Aethelflaed

with audiobook!

and the

Rock Star

Upper-Intermediate / Advanced

Reading & Activities for English Learners

Jonathan Olliffe

Thank you for reading this story...

This book includes:

- Conversational English of the type that is used in everyday life.
- More than 100 footnotes explaining different words and expressions.
- Picture activities in the story, focusing on different aspects of vocabulary, grammar or functions.
- Extra exercises at the end of the story to teach grammatical structures, phrasal verbs and extending vocabulary.
- Extra articles focusing on aspects related to the story.
- A link to an audio file to listen to the whole tale.

Above all, I have tried to write a story which is entertaining as well as educational. I hope that you enjoy it!

Finally, if you have any question related to this book, or to English in general, please do not hesitate to write to me on the following web page:

Profesor Nativo Gratis – Ask!

Links

- **For the AUDIOBOOK, go to:**

- **For the ANSWERS to the exercises:**

- **For all the activities ONLINE:**

Aethelflaed and the Rock Star

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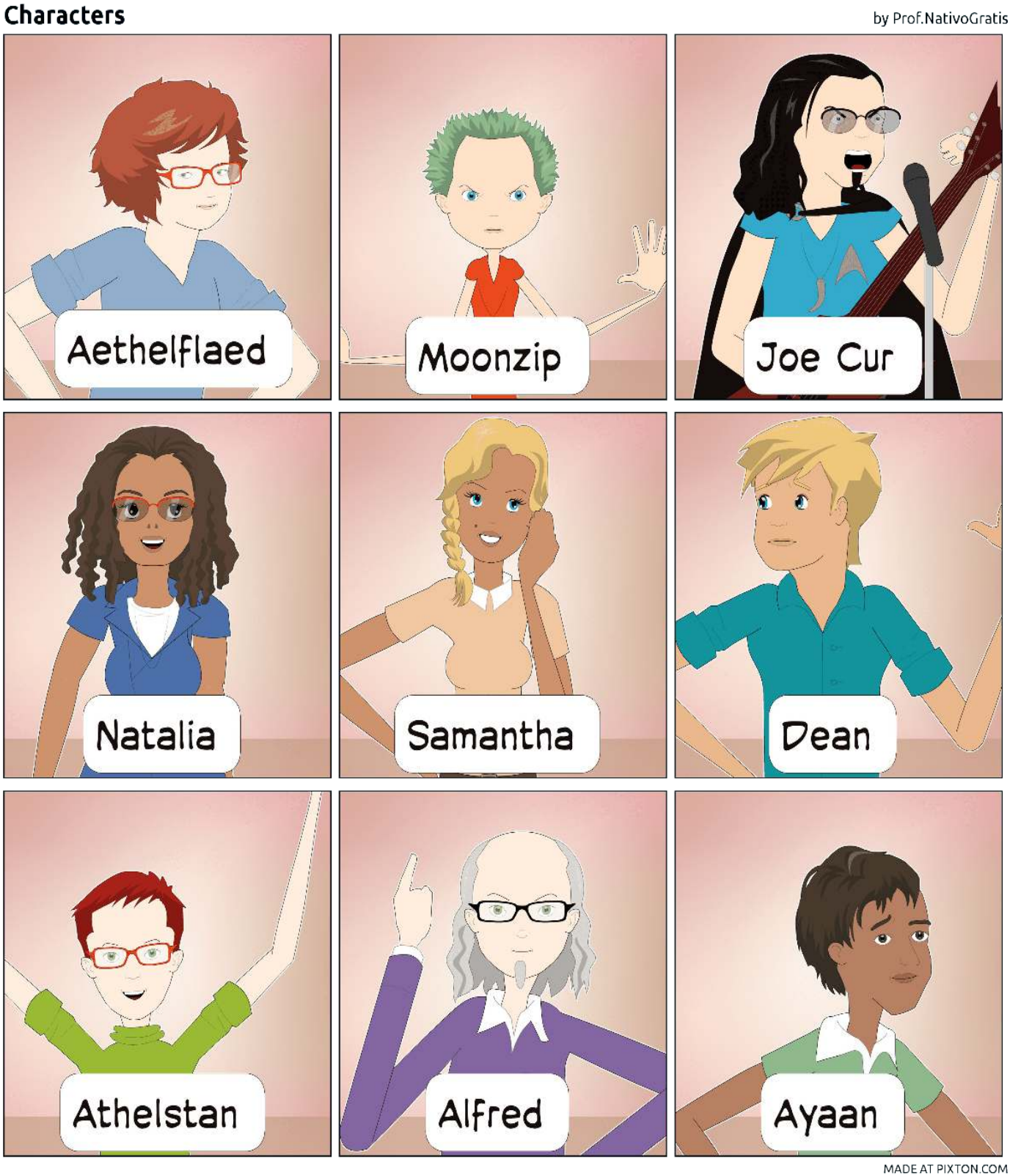
Aethelflaed and the Rock Star



Chapter 1: The Plan

It was past Davingstock, on the edge of the marshes, when the idea finally took hold.

Aethelflaed had got[1] up early to take Heidi for a walk. Although it was July, it was still a bit chilly after the night's downpour. In the last few days the weather had been changeable. After being overcast and drizzly, bright spells had given way to patchy showers. This morning it was clear and the warm weather was on its way again.

Aethelflaed hadn't slept well. For some days now she had been feeling stuck. All around her, she saw her friends getting on with their lives, while she was wasting her time. But now, as she watched the river flow past, a rough draft[2] of a plan she had had for a long time came together in her mind.

By the time she turned away from the water, she was walking with firmer steps towards Davingstock. “Let’s pop in[3] to see Natalia, Heidi.” she told her dog, who was running along the riverbank “She might give you something to eat, if you mind your manners.”

Sure enough, Heidi was eating some leftovers from Natalia’s parents’ restaurant less than half an hour later. Natalia was one of Aethelflaed’s inseparable friends; the daughter of a Brazilian father and Spanish mother who had met in London. They set up a restaurant in Canterbury, just after Natalia was born.

“I need your help, Nat.” Aethelflaed explained “I’m getting fed up with doing nothing. It’s been a year now since we left school. You and Samantha and the rest are all studying, and I feel like I’m being left behind.”

“But what are you thinking of doing, Ethel? You hate studying. You’ve always said so.” Natalia gave her friend a cup of tea.

“I’m no good studying, you know that. It takes me ages to read anything. I wasn’t thinking of that. Can you hand[4] me the sugar?” She added three teaspoonfuls. “Dad always tells me to focus on what I like and what I’m interested in.”

“And what’s that? Animals?”

“Music! I’m going to try to get into The Canterbury School of Performing Arts.”

“The CSPA! Are you sure, Ethel? How are you going to do that?”

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1 'Gotten' does not exist in British English. It is an Americanism.
2 Before starting a project or a book, you write a 'rough draft' which can be adapted or corrected = Borrador
3 To 'pop in' or 'pop around' to see somebody is to visit someone quickly and without being planned.
4 Hand = Give (conversational) = Dar

Weather Vocabulary

by Prof.NativoGratis

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

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Activity 1: Find these weather-related words in the wordsearch. When you cross out all the words, you will be able to read a hidden message:

1.	The sound of a storm =	_ H _ _ _ _ R
2.	Very soft rain =	D _ _ _ _ _ E
3.	Very intense rain =	D _ _ _ P _ _ _
4.	When the sky is covered by cloud =	_ V _ _ _ _ _ T
5.	Frozen rain, like small stones =	_ A _ _
6.	Synonym of 'cold' =	_ _ _ L L _
7.	A scientific prediction of the weather =	_ _ R E C _ _ _
8.	At the end of winter, when snow melts =	_ _ A W
9.	(2 words) Hot, sticky, sweaty weather =	_ _ _ I D and _ _ G G _
10.	Sudden strong blow of wind =	G _ _ _
11.	Mix of rain and snow =	_ _ E E _
12.	When the ground is wet in the early morning =	_ _ W
13.	Short period of rain in spring or summer =	P _ _ _ _ _ S _ _ _ _ _
14.	Very hot =	_ _ _ _ _ N G
15.	Sudden flash of light during storms =	_ _ _ _ _ _ N G
16.	Excess of water, rivers breaking banks =	_ L _ _ D

“Thanks a lot for the encouragement, Natalia!” Aethelflaed exclaimed “I’ll just give up the idea and go back to doing nothing, shall I?”

“Don’t get all grumpy on me, Ethel! I didn’t mean that. You know I’m your biggest fan. You’re an amazing singer, you play the piano, the guitar...I know all that, but if you get through the auditions, how on earth would you pay for it[5]. Do you know how much they charge?”

Aethelflaed sighed and nodded “I know – it’s over a grand[6] each term. Dad has told me he’d help me, but he can’t afford that much. I’m going to earn the money myself, even if it means getting two or three jobs over the summer.”

5 This sentence combines elements of the first and second conditionals: See the 'Understanding Language' section after the story.

6 Grand = One thousand (pounds) = Mil libras / dolares / euros

“And you’ve come to say goodbye until autumn?”

“I’ve come to ask you for a favour. The other day you said your parents were looking for waiting staff over the summer. Can you tell them I’m interested in working for them?”

“You’ve never served tables, have you?”

“So I need the experience. It can’t be hard, can it?”

“It’s not as simple as it looks, Ethel. I trust you, but you’ve got to be quick and you’ve got to remember four or five orders at the same time.”

“Natalia! Are you calling me a moron[7]? Everybody around here thinks I’m dumb, but I thought you knew differently!”

“Keep your hair on[8], Aethelflaed. I’ll ask them for you, and if you’re lucky you’ll find out yourself. You should look around for something else though, because you’re not going to get rich waiting on tables. People are stingy[9] with their tips nowadays.”

“Yeah. I’ll have a word with Samantha too. She might know about something. What are you up to now?”

“I’m going to work in a couple of hours, but I’m meeting up with Ayaan first.”

“Well, I’m taking Heidi back home, and then I’m off to see Samantha. Say hi to Ayaan for me. I haven’t seen him for ages. And let me know what your parents say!”

Ayaan was Natalia’s latest[10] boyfriend, an amateur lifeguard and Davingstock’s best footballer. Samantha and Aethelflaed liked to tease Natalia about the type of Indian/Spanish/Brazilian restaurant they could open together, with picanha masala and chorizo samosas[11].

* * *

After dropping Heidi off home and feeding her animals - her three-legged cat Squeaky, and Budgie the parrot - Aethelflaed set off for Samantha’s house.

Most people have no clear idea about their purpose in life. In Samantha’s case it was obvious that she had been placed on the earth to get people’s backs up[12]. Impossibly beautiful, beautifully rich, her life was strewn with roses and A-grades, surrounded by her nauseatingly perfect family. This type of person was usually enough to make

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7 Moron = Idiot, Twit, Dunce (noun) = Idiota
8 Keep your hair on (colloquial) = Relax, don't get stressed, calm down... = No te estreses
9 Stingy = Mean, Tight, Unwilling to spend money = Tacaño
10 Last vs. Latest: See 'Understanding Language' section after the story.
11 Picanha = Brazilian beef dish Masala = Indian spice mix Chorizo = Spanish pork sausage Samosa = Indian savoury pastry.
12 When a cat is angry it raises its back. When you annoy people you 'get their backs up' = Molestar

Aethelflaed throw up[13], but it so happened that Samantha was also the perfect friend, so she had to make an exception.

Samantha's parents were among the most successful and wealthiest people in Davingstock, and spent their time shuttling[14] between business meetings, cocktail parties and fund-raising events. Despite this, they were not stuck up, or at least not with Aethelflaed. She was sure to get lucky in her quest for a job.

University had broken up[15] for the summer. Both Samantha and her brother Dean had passed all their exams effortlessly, and were looking forward to a long summer; cruising in the family boat, holidays by Lake Como, weekend shopping trips to Paris and nights out in London.

Aethelflaed checked her reflection in the glass doors before calling. Would Dean answer? He had gone to stay with some French friends in their villa near Saint Tropez, and Aethelflaed wasn't sure if he had got back yet.

The door opened. "Aethelflaed!" Samantha's mum ushered[16] her in. "Speak of the devil! Come in – we were talking about you. We're just about to have a cup of tea. Would you like to join us?"

"Thank you, Mrs. Townsend. A tea would go down nicely. You're all here? Samantha and Dean, too?" asked Aethelflaed, as casually as she could manage.

Mrs. Townshend looked at her keenly[17], with a half-smile on her lips. "Dean came back a couple of hours ago. He's just left his bags and popped out to see Ayaan." Ayaan was Dean's best friend.

"Ayaan? But I think Natalia's..."

"Ethel! You've come early." Samantha stood up to greet her friend as they walked into the kitchen "I've just woken up now, and I'm in a right state. You should have warned me!" It was a lie, of course; Samantha was as gorgeous as ever.

"You were talking about me? Don't believe what's being said – it wasn't me, I promise!"

"No!" They laughed. "We thought you might be interested in a little job, if you felt like earning a bit of money this summer."

"That's just what I'm here for! It sounds like we're on the same wavelength. Could I have some sugar with that?" She took the cup and saucer.

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13 Throw up = Be sick, vomit = Devolver, vomitar

14 To shuttle = Move repeatedly between two points (like a shuttle bus between the airport and the car park) = Ir de ida y vuelta continuamente.

15 Break up = School finishes for holidays. 'When do you break up for Easter?' = Acabar clase para vacaciones

16 To usher = To welcome somebody into a place = Invitar a entrar

17 Keenly = With a lot of interest = Con mucho interés

Complete the saying with a word.

by Prof.NativoGratis

Complete the saying with an object from the picture.

Example: As white as SNOW

1. As good as .....
2. As easy as .....
3. As cool as a .....
4. A light as a .....
5. As daft as a .....
6. As busy as a .....
7. As old as the .....
8. As quick as .....
9. As cheap as .....
10. As clear as a .....
11. As warm as .....
12. As tough as old .....

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“We were in London last night. Joe Cur invited us to his house with a few other people. He told us he’s spending the summer in Davingstock, and he needs someone to look after his boy.”

“Joe Cur? I see his daughters every time I open a mag, but that’s the first time I’ve heard he had a son. Are you really close friends then?”

Joe Cur was Davingstock’s only A-list, world famous celebrity. Some thirty years before, at the height of his fame, he had purchased and done up[18] an abandoned monastery on Davingstock hill. Since then he had spent his time shuttling[13] up and down from London with a series of wives, girlfriends, daughters, film stars and models, keeping the town's gossips’ tongues wagging[19].

"We’ve been working with Norman for some years now. Norman Smith’s his real name, you know. Yes, you could say we’re friends. Don’t you remember he was going out with that really young American actress some years ago? For a while it looked like he was going to really settle down! Well, since they split up she’s been taking care of the poor boy out in Beverley Hills, but she’s started going out with that actor...what’s his name? He’s really famous.”

“Brad Midas.” Samantha interrupted.

“That’s right, and I think Moonzip is getting in the way, so she’s shipped him off to his Dad.”

“The boy’s name is Moonzip?” Aethelflaed sipped her tea.

“That’s right. Poor darling. I think he’s a bit of a handful. It’s a bit too much for Norman really. He’s getting on[20] a bit now, you know.”

“And so he wants to offload the kid onto me? How much is he offering? I can’t stand children, and I bet this one’s a real brat[21].”

“Oh, I wouldn’t worry about that! Whatever people say about Norman, nobody’s ever accused him of being stingy[8]. I’ll make a call and let you know what he says - if you’re keen on the idea, that is.” Samantha's mum picked up the phone and began to dial.

Norman? It sounded odd to hear one of the heaviest, hotel-smashing, wildest rock beasts with such an everyday name. Aethelflaed's younger brother Athelstan was a huge fan of Joe Cur and his band The Clown Killers. He spent hours locked away in his bedroom with the family parrot, both screaming and howling along with the noise. Aethelflaed couldn't stand it. She looked down on anyone who listened to music that

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18 To do up = To restore, redecorate = Restaurar, mejorar un edificio

19 When a dog is happy it wags its tail. 'Wag' is a side-to-side movement = Menear

20 'Get on' has a general meaning of 'progress': 'How are you getting on in your new job?' In this case it means progressing in age = Progresar, hacerse mayor

21 A spoilt, badly behaved child with no manners = Mimado, maleducado.

wasn't soul, but she was outnumbered in her family. Even her father always spoke of Joe Cur admiringly, although it was for a completely different reason. Every year he made a donation to Davingstock's local cinema, enabling it to stay open, even though it ran at a loss.

"Are you on for[22] tomorrow morning?" Mrs. Townshend had just hung up.

"To start work? Just like that?"

"Steady on! No – he wants you to go up there and have a look at you. You can ask him about the wages and check out Moonzip yourself."

"That's great Mrs. Townshend! I'm really grateful you know. That's exactly what I came here for, just to see if you knew of anything. I never expected this, though."

"That's not all, Ethel." Samantha was looking at her phone "Natalia's had a word with her parents. You're starting in the restaurant this afternoon. Good for you!"

When Aethelflaed left Samantha's house she was spinning through a wheel of emotions; She felt that her dream was one step closer, and yet.... She wasn't used to seeing the pieces of her life fall into place so simply. It was too easy - In one morning she had managed to find two jobs!

And yet there was a sense of foreboding[23]. Somewhere in the back of her head she heard the voice of her English teacher, waving a copy of Shakespeare's *Macbeth*: "Remember! When the gods want to punish mortals, they give them what they most desire!"

Aethelflaed smiled because she had her own references. She cleared her throat, and began to sing some lines:

"I look for a job both day and night
I can't find nothing that will suit me right
A little bit of labour – I'm not trying to shake
But everything I find seems too much like work."

She turned and walked back home.

22 'Are you on for...(Saturday/lunch/going to the beach)?' = Are you ready or willing for ….? = Estas dispuesto..?
23 Foreboding = Premonition, a sensation that something bad is going to happen = Premonición

Chapter 2: Café de los Amigos

King Henry II would have held his tongue[24] if he had known what was going to happen when he publicly denounced Thomas Becket, the Archbishop of Canterbury.

“Who will rid me of this troublesome priest?” he supposedly spat out in 1170, enraged to see his authority undermined by the church. Becket had refused to crown his son King of England. Hearing these words, four knights slipped out and galloped down to Canterbury, seat of Thomas Becket, the head of the Church of England.

The rest is History. The four knights entered the cathedral and cut open Becket's skull, leaving him in a pool of blood on the floor of the Cathedral. The shock waves were felt across medieval Europe. The king himself had to do penance[25] at the scene of the murder, and from that day for centuries pilgrims flocked to Canterbury.

Canterbury has now been overrun by a modern form of pilgrim, known as the tourist. Just a couple of hours from London, it is small enough to visit in one day, yet charming enough to be etched[26] in memory forever.

From the station Aethelflaed had to walk through the park, under the city walls, and into the pedestrian centre, which was as always bustling with shoppers and sightseers. From the hill outside the city the cathedral can be clearly seen rising out of the city, dwarfing the houses around. Yet in the city itself it is hidden down narrow side streets. Aethelflaed ignored the ant-like procession of tourists and hurried straight down the whole length of the high street.

Most tourists stop at Westgate, either to stroll through the gardens or to take a Venetian-style punt[27] along the river. Others simply see the cars beyond the tower and turn back. A few are drawn to a garish[28] corner restaurant opposite the tower, painted in yellow, green and red. This was 'Café de los Amigos'. Aethelflaed made a mental note. It had taken her just over a quarter of an hour on foot, and fifteen minutes by train. Some days Natalia could give her a lift[29], but not always.

It was still early, and no more than a couple of tables were occupied. Natalia's mum was in the dining area, and came forward to greet her with a warm open smile. Her name was Nieves, 'Snows' in English, which Aethelflaed found quite strange. She wondered whether there were also people in Spain called 'Rains' or 'Cloudy'.

Although she had been living in England for a few decades, Nieves' accent was just as marked as it had been on the first day. She rasped her 'h's, rolled her 'r's, cleaned

24 Hold (or 'bite) your tongue = Be quiet, control your feelings and not say what you think = Morder la lengua
25 A punishment that you inflict on yourself to a show repentance = penitencia
26 When you write or draw something in stone = grabar
27 Boat that is moved by pushing a pole into the riverbed = gondola
28 With lots of bright and conflicting colours = Chillon, estridente, colorido
29 If somebody 'gives you a lift', they take you somewhere in their car. 'Can you give me a lift to the station?'

her 'o's and painfully vocalised every consonant, vowel and syllable. It seemed as much of an effort for her to speak as it was for Aethelflaed to listen.

“Aethelflaed!” Nieves beamed. “If you go to the kitchen, Natalia is going to explain you that you must make[30].”

“Thank you for this opportunity, Ms...Nieves.” Aethelflaed never knew how to address Natalia's mother. Although Natalia swore her parents were married, they had different surnames. Was she Mrs. Oliveira or Ms. Castro? Her insistence on Aethelflaed using her first name was a godsend[31], as it sorted out her dilemma.

“You know it's a trial, don't you Ethel?” said Natalia as she tied Aethelflaed’s apron around her waist. “If you show them what you're made of in the next few days, they'll take you on. You have to prove you're worth it though.”

“I'll show them and I'll show you, Nat. Breathe easy and tell me what I have to do.”

“Tip one: you have to be quick but never stressed. The diners have to see that you've got everything under control.”

“OK. Tip two?”

“You'll always get some twits who make your life difficult. That's what they come in for. They give you a huge list of instructions and complain about everything.”

“So what do I do? Do I stick chilli powder in their drinks?”

“You put a curse[32] on their food, and smile!”

“No problem. I can do that. What else?”

“Don't waste trips. You're going to be walking to and fro all evening. Look around and pick up plates on your way back. And make a mental check of every table you're serving. It's easy to forget one.”

“Right. Is that it?”

“The most important thing is to make a note of all the orders as soon as you hear them, because then somebody else is going to ask you for something and you'll forget. Have a look at the menu and ask me any questions you have, 'cos there'll be things you need to explain to the diners. Things will start getting busy in half an hour.”

Aethelflaed sat and looked at the menu.

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30 Four very common mistakes with Spanish speakers. (1) With a conditional (If you go to...) you should use 'will', not 'going to' (2)Do not use an object with 'explain'. (3) Use 'what' not 'that' (4) There is a confusion between 'Make' and 'Do' – full exercise in 'Understanding Language'. The sentence should be: **'Natalia will explain what you must do.'**

31 Godsend = Something or someone which is perfect, a great help = Bendición, regalo del cielo

32 When you call on a supernatural power to do harm to someone = Maldecir

Café de los Amigos

~~Delicious~~ Tasty Spanish & Brazilian Cooking

Starters

Cool Spanish Tomato Soup *(Gazpacho)*
Cold Meat Platter: Cured Ham *(Jamón)*, Spicy Sausage *(Chorizo)*
Cod or Jamón Croquettes
Fried Squid Rings
Fried Shrimp, Onion and Bean Balls *(Acarajé)*
Brazilian Fried Chicken and Vegetable Tortillas *(Coxinha)*

Main Course

Brazilian Rice and Beans
Brazilian Bean Stew *(Feijoada)*
Rice with Seafood and Chicken *(Paella)*
Chickpea Stew with Spicy Chorizo *(Cocido)*
Boiled Octopus and Potatoes *(Pulpo)*

Side Dishes

Ration of Spanish Potato Omelette
French Fries
Mixed Salad
Bread rubbed with Olive Oil and Tomato

Desserts

Fried Milk with Cinnamon
Spanish Almond hard/soft Nougat *(Turrón)*
Coconut and Tapioca Pudding *(Cuscuz Branco)*
Sweet Sugar and Cinnamon Dumplings *(Bolinhos de Chuva)*

Drinks

Natural Mineral Water (Still / Sparkling)
Fizzy Drinks

Service not included

Example: ~~Tasty~~

1. Tips
2. Prawn
3. Shellfish
4. Beverages
5. Chips
6. Carbonated
7. Chilled
8. Soft
9. Cuisine
10. Hors D'ouevre
11. Calamari
12. Pudding / Afters

Find the synonyms:

She was interrupted a few minutes later when the door opened, and she felt Natalia's hand on her shoulder. “Your first customers, Ethel. Go and get them, and remember to smile!”

Aethelflaed took a deep breath, held her hands together to keep them from trembling[33], and walked towards the door. “Good evening!” It was five o'clock, but 'evening' sounded better if they were going to have a meal. They were a young couple. It looked like a good start.

“Well, that didn't go too bad. I can handle this.” Aethelflaed said to herself, heading back to the kitchen, having lead the customers to their table.

And so it seemed. The tables began to fill up slowly. Aethelflaed wrote down the orders in the notebook, picked up the dishes on her way to the kitchen, brought out the dishes and served the diners without any fuss. Natalia was buzzing[34] between the tables as her parents sweated over the pots and pans in the kitchen.

It was past seven o'clock already! Aethelflaed had had no time to think, let alone look at the clock. Another group arrived; Two families together, with children. Aethelflaed joined two tables together, and asked them what they would like to drink.

“A coke!” shouted a boy. He looked spoilt[21] and sounded bad-mannered “I want a coke!”

“You've had enough soft drinks for today” his mother said timidly. “Bring him a water.”

“No! I need a coke!” The boy screwed up his face “A coca-cola!” There were two other children at the table, looking at the boy open-mouthed. They must be the other couple's children, reckoned Aethelflaed.

“That's enough, Daniel” The father spoke out “No more coke. We'll all have water, please.”

“Coke! I want Coke! Give me COKE!!!” he screamed, and suddenly a knife hit Aethelflaed in the stomach. As Aethelflaed stooped down to pick it up a glass hit her on the shoulder and smashed on the floor just next to her hand.

“Be careful Daniel!” his mum took out her serviette to clean the boy's face “You'll hurt yourself”. 'What is this?' thought Aethelflaed, rubbing her shoulder.

The mother turned towards the other family. “He's overexcited, poor thing. It's been a very long and tiring day.” She completely ignored the waitress beside her, which was just as well, because Aethelflaed was glaring[35] at her darling child.

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33 You tremble when you are cold or scared = temblar. See 'Understanding Language'.

34 'Buzz' is the noise that insects make. If you say a place was 'buzzing' it means it is very lively. Here it means that she was very busy, like a bee moving between the flowers = Vibrante, animado

35 Look at somebody in a very bad way = Mirar para matar

The boy noticed Aethelflaed staring at him and stared back with a thin little grin[36] on his lips. She sent him a message with her eyes 'Do you think you're going to get your coke, you spoilt little brat[20]?' before clearing her throat. “I'm afraid we've run out of coke. Would you like a large bottle of water?”

“Perfect! You see, Daniel? There's no coke anyway. We'll get you some coke later when we leave, so don't worry.” The mother was stroking her son's face. He was red-faced and on the verge of tears.

“Patience, Ethel!” hissed[37] Natalia, as Aethelflaed went for the dustpan and brush “Remember the curse.”

“Tutankhamun- look and learn!” Aethelflaed intoned grimly, grabbing the brush and returning to the table. “I want my coke!” Daniel was repeating over and over, but now everybody was ignoring him, though his mother was holding his hand. She did not look at Aethelflaed.

“OK. First crisis dealt with” Natalia whispered to her friend when they crossed in the kitchen “You're doing well, Aethelflaed. Go and get these ones. That'll take your mind off it.” Another couple had come into the restaurant.

Aethelflaed was already beginning to mark the newcomers on a mental register. These ones looked harmless: Foreign. Mediterranean, maybe? Approaching retirement age. Chance of tips? No surprises like throwing cutlery onto the floor, that was for sure. Aethelflaed gave them a wide smile.

“We are two!” the man declared. Aethelflaed blinked. They are two? They looked more like seventy[38]. It took her a few seconds to adjust. The couple frowned[39] at her suspiciously.

“Of course - A table for two. Follow me.” She took them to a table beside the window. These people had tips, if she mined them. “May[40] I take your jackets?” She handed them the menus, took their drinks orders and left them.

The restaurant was buzzing. Aethelflaed began to feel the pressure. “Damn – the cheesecake!” “No onion in the salad for the lady.” “Order for table 7. Which one is table 7?” Aethelflaed couldn't believe that Natalia was serving twice the number of tables as she was without breaking sweat.

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36 A smile with closed teeth. A grin is not necessarily friendly = Sonreir con mueca.

37 Hiss (noun/verb) = The noise a snake makes: 'sssss'. Here it means a strong or fierce whisper = Sisear.

38 Common mistake with Spanish speakers. 'We are two' refers to age, in the same way as 'I am 63 (years old'). The correct sentence would be 'There are two of us.'

39 A movement of the forehead which produces lines between your eyes = Fruncir el ceño

40 Notice 'May' as a more formal version of 'Can I...?' or 'Could I...?'

Put this conversation in order:

by Prof.NativoGratis

1. They're both very similar – Minced meat, mushrooms and onions in a gravy and tomato sauce, topped with mashed potato and grated cheese. The difference is that the meat in cottage pie is beef, and in shepherd's pie it's lamb.
2. No, I think we're ready. Could we ask you a few questions?
3. Of course. Follow me please.
4. In that case I'll have shepherd's pie. Thank you!
5. *(Later)* Would you like to order? Do you need more time to decide?
6. I'm afraid we haven't.
7. Of course – Fire away!
8. Just a bottle of still mineral water at the moment, thank you.
9. Good evening – Have you made a reservation?
10. Just the two of us.
11. Excuse me. We'd rather have a table with a view, if you don't mind.
12. No problem, madam. How many of you are there?
13. What's the difference between shepherd's pie and cottage pie?
14. Not at all. Here's the menu. Would you like anything to drink, meanwhile?

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The foreign couple called her over. The man waved at the bread basket in front of him. "*Burro!*" he said "We need.....I don't know...*burro*[41]!"

"A knife, sir? Water? A napkin[42]?"

"Napkin?"

"It's like a serviette, made of cloth. You use it to clean your mouth." She explained helpfully.

"*Tovagliolo* no. Food." He made a gesture of feeding himself. "To eat. *Bu-rro*!" The man tapped the table with each syllable.

"No problem, sir. One moment, please." Aethelflaed cornered[43] Natalia. "Natalia. I think these people are Spanish. What does '*burro*' mean?"

Natalia was carrying four plates full of food. "*Burro*?! That's 'donkey' in Spanish. Are you sure that's what you heard?"

"He's calling me a donkey?"

"I don't think so. You're a girl, so you're a *burra*, not a *burro*." She laughed as she swept past.

Donkey? Aethelflaed had heard of horse meat in the old days, but donkey? Foreigners eat all sorts of things, she thought. Much better to stick[44] to British food.

The couple looked at her as she approached. "Donkey!" she said, "But I'm afraid we don't have any, sir." she said, as sadly as she could.

The lady looked startled[45]. The man spread his hands open. "*Burro*?" he asked.

"Donkey, sir. No, it's not possible I'm afraid. We don't serve donkey."

"You don't serve donkey?" he repeated. The man looked across at the lady. Her face looked like thunder. "*Non servono asini!*[46]" she replied furiously. Aethelflaed began to realise that something had gone wrong.

"*Asini!!*" the man had turned crimson[47]. "You insult me because my English is bad?? You...." The man stopped speaking, but his mouth kept moving, like a badly-dubbed movie. The woman was taking her bag and jacket, and talking to the man in Italian.

---

41 In Italian 'BURRO' means 'BUTTER'. In Spanish it means 'DONKEY'.
42 Napkin = Serviette = Servilleta
43 Notice how 'corner' is used as a verb = to trap somebody in a corner = Pillar, atrapar, arrinconar
44 Here: Stay with, Continue with. Full explanation of 'stick' at the back of the book: 'Understanding Language'.
45 Startled = A mixture of surprised and afraid – similar to but softer than 'shocked' = Soprendido
46 In Italian: 'They don't serve donkeys'.
47 Bright red = Carmin

“No please; there’s been a misunderstanding! Please don't go!! I didn't mean...” Aethelflaed pleaded, holding her hands together.

But it was too late. Not another word was exchanged. The couple marched out of the restaurant wordlessly, noses lifted, and Aethelflaed felt a sudden silence descend on the restaurant as the door closed. Natalia was shaking her head. Nieves was looking out from the bar. The whole restaurant was staring. Aethelflaed willed[48] her cheeks to cool down. She was sweating.

She started filling her tray with cutlery[49] and glasses from the table. She hardly knew what she was doing but it worked. Whispers turned to chatter[50], and it sounded like the volume was being turned up again. Aethelflaed breathed out and felt the heat leave her face. She turned with the tray and began to walk across to the kitchen.

With no warning whatsoever, she suddenly felt her right foot hook onto something. In slow motion she saw her tray fly away from her, smashing against the floor with an explosion of steel and glass. Aethelflaed felt herself land face-first on the tiles[51] less than a second later. When the noise finally stopped rebounding across the walls, the restaurant fell quiet for a second time.

Aethelflaed would have liked to stay that way, with her face against the floor until closing time. But she heard Natalia's and her mother's footsteps, and summoning[52] all her courage she lifted her head to look back over her shoulder.

She knew exactly what she was going to see. A whole chorus of eyes was aimed at her, but Aethelflaed focused on just one boy. Cradled tightly by his mother, who was frowning in disapproval, Daniel was grinning maliciously at the girl below.

---

48 'Will' = Voluntad. 'To will' as a verb means 'to want' = desear, imponer la voluntad
49 Cutlery = Knives, forks, spoons, etc. = Cubertería
50 The noise of many people talking = Parloteo, parlotear
51 Square or rectangular pieces used for floors, bathroom walls or roofs. It can be made of different materials.
52 To call = llamar, convocar

Chapter 3: The Rock Star

39 páginas +

8 actividades

más tarde.....

Understanding Language

• Lay vs. Lie

This is quite confusing, so first of all we have to make clear that we are not referring to the regular verb 'to lie' (not to tell the truth: *Lie – Lied – Lied - Lying*) but to the irregular verb 'TO LIE' (*Lie – Lay – Lain - Lying*) which is far more similar in meaning to 'TO LAY' (*Lay – Laid – Laid - Laying*).

Let's look at some examples from the story:

(note 116) 'Squeaky was **laid** in his basket, and now he enjoyed every time he **lay** out in the garden.' The first word is from the verb 'LAY' and the second from 'LIE'.

So what's the difference between 'LAY' and 'LIE'? Look at these other examples, identify the verb and try to see the differe

Moonzip spent all his time **lying** on Aeth
"**Lay** a finger on me, and he's done for."
Joe Cur **lay** down on his deckchair and
"She remembered her dad **laying** down

_____ means 'to put something dow
_____ means 'to be in a horizontal p

Now complete these sentences with the

1. "Have you _____ the table, Sta
2. Since Squeaky was _____ in his "
3. "Moonzip! You told me Heidi was _
4. Alfred is _____ on the sofa. He fe

• Tremble vs. Shiver vs. Shudder vs. Shake

These four words are very similar but not identical. In all three cases the body (or a part of it) 'vibrates' but for different reasons. Let's have a look:

54
55
56

1. (note 31) In the restaurant, as Aethelflaed went up to welcome her first diners, she held her hands together to keep them from **trembling**. Later, when the Italians walked out of the [redacted] **shaking** her head.
2. (note 52) Aethelflaed ren [redacted] nt and **shuddered**.
3. (note 94) Aethelflaed not [redacted] **shaking**. He was crying.
4. (note 128) After being in [redacted] **g**, although it was a bright sunny day.

Which of the three match these [redacted]

1. _____ implies nervou [redacted]
2. _____ implies cold.
3. _____ is when you m [redacted] r person's body (their hand, for example) [redacted] ees). You can also use it to replace tremble, [redacted] _____ with fear'.
4. _____ very short boo [redacted] ust, when you see a snake or spider, for exa [redacted]

• Uses of 'STICK' [redacted]

This word is very common in e [redacted] (as a verb) 'to glue something', but it is difficult for [redacted] many more meanings and uses. Let's look [redacted]

1. At the beginning of the s [redacted]
2. When people say it's hur [redacted] ot and **sticky**.
3. Although Samantha's pa [redacted] en't **stuck up.**
4. In the restaurant Aethelfl [redacted] epper in the food.
5. When the Italians ordere [redacted] o **stick** to English food.
6. Aethelflaed told her broth [redacted] **around**.
7. Aethelflaed **stuck** her fa [redacted] guing.
8. She **stuck** to Sam Cook [redacted] onna Come'.
9. Hops are a type of leafy [redacted] **ck**.

Wh

a) A
Nu

b) I
Nu

c) A
Nu

d) I , just
Nu

e) (son
Nu

f) S
Nu

- ## Last vs. The Last vs. The Latest

In many languages these two word to make a mistake here. Fortunate

'Last' week is the week that has ju if you are in August) 'Last year' (20

The plural of last is **'The last few'** o or three weeks.

'The last' week is the last week of December is the last month of the

- 'Have you been on holiday?'
- 'Yes, we went to Cornwall **last w**
- 'No, not yet. We have to wait unti need a holiday desperately. **The la** have been so stressful!'

There is also another confusion: **'T** t' in many languages, yet means sor 'the most recent', and is often used to talk about the latest news, the latest fashion..

Remeber that if [redacted] Aethelflaed's...), this will replace 'the' in 't[redacted]

So let's look at s[redacted]opriate option from (1)'last', (2)'the l[redacted]

1. At the beg[redacted]en very changeable.
2. Ayaan was[redacted]
3. 'When was[redacted]zip asked.
4. '_____ s[redacted]
5. Samantha[redacted] for two weeks.
6. Aethelflae[redacted]
7. _____[redacted] the fruit farms.
8. Aethelflae[redacted]er.

- **'Settle'**

H[redacted]Basically, 'to settle' means 'to establish [redacted]e are many uses. We've already seen in t[redacted]ophy') about the Vikings that settled in t[redacted]ssical use of the word, but let's look at s[redacted]

([redacted] **settle down** with Moonzip's mum.

([redacted]l **settled** on his side.

([redacted]out Moonzip and then had to change it.

([redacted] armchair.

([redacted]*ke Me to the River'* for the first audition.

([redacted]Davingstock. He didn't miss Beverly Hills.

W[redacted]

[redacted]job, for example)

[redacted] a family, regular job....

- **Informal/Colloquial English**

Let's start wit is not usually taught in clas would not advise you to use it, stand it:

I ain't
You ain't
S/He or It ain
We ain't
They ain't

'In conclusion tense.

Let's look at er you did not use these forms mended):

“You **gotta** b = have got to/a
“**Lemme** buy = Let me
“**Gimme** a pe = Give me
“I **wanna** sta = want to/a
Aethelflaed s = going to
Moonzip thou = kind of
“Heidi! I want = out of
“**Wassap** girl = What's up?
“**Watcha** gon at are you..?

It is also very al words. These are not usual logue:

You
Do you....?
Get you or G DTCHA
Don't you...? CANCHA
Could have (r COULDA

Rewrite these

1. “I'm no

2.
3.
4.
5.

- **Confusing Conditionals**

Very few people drive in the same way as they were taught when they started learning. That doesn't (always) mean to say that they drive worse – just that they have adapted the theory to everyday life.

It's the same with speaking a language. Many of the things that we teachers tell you are grammar rules are more flexible than we admit in class. So why are we telling you lies? Basically, because it's far easier to give you a framework, but when you reach a certain level it is important to realise that a living language does not fit in a corset, and I am now going to give you a very good example:

(Not arth **would** you pay

This e conditionals, and eory and disc

1st C pay for it?
2nd C pay for it?

So w t or 2nd Con option com

Nata is perfectly poss litional), but sees Conditional). This 'Real English'.

Understanding Language (2): In Depth

- ## Make or Do?

These phrases wit emember.
There are no clear

- When you ar d job, do something w
- All the house
- 'Make' has a sformation: Make a cake
- You also 'ma m or ordering ther

1. _____ an ex
2. _____ a (ph
3. _____ a don a letter
4. _____ the di better
5. _____ excus
6. _____ the ch
7. _____ dama
8. _____ a dec ething
9. _____ promi row up
10. _____ a dea
11. _____ a ges
12. _____ your bring her)
13. _____ the la
14. _____ sure
15. _____ your s

- ## Prepositions

It doesn't matter what level a student has, this is always something that causes problems, even among the most advanced students. This is because there is no easy way to know which preposition to use because there is rarely any logic or a rule you can apply. In these cases there is only one solution: Practice!

These all appear in the story. If you've been paying attention, it should be easy, but careful – **in some cases no preposition is needed!**

1. To focus (or concentrate) _____ something	
2. To be interested ____ something	
3. To accu	
4. To glare	
5. To call c	
6. Someth	
7. To depe	
8. To throv	
9. Someth	
10. To disap	
11. Be grat	
12. Waste (	
13. Aethelfl	
14. To be k	
15. To pay _	
16. To pay _	
17. To trust	
18. To be _____ your/one side	
19. Feel sorry _____ somebody	
20. Have your leg cut _____ by a train	

- ## Informal, Formal Letter Writing and emails.

All writing in general – and specifically, correspondance – depends the audience you are writing to. It is very important to strike the right tone. Let's have a look at the three letters Aethelflaed received, and see how they differ.

	Informal	Semi-formal	Formal
Audience			n,
Start			
Style of Language			'm, as e).
Ending			ne n's ter) ne r /

For more information on how to write formal letters, go to:

profesornativogratis.com/letter-writing/

Write 'F' (Formal), 'SF' (Semi-formal) or 'IF' (informal) next to the sentences below:

- Write to
- I look fo
- I'd appre

- I am wri
- Just a q
- I'd like t

- Love, P
- Yours fa
- Regards

- If you re ntact me.
- Let me k
- Drop me

- It's all d w.
- I got my er course.
- Having g ss of completi

- I enclos ing industry.
- As you c ing.
- I worked emember?

- Hi Dave
- Dear Si
- Dear Mr

Now put each section in order (1 - 7)

Cho ect
ans

Dea

(1)_ nber, I´m
writi in Africa.

Sinc iterature and
com in Sittingsham,
Kent rbury.

Duri _charitable
work ising schemes
to su pplying my
expe

I enc information,
pleas rt of this
proje required.

I am _____.

(10)_____

(Signature)

Daniel Higgins.

1.	a) I have seen	b) Having seen	c) I'm writing about
2.	a) dated	b) of the date	c) of
3.	a) in order to express	b) with regards to	c) about
4.	a) as	b) like	c) such as
5.	a) completing my degree at	b) finishing my degree in	c) graduating from
6.	a) related to	b) related with	c) in connection with
7.	a) more	b) further	c) another
8.	a) I want to say again	b) I wish to reiterate	c) I'd like to repeat
9.	a) at your earliest convenience	b) as soon as possible	c) in the near future
10.	a) Regards,	b) Yours faithfully,	c) Yours sincerely,

Vocabulary Builder 1: Words

Find a the
words numbers
4-5, fo 5.

Exam *RCAST)*

1. __S
2. __Y
3. __B
4. __S
5. __E
6. __Y
7. __E
8. __G
9. __D
10. __E
11. __E
12. __S
13. __E
14. __T
15. __S
16. _R
17. _D
18. _D
19. _Y
20. _Y

n't happened = R_____D
H_____Y
G_____E
d = S_____D
T_____T
= U_____G
S_____S
C_____Y
S_____S
e = R_____E
lown = N_____D
udice = G_____G
orable = N_____T
T_____Y
G_____B
ist = F_____K
or ignorance = S_____G
a present) = W_____P
S_____Y
mental = M_____G
B_____G
are upset = S_____Y
cal 9 – 5:00 = S_____T
atural power = S_____L
is reversed = S_____K

Vocab Builder 2: Phrases & Phrasal Verbs

Complete the phrase, expression or phrasal verb in the sentences below. They all appear in the story, and are in order:

Example: Natalia's parents ____ up a restaurant many years ago = *SET*

1. Behave yourself in the restaurant, and _____ your manners.
2. Calm down! Keep your _____ on!
3. Dean set _____ early. He had to travel to a friend's villa in Saint Tropez.
4. We're r homeless people.
5. I can't rogant!
6. Speak she appeared!
7. I don't rather relax.
8. Joe C ingstock.
9. Mary going out for years.
10. He's r n now.
11. He thi o isn't like him.
12. _____ s fast as that!
13. She's _____ her tongue?
14. My ca e station?
15. If you _____ you on.
16. She w chen and tables.
17. You're r job and unwind.
18. Natali
19. It's a g n not in the mood.
20. I don't ___ about?

21. I don't mind. It's _____ to you – You decide.
22. I don't want to waste time. I'd like to _____ to the point.
23.
24. out.
25. ed.
26. g you are.
27. her _____.
28. .
29. _ out.
30. od.
31.
32.
33. round.
34. d their mind.
35. ime with them.
36.
37. ___ out.
38. g her _____.
39.
40. ter in a month.
41. ith Aethelflaed.
42. d them).
43. u.
44. n their _____.
45. __ it down.

A Change is Gonna Come

When Barack Obama won the US Presidential Elections in 2008, he made a speech in his native Chicago which made a direct reference to Sam Cooke's classic song:

"It's been a long time coming, but tonight.." he declared *"..change has come to America."*

In that same speech Obama spoke at length of a 106-year-old female black activist, Ann Nixon Cooper: *"She was born just a generation past slavery…when someone like her couldn't vote for two reasons – because she was a woman and because of the colour of her skin…She was there for the buses in Montgomery, the hoses in Birmingham, a bridge in Selma and a preacher from Atlanta who told a people that We Shall Overcome"*

So when Obama and his wife Michelle danced to Etta James' *'At Last'* in the inauguration ball, it seemed to be the culmination of a period that started with the abolition of slavery in 1865. Jay-Z, the rapper husband of soul singer Beyoncé (who had just played the role of Etta James in the film *'Cadillac Records'*) expressed this same sentiment:

"Rosa Parks sat so that Martin Luther could walk
Martin Luther walked so that Barack Obama could run (for president)
Barack Obama ran so all the children could fly…"

Emmett Till

We will start the story of the Civil Rights movement in 1955, with the lynching[57] of a 14-year-old black American by the name of Emmett Till. His crime had been to talk to a white woman, the owner of a grocery store he had visited to buy some sweets. The woman's husband and his [illegible] owing him in the river. One account of [illegible] *mmett Till*:

"'Tw[illegible]
When a young bo[illegible] door…
Some men they dr[illegible] n up[58]…
They tortured h[illegible] at…
The reason tha[illegible] lie
Was just for th[illegible] …"

Rosa Parks, Mart[illegible] ovement

In December of the same [illegible] e up her seat to a white passenger on a [illegible] mmett Till and I just couldn't go back." sh[illegible] ights movement was born.

The subsequent 385-day [illegible] young Baptist minister by the name of M[illegible] pany faced hardship. Rosa Parks was [illegible] Detroit, Martin Luther King's hous[illegible] was also arrested. Despite all this, [illegible] cks could sit together with whites. The [illegible]

The 'hoses in Birmingham [illegible] the campaign that Martin Lut[illegible] t city in 1963. The reaction of the local P[illegible] testors, and knocking children down w[illegible] [60] in public opinion, and King, despite [illegible] or, and segregation was outlawed [illegible]

57 To lynch = when a group of people take the law into their own hands, attacking and killing an individual.
58 Beat (somebody) up = assault somebody physically
59 Hose(pipe) = the long rubber tube used by fireman and gardeners to spray water.
60 A backlash is when an event provokes a reaction against something in public opinion. 'The politician's speech attacking immigrants has provoked a backlash (support for immigrants) in the public.'

The ing against a
serie ck Americans.
In 19 sed a bridge
in Se

Publ he protestors -
esco ved at
Mon *ng? Not Long*.
That movement,
but t that outlawed
the p e electoral lists
and

It wa ed, and was
almo movement. It
was es was ‘Chain
Gan

Coo Wind’ and
think

61 A milestone marks the distance travelled on a road. It is often used metaphorically: 'The milestone in his career' meaning an important point along the way.

e sea?
be free?
H oesn't see?

e!'
"

Altho tract, while
Sam ous to note
that ass anti-war
dem lack civil rights
mov

Sam Cooke

Sam Cooke's friend Bobby Womack, on hearing the song, exclaimed "It feels eerie[62], it sounds like death!", and he was right. By the time 'A Change is Gonna Come' was released in 1964, Sam Cooke was already dead – shot in a motel in Los Angeles at the age of 33, and at the height of his career. The motel manager claimed that the singer had come into her apartment and attacked her, and that in self-defence she had shot him thirty times from short range. Not only was she acquitted of murder, but she also sued[63] Cooke's heirs for physical and emotional damages, and was awarded $30,000.

62 Eerie = (adjective) spooky, scary in a supernatural or deathly way.
63 To sue (noun = lawsuit) = to take someone to court for a civil (not criminal) trial.

The doubts and controversy surrounding these events are unresolved. Cooke's close friend Etta James denounced that the injuries on his body bore no relation to the official account of events. According to the motel manager, there was no more than a short scuffle[64] when Cooke tried to take the gun off her. Yet Etta James said that Cooke had been brutally beaten, so much so that his head had almost been severed[65] from his shoulders. Sam Cooke's biographer has written that "There is not a single person [in the black community] who believes that Sam Cooke died as he is said to have died".

Some loose ends ne

The men charged w l-white jury. The following year th w in which they confessed to th ryant, the woman at the centre d made clear that the 14-year-old ards her.

The Emmett Till cas 2016 Carolyn Bryant's nephew – s o be involved in the Panama Pape a huge scale. It was widely reporte y.

In 1968, Martin Luth pporting a strike of the city's sa crushed to death:

"You know, several y first book that I had written. And w black woman came up [and] …. I t I had been stabbed[129] by this de

It came out in the Ne y sneezed, I would have died. W d some of the mail that came in…T I looked at that letter, and I'll ne

"Dear Dr. King,

I am a ninth-grade student at the White Plains High School…While it should not matter, I would like to mention that I'm a white girl. I read in the paper of your misfortune,

64 A scuffle = shorter and less violent than a fight: some pushing, wrestling...
65 To severe = to cut off, disconnect, break in two...
66 Refuse = as a noun it means 'rubbish'. Intonation on the first syllable. (As a verb, to turn down or say no to something – intonation on the second syllable.)
67 Demented = mad, crazy, insane.

and of your suffering. And I read that if you had sneezed, you would have died. And I'm simply writing you to say that I'm so happy that you didn't sneeze."

And I want to s [illegible] *at I didn't sneeze……*

If I had sneeze [illegible] *ecided to take a ride for freedo* [illegible] ng to the Montgomery bus bo[illegible]

If I had sneeze [illegible] *ple of Birmingham, Alaba* [illegible] *nto being the Civil Rights Bill.* [illegible]

If I had sneeze [illegible] *t, to try to tell America about* [illegible]

If I had sneeze [illegible] *the great Movement the* [illegible]

I'm so happy th [illegible]

….. Well, I don' [illegible] *ays ahead. But it really doe* [illegible] *ntaintop, and I don't mind.*

Like anybody, I [illegible] *t I'm not concerned about th* [illegible] *e to go up to the mountain. A* [illegible] *may not get there with you. But I want you to know tonight, that we, as a people, will get to the promised land!"*

Martin Luther King

The very next day he was shot dead at his motel, at the age of 39. Rosa Parks - now in Detroit - wept and hugged her mother when she heard the news of King's assassination. Needing comfort, they played a song over and over again to help them with their grief, a song which was "like medicine to the soul - It was as if Dr. King was speaking directly to me."

That song was '*A Change is Gonna Come*'.

Exercises

1) Fill in the gaps (a – i) with these words:

reluctance red
denouncing ding
fate

2) Fill i

- Barack he logical outcom
- Etta Ja iming he was **b)____**
- Beyond ch she represents the sou
- Emmet overed to be false.
- Carolyn l an acquittal whose ed US history.
- Rosa P in her society.
- Martin l believed **8.____.**
- Bob Dy is songs
- Sam C fy his **i)_____**, despite
- Bobby had a **j)_____** that wa

Practise y ther King:

profesornativogratis.com/martin-luther-kings-last-speech/
profesornativogratis.com/churchill_vs_king/

Canterbury: A Rose in the Garden of England

Kent, the south-easternmost county of the UK, is known as the “Garden of England”. Its most historical and most visited city is Canterbury (Kan-t’-brii), with a population of around 55,000 inhabitants. It has always been an important part of the history of Engl Canterbury is the h

Build f Durovernum (noth sar himself said of Br Kent), a phra

Whe more than four cent in the city's histo bey there in his c en the spiritual capi

In 11 of Archbishop Thor e start of chap y Jerusalem and ns of its wealth can ered with the

Vatican for not granting permission to divorce Catherine of Aragon - dissolved the monasteries and turned the country to Protestantism.

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ride away!

Why don't you find out more about Canterbury? Practise your English with this video and listening exercise at:

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