
 Burnished face
 In turmoil
 To stir things up

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Отлично понимать кого-то, предположить худшее о ком-либо, поехать по маршруту, полуразрушенный, открывать душу, тянуть время

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you:

- a) a very dishonest person, especially a criminal or a cheat
- b) describes someone who is happy and likes to make jokes (adjective)
- c) a car with a soft roof which can be folded back
- d) badly or untidily made and likely to break or fall down easily
- e) starting a business, especially when this involves seeing a new opportunity (adjective)
- f) a feeling of uncertainty because something is difficult to use, do, or deal with
- g) a state of confusion, uncertainty or disorder

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- a) Philippa still has a _____ against me for refusing to lend her that money.
- b) He sent a _____ note of apology.
- c) Reversing round a corner is one of the _____ you are required to perform in a driving test.
- d) She _____ as manager two weeks ago.
- e) The old lady sat in the corner doing _____.
- f) The photographs _____ some painful memories.
- g) She's six months pregnant and he still hasn't _____.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) What does Samantha mention in her letter to Guy?
- b) Where does Nathaniel take her?
- c) What plans does he have for future?
- d) Does Samantha find the house lovely?
- e) Why doesn't she listen to Nathaniel's speech?
- f) What does Samantha finally decide to do?

6. Match words from each column to form collocations:

| | |
|--------------|-------------|
| No | face |
| Heartfelt | the string |
| Burnished | twigged |
| To be | credibility |
| To manoeuvre | the car |
| To be off | speech |

7. Questions for discussion:

- a) Have you ever got distracted in the middle of a conversation? Did you try to pretend you were listening?
- b) Have you ever felt like a paranoid crazy?
- c) Do you often find yourself in a situation when you have to play for time?

*Supplementary exercises: a dictation-translation test (based on chapters 13-20).

Chapter 21

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

hitch

a swarm of ants

to fade into the background
to pick up one's pace
to feed one's travel card into the machine
to do sth with not a second to spare
in hindsight
a drag queen
a tuxedo
to keep one's emotions in line
to psyche oneself up
cubicle
to unbolt (the door)
filing cabinet
to recede
to be on red alert
to snap
to pull one's weight
rimless (glasses)
defiance
credibility
to poke sb on the shoulder
premises
to come to standstill
to go into freefall
to set sb up
on automatic pilot
to say sth in an undertone
duplicity
to be on a par
frisson

2. **Find English equivalents for the following:**

Не тратя ни секунды, темные очки, повысить ставки, сойти с рук, идти полным ходом, проглотить комок в горле, вывести из равновесия, остатки хладнокровия, не привлекать к себе внимание, подставить кого-либо.

3. **Match words from each column to form collocations.**

| | |
|-----------|----------------|
| a wash | of panic |
| a wave | of defiance |
| a glimmer | of disbelief |
| a lurch | of hatred |
| a feeling | of recognition |
| a whoosh | of humiliation |
| a jolt | of nerves |
| a swoop | of fatigue |

4. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a temporary difficulty which causes a short delay
- a man's jacket that is usually black, worn on formal occasions
- a large noisy uncontrolled crowd, in which people are moving in different directions and sometimes fighting with each other
- to move further away into the distance, or to become less clear or less bright;
- to say something suddenly in an angry way;
- when someone can be believed or trusted;
- a small space with walls or curtains around it, that is separate from the rest of a room and where you can be private when taking clothes off, etc.

5. Comprehension check:

- What kind of plan did Samantha have? What did she look and sound like? What was her cover-up story?
- How did Samantha manage to escape the Geigers for a couple of days?
- What did Samantha find in Arnold's office?
- Why did she get to the party room?
- What was her ex-colleagues reaction when they recognized her? What about Arnold?
- Why did Samantha turn for help to Ketterman?

6. Listen to the extract and complete the text below.

"Even being back in London has _____. The city isn't the way I remember it. I can't believe how dirty it is. How _____ it is. As I arrived at Paddington station this afternoon I felt almost bewildered by the _____, moving like a swarm of ants over the concourse. I could smell the _____. I saw the _____. Things I never even noticed before. Did I just filter them out? Was I so used to them, they _____ the background? But at the same time, the minute my feet hit the ground I _____. By the time I reached the Underground station I'd already _____: matching the stride of everyone else; feeling my travel card into the machine at exactly the _____; whipping it out with not a second to spare. And now I'm in the Starbucks around the corner from Carter Spink, sitting at the _____ in the window, watching City-suited business people walking past, talking and _____ and making phone calls. The _____. My heart's already beating more quickly – and I haven't even got inside the building yet."

7. Questions for discussion:

- Do you enjoy the rush of adrenaline in your blood? How can you increase it?
- Have you got a deductive talent? Would you make a better detective or a criminal? Why did Samantha's plan fail?
- Samantha had to turn for help to Ketterman. Have you ever had to ask for help from someone you were afraid of or didn't quite like?

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

grubby
rickety
gritty
discarded
dressing gown
spartan
spy-hole
to keep composure
crammed
to go into specifics
flushed (cheeks)
keyed up
to set foot over the threshold
to be immaculately kept
to talk gobbledygook
husk
discreet
to be vindicated
to feel thrown by sth
engrossed in sth
to cut sb off
galvanized
in quarantine
to be under way
to be wronged
stupefaction
full equity partnership
the highest pinnacle
to hang over sb
to clear one's name
out of pique
to think straight
to steady one's nerves
tailspin

2. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) in bad condition and therefore weak and likely to break;
- b) careful not to cause embarrassment or attract too much attention, especially by keeping something secret;
- c) the dry outer covering of some seeds;
- d) simple and severe with no comfort;
- e) very full of people or things;
- f) very excited or nervous, usually before an important event.

3. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary.

- a) I tried to attract her attention but she was _____ a conversation with Tom.
- b) The coach didn't want to _____ about the accident.
- c) She _____ me _____ in mid sentence.
- d) Experts say that the second industrial revolution is _____.
- e) The Annabel Lee B&B Inn is a beautiful and _____ hotel in Long Island, NY.

- f) The horse had to spend three weeks _____ when it reached Britain.
 g) Controlling your emotion begins with a deliberate decision to _____ and emotional retrain at all times.
 h) She not only wanted to be acquitted, she wanted to _____ entirely.

4. Match words from each column to form collocations.

| | |
|-----------|-----------|
| rubby | train |
| rickety | ceiling |
| gritty | bookshelf |
| flushed | underwear |
| discarded | enquiry |
| discreet | cheeks |
| crammed | carpet |

5. Comprehension check:

- a) How did Samantha feel in her own apartment that time?
 b) What kind of surprise was waiting for Mrs Farley?
 c) What was the difference between the old and the new Samantha according to Mrs Farley?
 d) Why did Samantha spend three hours at the Carter Spink Offices?
 e) Why did she feel a bit thrown by seeing Guy?
 f) What decision did investigation arrive at?
 g) What did Ketterman and other partners offer to Samantha? What did it mean?
 h) Did Samantha accept their offer? What did she say?

6. Questions for discussion:

- a) At the end of the chapter Samantha says: "There's no such thing as ruining your life. Life's a pretty resilient thing, it turns out". Do you agree with her?
 b) Do you approve of Samantha's refusal to full equity partnership? What would you do if you were in her shoes?
 c) How have Samantha's values changed since the first time you met her at the beauty therapist's office?

Chapter 23

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- goody bag
 be in good cause
 a raffle
 to sidle
 substantial
 to turn sth down
 domestic drudgery
 to herald
 to trespass
 exposed
 to rock the boat
 diversion
 stampede
 brim (of the hat)
 to double over
 to reel

to jerk one's head
to gain an equal foothold
a barrage of questions
transfixed
to stammer
to stutter
to go round in circles

2. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) an activity in which people buy tickets with different numbers, some of which are later chosen to win prizes, which is arranged in order to make money for a good social purpose;
- b) to walk towards or away from someone, trying not to be noticed;
- c) to go onto someone's land or enter their building without permission;
- d) when something is sent somewhere different from where it was originally intended to go;
- e) to speak or say something with unusual pauses or repeated sounds, either because of speech problems or because of fear and anxiety;
- f) large in size, value or importance;
- g) unable to move or stop looking at something because you are so interested, surprised or frightened.

3. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary.

- a) A lot of people didn't really agree with the policy, but they didn't want to _____.
- b) We can't _____ all day - someone will have to make a decision.
- c) The house is in a very _____ position.
- d) The professor enumerated several reasons behind a woman's inability to gain equal foothold in the workplace with men.
- e) The people in the audience _____ with laughter.
- f) The press secretary had to deal with a _____ from the angry audience.
- g) Mary started to feel that all her time was spent on _____.

4. Comprehension check:

- a) What kind of party arrangement did Trish forget to make?
- b) What did Samantha read in the newspaper article given to her by a journalist?
- c) How did Samantha try to escape the journalists?
- d) What did Trish and Eddie see when they looked out of the window? What did they think at first?
- e) What did Samantha's employers learn about her from the journalists?
- f) Did Samantha find it easy to break the news to Nathaniel? How did he react?

5. Listen to the extract and complete the text below.

“Nothing happens until lunchtime.

I make the breakfast for Trish and Eddie as usual. I _____ and _____ as usual. The I put on Trish's _____, get out the _____ and start squeezing oranges. I'm going to make bitter chocolate and orange mousse for the charity lunch tomorrow. We're going to _____ on a bed of crystallized orange slices, and each plate is going to be _____ with a real silver-leaf angel from a Christmas decoration catalogue.

This was Trish's idea. As are the angels _____ the ceiling.

‘How are we doing?’ Trish comes tapping into the kitchen, looking _____. ‘Have you made the mousses yet?’

‘Not yet,’ I say _____ an orange. ‘Mrs Geiger, don't worry. It's all under control.’

‘Do you know what I've _____, the last few days?’ She clutches her head. ‘More and more people keep _____ ... I've had to change the seating plan ...’

'It'll be fine,' I say _____. 'Try to relax.'

6. Questions for discussion:

1. Have you ever given an interview or read about yourself in a newspaper or online article? Would you like to do it one day?
2. Samantha got several prizes at law school. Are there any academic prizes at your university? Have you won any?

7. Imagine that you have done something really outstanding and significant. Write a short article about yourself for the local newspaper.

Chapter 24

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

unabashed
brazen
impassive
to liaise with sb
superimposed
casualty
savior
high-flying
to woo
to pull a face
to hiss
moron
hassled
to throw one's schedule
exasperation
dismissive
flippant
incongruous
airhead
travesty
to bail out
to plummet
perverse
over a barrel
to be set up for life
content
profit margin
narrow-minded

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Угасать, отбросить назад волосы, двухстраничный разворот, вернуться к домашнему очагу, одинолично, бесценное произведение искусства, закатывать глаза, выглядеть тронутым, образец для подражания, вернуться в нормальное русло, накрахмаленные манжеты, откусить кусочек, заблуждающийся, новизна/новинка, преувеличивать, воркование голубей.

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) without any worry about possible criticism or embarrassment;

- b) describes a person's face when it expresses no emotion, because they seem not to be affected by the situation they are experiencing;
- c) a person who saves someone from danger or harm;
- d) extremely successful;
- e) obvious, without any attempt to be hidden;
- f) unusual or different from what is around or from what is generally happening;
- g) something which fails to represent the values and qualities that it is intended to represent, in a way that is shocking or offensive;
- h) pleased with your situation and not hoping for change or improvement;
- i) not serious about a serious subject, in an attempt to be funny or to appear clever.

4. Find collocations for each of the following adjectives: *dismissive, impassive, perverse, flippant, high-flying.*

Face, attitude, pleasure, executive, tone, shrug, mask, gesture, logic, incentive, remark.

5. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary.

- a) His father died when he was young and the inheritance _____ him _____.
- b) Ann will do exactly what I say. I've got her _____.
- c) "This tastes horrible," said Tom, _____ at his glass.
- d) The book cover had a picture of a dove _____ on a battle scene.
- e) This whole Christmas thing has _____.
- f) House prices have _____ in recent months.
- g) I knew that Bill was too _____ to understand me.
- h) The train was derailed but there were no _____, police said.

6. Comprehension check:

- a) What was unusual about Melissa that morning?
- b) What did the media write about Samantha?
- c) Why did Guy come to the Geigers? Was Samantha embarrassed to do her chores in front of him?
- d) Which arguments did Guy put forward to influence Samantha's decision about the job?
- e) What did Samantha finally decide? How did she break the news to Nathaniel?
- f) How did Nathaniel plan to 'spread his wings'?

7. Questions for discussion:

- a) One article of the Forbes magazine starts with the following words: "Marry pretty women or ugly ones. Short ones or tall ones. Blondes or brunettes. Just, whatever you do, don't marry a woman with a career". How do you understand that?
- b) Why did one of the newspapers call Samantha "a casualty of today's work-obsessed society"? Do you agree that society is too obsessed with work nowadays? Do the headlines in this chapter raise any real-life issues? Do women and men face identical challenges in the modern corporate world?
- c) If you could vote in the poll "Samantha Sweeting: Heroine or Fool", what would you vote for?
Do you ever vote in the polls?
- d) Eddie said "You should never turn down television. Could be a big opportunity". Do you agree?
- e) Can you imagine yourself appearing in one of the commercials? What commercial would you like to appear in?

Chapter 25

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

to pore over sth
a cut above
washed out
to swing into action
to leave sb in the lurch
to dab
to chip in
to pull oneself together
nonplussed
to kick up a fuss
to blow sb away
to descend
to mill around
to interwine
without missing a beat
to rest on one's laurels
taut
unease
to put sth off
to be stranded
second to none
puce
arrogant
SWAT team
to dodge
to wriggle out of sth
conciliatory
to hunch

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Попасть на первую полосу, похлопать по спине, придерживаться сценария, скрытая камера, вздох облегчения, расстаться, стойка с закусками, кулак, замолкнуть, конвейерная лента, никому не уступающий, всемирно-уважаемый, подвезти, заглянуть/заскочить, глубоко внутри.

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) to interrupt a conversation in order to say something;
- b) being a dark brownish purple colour;
- c) unpleasantly proud and behaving as if you are more important than, or know more than, other people;
- d) pulled or drawn tight; strained, tense;
- e) surprised, confused and not certain how to react;
- f) feeling or looking very tired;
- g) to lean forward with your shoulders raised or to bend your back and shoulders into a rounded shape;
- h) to look at and study something, usually a book or document, carefully.

4. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- a) She was asked what single achievement she was most proud of. 'My son,' she replied, _____.
- b) That new exhibit of ancient gold objects at the museum is so amazing, it will _____!

- c) Despite our success, this is no time to _____.
- d) Just _____. There's no point crying about it.
- e) He _____ about having to wait.
- f) She thinks she's a _____ her neighbours.
- g) The emergency services _____ as soon as the news of the bomb explosion reached them.
- h) He managed to _____ the shot that came flying through the air.

5. Comprehension check:

- a) What did Trish mean by saying "we are becoming media personalities"?
- b) What instructions did Hilary give to Samantha before the press conference?
- c) How did Samantha feel when Guy told her about "missing their chance"?
- d) How did the press conference go?
- e) Why did Samantha punch Guy?
- f) What did Samantha learn from Eamonn?
- g) What did Nathaniel write in his note?

6. Listen to the extract and complete the text below.

"The entire world seems to have _____ on the Geigers house. As I _____ of the front door with Hilary and two PR managers, there are what looks like hundreds of people in the drive. A row of TV cameras is _____ me, photographers and journalists are in a crowd behind, and Carter Spink PR assistants are _____, keeping everyone in line and handing out coffee from a refreshments stand which seems to have _____ from nowhere. At the gate I can see a group of regulars from the pub _____ curiously, and I shoot them a mortified grin.

'It'll be a few more minutes,' says Hilary, listening to her mobile. 'We're just waiting for the Daily Telegraph.'

I can see David Elldridge and Greg Parker standing by the _____, both typing on their Blackberries. The PR department wanted as many partners as possible for the _____, but none of the others could make it. _____, they were lucky to get this many. As I'm watching, _____ I see Melissa approaching them, _____ smartly in a beige suit and holding ... is that _____?"

7. Questions for discussion:

- a) Samantha promised Nathaniel that they would meet every weekend and holiday. Do you believe in a long-distance relationship? How can one make it work?
- b) Guy told Samantha that she was deluded and lived in a fantasyland. Do you ever feel that you live in your own fantasyland? Do you know any people who do?

Chapter 26

Active vocabulary

1. Translate into Russian and give context for the following words and expressions:

- numb
- first-class compartment
- to pull out of the station
- to jolt sb alive
- to zoom in and out
- baleful
- to piss sb off
- to jumble
- livid
- to het up over sth

to cut across
an iota of (understanding)
sepulchral (tone)

2. Find English equivalents for the following:

Сделать заявление, составленный наспех, объектив видеокамеры, взяться за что-либо, поставить что-либо под вопрос, набраться энтузиазма, быстрый набор, вне поля зрения, по последнему слову техники, переубедить, пересадка, отбывающий поезд, запрокинуть голову, некуда спешить.

3. Guess the word by its definition. Use Active vocabulary to help you.

- a) full of evil intentions; threatening;
- b) not able to feel any emotions or to think clearly, because you are so shocked or frightened, etc;
- c) to mix things together untidily;
- d) suggesting death or places where the dead are buried;
- e) a question, often expressing doubt about something or looking for an answer from an authority;
- f) an extremely small amount;
- g) to annoy someone.

4. Comprehension check:

- a) How did Samantha feel on the train?
- b) Who pissed Samantha off?
- c) What caused a frenzied action among Samantha's colleagues? Did Samantha feel the same?
- d) Why did Samantha get off the train? What was she intending to do?
- e) Where did she meet Nathaniel?
- f) Which way did they decide to go?

5. Fill in the gaps using Active vocabulary:

- a) The train _____ station at 10am.
- b) I haven't seen one _____ evidence to support his claim.
- c) The curtain rose to reveal a gloomy, _____ set for the play.
- d) The rapid-fire questioning _____ the witness's thoughts.
- e) I couldn't bear his presence and every glance at him just _____.
- f) The journalists' camera lenses started to _____ as soon as the actress appeared.

6. Questions for discussion

- a) Samantha said to Guy: "I don't want to be someone who doesn't look out of the window". How do you understand this sentence? Are you the person who "looks out of the window"?
- b) Give comments about Samantha saying "I'm not a lawyer! I'm a person". What did she mean by that?
- c) "Sometimes you don't need a goal in life. You don't need to know the big picture. You just need to know what you're going to do next". Do you agree with that?
- d) Have you ever had a situation in which you took a decision supported by everyone around but you felt there was something not right about it?
- e) Are there any places where you can say "I don't belong here". Where do you belong?
- f) Did you expect the happy end? Would you like this novel to finish in a different way? What can be the alternative ending?
- g) What do you predict for Samantha and Nathaniel's future?

Extra Practice Ideas:

1. Write your own review of the Undomestic Goddess similar to those provided in the beginning of this book.
2. Write an essay based on one of the following topics:
 - a) Do we take enough time for ourselves, or do we let our careers take over?
 - b) Are we doing what we really want, or did we just get stuck in the system, like so many others?
 - c) If you are in love with a person and want a relationship with him/her, do you think something has to give or there is no room for compromise?
 - d) Time and you: how do you get on?

Саратовский государственный университет имени Н. Г. Чернышевского

Bridget Jones's Diary
by **Helen Fielding**

Саратовский государственный университет имени Н. Г. Чернышевского

Biography

Helen Fielding (born 19 February 1958) is an English novelist and screenwriter. Fielding grew up in Morley, West Yorkshire, a textile town on the outskirts of Leeds in the north of England. She studied English at St. Anne's College, Oxford and was part of the Oxford revue at the 1978 Edinburgh Festival, forming a continuing friendship with a group of comic performers and writers including Richard Curtis and Rowan Atkinson.

Fielding began work at the BBC in 1979 as a regional researcher on the news magazine Nationwide. She progressed to working as a production manager on various children's and light entertainment shows. In 1985 Fielding produced a live satellite broadcast from a refugee camp in Eastern Sudan for the launch of Comic Relief. She also wrote and produced documentaries in Africa for the first two Comic Relief fundraising broadcasts. In 1989 she was a researcher on the Thames TV documentary "Where Hunger is a Weapon" about the Southern Sudan rebel war. These experiences formed the basis for her first novel, Cause Celeb. The novel focuses on Rosie Richardson, a woman who flees to Africa to escape a bungled love affair with Oliver Marchant, a BBC anchorman, and winds up managing an international food charity involved in the famine relief effort. When the charity chooses to ignore the rumored possibility of a locust plague, Rosie and her new doctor boyfriend return to England to enlist the aid of various celebrities, including Marchant, to publicize the coming disaster. Although Cause Celeb was republished later to capitalize on the popularity of Fielding's Bridget Jones books, it was met with limited interest.

The following year, the London Independent offered Fielding the opportunity to write a weekly column from the perspective of a fictional character. Fielding agreed and began writing under the name "Bridget Jones," a single professional woman in her early thirties. Bridget's romantic exploits became incredibly popular with Londoners and, in 1996, Fielding turned the columns into a novel, Bridget Jones's Diary. The novel was an immediate success and, four years later, Fielding released a sequel titled Bridget Jones: The Edge of Reason.

Nowadays, Fielding divides her time between London and Los Angeles.

New Year's Resolutions and January

Vocabulary List

To rage

Sluttishly

To have a crush on someone

To sulk

Poise

Circumference

To purge

Extraneous

Circuitous

Zeal

Barrister

Top-notch

Accelerator pedal

Nauseous

Hideous

Treatise

To bolt off

Bid

Obnoxious

Angst

To wriggle out

To succumb

Remorse

Fluctuating
Precipitated
To blurt
Fraudulently

Comprehension Questions

1. Which resolutions does Bridget Jones make in the beginning of the year?
2. Who is Bridget set up with at Alconbury's New Year's Day Turkey Curry Buffet? How does she feel about it?
3. Who does Bridget fall in love with?

Exercises

1. Match parts of the expressions

- | | |
|---------------------|----------------------|
| a. give vent to | fresh start next day |
| b. out | on the stroke |
| c. stop | hard times |
| d. it's never going | of the blue |
| e. make | one's feelings |
| f. fall on | to be a runner |

2. Fill in the gaps in the sentences using the correct forms of the given words **hideous**

poise **bid** **succumb** **top-notch**
sulk **precipitated** **obnoxious** **extraneous** **remorse**

- a. The smell of that mixture is really _____.
- b. She hoped the dance lessons would improve her _____ and balance.
- c. What made you want to look _____?
- d. She _____ to temptation and ordered a glass of wine.
- e. I look _____ in that picture!
- f. The company cut prices just before Christmas in a _____ to support sales.
- g. He's like a spoilt child, _____ in the corner.
- h. All these factors are _____ to our objectives.
- i. Such headaches can be _____ by foods as well as stress.
- j. She has never shown any _____ for her crime.

3. Give context to the words

- a. Bumblebee socks, barrister, to get a drink, hideous silence, to bolt off.
- b. Message Pending, attitude to skirt, fluctuating tool of communication, flirtatious.
- c. Date preparation, woman of substance, to be fixed for Friday, dream date.

4. Match the words with their definitions

- | | |
|--------------------|--|
| a. junction | loud and unpleasant |
| b. snooty | pretending that you are ill in order to avoid work |
| c. repulse | thinking that you are better than other people |
| d. strident | the practice of spending money carefully |
| e. misapprehension | a place where one road crosses or joins another |
| f. impertinent | a belief that is not correct |
| g. malingering | rude and not showing respect for someone |
| h. thrift | being very unpleasant toward other people |

5. Find English equivalents for the Russian words

- a. неожиданно –

- b. надменный –
- c. заступничество –
- d. препираться –
- e. лозунг –
- f. ожидание –
- g. выпалить –
- h. страх –
- i. рвение –
- j. научный труд –

Discussion

1. Have you ever made resolutions in the beginning of the year? If yes, did you manage to fulfill any of them?
2. Would you add any points to Bridget's list of resolutions?
3. Do you think Bridget is really so unattractive, as she considers herself?

February

Vocabulary List

Barrage out
 Show oneself up
 Hood
 Fiddle around
 Worm out
 Vicarious
 Hoity-toitily
 Conspire
 Magnanimous
 Fright
 Reel off
 Suffuse
 Thuggish
 Nuisance
 Unbridled
 Pop out
 Transpire
 Giveaway
 Skittishly
 Grin
 Lurch
 Impend

Comprehension Questions

1. Why does Bridget feel humiliated after visiting dinner party at Magda and Jeremy's?
2. What is going on in her parents' household?
3. How does Bridget celebrate St. Valentine's Day?

Exercises

1. *Give context to the words*
 - a. Smug Married dinner party, to burst into tears, Singletons.
 - b. Parents' distress, Bridget's smugness, advice, wise counselor.
 - c. Valentine's Day, cynical enterprise, an arty card, a piece of ridiculous commercial exploitation.
2. *Match parts of the expressions*
 - a. reduce my ego to _____ of the elements

- | | | |
|----|-------------------------|---------------|
| b. | to take total indignity | establishment |
| c. | to be at the mercy | on the chin |
| d. | it is too French farce | size of snail |
| e. | alluringness of | character |
| f. | hub of | for words |

3. *Give English equivalents to the Russian words and expressions*

- a. Неприятность –
- b. Капот автомобиля –
- c. Испуг –
- d. Раздраженно –
- e. Сговориться –
- f. Жестокий –
- g. Выставить себя на посмешище –
- h. Разузнать –

Discussion

1. Can you agree with the point that the institution of family is going to disappear and being a Singleton is becoming more typical of modern individuals?
2. Do you consider Valentine's Day purely commercial, cynical enterprise?

March

Vocabulary List

Slob
 Overdue
 Appalling
 Cutthroat
 Self-perpetuating
 Smug
 Aloof
 Alluringness
 Bustle up
 Brim over
 Clandestine
 Stunned
 Insufferable
 Telltale
 Undaunted
 Self-perpetuating
 Solidify
 Gorgeous
 Trigger
 Mutate
 Immaculately
 Tapdancing routine

Comprehension Questions

1. How does Bridget and Daniel's relationship develop?
2. Which job does Bridget's mother obtain?
3. What kind of birthday party does Bridget organize?

Exercises

4. *Give context to the words*

Birthday party, a weird sixth sense, cooking didn't work out.

5. Fill in the gaps using the correct forms of the words that are given below

aerated **vener** **arrogance** **cobweb**
grope **blurt out** **clandestine** **immaculately**

1. She _____ his name, then gasped as she realized what she'd done.
2. I couldn't finish work on time, so I had to construct a further _____ of lies.
3. It is illegal to use undercover or _____ devices, such as telephone taps or hidden surveillance.
4. She hesitated, seeming _____ for words.
5. This concept is based on the ideas which are accepted as fact and given a _____ of respectability by the passage of time.
6. He seems to be _____ about this issue.
7. Her _____ has earned her a lot of enemies.
8. As usual, he was _____ dressed: all in black.

6. Match the words with their definitions

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| a. snap up | 1. a big smile that shows your teeth |
| b. appalling | 2. being shy |
| c. grin | 3. to immediately take advantage of the opportunity |
| d. foul | 4. to force someone to do something |
| e. coyly | 5. angry about something |
| f. oblige | 6. very unpleasant |

7. Give English equivalents to the Russian words and expressions

- a. «ломать голову» над чем-то –
- b. самодовольство –
- c. видимость заботы –
- d. воплощать в жизнь –
- e. тайный, скрытый –
- f. без контроля -

Discussion

1. If you were Bridget, would you behave like an “aloof, unavailable ice-queen” or give a call to Daniel?
2. What is your idea of the perfect birthday party? Whom would you invite? Where would it be located?

April Vocabulary List

Hauteur
Grudging
Concession
E.T.
Whoosh
Obscure
Sepulchral
Tackle
Bailiff
Sulk

Pang
Contemplate
Prickly
Stubborn
Scour
Virulent
Vibe
Enchanted
Dazzling
Interlocutor
Hover
Sidle away
Obtuse
Pun
Skulk off
Nerd
Tapeworm
Deflated
Cleavage
Lurch
Hiccup
Bewildered
Intercom
Intermittently
Fiddle
Wrench
Innuendo
Dazzling
Glittering

Comprehension Questions

1. Does Bridget manage to tackle constant lateness for work?
2. Who does Bridget spot with Magda's Jeremy? Does she say anything to Magda?
3. How does Bridget feel about being invited to the literati launch of Kafka's Motorbike?
4. Who does Bridget meet at Kafka's Motorbike?
5. Which day does Bridget describe as historic and joyous? What happens to her?
6. What motivated Bridget to start drinking and smoking again?

Exercises

1. *Give context to the words*
 - a. TV debut, Springtime Slot, mousy-looking woman.
 - b. Kafka's Motorbike, dealing with parties, Party Objectives.
 - c. Jude's party, deflated cleavage, disappointment.
2. *Dramatize the scenes*
 - a. The literati launch of Kafka's Motorbike
 - b. Jude's party
 - c. Magda coming to Bridget's
3. *Match the words with their definitions*
 - a. contemplate affected by special magic powers

| | | |
|----|------------|--|
| b. | purge | to search a place thoroughly for something |
| c. | scour | a feeling or state of happiness and fun |
| d. | dazzling | to consider the possibility of something happening |
| e. | glittering | extremely impressive |
| f. | enchanted | the use of statements with a second possible meaning |
| g. | innuendo | used for describing situations that involve rich, famous, or successful people |
| h. | gaiety | to remove a bad or unpleasant condition or feeling from someone or something |

4. Fill in the gaps using the correct forms of the given words

vibe **interlocutor** **enchanted** **grudging**
bewildered **pun** **tackle** **concession**

- Successive governments have failed _____ the question of homelessness.
- Many of the refugees looked _____ and frightened.
- After visiting Brazil, she seems to be _____ by the country.
- He was able to perform as a great _____ in all groups of people.
- You have to be prepared to make _____ in a relationship.
- Some people dismiss _____ as the lowest form of humor.
- I didn't get many good _____ from the club.
- I couldn't help feeling a _____ admiration for his thoroughness.

5. Find English equivalents for Russians

- курить, не переставая –
- отрицание –
- блестящий, светский –
- намек, иносказание –
- серая мышка -
- собеседник –

Discussion questions

- Bridget cannot tackle constant lateness for work. Are you an organized person? If you are born being a disorganized and unpunctual individual, can you cope with this problem and change you character?
- Do you feel comfortable attending glittering events? Is it possible to develop good social skills and public speaking ability in the way Bridget attempts to do it?
- If you saw your friend's spouse with another person, would you tell the truth to your friend?
- What is your attitude toward the modern tendency to transform the Classics into various television forms? Is it tasteless or postmodernist?

May Vocabulary List

frankfurter
crop-top
obnoxious
ruched
beatific
bellow
scuttle out
goeey

fecund
 moon about
 petulant
 tranquility
 whip up
 frenzy
 run off with someone
 changing room
 obese
 rayon
 pavlova
 repulsive
 tedious
 pile-up
 dingy
 precipitate
 allege
 aggrieved
 blot out

Comprehension Questions

1. Is Bridget happy about her probable pregnancy?
2. How does Bridget spend VE Day?
3. Why is Magda jealous of Bridget?
4. What does Bridget's mother ask her to do? Why does she feel offended after this?

Exercises

1. *Give context to the words*

- a. Heat, VE Day, shopping, communal changing rooms.
- b. Bridget's flat, television crew, 'Suddenly Single', a fraud.

2. *Find Russian equivalents to the following expressions*

- a. to struggle to make ends meet –
- b. to be carried away with euphoria –
- c. I've made my bed, I'll just have to lie in it now –
- d. to nip round corner for something –
- e. to go all formal and English –
- f. one's nerves are shot to ribbons –

3. *Match the words with their definitions*

- | | | |
|----|-------------|--|
| a. | tranquility | showing feelings such as love and admiration in a silly way |
| b. | petulant | annoyed and behaving in an unreasonable way because you cannot get what you want |
| c. | precipitate | extremely happy and peaceful |
| d. | beatific | too fat |
| e. | repulsive | a state of calmness and quietness |
| f. | allege | very unpleasant, disgusting |
| g. | goosey | feeling angry and unhappy because you think you have been treated in an unfair way |
| h. | aggrieved | dark and looking dirty |
| i. | dingy | to say that something is true |
| j. | obese | to make something happen, especially something bad |

4. *Fill in the gaps using the correct forms of the given words*

tedious petulant bellow repulsive beatific

precipitate allege whip up gooey frenzy

1. 'I can't hear you!' he _____.
2. He looked very happy smiling in a _____ way.
3. She was _____ about her new boyfriend.
4. The defence _____ that Jones was beaten up while in police custody.
5. 'Well, he didn't invite me to his party so I'm certainly not inviting him to mine!' she said in a _____ way.
6. The trouble is I find most forms of exercise so _____.
7. Newspaper articles _____ fears of the new tax policies.
8. She was in a _____ of rage.
9. I think rats and snakes are _____.
10. Such headaches can be _____ by foods as well as stress.

5. *Make up dialogues which are based on the following situations*

- a. Bridget and Magda sitting in a restaurant (Magda is very depressed about Jeremy's adultery);
- b. Bridget being interviewed by her mum for 'Suddenly Single' show.

Discussion Questions

1. What would be the end of the story if Bridget was really pregnant?
2. Who do you think is happier, Bridget or Magda? Why?
3. Do you consider Bridget's mum to be a fraud because of the fake interview with Bridget?

June

Vocabulary List

go on break
seductive
hang out with someone
get infused
build up out of all proportion
insurmountable
live up to expectations
emery board
catnap
premature
sagging
chide
cleft
concealer
snigger
malignant
waning
tremulous
signpost
dupe
veer off
nouveau

Comprehension Questions

1. What becomes Bridget's fixed idea in June?
2. Why does Bridget dislike Rebecca?
3. Which problem does Bridget face trying to record the TV show for her mum?

Exercises

1. *Match the words with their definitions*
- | | | |
|----|----------------|--|
| a. | insurmountable | to change in a sudden or noticeable way |
| b. | seductive | to laugh quietly, especially at something that is rude and unpleasant that has happened to someone |
| c. | tremulous | becoming weaker or less in amount or value |
| d. | premature | happening too soon or before the usual time |
| e. | veer off | becoming less important |
| f. | malignant | impossible to deal with successfully |
| g. | sagging | not steady |
| h. | snigger | criticize someone or to speak to them in an angry way |
| i. | chide | sexually attractive |
| j. | waning | showing that you want to do something bad to someone |

2. *Fill in the gaps using the correct forms of the words*

insurmountable seductive tremulous
veer off malignant sagging snigger
chide waning premature

- a. The company's sales go down because Asian economies are _____.
- b. When I started my own business, I faced a lot of _____ difficulties.
- c. The company was _____ for its lack of original research.
- d. The conversation _____ in a new direction.
- e. He put on his most flirtatious and _____ grin.
- f. Alcohol is responsible for many thousands of _____ deaths each year.
- g. His enthusiasm was _____ fast.
- h. We _____ as the actor kept forgetting his lines.
- i. She was so scared that her voice was _____.
- j. He didn't have many friends because of his _____ nature.

3. *Make up dialogues that are based on the following situations*

- a. Bridget tries to convince Daniel to go on mini-breaks
- b. Bridget has a conversation with Rebecca

Discussion Questions

1. Bridget stays at home trying to work but it turned out to be inefficient. Which way of working do you consider more productive, at home or in the office?
2. Rebecca humiliates Bridget. How would you reply if you were Bridget?
3. Why is Daniel so reluctant to go on mini-breaks?

July

Vocabulary List

to plug
 resignedly
 thigh boots
 fishnet nights
 peephole bra
 coy
 stark naked
 cross
 fluttery
 dog collar
 barrage

hideous
apron
to sniff
to alter
whippet
sulkily
vain
pursuit
outfit
hold-ups
a cross between something
stockings
suspenders
handkerchief
bow-tie
cotton wool
sodding
merriment
two-piece
slacks
V-necked
pleated
fuchsia
tumbler
to hiss
to lurch over
to collapse
thingummyjig
call girl
to stare fixedly at something
demure
to smirk
blatantly
lilac
turquoise
shirtwaister
clapper board
mix-up
fancy dress
bridesmaid
to get one's feet under the table
to trip
to slag somebody off behind his / her back
to flail
malevolence
to coo
to put something off
basque
reassurance
to beam
to crouch
to challenge somebody

to make a citizen's arrest
to embolden
to snap
to launder money
to deal in drugs
to play for time
to discern
warily
haughtily
to trill
to plump up cushions
duvet
habitation
to slither out
the loo
alien
assignation
to seduce
to scout
to sing-song
insouciantly
to streak
hell for leather
prat
to burrow
to pry
to wreck
top-flight
to bar
to dodge
hatch
sunlounger

Comprehension Questions

- 1) Where did Bridget's mother invite her and why did Bridget see it as a very good idea?
- 2) What kind of a dream did Bridget have and how did she interpret it?
- 3) Why didn't the party go for Bridget the way she had expected? What happened?
- 4) Why did Bridget get mad at Darcy?
- 5) What kind of suspicions and why did Bridget have when she came to Daniel's place?
- 6) How did she go about trying to prove her suspicions were not groundless?

Exercises

1. *Give context to the words*

to fight off some vision, to face a barrage of inquisition about something, to alter the course of somebody's life, to fulfill one's potential intellectually, to realize to one's horror, to look somebody up and down, a mix-up, to get one's feet under the table, to slag somebody off behind his / her back, to feel shaky, be in turmoil, to detect someone's presence, to frantically look

around for things, to slip out unnoticed, to go hell for leather for something, to wreck somebody's relationship, to bar somebody's path, frozen to the spot.

2. Match parts of phrases

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) We're all dying | a) up the time. |
| 2) I could practically hear her going | b) up the cushions as if I were in a French farce. |
| 3) It altered | c) out what you mean. |
| 4) It was really good of him to give | d) through to their logical conclusion. |
| 5) He thinks if he so much as mentions the word 'work' he can get | e) all fluttery. |
| 6) The smug witch smirked at Mark and blatantly looked me | f) for time. |
| 7) Elaine thinks she's desperate to get | g) to meet him. |
| 8) I suppose you think it's all right to slag people's boyfriends | h) both ways, and slipped along the corridor. |
| 9) I was just trying to figure | i) out of anything. |
| 10) I'd tell your mum to watch | j) her feet under the table. |
| 11) 'Ok,' I said cheerfully, without thinking, and set | k) out for herself too. |
| 12) He was playing | l) the course of my whole life. |
| 13) 'Just thought I might have left a skirt of mine behind the sofa,' I said, plumping | m) off towards the corner. |
| 14) Next I quietly unlocked the door, looked | n) off to their parents' friends behind their back when they're not even there. |
| 15) Usually once he gets going he will see things | o) up and down in a most impolite manner. |

3. Match words with their definitions

- | | |
|---------------------------------|---|
| 1) answerphone | a) to consider something carefully so that you can make a decision about it |
| 2) coy | b) to criticize someone |
| 3) dog collar | c) with narrow folds in a piece of cloth made by pressing or sewing two parts of the cloth together |
| 4) to weigh something up | d) to smile with obvious pleasure |
| 5) to get down to something | e) to look at someone carefully from their head to their feet, as if you were forming an opinion about them |
| 6) pleated | f) a relaxed and happy way of acting without feeling worried or guilty |
| 7) to smirk | g) a mistake that causes confusion |
| 8) to look somebody up and down | h) moving with quick, short movements from side to side, not in a controlled way |
| 9) clapper board | i) as fast as you can |
| 10) mix-up | j) a telephone containing a built-in device for recording incoming callers' messages for later retrieval. |
| 11) to slag somebody off | k) to continue doing a job or activity until it is finished, especially when it is difficult |
| 12) to put something off | l) to start to go or move |

- | | |
|---------------------------|---|
| 13) shaky | m) to search for something, as if by digging |
| 14) to beam | n) a stiff round white collar worn by priests |
| 15) to launder | o) to try to find out private facts about a person |
| 16) to see things through | p) a device used by people making films, which consists of a board with two parts which are hit together at the start of filming |
| 17) to get going | q) shy or pretending to be shy in order to attract people's interest |
| 18) hell for leather | r) to delay or move an activity to a later time |
| 19) to burrow | s) to smile in an unpleasant way that shows that you are pleased by someone else's bad luck or think you are better than other people |
| 20) to pry | t) to move money which has been obtained illegally through banks and other businesses to make it seem to have been obtained legally |
| 21) insouciant | u) to start to direct your efforts and attention towards something |

4. *Fill in the gaps*

- 1) My heart _____ at the thought of my relationship with Daniel being _____ in close and intimate detail amongst the lifeboat luncheons of Northamptonshire.
- 2) Now, we'd better get back and _____ up on our sleep.
- 3) What's the dream telling me, then? That I haven't _____ my potential intellectually?
- 4) He kept suggesting different ensembles for me to try on while he _____ it up.
- 5) What's he doing working on a Saturday? That's not a very good _____, is it?
- 6) In _____ I quickly looked around for Dad but couldn't see him anywhere.
- 7) 'Yes, it is, actually,' I said, _____ my chin out.
- 8) Cunning as a fox, I pretended not to see and kept walking, but inside I was in _____.
- 9) Suddenly it hit me like a _____.
- 10) I hurried back and _____ a crouching position in the porch next to his.
- 11) I _____ my head on his chest and put my arms around him, trying to smell his shirt for perfume _____ and get a good look at the bed, which was unmade as usual.
- 12) I suddenly thought this might be a trick and he was going to seduce me while the woman slipped out _____.
- 13) As I did so I suddenly _____ sight of the door that led up to the roof terrace.
- 14) Not meaning to _____ or anything, I just wondered if there was an explanation, that's all.
- 15) He yelled, moving to _____ my path, but I was too quick for him.

5. *Paraphrase the underlined parts of the sentences using active vocabulary.*

- 1) It means that the vain pursuit of an intellectual life is preventing you from achieving your true purpose.
- 2) I've just realized, I've got so much work to do this weekend. I'm going to have to stay at home and start doing it.

- 3) I walked round the side to the garden where I could hear voices raised in enjoyment.
- 4) The smug witch smirked at Mark and blatantly looked at me carefully from my head to feet in a most impolite manner.
- 5) I parked closely behind Daniel's car.
- 6) In denial, I told myself he was just getting money illegally or dealing in drugs.
- 7) I pushed open the door of Daniel's bedroom and was extremely surprised.
- 8) I flung myself on the sofa, wondering whether to go as fast as I can for the roof.
- 9) It was Mark Darcy trying to break my relationship by planting suspicions in my mind.

6. *Find Russian equivalents*

- 1) Guess what?
- 2) Hang on (a tick).
- 3) What can we do for you?
- 4) You should thank your lucky stars.
- 5) Right, that's it.
- 6) Action! Cut!
- 7) Don't you "What?" me.
- 8) After you.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Why do you think Bridget didn't stop her father from going to that party and embarrassing himself just as she had done?
- 2) Why do you think Tarts and Vicars parties are so popular?
- 3) Do you think that in relationships it's a better policy to shut your eyes to your partner's potential infidelity or behave like Bridget?
- 4) What kind of things do you think Daniel told his American lady friend about Bridget?

**August
Vocabulary List**

trollop
 plausible
 to snivel
 loony bin
 to toy with doing something
 encounter
 brainwave
 sexually incontinent
 to brace up
 drop-dead
 dissolute
 to boss somebody around
 whining
 to mix with someone
 dead-end (adj.)
 to hand in one's notice
 to embark on something
 essential oils
 to knead

circumference
to keep somebody aloft
denial
to negate
aloof
palaver
to see the error of your ways
to get carried away
to be history
patronizing
huffily
audacity
intolerable
to have an affair with someone
sales rep
tryst
face-lift
Relationship Counseling
in a good cause
hangover
to stand somebody up
to banish
to bring somebody up short
commitment problem
to snarl
to submerge
to growl
guttural
attention-span deficit
to annex
to reject
current affairs
fag
heartfelt
repulsive
in tatters
pancreas
celibate
fallback
to slump
superfluous
juniper
annihilating
to smudge
miffed pride
ladle
to scribble
midriff
sullied
to drool
imprint
to wee

eligible bachelor
 wimp
 to sober up
 a sell-by date
 picky
 to usher
 nose stud
 to blanch
 to jig
 to wink
 to teeter
 precipice
 short notice
 to bellow
 to mountaineer
 puerile
 ashen-faced
 to eavesdrop

Exercises

1. Give context to the words

to come up with a plausible explanation for something; to toy with doing something; to have a brainwave; to look drop-dead gorgeous; a dead-end job; to embark on something; to keep somebody aloft; hurtful and humiliating infidelity; to see the error of your ways; to be history; audacity; to have an affair with someone; to bring somebody up short; a commitment problem; current affairs; to remain celibate; an eligible bachelor; to face difficult trials; a misjudged attempt; booked up.

2. Match parts of phrases

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) Do not know what to believe in or hold | a) up with champagne and 'I feel so terrible I really miss you blar blar blar.' |
| 2) Leave no one in any doubt that suddenly discovered how marvelous life is without that pompous, dissolute old fart bossing you | b) aloft for two days, only to collapse around my ears. |
| 3) Have embarked | c) short by my commitment problem. |
| 4) The plans to lose weight and change personality kept me | d) on intensive detoxification program. |
| 5) But the more he sent the more I got carried | e) up for the Relationship Counseling. |
| 6) I let him soften me | f) drink or self-pity and everything will be OK. |
| 7) Jude arrived in vixen-from-hell fury because Vile Richard had stood her | g) off our feet, to 'expect little, forgive much'. |
| 8) If you ever deal with your own | h) on to anymore. |

commitment problem you might be brought up

- 9) What you have to do is be a heroine and i) with piles of scripts.
stay brave, without sinking into
- 10) We were always taught, instead of j) away, imagining that the self-
waiting to be swept reinvention was working.
- 11) She burst through a pink door into a k) around and you'll be fine.
vast open plan office strewn

3. Match words with their definitions

- | | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| 1) to snivel | a) to surprise someone and make them suddenly stop talking or doing something |
| 2) plausible | b) time beyond which something or someone is no longer interesting or useful |
| 3) brainwave | c) a condition in which you refuse to admit or believe that something bad exists or has happened |
| 4) to brace up | d) to press someone's muscles many times to help cure pain or to help someone relax |
| 5) to whine | e) a cigarette |
| 6) to knead | f) speaking or behaving towards someone as if they are stupid or not important |
| 7) circumference | g) to prepare yourself physically or mentally for something unpleasant |
| 8) denial | h) to become less drunk |
| 9) to negate | i) a sudden change from one set of beliefs or plan of action to the opposite |
| 10) patronizing | j) to intentionally fail to meet someone when you said you would, especially someone you were starting to have a romantic relationship with |
| 11) audacity | k) seeming likely to be true, or able to be believed |
| 12) volte-face | l) to turn pale |
| 13) to stand somebody up | m) to get rid of something completely |
| 14) to banish | n) more than is needed or wanted |
| 15) to bring somebody up short | o) to cry slightly in a way that is weak and does not make other people feel sympathy for you |
| 16) fag | p) bravery or confidence of a kind that other people find shocking or rude |
| 17) superfluous | q) to complain in a sad, annoying voice about something |
| 18) to sober up | r) to prevent something from having any effect |
| 19) sell-by date | s) a sudden clever idea |
| 20) to blanch | t) the distance or measurement around the outside of a circle or any round shape |

4. Fill in the gaps

- 1) They're all completely self-centered, sexually _____ and no use to man nor beast.
- 2) Go into work looking _____ gorgeous.
- 3) Oh God, I don't know who she's been _____ with.
- 4) Cannot _____ of Daniel with someone else.

- 5) I stared at him, astonished at the _____ of his volte-face.
- 6) What on earth _____ me to think it was a good idea to have an affair with my boss?
- 7) 'So what did you do?' I said sympathetically, _____ a rogue disloyal thought from Satan that said, 'She was right.'
- 8) 'He said he got _____ up at work,' said Jude.
- 9) Oh God, need fag to _____ nerves.
- 10) No-smoking policy in _____ .
- 11) Sink into morbid, cynical reflection on how much romantic heartbreak is to do with ego and _____ pride rather than actual loss.
- 12) If that man turns out to be _____ responsible for all the fighting in Bosnia, I wouldn't be in the least surprised.
- 13) As luck _____ _____, Jude had just been reading brilliant book called Goddesses in Everywoman.
- 14) That is your particular problem or _____ _____.
- 15) Just heard Perpetua come in, giving her _____ on the alternative comedians.
- 16) Then Perpetua burst in – she must have been _____ outside the door.

5. *Paraphrase*

- 1) Feel like ringing Daniel in hope he could deny everything, think of a believable explanation for the clothes-free rooftop valkyrie.
- 2) Have suddenly had a clever idea: ring Mum.
- 3) Unfortunately, I now realize the whole point of the aloof over-made-up ice-queen on anticellulite diet palaver was to make Daniel realize that he had been behaving badly.
- 4) That he realized he had made a terrible, terrible mistake, had only now understood how much he truly loved me, and that the rooftop giantess was no longer important.
- 5) Am seriously considering a medical operation on my face.
- 6) 'I said to him, "Listen, you don't have a monopoly on problems with being loyal to someone."
- 7) Exes should never, never go out with or marry other people but should not have any sexual activity to the end of their days in order to provide you with a mental fallback position.
- 8) Have just smoked entire packet of Silk Cut as act of self-destructive existential despair.
- 9) Have never met Waspy's fiancée of course.
- 10) And to be honest, darling, having children is not as good as people say it is.
- 11) Opportunities to torture the nosiest woman in the world must not be allowed to be missed.
- 12) I panicked. My mind emptied.
- 13) I'll make sure it gets back to Daniel and improves his future behavior.

6. *Find Russian equivalents*

- a. Brace up.
- b. Wrong way round.
- c. Exactly my point
- d. I don't mean this personally.

Discussion Question

1. Why, after a failed relationship with Daniel, does Bridget continue to focus on finding a male partner so that she can form a “functional relationship?” Why doesn’t she focus solely on herself?

September Vocabulary List

to undermine
begetter
to throw oneself in somebody’s path
death row
lethal injection
cerise
chance remark
security guards
portly
boilersuit
to beckon
leery
vibes
composure
tarty
attendant (adj.)
nightie
clenched teeth
caterer
adulterous
to malign
be gagging for something
hang-up
stunned
to smirk
contaminated
impregnated
furry
quilted
din
saddle stitch
to gabble
to feign
oblique
to make amends for something
whippersnapper
to lure
defiant
slimy
to shunt
siding
weird
to moan about something
to fawn over somebody

to fend
 dexterity
 distraught
 to top oneself
 sob
 a nervous breakdown
 bouffant
 wop
 glad rags
 to turn down
 hose
 mayhem
 to rehearse
 to perch
 on cue
 to wind something up
 laughingstock
 shambles
 catchphrase
 subversive

Exercises

1. Give context to the words

to throw oneself in somebody's path; to recover one's composure; a calorie chart; to highlight somebody's emotional failure and isolation; be gagging for something; hang-ups; to feign interest; to make amends for something; a morally suspect idea; to lure; to moan about something; to fawn over somebody; to be overcome with gratitude; to resist somebody's advances; to top oneself; a nervous breakdown; to write somebody off as history; to be given a tryout; on cue; to wind something up; laughingstock.

2. Match parts of phrases

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) I'm not going all the way to Huntingdon to throw myself | a) from new job 210. |
| 2) I was late | b) for popular television. |
| 3) All the Smug Marrieds keep inviting me on Saturday nights now I am alone again, seating me | c) down by every Accident and Emergency unit, Police and Ambulance force in the Home Counties. |
| 4) 'Don't know what you're complaining about,' Jeremy was holding | d) in the path of a rich divorcee who describes me as bizarre.' |
| 5) 'Men in their thirties are such bores with their hang-ups and obsessive delusions that all women are trying to trap them | e) off as history. |
| 6) Minutes spent imagining speech will make when resigning | f) forth to him. |
| 7) Would not have been in least surprised if carriage had mysteriously been shunted | g) on my cue. |
| 8) Was so long since had been on a date | h) herself and will therefore, more |

- that was completely full of myself and could not resist
- 9) So great was Miss Budget Jones's distress at not being able to accept the kind invitation of Mr. Mark Darcy that she has topped
- 10) I think Dad is having
- 11) It's the thought of all my friends and colleagues of forty years saying 'cheers' to the pair of them and writing me
- 12) I think I might have a gift
- 13) In fact people were going round the office saying he had been turned
- 14) At five o'clock as we went on air I was perched at the top of the pole ready to slide down
- 15) Oh, like, don't take any notice
- certainly than ever, now, be unable to accept Mr. Mark Darcy's kind ...
- i) boasting to taxi driver about my 'boyfriend' and going round to my 'boyfriend's,' who was cooking me supper.
- j) through no fault of my own.
- k) into marriage.
- l) of Richard, right?
- m) opposite an increasingly horrifying selection of single men.
- n) off onto siding never to be seen again.
- o) a nervous breakdown.

3. Match words with their definitions

- | | |
|----------------------------------|---|
| 1) death row | a) to be very eager to do or have something |
| 2) begetter | b) happening or done at exactly the right moment |
| 3) leery | c) trying to destroy or damage something |
| 4) vibes | d) to praise someone too much and give them a lot of attention which is not sincere in order to get a positive reaction |
| 5) composure | e) not direct, so that the real meaning is not immediately clear |
| 6) to cater | f) a young person who is too confident and shows no respect towards other, especially older, people |
| 7) adulterous | g) careful in the way that you deal with something or someone because you do not trust them |
| 8) to malign | h) extremely worried, nervous or upset |
| 9) be gagging for something | i) the part of a prison where prisoners who will be punished by being killed are kept |
| 10) hang-up | j) not willing to accept criticism or disapproval |
| 11) din | k) a competition for a position on a team or a part in a play |
| 12) oblique | l) a loud unpleasant confused noise which lasts for a long time |
| 13) to make amends for something | m) the ability to think quickly and effectively |
| 14) whippersnapper | n) to provide and serve food and drinks at a party |
| 15) to lure | o) to push or send away an attacker or other unwanted person |
| 16) defiant | p) characterizing sexual relationships outside marriage |
| 17) to moan | q) best clothes |
| 18) to fawn over somebody | r) the good or bad feelings that a particular person, place, or situation seems to produce and that you react to |
| 19) to fend | s) to repeat something with all the details |
| 20) dexterity | t) a permanent and unreasonable feeling of anxiety about |

- a particular feature of yourself
- 21) distraught u) to say false and unpleasant things about someone or to unfairly criticize them
- 22) glad rags v) to end something
- 23) tryout w) to make a complaint in an unhappy voice, usually about something which does not seem important to other people
- 24) mayhem x) the state of feeling or seeming calm
- 25) to rehearse y) a person or group that is ridiculed
- 26) on cue z) a parent
- 27) to wind something up aa) to persuade someone to do something or go somewhere by offering them something exciting
- 28) laughingstock bb) a situation in which there is little or no order or control
- 29) subversive cc) to do something good to show that you are sorry about something you have done

4. *Fill in the gaps*

- 1) Smoking is a sign of weakness and _____ one's personal authority.
- 2) A leery smile _____ across his face.
- 3) 'I don't want to keep Mark company,' I said through _____ teeth.
- 4) It is very kind of them and I appreciate it v. much but it only seems to _____ my emotional failure and isolation.
- 5) There was a _____ silence.
- 6) 'What are we doing, then?' asked the cameraman with no attempt to _____ interest.
- 7) I flapped around trying to make oblique _____ for being middle-class.
- 8) Anyway, rang Tom from miracle-on-train-phone to _____ about the no-twenty-three-year-old date crisis.
- 9) Unfortunately, I was so _____ with gratitude* in the taxi on the way back I was powerless to resist his _____.**
- 10) There was a _____ sob. Dad was crying.
- 11) The-really exciting news is that I am going to be given a _____ in front of the camera.
- 12) 'And now back to the studio,' seems to have turned into a new _____ in the office.

5. *Paraphrase*

- 1) Parents of the overperfect Mark Darcy.
- 2) When the meeting was over I rushed to the loo to calm down.
- 3) 'I have to say, I do think Michael Howard is somewhat unjustly criticized.'
- 4) 'Men get more attractive when they get older and women get less attractive, so all those twenty-two-year-olds who wouldn't look at you when you were twenty-five will be very eager for it.'
- 5) 'Wha?'' yelled Patchouli above the noise.
- 6) The genii of an extremely morally false idea began to form itself in my mind.

- 7) I did, however, manage to control my emotions*** and not accept his invitation to go in for coffee.
- 8) Was so long since had been on a date that thought myself very important.
- 9) Conversation between me and the taxi driver had ended as we drove to the new address.
- 10) I'm going to get on my best clothes and hold my head up high and . . . but . . .
- 11) Everything has been total chaos ever since.

6. *Equivalents*

- 1) Must fly.
- 2) Leave it to me.
- 3) Wind it up.

Discussion Questions

- 1) How important is professional achievement to Bridget and women like her?
- 2) How big a role do Bridget's friends play in her life?
- 3) Why do you feel she responds to Gav's "Mmm. You're all squashy" the way she does? How do her age and insecurities impact how she reacts? How age difference between romantic partners can affect their relationship?

October

Vocabulary List

startling
 endearing
 do (n.)
 gherkins
 savory
 doily
 wonton
 earshot
 stole (n.)
 euphoric
 to psyche up
 to cringe
 to stand in the way of something
 dandruff
 to exaggerate
 to mouth
 to poke
 to see to something
 to dodge
 to reel
 sheath
 to tell somebody off
 look-alike
 to sandwich between
 stilted
 ecclesiastical
 to nip

discreetly
to put on display
to tilt
indignantly
to disguise
hem
cutting (adj.)
to circulate
to fancy
raucous
not to put too fine a point on it
to throw your weight about
to ring the changes
currency
to put somebody up to something
whizz
to abuse
to hitch up
to prioritize
debacle
not have a clue
allegedly
to subject somebody to something
to bone up
hoity-toity
twinge
jerk
scoop
to envisage
incensed
innuendo
to burp
hand-wringing
vicarious
courtship
breadwinner

Exercises

1. *Give context to the words*

to accessorize; an endearing manner; to psyche up; to cringe; to stand in the way of something; to exaggerate; to reel; to tell somebody off; to be sandwiched between; stilted conversation; to disguise something as something else; to throw your weight about; to ring the changes; a literary whizz; to stand somebody up; not have a clue; to bone up; to seek consolation.

2. *Match parts of phrases*

1) We were greeted by serving staff who a) down on us.
gave us champagne and relieved

- 2) 'It's a sensational party,' said my father, helping himself b) up to this?
- 3) Mum too was now bearing c) beside herself with delight.
- 4) I glanced around nervously and jumped d) to my head.
- 5) My mother invited you. Anyway. Must see e) us of our gifts.
- 6) As they disappeared ahead I could hear her f) aghast.
- 7) Julio had been put next to Mark Darcy's glamorous fifty-five-year-old aunt, who was g) up in half an hour.
- 8) What with this and performing a miracle in front of Mark Darcy it was all starting to go h) your weight about and humiliating him like that at a sensitive age.'
- 9) 'That was a horrible thing to do to a young whippersnapper, throwing i) in fright.
- 10) Has my mum put you j) to his nineteenth canapé.
- 11) I stared at him k) telling him off.
- 12) Mark Darcy is coming over to pick me l) to the placement.

3. Match definitions

- 1) savory a) to use your position of authority to tell people what to do in an unpleasant and unreasonable way
- 2) doily b) to make changes to something, not because it needs changing but just in order to make it more interesting, more attractive etc
- 3) earshot c) someone or something that is similar in appearance to someone or something else
- 4) to cringe d) to avoid being hit by something by moving quickly to one side
- 5) to exaggerate e) the edge of a piece of cloth, such as the bottom edge of a skirt or dress, which is folded over and sewn so that it does not develop loose threads
- 6) to see to something f) to encourage someone to do something, usually something wrong
- 7) to dodge g) to make something seem larger, more important, better or worse than it really is
- 8) to reel h) a person with a very high level of skill or knowledge in a particular subject
- 9) look-alike i) to hide an opinion, a feeling, etc.
- 10) to nip j) the time when people have a romantic relationship with the intention of getting married
- 11) to disguise k) feel very confused or shocked and unable to act
- 12) hem l) a complete failure, especially because of bad planning and organization
- 13) to fancy m) the range of distance within which it is possible to be heard or to hear what someone is saying
- 14) raucous n) to learn as much as you can about something for a special reason
- 15) to throw your weight o) salty or spicy and not sweet in taste

about

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| 16) to ring the changes | p) a small piece of paper or cloth with a pattern of little holes in it, used as a decoration on a plate or under a cake |
| 17) to put somebody up to something | q) a sudden short feeling of physical or mental pain |
| 18) whizz | r) to go somewhere quickly or be somewhere for only a short time |
| 19) to abuse | s) loud and unpleasant |
| 20) debacle | t) to deal with a person or task that needs to be dealt with or is waiting to be dealt with |
| 21) to bone up | u) experienced as a result of watching, listening to or reading about the activities of other people, rather than by doing the activities yourself |
| 22) twinge | v) to use or treat someone or something wrongly or badly, especially in a way that is to your own advantage |
| 23) vicarious | w) to want to have or do something |
| 24) courtship | x) to suddenly move away from someone or something because you are frightened |

4. *Fill in the gaps*

- 1) Decided to _____ fantastic dress with black tights with Lycra and Light Shimmer and Pied a terre kitten-heel black suede shoes (have got mashed potato off).
- 2) 'I'm not sure this is going to be Mummy and Una's _____ _____ _____'.
- 3) 'Bit showy, isn't it?' said Una the second she was within _____.
- 4) Natasha appeared in a stunning gold satin sheath, _____ his arm possessively and, in her haste, _____ over one of the candles which _____ red wax on the bottom of her dress.
- 5) Actually, though, once we all got a few drinks down us conversation was by no means _____.
- 6) I nipped into the room where the presents had already been unwrapped and _____ _____ _____.
- 7) She gave a little laugh to _____ her bitchy comment as an amusing joke.
- 8) Keen on a man who comes round late, in _____ contrast to people who come round early, startling and panicking one and finding _____ items still unhidden in the home.
- 9) 'Excuse me, does the word 'queue' mean anything to you?' I said in a _____ voice, turning around to look at him.
- 10) 'Yes, I was . . . ' I said, feeling the first _____ of realization, 'drying my hair.
- 11) When they leave work a _____ emotional hole opens up before them. Lonely style-obsessed individuals seek _____ in packeted _____ food of the kind their mother might have made.
- 12) 'I'm bloody sick of this arrogant _____ about single life!' roared Sharon.
- 13) Tom says football guru Nick Hornby says in his book that men's obsession with football is not _____.
- 14) We both agreeing that Mr. Darcy was more attractive because he was ruder but that being imaginary was a _____ that could not be _____.

5. *Paraphrase*

- 1) Instead of the cocktail fancies you would expect at a parent-generational party , there were large silver trays containing prawn wontons, tomato and mozzarella tartlets and chicken sate.
- 2) He turned and strode upstairs, dodging between the diners and excusing himself while I was feeling confused.
- 3) Maybe I would be placed between two of Mark Darcy's dishy friends, top barristers or Americans from Boston, perhaps.
- 4) I paused to think up something very witty and unkind to say, but unfortunately couldn't think of anything.
- 5) 'So can we have a dance?' he said, changing into the public schoolboy again.
- 6) 'That was a horrible thing to do to a young whippersnapper, being patronizing and humiliating him like that at a sensitive age.'
- 7) 'But Una Alconbury told me you were a sort of literary expert, completely obsessed with books.'
- 8) I grabbed a couple of newspapers to get more details from, and ran for a taxi.
- 9) Temptation to tell her what happened almost overwhelming but managed to control myself by imagining consequences.

6. *Equivalents*

- 1) Oh, don't be absurd.
- 2) Aren't I the lucky one?
- 3) Don't suppose you fancy a dance?
- 4) Not to put too fine a point on it.
- 5) Ring the changes a bit.
- 6) You look a bit freaked out.
- 7) Simple good manners demands it.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Bridget and her friends regularly rant about the bias against Singletons. Do you think this is a valid feeling on their part? Are single people unnecessarily criticized or looked down upon?
- 2) "We're not lonely. We have extended families in the form of networks of friends," says Tom, joining Sharon in deploring others' "arrogant hand-wringing about single life." Are these "urban families" an acceptable alternative to traditional family units?

November Vocabulary List

to flounce
 ocelot
 to set alight
 pouf
 to fiddle with something
 shepherd's pie
 velouté
 confit
 fondant
 to flock
 tauntingly
 to shove
 to snatch

nutritional
times tables
borderline
to ensue
to hammer
distorted
to quash
alarmist
portentously
lighthearted
counterproductive
spare keys
to raise the alert
articulate
tremulously
up in arms
petulantly
beatifically
sod
encased in plaster
nose job
dismissive
repulsed
put paid to something
skintight
dysfunctional
checkout
to grate
zest
to give somebody a blowing-up
maiming
nuisance
wino
huffy
to sneak out
shiftily
faltering
standstill
poise
casserole
to defraud
to dub
down payment
vestigial
to cuckold
to fire questions
to rally
boulder
small hours
silver lining
Caucasian
spinster

to spurn
 reassuring
 to tap somebody's phone
 to track something down
 bail
 under police escort
 chastened
 to be manhandled by a policeman
 to roll one's eyes
 to tag after somebody
 to remonstrate
 to sprout
 to walk free
 to give somebody sexual favours
 to brazen something out
 to sweep something under the carpet
 baksheesh
 to fix somebody up with somebody
 rebellion

Exercises

1. Give context to the words

a beauty contest; to snatch; nutritional ideal; to crack under pressure; to raise the alert; up in arms; distorted; encased in plaster; to put paid to something; to give somebody a blowing-up; a disastrous failure; to defraud; to be branded a common criminal; silver lining; to talk in formulaic phrases; to pale into insignificance; to spurn; to tap somebody's phone; bail; under police escort; to be manhandled by a policeman; to walk free; to brazen something out.

2. Match parts of phrases

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) I haven't got a hope | a) from side to side. |
| 2) Tom started saying he was too fat as well and was going | b) up for a lunch party he said he wouldn't be coming to anyway. |
| 3) Well, I usually aim | c) up with him. |
| 4) The only reason people eat is because they are so greedy they cannot stop themselves | d) down some of the money. |
| 5) She called back twenty minutes later saying Simon had rung Tom's bell | e) into my mouth. |
| 6) It does seem a bit alarmist to report that a twenty-nine-year-old single man has failed to turn | f) my breath back. |
| 7) I spotted her scurrying towards me, wearing sunglasses, even though it was pissing with rain, and looking shiftily | g) after her. |
| 8) 'Take care,' she said in a faltering voice, hugged me quickly then was off, waving the traffic | h) to a standstill. |
| 9) Had to sit down and get | i) this one out. |
| 10) They've managed to track | j) for a thousand and come in at about fifteen hundred. |

- 11) Mum zoomed back towards the baggage hall with the officers of the law
warily tagging
- 12) I was determined she wasn't going to brazenly tag
- 13) My heart leaped
- 14) The minute I decide I like Mark Darcy, everyone immediately stops trying to fix me
- k) from breaking out and ruining their diets.
- l) for ages.
- m) on a diet.
- n) in hell.

3. *Match words with their definitions*

- | | |
|------------------------------|---|
| 1) to flounce | a) to spoil and end your hopes or plans completely |
| 2) to fiddle with something | b) a condition in which all movement or activity has stopped |
| 3) to flock | c) between two different conditions, with the possibility of belonging to either one of them |
| 4) taunting | d) expressing happiness and calmness, especially in a holy way |
| 5) to shove | e) to state officially that something, especially an earlier official decision, is no longer to be accepted |
| 6) borderline | f) shaking slightly |
| 7) to ensue | g) to rub food against a grater in order to cut it into a lot of small pieces |
| 8) to quash | h) intentionally annoying and upsetting someone by making unkind remarks to them, laughing at them, etc. |
| 9) articulate | i) belonging to the races of people who have skin that is of a pale colour |
| 10) tremulous | j) to move things about or touch things with no particular purpose |
| 11) petulant | k) money that people in the Middle East give to poor people, to someone who has helped them, or as a bribe |
| 12) beatifical | l) not behaving or working normally |
| 13) nose job | m) a sum of money which a person who has been accused of a crime pays to a law court so that they can be released until their trial |
| 14) to put paid to something | n) to happen after something else, especially as a result of it |
| 15) dysfunctional | o) having a wife or husband that has a sexual relationship with another person |
| 16) to grate | p) to make someone understand that they have failed or done something wrong and make them want to improve |
| 17) standstill | q) to push someone or something forcefully |
| 18) to defraud | r) to complain to someone or about something |
| 19) cuckolded | s) an operation to change the shape of your nose |
| 20) Caucasian | t) to move or come together in large numbers |
| 21) reassuring | u) able to express thoughts and feelings easily and clearly, or showing this quality |
| 22) bail | v) easily annoyed and complaining in a rude way like a child |
| 23) to chasten | w) to hide a problem or try to keep it secret instead of dealing with it |

- | | |
|---|---|
| 24) to remonstrate | x) to walk with large noticeable movements, especially to attract attention or show that you are angry |
| 25) to sweep something under the carpet | y) to take something illegally from a person, company, etc., or to prevent someone from having something that is legally theirs by deceiving them |
| 26) baksheesh | z) making you feel less worried |

4. *Fill in the gaps*

- 1) Whatever you have in that area of your house will _____ how that area of your life _____.
- 2) People will _____ to my dinner parties, _____, 'It's really great going to Bridget's for dinner, one gets Michelin star-style food in a bohemian setting.'
- 3) I looked at him _____.
- 4) I just do, as one knows one's alphabet or _____.
- 5) General opinion _____ new theory.
- 6) I couldn't help feeling secretly annoyed that Jude had rung the police without _____ it with me first.
- 7) It does seem a bit _____ to report that a twenty-nine-year-old single man is not in on Saturday morning.
- 8) Had a _____ of horrified realization.
- 9) We decided we'd get Shazzer to come as well, because she'd raised the _____ in the first place.
- 10) You've only had half London _____ _____ _____ ringing the police, combing the metropolis for you because no one knows where you are.
- 11) Tom's whole face was distorted, hideous yellow and black, and _____ in plaster.
- 12) Richard Finch gave me a real _____ at the morning meeting in front of everyone.
- 13) He started to pace around the room _____ questions like a top barrister.
- 14) Paddling-pool bonding evidently _____ into insignificance alongside theft of parents' savings by naughty Bridget's nasty mummy.
- 15) The police were at Una and Geoffrey's _____ the phone line and said she was definitely calling from Portugal but they didn't manage to get where.

5. *Paraphrase*

- 1) The bump in itself couldn't be blamed for Joan of Arc stealing the title from directly beneath it.
- 2) I realized that I have spent so many years being on a diet that the idea that you might actually need calories to survive has been completely erased of my consciousness.
- 3) After spoke to Jude could not face shopping or similar carefree things.
- 4) When, however, Creepy Jerome saw him after the operation he was so disgusted he said he was going away for a few days.
- 5) Mark Darcy went back to London in the early hours of the morning.
- 6) It turned out she was arriving this evening at Luton, accompanied by the police.
- 7) I don't want everyone seeing me being pushed by a policeman.
- 8) I was determined she wasn't going to act shamelessly about it, sweep the whole thing under the carpet and start patronizing us again.

6. *Equivalents*

- 1) You can see their point.
- 2) Such a nuisance.
- 3) Heaven forbid.
- 4) Everything is going from bad to worse.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Do you believe that the way to a man's heart is through his stomach?
- 2) Do you think that when Mark Darcy went to Portugal to find Bridget's mother and her lover he did so for purely mercenary reasons?

December Vocabulary List

gorging
to burgeon
earthy
custody
colander
social outcast
to deign
tantalizing
token of affection
sealed bid
to hemorrhage money on something
to get stuck with something
merchandise
fallout
to forage
to be at somebody's beck and call
to stomach doing something
to cough up
to emasculate
cheapskate
to chuck someone
wobbly
nutcase
to give somebody then a thumbs-up
scuffle
to collect oneself
to cajole someone into doing something
hunch

Exercises

1. *Give context to the words*

social outcast; exchange of presents; to be at somebody's beck and call; to cough up; to chuck someone; reaffirming of vows ceremony; a scuffle; to cajole someone into doing something.

2. *Match parts of phrases*

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1) Maybe Mark Darcy is too perfect, clean and finished | a) back tears. |
| 2) Must just get on | b) up a bit to get everyone their money back. |
| 3) I stared hard at a £185 Phillipe Starck colander, blinking | c) and call for the entire Christmas period is complete selfishness. |
| 4) The entire nation then fails and gets stuck | d) to his full height. |
| 5) It is as if the only possible reason you might have for not being at everyone else's beck | e) of touch. |
| 6) Cannot help but think he must have coughed | f) with life. |
| 7) Seems weird to have been so close during the year and now be completely out | g) off at the edges for me. |
| 8) Everyone froze, and Una let out | h) with hideous unwanted merchandise as fallout. |
| 9) He stumbled over to Dad and drew himself up | i) a scream. |

3. *Match definitions*

- | | |
|----------------------------|---|
| 1) to gorge | a) causing desire and excitement in you, but which is unlikely to provide a way of satisfying that desire |
| 2) to deign | b) to persuade someone to do something they might not want to do, by pleasant talk and (sometimes false) promises |
| 3) tantalizing | c) to lose large amounts of something over a period of time and be unable to stop this happening |
| 4) to hemorrhage something | d) to be able to accept an unpleasant idea or watch something unpleasant |
| 5) to forage | e) to do something unwillingly and in a way that shows that you think you are too important to do it |
| 6) to stomach | f) an idea which is based on feeling and for which there is no proof |
| 7) to emasculate | g) a person who is unwilling to spend money |
| 8) cheapskate | h) to eat until you are unable to eat any more |
| 9) to cajole | i) to make a man feel less male by taking away his power and confidence |
| 10) hunch | j) to go from place to place searching, especially for food |

4. *Fill in the gaps*

- 1) How, after being totally disgraced and narrowly escaping several years in _____, can my mother just plop back into being exactly like she was before.
- 2) I would have thought you could at least have the courtesy to reply to an invitation from a friend, even if you are too grand to _____ to come to her party.

- 3) It is just so stupid, everyone exhausting themselves, miserably _____ money on pointless items nobody wants.
- 4) "There is a dangerous criminal upstairs using Pam as a _____.
- 5) I watched her as she _____ herself and looked round the room, appraising the situation.
- 6) whenever I see a diamond-patterned V-neck sweater in future, I am going to spontaneously _____ with shame.

5. Paraphrase

- 1) There is no way of knowing who is and isn't going to give and whether gifts should be signs of affection or proper presents.
- 2) My brother, on the other hand, can come and go as he likes because he happens to be able to tolerate living with a vegan Tai Chi enthusiast.
- 3) Jerome, having taken him back, has left him again and gone back with former boyfriend.

Discussion Questions

- 1) Is the attraction between Mark Darcy and Bridget credible? Are they suited to one another?
- 2) How much of Bridget's identity lies in the quest for a decent relationship? Do you think that Mark Darcy will be the answer to all Bridget's problems? How would you anticipate their relationship developing?
- 3) "Bloody Mum," Bridget groans at one point, "how come she gets to be the irresistible sex goddess?" Is Bridget's mother a negative or positive influence on Bridget? How has she shaped her daughter?
- 4) At the end of the novel, Bridget claims that she has "finally realized the secret of happiness with men," a secret she learned from her mother: "Don't say "what," say "pardon," darling, and do as your mother tells you" In your own words, explain what this means and state whether the novel supports the advice Bridget's mother has given her about men.

Cultural Notes

February

1. **Miss Havisham** - is a significant character in the Charles Dickens novel Great Expectations (1861). She is a wealthy spinster, who lives in her ruined mansion with her adopted daughter, Estella, whom she has sent to France, while she herself is described as looking like "the witch of the place".
2. **Germaine Greer** - (born 29 January 1939) is an Australian writer, academic, journalist and scholar of early modern English literature, widely regarded as one of the most significant feminist voices of the later 20th century.
3. **Invisible Woman** - a fictional character, a Marvel Comics superheroine created by writer Stan Lee and artist/co-writer Jack Kirby. Her primary power deals with light waves, allowing her to render herself and others invisible.
4. **Albufeira** – a city in Portugal.
5. **Lancet** - a weekly peer-reviewed general medical journal. It is one of the world's best known, oldest, and most respected general medical journals.

March

1. **Clueless** - a 1995 American comedy film loosely based on Jane Austen's 1815 novel, Emma. It is set in Beverly Hills and a nearby high school.
2. **Groucho Marx** - an American comedian and film star famed as a master of wit.
3. **Jeremy Paxman** - a British journalist, author and television presenter. He has

worked for the BBC since 1977. He is noted for a forthright and abrasive interviewing style, particularly when interrogating politicians. His regular appearances on the BBC2's Newsnight programme have been criticised as aggressive, intimidating and condescending, and also applauded as tough and incisive.

4. **Shirley Temple** - an American film and television actress, singer, dancer, autobiographer, and former U.S. Ambassador to Ghana and Czechoslovakia. She was the top box-office draw four years in a row (1935–38) in a Motion Picture Herald poll.

April

1. **Kathleen Tynan** - a Canadian-British journalist, author and screenwriter. She was a very strong, charismatic woman.

2. **Zsa Zsa Gabor** - a Hungarian-born American stage, film and television actress. She emigrated to the United States in 1941 and became a sought-after actress with “European flair and style”, with a personality that “exuded charm and grace”. Besides her film and television appearances, she is best known for having nine husbands, including hotel magnate Conrad Hilton and actor George Sanders. She once stated, “Men have always liked me and I have always liked men. But I like a mannish man, a man who knows how to talk to and treat a woman—not just a man with muscles.”

3. **Blind Date** - a British dating game show produced by London Weekend Television. Blind Date ran on Saturdays nights from 30 November 1985 to 31 May 2003.

July

1. **Tarts and Vicars** — the popular and classic theme of fancy dress parties, when the men in attendance all dress as members of the clergy, and the women dress as prostitutes.

2. **A-level** — a public examination taken in England and Wales by children aged 17 or 18. Students take AS level examinations then A2s, usually a year later, which together make a full A level qualification.

3. **Domestic Science** — at school, the study of cooking, sewing and all matters relating to the management of a home (UK old-fashioned for home economics).

4. **Cambridge First** — the best possible degree qualification you can get from Cambridge.

5. **Geoffrey Boycott** — OBE, is a former Yorkshire and England cricketer. In a prolific and sometimes controversial playing career from 1962 to 1986, Boycott established himself as one of England's most successful opening batsmen. Since retiring as a player, Boycott has found further success as a cricket commentator.

6. **Marks and Spencer** — (also known as M&S or Your M&S; colloquially known as Marks and Sparks) is a British retailer headquartered in the City of Westminster, London, with over 700 stores in the United Kingdom and over 300 stores spread across more than 40 countries. It specializes in the selling of clothing and luxury food products.

7. **Pimms** — a brand of fruit cups, but may also be considered a liqueur. Pimm's is most popular in Britain, particularly southern England. It is one of the two staple drinks at Wimbledon, the Henley Royal Regatta, and the Glyndebourne opera festival, the other being Champagne.

8. **Jackie O.** — Jacqueline "Jackie" Kennedy Onassis, was the wife of the 35th President of the United States, John F. Kennedy.

9. **Laura Ashley** — a company started in 1953 by the Welsh designer Laura Ashley and her husband Bernard. Its products are well known for their traditional country designs and soft colours, and include clothes, printed cotton fabrics and furniture.

10. ... **in case it was just in the middle of a really good wicket or something** — in the middle of a very interesting part of a cricket match, when a player has to hit the ball.
11. **1471** — in the UK, a telephone number that you can call to find out which was the last telephone number to call you.
12. **Old 45s** — Gramophone records spun at 45 revolutions per minute.
13. **Virginia Bottomley** — PC, DL is a British Conservative Party politician.

August

1. **Camilla Parker-Bowles** — (Duchess of Cornwall) is the second wife of Charles, Prince of Wales.
2. **Worcester sauce** — a pungent sauce containing soy sauce and vinegar, first made in Worcester, primarily used to flavour meat or fish dishes. Worcestershire sauce is also used to flavour cocktails such as a Bloody Mary or Caesar.
3. **Ivana Trump** — s a former Olympic athlete, socialite, and fashion model noted for her marriage to mogul Donald Trump.
4. **Delia Smith** — is an English cook and television presenter, known for teaching basic cookery skills. She is the UK's best-selling cookery author, with more than 21 million copies sold.
5. **Shadow Cabinet** — the group of British MPs from the Opposition (= the main party opposing the government) who would probably form the Cabinet if their party were in power. Each member of the Shadow Cabinet speaks on behalf of his or her party on matters for which he or she would be responsible.
6. **Cilla Black** — is an English singer, actress, entertainer and media personality, who has been consistently popular as a light entertainment figure since 1963. She was the host of two of the most popular and long-running evening entertainment shows of the 1980s and 1990s— Blind Date(1985–2003) and Surprise, Surprise (1984–2001).
7. **Tatler** — a British magazine, published once a month and containing articles about UPPER-CLASS and UPPER-MIDDLE-CLASS social events, fashion and the arts. It was first published in 1901.
8. **Ulster Unionists** — another name for Northern Ireland, used especially by UNIONISTS (= people who favour political union between Britain and Northern Ireland). There is also a province of Ulster in the REPUBLIC OF IRELAND.
9. **The SDLP** — (in Northern Ireland) Social Democratic and Labour Party (a political party of the left that is supported mainly by Catholics).
10. **Ian Paisley** — the leader of the Ulster Democratic Unionist Party, a political party in Northern Ireland. It is supported mainly by PROTESTANTS, and wants Northern Ireland to remain a part of the United Kingdom. It is regarded as having more extreme policies than the ULSTER UNIONIST PARTY.

11. **Elizabeth Hurley** — is an English model and actress. In the 1990s, Hurley became known as a girlfriend of Hugh Grant.
12. **The Peace Process** — Northern Ireland peace process is often considered to cover the events leading up to the 1994 Provisional Irish Republican Army (IRA) ceasefire, the end of most of the violence of the Troubles, the Belfast (or Good Friday) Agreement, and subsequent political developments.
13. **The Edinburgh Festival** — is a collective term for many arts and cultural festivals that take place in Edinburgh, Scotland each summer, mostly in August.
14. **The Royal Mile** — is a succession of streets which form the main thoroughfare of the Old Town of the city of Edinburgh in Scotland.
15. **The Famished Road** — is the Booker Prize-winning novel written by Nigerian author Ben Okri, published in 1991.
16. **Arthur Smith** — is an English alternative comedian and writer.
17. **Richard Herring** — is a British comedian and writer, whose early work includes his involvement in the double-act, Lee and Herring.
18. **Jenny Éclair** — is an English comedian, novelist and actor.
19. **Lanark** — is a small town in the central belt of Scotland.
20. **Harry Hill** — is a Perrier Award-winning English comedian, author and television presenter.
21. **Julian Clary** — is an English comedian and novelist, known for his deliberately stereotypical camp style, with a heavy reliance on innuendo and double entendre.
22. **The Gilded Balloon** — is one of the Edinburgh Festival Fringe's best-known venues.
23. **The Plaisance** — is an independent theatre in north London, and during the Edinburgh Fringe Festival, it becomes the biggest venue of the fringe with 16 venues.
24. **Casualty** — is a British weekly television show broadcast on BBC One, and the longest-running emergency medical drama television series in the world.
25. **The Assembly Rooms** — is a former assembly rooms located in central Edinburgh, the rooms now host a number of events including the Edinburgh Festival Fringe and the Hogmanay celebrations.
26. **Marianne Faithfull** — is an award-winning English singer, songwriter and actress.
27. **Alan Yentob** — is a British television executive and presenter who has worked throughout his career at the BBC.

September

1. **A ruby wedding** — a 40th wedding anniversary.
2. **Holland Park** — is a district and a public park in the Royal Borough of Kensington

and Chelsea, in west central London, England.

3. **Diana Dors** — was an English actress Considered the English equivalent of the blonde bombshells of Hollywood, Dors described herself as, "The only sex symbol Britain has produced since Lady Godiva."

4. **Musical chairs** — a children's game in which players run round a row of chairs while music is playing. Each time the music stops, players try to sit down on one of the chairs, but there are always more players than chairs.

5. **Harrods** — a large, fashionable and expensive department store in the Knightsbridge area of central London. It claims to be able to supply any article and provide any service.

6. **Frank Skinner** — is a British writer, comedian and actor. He is best known for his television presenting.

7. **Sir Richard Rogers** — a British architect noted for his modernist and functionalist designs.

8. **Boots** — is a leading pharmacy chain in the United Kingdom.

9. **Fellow of All Souls** — is one of the constituent colleges of the University of Oxford in England.

10. **St. Paul's** — a large cathedral in London, England. It was designed in the late 17th century by Sir Christopher WREN.

11. **The Home Counties** — the counties around London.

12. **Lewisham** — is a district in South London, England, located in the London Borough of Lewisham.

October

1. **Harold Pinter** — was a Nobel Prize-winning English playwright, screenwriter, director and actor.

2. **Perry Como** — was an American singer and television personality.

3. **Les Dawson** — was a popular English comedian remembered for his deadpan style, curmudgeonly persona and jokes about his mother-in-law and wife.

4. **John Rocha** — is a Hong Kong born fashion designer based in Ireland best known for his distinctive style experimenting with fabric and technique.

5. **D. H. Lawrence** — was an English novelist, poet, playwright, essayist, literary critic and painter.

6. **Home Secretary** — the minister in charge of the Home Office of the United Kingdom.

7. **Yates's** — is a pub chain, founded as Yates Wine Lodge in Oldham, in North West England by Peter and Simon Yates in 1884.

8. **Douglas Hurd** — is a British Conservative politician and novelist who served in the

governments of Margaret Thatcher and Major between 1979 and his retirement in 1995.

9. **Michael Howard** — is a British politician, who served as Secretary of State for Employment (1990-92), Secretary of State for the Environment (1992-93) and Home Secretary (1993-97).

10. **Jim Davidson** — is a British comedian, actor and television presenter.

11. **The Sunday People** — is a British tabloid, Sunday-only newspaper.

12. **501s** — Levi's jeans.

13. **Quality Street** — is a popular and hefty selection of individual sweets, usually contained in tins or boxes, manufactured in Halifax, in the United Kingdom by Nestlé.

14. **Minstrels** — are milk chocolate buttons with a hard glazed shell.

15. **Lion Bar** — is a chocolate bar made by Nestlé, previously a Rowntree's product.

16. **Frankie Howerd** — an English comedian who was famous for his exaggerated way of telling jokes and appearing to be shocked when the audience thought he was being funny in a rude way.

17. **Anne Summers** — is a United Kingdom-based retailer specialising in sex toys and lingerie.

18. **BBC Pride and Prejudice** — is a six-episode 1995 British television drama, adapted by Andrew Davies from Jane Austen's 1813 novel *Pride and Prejudice*.

19. **Nick Hornby** — is an English novelist, essayist and screenwriter. He is best known for the novels *High Fidelity*, *About a Boy*, and for the football memoir *Fever Pitch*.

20. **Jeanette Winterson** — is a British novelist.

November

1. **Yves Klein** — a French artist considered an important figure in post-war European art. He developed deep blue hue that is now known as International Klein Blue.

2. **The Michelin Guide** — is a series of annual hotel and restaurant guide published by Michelin, which award the Michelin stars.

3. **Bonfire night** — (Guy Fawkes Night, observed on 5 November) is a yearly event dedicated to bonfires, fireworks and celebrations.

4. **Hubble telescope** — a space telescope that was carried into orbit in 1990 and remains in operation.. Although not the first space telescope, Hubble is one of the largest and most versatile.

5. **Milk Tray** — s brand of boxed chocolates currently manufactured by Cadbury. Introduced by Cadbury UK in 1915, it is one of the longest running brands in the confectioner's portfolio.

6. **Ovaltine** — is a brand of milk flavoring product made with malt extract, sugar, and whey.

7. **The Sound of Music** — is a 1965 American musical film directed by Robert Wise.

8. **Thelma and Louise** — is a 1991 film co-produced and directed by Ridley Scott and written by Callie Khouri, the film's plot revolves around Thelma and Louise's escape from their troubled and caged lives.

9. **Gatwick** — a London airport.

10. **...two pounds of King Edwards** — King Edward potatoes.

11. **Winnie Mandela** — is a South African politician who has held several government positions and headed the African National Congress Women's League.

12. **For He's a Jolly Good Fellow** — is a song which is sung to congratulate a person on a significant event, such as, a promotion, a birthday, the birth of a child, or the of a child, or the winning of a championship sporting event.

December

1. **Dinny Hall** — is a London based award winning Designer jeweller.

2. **Cats** — is a musical composed by Andrew Lloyd Webber, based on Old Possum's Book of Practical Cats by T. S. Eliot.

3. **Queen of Hearts** — is a character from the book Alice's Adventures in Wonderland by the writer and mathematician Lewis Carroll.

4. **Soup Kitchen** — A place where food is offered free or at very low cost to the needy.

5. **Tube of Smarties** — are a colour-varied sugar-coated chocolate confectionery. Smarties in the UK were traditionally sold in cylindrical cardboard tubes.

6. **Color Me Beautiful** — an American cosmetics company.