



COMPUTER CRAZE: The game with 11 million players



PARROTS? EYE-PATCHES? What do modern pirates really look like?

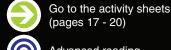
ROBERT DATINSON How the Wilight actor became Hollywood's hottest star

PAGE 8

SCHOLASTIC



This article is on the CLUB CD.



Advanced reading

This is a difficult word. Look in Wordwise!

ed in this issue ha

**ONION ENERGY:** 

with the energy drink to make energy

ENERGY DRINK

ONION

USB CABLE

Nwen shows the experiment. The ions in the onion react

(V)

#### WHO NEEDS ELECTRICITY **WHEN YOU CAN USE .AN ONION?** IPOD

Have you ever wondered how much electricity it takes to use an MP3 player like an iPod?

Owen Louis. a student from Portsmouth was worried about the amount of electricity he was using, so he experimented with a new form of power - onion power! And it works. You make two holes in an onion, soak\* it in an energy drink and put a USB cable into the onion. It will charge\* your iPod for an hour! "The only problem is you have no control over how long it may work for ... and it can be smelly!" says Owen.

#### Writing ELECTRIC CHECK

**KEEP AN ENERGY DIARY FOR A DAY.** Write down how and when you use any

electricity during the day. Compare your notes with your classmates. Who uses the most? How could you cut down?

#### **TEEN BEDROOM SELLS** LUXURY HOUSE! N



The bed is unmade, clothes are screwed up\* on the floor and there's a half-eaten pizza under the bed. Looks familiar\*? But this 'typical' teenage bedroom isn't real. It was created by an interior decorator\* for a house builder in England as a room in one of their showhomes in Norwich. "I've always found showhomes to be a bit bland\* and unreal," says Maggie Abel from Abel Homes. "We wanted to add a bit of fun and realism." The idea seems to have worked. Instead of immaculate\*. perfect homes, visitors love the 'lived in' feel and all of the houses have now been sold.

#### Vocabulary NEAT AND TIDY?

Which adjectives describe a tidy house and which describe a messy house?



# **WHAT'S NEW IN THE UK** WHAT'S THE STORY?

- Where could this be? Why?
- Why might the two men be dressed like this?
- What might they do with the loud speakers?
   FIND OUT ON PAGE I5.

# UPDATE YOUR ENGLISH

#### NEW WORD: Staycation (noun)

**MERNS:** A holiday spent at home, because you don't have enough money to go anywhere.

**COMES FROM:** This is a word-blend from *stay* + *vacation* 

**EXAMPLE:** "The key to a successful staycation is to treat it like any other holiday, planning activities and events as if you were going away." The Irish Times

#### WIN ON OUR WEBSITE!

Have you used our website this year? To celebrate the success of our new website, we will be giving one student user an IPod!

To enter this competition, you must be a registered website user. Go to www.maryglasgowmagazines.com The CLUB access code is: browndog

Winners will be announced online on June 15th!

**★WORDWISE** • to soak (v) to leave something in water • to charge (v) to put power, electricity into something – i.e. *I need to charge my mobile phone* • screwed up (adj) when used with clothes, means not hung up, not ironed • familiar (adj) something you know and recognise • interior decorator (n) a professional who dresses rooms • bland (adj) boring and dull • immaculate (adj) perfectly clean and tidy

BEFORE YOU READ: Do you play online games?

It's the most popular online game in the world. It's got more members than the population of Portugal. What makes World of Warcraft so successful ... and so addictive?

Midnight, October 23rd 2008. Scott Hamshere collapses\* from exhaustion\*. Another warrior – Ben West – takes his place. The battlefield? A store in Oxford Street, central London. Scott was the first in a queue of 2,500 *World of Warcraft (WoW)* players waiting to buy the new upgrade\* of the popular online game. "I really feel sorry for Scott," said Ben, who was second in line. As a result of Scott's collapse, Ben gets the first copy of *World of Warcraft: The Wrath of the Lich King*.



What makes this game so special? *WoW* is a multi-player online role-playing game that was first introduced in 1994 by Blizzard Entertainment. The game is played in a fantasy world called Azeroth. Players use a games console to

# One 15-year-old collapsed after playing the game **24** hours non-stop

control their character – an avatar. For just £24.99 (€28.97), you can explore the landscape, fight monsters, complete tasks – and interact with millions of other players. As your character develops, it can gain new talents and learn jobs such as tailoring\*, mining, cooking, or first aid.



### **YOUR WORLD**



# **DIVERSION TO ADDICTION**

For many players, *WoW* offers a way out of reality and a way to find new friends. "I felt accepted for the first time in my life," admits one 18-year-old gamer. "I liked it because people couldn't see me, they accepted me as my online character – I could be good at something and feel part of a group."

But when does harmless\* fun become a dangerous addiction? Ten per cent of online gamers admit to playing 'too much',

choosing online gaming over seeing their friends, doing their work, and even eating and sleeping properly. "My son lost interest in everything else," says the mother of a teenage gamer. "He didn't want to eat, sleep, or go to school, the game was the only thing that mattered to him." One 15-year-old Swedish boy even collapsed after playing the game for 24 hours non-stop.

> Psychiatrists are now reporting record numbers of teens seeking help for their online gaming addiction. But some believe that the games aren't the root\* of the problem. Keith Bakker,

> > head of a clinic that treats gaming addicts, says, "The more we work with these kids the less I believe we can call this addiction. What many of these kids need is their parents and their school teachers – this is a social problem."

Whether it's a social problem, an addiction, or a passion, *WoW* is clearly more than just a game.

#### FANTASY FIGURES: WOW IN NUMBERS

- **II** million = the number of monthly *WoW* subscribers
- 18 = the percentage of online gamers under the age of 18
- **3 hours** = the legal limit of a game session for under 18-year-olds in China
- **2.8 million** = the number of copies of *Wrath of the Lich King* sold on its first day



avatar (n) a picture of a person or an animal which represents a person in a computer.

**community (n)** a group of people who share a common interest or activity; everyone who plays *WoW* is part of a community.

12.

**console (n)** a piece of electronic equipment that is used to control a computer; in online gaming, it is used to control all of the actions of an avatar.

gamer (n) a person who plays computer games.

**quest (n)** a search for something that is difficult to find; a mission or a task.

**upgrade (n)** an addition to a game, usually including improved graphics and new levels.

**★WORDWISE** • to collapse (v) to fall down suddenly • exhaustion (n) being very tired • upgrade (n) an addition to a game, usually including improved graphics and more levels • tailoring (n) the job of making clothes • harmless (adj) not dangerous • root (n) in this context, the main reason.

## **YOUR WORLD**



Omar, 22, is a professional gamer. He has played at national and international level. He now works for Scholastic as a web developer. CLUB spoke to him about WoW.

### CLUB: How did you start playing WoW?

**Omar:** I was playing *Warcraft 3* at international level and some of my friends decided to play *WoW* as Blizzard tend to make really good games. We had played the beta [this is a test run of the game] two weeks before it was released to find any bugs\* before production.

# "I TOOK THREE DAYS OFF WORK TO PRACTISE!"

#### CLUB: Why do you think WoW is so successful?

**Omar:** It's probably because it's really easy to play, and doing the tasks is really rewarding. Then, you have the whole team-based aspect of it ...

#### CLUB: How much time do you think you spend playing WoW?

**Omar:** Actually, I didn't spend too much time playing *WoW* overall, compared to my guild [team]. Last year, however, I took three days off work so that I could practise for the E-Sports World Cup qualifier! [Omar came second in *Warcraft 3*.] **CLUB: What do your family** think about the amount of time you spend gaming?

**Omar:** Once my parents saw that I was able to make money from it, then they knew it couldn't be all bad. I got money from competitions, free hardware and a salary from my gaming team (we were sponsored). It was enough to help me through university. The top players earn serious money – especially in Asia. One Korean gamer called Moon (Jang Jae-Ho) who is considered to be one the best gamers in the world, earned something stupid as a salary – around \$200,000 a year!

# PERSONALITY QUIZ: ARE YOU A GAMEIAC?

#### Try our quiz to find out.

- It's 10:30pm on a Sunday night, and you have school on Monday. You may be able to finish a level in the next two hours. What do you do?
  - **a.** Go to bed at the usual time 11pm. It's just a game.
  - **b.** Try to finish the level, but go to bed by midnight if I don't finish.
- **c.** Stay online until I finish, even if I sleep through school.
- **2.** Your girlfriend/boyfriend phones while you're playing an online game. What do you do?
  - a. Talk to them, of course.
  - **b.** Phone them back in five minutes, once I complete a difficult bit.
  - **c.** Tell them I'll see them on Sunday afternoon, when most of my online friends aren't gaming.
- **3.** Your computer breaks. It will take a week to repair. How do you react?
  - **a.** It wouldn't bother me that much. I'd just spend more time with my friends.
  - **b.** I'd feel annoyed because I was just about to finish my latest quest.
  - **c.** Buy or borrow a computer. I can't live without going online for a week!

- 4. Your favourite game is being upgraded. What do you do?
  - a. Ask what 'upgraded' means.
  - **b.** Ask my parents to give me the upgrade for my birthday in a few weeks.
  - **c.** Wait outside a shop for three days before the upgrade goes on sale.
- **5.** Your parents say you're spending too much time on the computer. They tell you to switch it off by 10pm every night. What do you do?
  - **a.** Go to bed and read a good magazine or book.
  - **b.** Try to get my homework done by 9pm so I can have an hour of online gaming.
- **c.** Find a way to use the computer without my parents knowing.



WORDWISE

(computer) bug (n)
a problem/fault



CLUB CD 2 Tracks 9 & 10

Future tenses

# MILLIONAIRE STUDENT: "I'M GOING TO LIVE ON BEANS ON TOAST!"

Ianthe Fullagar was working as a waitress in her gap year, when she decided to buy a EuroMillions lottery ticket. She was earning £4.75 an hour ... until she checked her numbers!

**1.** When and why do people take a 'gap year'?

2. Where

would you

lottery ticket?

hide a

winning

hen 18-year-old lanthe Fullagar realised she had a winning lottery ticket, she screamed. Her mum screamed too. lanthe had won more than seven million pounds! The family dog, Brock, was so confused by all the noise that he jumped up and bit lanthe on the bottom.

"I didn't know what to do with my ticket, so after hiding it in my bra and jewellery box, I settled for my **gym bag** until it was confirmed I was a winner. It doesn't smell very nice in there!"

**3.** How many ways of expressing the future can you find in this paragraph?

lanthe Fullagar

#### SPENDING PLANS

Seven million, fifty five thousand, one hundred

and forty two pounds and ten pence

lanthe plans to share her fortune with her family and friends and buy a new car. But she won't be buying an Aston Martin, or a Ferrari. "I'd look silly driving a flash\* car," she says. "So I'm going to get a black Ford KA." She hopes to donate to some children's charities, and she has one unusual investment in mind\*. "I am a big fan of a local rock band called Fenech-Solar," she explains. "I would love to invest in them ... and then I'm going to stick the rest of the money in the bank."

#### WILL THE MONEY CHANGE HER LIFE?

The Royal Bank of Scotland plc

£ 7,055,142.10

New.

Alame Thomas

26.09.08

Camelor Group plc

"I have worked very hard to get where I am and I am still planning to go to university. I'm not going to live like a millionaire. I'm going to live in normal student **digs** and I'm going to live on **beans on toast** – I love that. The only thing I won't need is a **loan.**" **4.** Here, *stick* means *put*. What are the other meanings of 'to stick'?

**TEEN TALES** 

5. What are 'digs'?

6. Beans on toast is a favourite British snack. The most famous brand is Heinz. Go to <u>www.heinz.co.uk</u> and then to 'Our Brands'. Find out two facts about their baked beans.

#### IT'S A LOTTERY!

7. Do you have to

pay for university

education in your

country?

- Ticket holders in the UK's national lottery have a one in fourteen million chance of winning the jackpot\*.
- You must be over **15** to buy a ticket.
- lanthe had a **one** in **five-and-a half million** chance of winning the EuroMillions lottery jackpot with five numbers and one lucky star.

**\*WORDWISE** • flash (adj) showy and expensive-looking • to have something in mind (verb phrase) to have an idea • jackpot (n) the biggest prize



# **ROBERT PATT "I didn't want to make any stupic**

Robert Pattinson is Britain's mostwanted young actor. You might know him as Cedric Diggory from *Harry Potter*, but it's his role as Edward Cullen, the 'impossibly beautiful' vampire in *Twilight* that makes him Hollywood's hottest property!

#### PATTINSON PROFILE

NAME: Thomas Robert Pattinson BIRTHDRY: May 13th 1986 HOMETOWN: Barnes, London FAMILY: two sisters, Lizzy and Victoria HOBBIES: music and theatre PET HATES: sticky lip gloss on girls, washing clothes FUTURE FILMS: New Moon, Little Ashes

rlando Bloom, Leonardo Di Caprio, Shia LaBoeuf – your time is up. A new teen idol is here. But *Twilight* star Robert Pattinson has no desire to be another A-lister\*. "I freak out\* when I see all those people cheering and yelling my name," he says. But Robert will have to get used to it. He's a Hollywood heart-throb.

Despite his good looks, Robert is not used to the attention. In fact, he is more used to being snubbed\*. In the film *Vanity Fair* his scenes were deleted, and just before his opening night in the play *The Woman Before*, he was replaced. As a model, he was also a flop. So, you would think that after having a taste of success playing prefect Cedric Diggory in *Harry Potter*, he'd be happy to take on any role. No, not Pattinson.

"I didn't want to make any stupid teen movie," says Robert, who beat 5,000 other hopefuls, including Orlando Bloom, Hayden Christensen and Gerard Way to play the 17-year-old vampire from the 1900s. "Everybody knows that if a movie is being made from a best-selling book that they tend not to be very good. Everybody knows – even six year olds – that it's just to make money. I wouldn't be involved if the film was like that."

But this best-seller couldn't be like that. "We took the responsibility to find the right actor for a part that has lived so vividly\* in the imaginations of our readers very seriously," says production director Erik Feig. Robert took it seriously too. He spent two months preparing to play Edward, love and dangerous obsession of schoolgirl Bella Swan



# Used to v to get used to THE PULSE

# INSON: d teen movie...



(played by Kirsten Stewart). "I tried to use the gentlemanly side of this character as a veil\* for something else underneath. I wanted to show he was self-loathing\* and vulnerable\*. I didn't talk to anybody for about a month and a half!"

And the result? "Pattinson walks away with every scene!" says The Times. "The chemistry between Edward and Bella is so good it could causes hyperventilation\*!" says author Stephenie Meyer. Perfect Pattinson? Not quite. There was one thing about Edward that Robert just couldn't get the

hang of: "Wearing [amber] contact lenses is the most terrible thing I had to endure to be Edward," he recounts. "It was a daily torture. I was waking up at 4am to suffer this living death. So, for the sequel, they had better use special effects!"



#### TWILIGHT TRIVIA

- The novel, Twilight, by Stephenie Meyer has sold more than 40 million copies worldwide.
- Twilight tells the story of Bella Swan, who falls in love with Edward Cullen, a vampire.
- The apple you see on the book cover is a symbol of forbidden fruit (forbidden love). Bella and Edward's love is dangerous - as a vampire, Edward could lose control and kill her at any time.
- Robert is a talented piano player you can hear him on two songs on the soundtrack.
- Stephenie Meyer listened to Muse and Linkin Park while she was writing the book.

#### EDWARDIAN' TEENAGER

In Twilight, Edward Cullen is a 17-year-old, but he was born in 1901. Imagine you are a 17-year-old, living in the early 1900s. How different would your life be? Consider the following aspects of life.

Education and work; health and hygiene; clothes; manners; transport and technology.

Now write about your life, using used to and get used to.

Example: Not many teenagers used to go to school they used to work. I don't think I could get used to wearing the same clothes everyday!

#### **Comprehension Cruncher**

How much did you understand? Test yourself! Tick (✓) the correct box:



False

True

- 1. Robert is comfortable with his new celebrity status.
- 2. Robert was only successful as a model.
- 3. Robert is only interested in making big blockbuster films.
- 4. Robert studied for the role of Edward intensely.
- 5. Kirsten and Robert studied chemistry together for the film.
- 6. Robert can't stand contact lenses.



#### IN PRINT AND ONLINE

Have you read our online news article about Twilight?

Go to: http://maryglasgowmagazines.com/ students/features/5830

Find out what other CLUB readers think of Twilight. Go to: www.maryglasgowmagazines.com/chatter



#### www.twilightthemovie.com www.stepheniemeyer.com

1 Edwardian refers to the period in history when Britain was ruled by King Edward VII (1901-1910).

**\*WORDWISE • A-lister (n)** world famous celebrity. An A-list celebrity is a superstar, like Angelina Jolie. [Also B-list, and C-list and for the completely talentless wannabes use Z-list] • to freak out (v, informal) get stressed, to panic • to be snubbed (v) to be treated with coldness or disrespect • veil (n) a cover, a mask • vividly (adj) clearly, with strong mental images • self-loathing (adj) when you hate yourself - (loathing = a strong hate) • vulnerable (adj) weak • hyperventilation (n) when you breathe too fast

#### HISTORY OF THE CHANNEL TUNNEL

French engineer

Albert Mathieu

Napoleon.

suggests a cross-

channel tunnel to

### 1875 -

The Channel Tunnel Company Limited begins digging near Dover, England.

# 1882 -

Work is stopped. The British are afraid of a foreign attack via the tunnel. The French and British Governments start digging again, but the British Government cancels the work.

974

France and the UK agree to continue the project.

**1986** 

# THE CHANNEL T

In May 1994, the Channel Tunnel was officially opened – so it's the 15th anniversary this year. Is the tunnel a success?

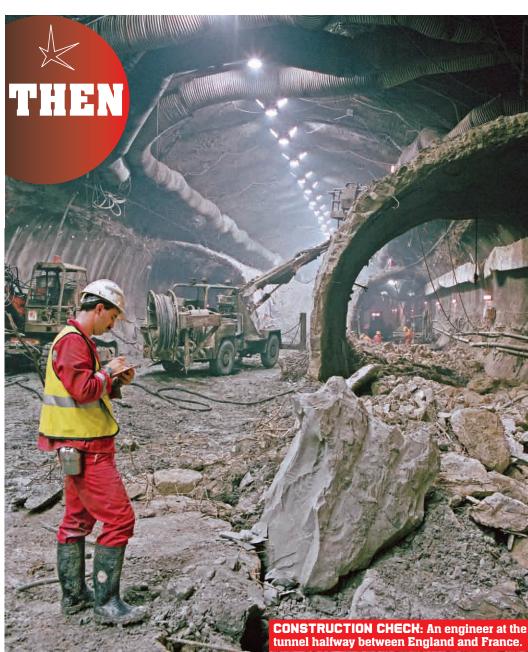
#### BEFORE YOU READ: Have you ever been through the Channel Tunnel?

here hadn't been a land link between Britain and Europe for 8,000 years - since the last Ice Age. But in May of 1994, the Queen and France's President Francois Mitterrand opened the Channel Tunnel with a big, formal ceremony. But not everyone celebrated. While the French saw the tunnel as a symbol of a united Europe, the British were sceptical. Some were afraid that it would now be easier for animals with rabies to enter the UK. For others, it would attract illegal immigrants or even terrorists. But for many, it just didn't feel right. Was Great Britain getting too close to Europe?

#### 66

A dog with rabies<sup>\*</sup> could go down the High Street and infect people and suddenly we would have a major health problem in Britain.

MAC JOHNSON, SENIOR LECTURER IN VIROLOGY AT THE ROYAL VETERINARY COLLEGE, IN 1993





CLUB CD 2 Track 11 Listen to CLUB's interviews with Eurostar passengers at London's St Pancras station

Phrasal verbs

# erbs IN PICTURES

#### **1988** – Tunnelling

#### --1990 --

Tunnelling begins again in France and England. The two tunnels meet midway under the Channel. The British arrive there first. The tunnel is opened and trains begin to use it.

A fire in a lorry shuttle damages the tunnel.

#### 2007 -

Eurostar changes its London terminus from Waterloo to St Pancras.







t turns out that global warming – not rabies – is the real issue. And now, the Channel Tunnel isn't part of the problem, but may be part of the solution. "We don't have all the answers but we do know that a high-speed rail journey is 10 times 'greener' than flying," said Richard Brown, chief executive of Eurostar. And with the new rail link from to London St Pancras, Europe is closer than ever – it takes less than three hours to get to Paris. What do the British think now? Maybe it's not so bad after all.

The remarkable rebirth of this great and gleaming<sup>\*</sup> station means that people across the whole of Britain are suddenly quite a bit closer to Europe.

QUEEN ELIZABETH II, OPENING THE NEW ST PANCRAS STATION, NOVEMBER 2007

#### **TUNNEL FACTS**

- There are actually 3 tunnels: 2 runner tunnels and 1 service tunnel.
- The tunnels are 31 miles (50 km) long.
   They are under sea for 24 miles (39 km).
- The tunnels go 50 metres under the sea bed.
- It took 13,000 engineers and 170 million hours to construct the tunnel.
- It cost \$21 billion dollars to build.

**★WORDWISE** • rabies (n) name of a an disease carried by animals, that can be transmitted to humans by a bite (often of a dog) Britain has been free from rabies since 1922 • gleaming (adj) very shiny and bright

# MEET THE MODERN DAY PIRATES!

Think pirates are all about peg-legs and parrots? Think again. The new pirates are ruthless\* and deadly.



YOUR CARGO OR YOUR LIFE!: Somali pirates prepare to attack the Ukrainian ship 'Faina'.

# If v unless; should v shouldn't THE REPORT



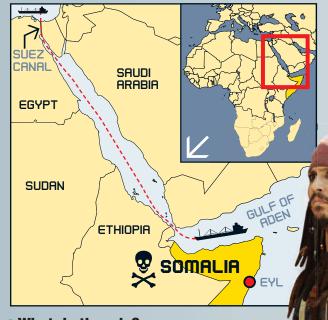
# Club q & A: The Pirate Problem 🕺

#### • Pirates? The only pirates I've heard of are **Captain Hook and Jack Sparrow! Who are** these men?

The new pirates are 25–35 years old and come from north-eastern Somalia, in Africa. Many were fishermen. But after the government of Somalia collapsed in the 1990s, Somalia and her seas became lawless. At that time, fishermen from other countries began fishing illegally in Somali waters. Somali fishermen wanted to protect their livelihood, so they attacked foreign boats to make them leave. The Somalis soon realized that holding ships for ransom\* earned a lot more money than fishing. So, some of them became pirates. They were joined by ex-soldiers and petty criminals\*.

#### • Where do they operate?

Mostly in the Gulf of Aden [see map], but their range is increasing, because there are more international guards in the area.



• What do they do?

The pirates board large ships and take the crew hostage\*. Then, they demand a large ransom\* from the owner of the ship.

POPULAR PIRATE: Jack Sparrow (played by Johnny Depp) is a fictional, fun pirate. But piracy is a serious problem

- How do they do it? Don't they need big boats? No. They travel in small, fast boats and arrive heavily-armed\*.
- Sounds scary. What do they do to the hostages? Unlike pirates in the movies, they treat their captives\* well. There are reports that restaurants in the Somali port of Eyl have been opened just to feed the hostages.
- How many pirate attacks have there been? In 2008, there were nearly 100 attacks. About 40 of the attacks led to a successful hijacking\*.
- Why don't shipping companies just stop sailing through the Gulf?

Some shipping companies have told their captains that they shouldn't go through the Gulf because it's too risky. But if ships can't pass this way, it means they can't use the Suez Canal [see map]. The alternative is to go the long way around Africa, but this adds 5 to 15 days to a typical journey. It costs an average-sized ship £4,000 (€4,600) a day to run. If the trend continues, it will drive up the price of all goods that travel by ship.

#### • Why doesn't the international community do something?

Many countries have sent battleships to patrol\* the area, but the Gulf is big, there are lots of ships passing through, and the pirates move very quickly. Unless the situation in Somalia improves, piracy in the Gulf of Aden is unlikely to end.

#### **VOCABULARY CHECK**

What's the difference between... 1. hijack and kidnap? 2. ship and boat?

3. hostage and refugee?

ANSWERS ON PAGE IS 🛁

\*WORDWISE • ruthless (adj) when you want something and do not care if you hurt somebody to get it • ransom (n) money that is paid to free a person or some goods • petty criminal (n) small-time criminals/thieves • hostage (n) a person who is captured and held prisoner, who may be injured or killed if someone doesn't do what they are asked to do heavily-armed (adj) carrying a lot of weapons captives (n) prisoner • hijacking (n) using violence or threats to take control of a vehicle • to patrol (v) to watch and keep safe, to guard

# THE REPORT





# We just wanted to escape

as a sailor for only one month. His job was on an Iranian vessel - Deyanat - which was hijacked by pirates on the 21st of August. The ship, with a crew of mixed nationalities, was travelling with a cargo of industrial products. They were released on the 10th of October.

Akbar Rafiq had been working 66 We had started off from China and we were on our way to Rotterdam in Holland. We were going through the Suez Canal. This incident took place near Gulf of Attenbay. We had no idea about their demands. The negotiations were mostly dealt with by the officers. We didn't know anything. We just wanted to escape. We were always scared. They had guns. I want to forget about the incident. I'll decide later whether I want to go back or not. We are just glad that we are safe.

Interview used with kind permission from Pakistan News online.

If v unless

Read the ransom note. Choose if or unless:

#### Dear Ship Owner,

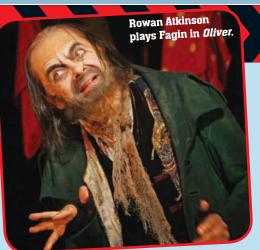
We have taken your ship, your captain, his crew of ten, and your cargo. If / Unless you want us to return this safely, then you must pay us a ransom of \$1,000,000. If / Unless you pay us this by the 10th of March, your cargo and your crew will not be released. We will not harm your crew members, if / unless they attack us. We will not be open to negotiations. If / Unless you don't pay the ransom by the 10th of March, it will double to \$2,000,000. That will be your last chance. You will never see the ship, captain, crew or cargo again if / unless you pay.

Aden Pirates

THE ANSWERS ARE ON PAGE 15. 🛶

> **BOUNTY BOAT:** Pirates return to their base ship.

### TOR NOT WHH RIGH IN TH



# MUSICALS

There may be a recession\*, but London's musicals are booming\*! Now the musical *Oliver!*, based on Charles Dickens' novel *Oliver Twist*, has sold £60 million of advanced tickets. Why? British comedian and actor Rowan Atkinson, famous for *Mr Bean*, is playing Fagin. And although *Oliver!* is a dark story about a poor boy in a cruel world, the musical has a huge cast\*, big songs, amazing scenery and a happy ending. "It's a chance to escape from the real world," said one theatre-goer.

Can you name any other famous musicals? What are they about?



has compiled\* a list of the most annoying expressions used in English. Top of the list was "At the end of the day" (which doesn't really mean anything). People also hated "at this moment in time" (which just means "now"!) and "Absolutely" (which people say instead of "Yes").

#### Here are five more expressions from the list. Decide if they:

- a) are grammatically incorrect
- **b)** are overused so they become annoying
- c) repeat an idea using different words

#### Write a, b or c in the boxes.

"fairly unique"	"shouldn't of"	
"24/7"	"I personally"	
"It's not rocket science"		

**\*WORDWISE** • recession (n) period of economic decline • booming (adj) doing very well • cast (n) the people in a play or show • irritating (adj) annoying, to get on your nerves • to compile (v) to make

**Answers Page S-Tidy:** spolaces, immaculate, next, **Messy**: unitdy, cluttered, disorganised **Page 3: What's the story**? Members of the bird protection group "Lipu' carry loudspeakers playing the sounds of alarmed starlings (*a* type of bird) and the bird protection group "Lipu' carry loudspeakers playing the sounds of alarmed starlings (*a* type of bird) and the bird droppings. **Fage 5: Most y** are solved to the Tiber river in Rome. Starlings, which for decades have made Rome than invinter, can create a health problem, due to bird droppings. **Page 6:** Most **y** are solved more playing the sounds of alarmone should town by can be additoring and the bird droppings. **Page 6:** 1: 1. Guality with the solved bird you don't over use it, **bage 7:** 1: 0. Sub 2: S



#### **Did YOU know** ... Mary Glasgow teachers can download **5,000** worksheets



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# KATY PERRY QUEEN OF CONTROVERSY

### PROFILE

REAL NAME: Kathryn Elizabeth Hudson COMES FROM: Santa Barbara, California, USA SONGS: I Kissed a Girl, Hot n Cold, Thinking of You CAREER: singer, songwriter, actress

**一www.katyperry.com** 

#### SHE USED TO ...

listen to gospel music and sing in church. Both of her parents were pastors\*.

#### SHE WASN'T ALLOWED TO ...

listen to pop music at home. "I lived in a strict, suppressed household," she says.

#### SO SHE REBELLED ...

and started going out drinking\*. "I did a lot of bad things," she says. She then discovered that her mum and dad had also been 'wild' teenagers.

#### SHE WAS INFLUENCED BY ...

the band Queen. "Freddie Mercury (lead singer of Queen) said exactly what was on his mind\* and I respect that. He didn't care what anybody thought about him."

#### SHE UPSET ...

anti-knife campaigners with a publicity photo that showed her holding a knife. "She must be out of her mind\*," said anti-knife campaigner, Richard Taylor. "There is nothing glamorous about knives."

#### SHE OFTEN UPSETS ...

people with her controversial song lyrics, but she says she doesn't do it on purpose<sup>\*</sup>. "I never wrote anything for the sake of being like<sup>\*</sup>, 'Ooh, let's be shocking or wild or rebellious'. But I want to do something different and exciting and keep people on their toes<sup>\*</sup> at all times."

#### SHE LOVES ...

crazy clothes and being the centre of attention. "I've always had a bit of a wild streak."

# KALE PARA

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#### Discuss it!

1. Are you more likely to rebel if your parents are strict?

- 2. What were your parents like as teenagers?
- 3. Which famous person has had the greatest influence on you?
- 4. Do you think Katy is trying to be controversial to get attention?

**WORDWISE** • pastor (n) a priest in charge of a congregation • to go (out) drinking (v, informal) refers to drinking alcohol (*let's go for a drink* = let's go to the bar / pub) • what's on your mind (phr) what you think • to be out of your mind (phr) to be mad • on purpose (n) with intent, to mean to do something • to be like (informal phr) to say • to keep someone on their toes (idiom) to keep people interested, to surprise people with something new