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FOCUS 4

SECOND EDITION

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STUDENT'S BOOK

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1

Live and learn

Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.

Aristotle

BBC



LEARNING A NEW SKILL

1 Watch the BBC video.
For the worksheet, go to page 132.



VOCABULARY

Education • phrasal verbs • describing teachers and students • collocations

I can talk about further education, university courses and educational issues.

SHOW WHAT YOU KNOW

1 Match the words to make collocations.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| 1 university/bachelor's/master's | ☒ | a career |
| 2 attend/have/skip | ☐ | b degree |
| 3 communication/language/people | ☐ | c education |
| 4 fail/pass/take | ☐ | d exams |
| 5 further/higher/private | ☐ | e lessons |
| 6 long/rewarding/successful | ☐ | f skills |

2 Write two true sentences and a false one using collocations in Exercise 1. Can your partner guess which one is false?

I'd like to do a master's degree in Business Studies.

3 **SPEAKING** Look at some traditional fields of study on the signpost. What are the three most/least appealing subjects? Which way would you go? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

4 Read the information on the webpage. Which degree would you like to do the most?

Architecture

Economics

Engineering

Mathematics

Humanities

Law

?

Business Administration

History

Medicine

Modern Languages

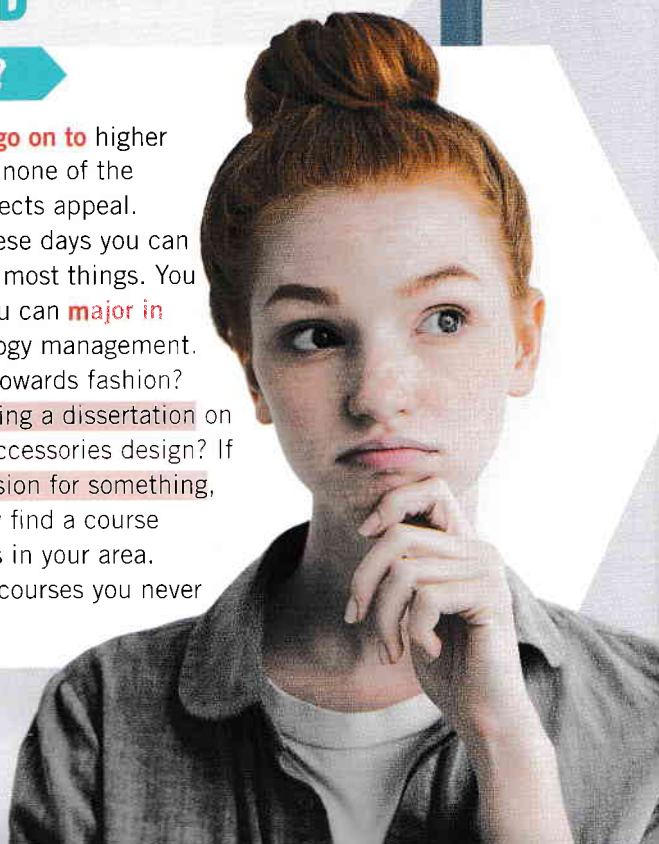
Philosophy

Sociology

DEGREE COURSES YOU DIDN'T KNOW EXISTED

Is this you?

You're keen to **go on to** higher education. But none of the traditional subjects appeal. Don't worry, these days you can **get a degree** in most things. You like baking? You can **major in** baking technology management. More inclined towards fashion? How about **writing a dissertation** on **handbag and accessories design**? If you **have a passion for** something, you can usually find a course that specialises in your area. Here are three courses you never **knew existed**.



- 5 **1.2** Listen to a father and daughter discussing the webpage. What does the daughter find out about her father?
- 6 **1.2** Listen again and choose the correct option. Use a dictionary if necessary.
- 1 The daughter is *gifted* / *weak*.
 - 2 The daughter is *lazy* / *a swot* compared to her father.
 - 3 The father couldn't *settle down* / *make friends* in class.
 - 4 The father was *disruptive* / *self-disciplined*.
 - 5 The father nearly *got expelled* / *got a scholarship*.
 - 6 The father had *lenient* / *strict* teachers.
 - 7 The father's teachers *gave up on* / *supported* him.
 - 8 The father was *dyslexic* / *a bully*.
 - 9 The father *did well* / *fell behind* at school.
 - 10 The father *scraped through* / *failed* his exams.
- 7 **SPEAKING** What do you know about your parents' education? Discuss your ideas with a partner.

1 THE SCIENCE OF SUPERHEROES

University of California, USA

- This course is a new, creative way to learn physics. Through studying heroes and villains, you'll learn the answers to important real-life questions such as what the chemical composition of Captain America's armour is. In other words, you'll attend lectures on the real principles of physics, but they'll be *given* in a more engaging and accessible way.

2 SURF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

University of Plymouth, UK

- The university website warns that 'You will not be taught how to surf, and it is important to realise that this is an academic course.' That means you don't graduate because you can catch a good wave – you have to sit exams here! Core modules include ecology and scientific aspects of health, fitness and sports nutrition.

3 THE BEATLES, POPULAR MUSIC AND SOCIETY

Liverpool Hope University, UK

- If you enrol on this course, you'll deepen your knowledge of the band's music as well as how it was influenced by the city of Liverpool. The Beatles not only changed the world of music, but they also had a big impact on youth culture and fashion. This course will be of interest to those working in the field of cultural studies and if you want to go into the music industry.

WORD STORE 1A Phrasal verbs

- 8 **1.3** Complete WORD STORE 1A with the base form of the phrasal verbs in red in the text and in Exercise 6. Then listen, check and repeat.
- 9 **SPEAKING** Complete the questions with the prepositions in WORD STORE 1A. Ask and answer the questions.
- 1 How often do you only just scrape _____ exams?
 - 2 Have you ever given _____ anything that was important to you?
 - 3 Have you ever fallen _____ at school because of illness or some other issue?
 - 4 If you go _____ university, what subjects do you think you will major _____?
 - 5 In what subject or lesson do you find it most difficult to settle _____ and concentrate?
 - 6 What profession would you like to go _____?

WORD STORE 1B Describing teachers and students

- 10 **1.4** Complete WORD STORE 1B with the underlined words in Exercise 6. Use definitions 1–8 to complete the crossword and find the mystery word. Then listen, check and repeat. Which words are used more often to describe a student and which ones to describe a teacher?
- 11 Complete the sentences with the words in WORD STORE 1B.
- 1 Mr Morris is a _____ teacher. He doesn't mind if you hand your homework in late.
 - 2 Jackie is a _____. She spends all her time studying and always gets top marks.
 - 3 Miss Nemes is very _____. She demands absolute silence in her lessons.
 - 4 May is musically _____. She can play almost any instrument and has a beautiful voice.
 - 5 Barry is quite _____ in class. He shouts out and generally causes problems.
 - 6 Mike is very _____. He always does his homework as soon as he gets home.

WORD STORE 1C Collocations

- 12 **1.5** Complete WORD STORE 1C with the base form of the verbs highlighted in the text and in Exercise 6. Then listen, check and repeat.
- 13 Complete the sentences with a suitable noun in WORD STORE 1C. Do you agree or disagree with them?
- 1 Don't enrol on a university _____ unless you have a _____ for it.
 - 2 Sitting _____ is much more stressful than writing a _____.
 - 3 Getting a _____ to study at a foreign university is an impossible dream.
 - 4 Working in the _____ of science and technology is better than being an artist.
 - 5 You don't have to attend _____ to deepen your _____. Just google everything.

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books

I can talk about present and past habits.

- 5 Gillian had a successful career in the theatre, but life **didn't use to be** so good. When she was eight her schoolwork was a disaster, her handwriting was awful, and she **used to fail** all her exams. Her teachers **would complain** about her disruptive behaviour: she **was always fidgeting** and handing in her homework late. They told her mother that she had a learning disorder. So Gillian's mother took her to see a psychologist and listed some of the problems: she never pays attention in class – she **'ll get up** and move around instead of listening to the teacher; she **'s always disturbing** people and her homework's always late. Finally, the doctor turned to Gillian and said, 'Gillian, I need to speak to your mother privately now. Don't worry. We won't be long.' As they left the room, he turned on the radio on his desk ...



I can identify specific information in a detailed spoken dialogue about memory.

- dates and times English words faces
items on a shopping list names song lyrics

- A Use your imagination
- B Make up a dramatic narrative
- C Learn how to give a speech
- D Imagine what each item tastes like
- E Visualise the items in a familiar place

Greek philosopher Socrates famously said 'Learning is remembering'. So, how can we improve our memory? The key is to use your imagination. Here are two ways of remembering a shopping list of eight items.

- 1 ____ First, imagine a huge loaf of bread, and suddenly, coffee squirts out of the top and makes a fountain of dark brown liquid. After a few seconds, the dark brown changes to white yoghurt. The yoghurt forms a river and it goes under a bridge –
10 the bridge is a steak. Some black and green olives are crossing the bridge and some big brown eggs are chasing them. The olives hide behind a big carton of orange juice. You lift an olive to your
15 mouth to eat and it turns into an onion which tastes horrible. That's it. You've reached the end.

- 2 ____ Think of your home and get a mental image of the rooms in your house. Then, put the items on the list, one by one, in specific places in the rooms. For instance, you imagine the bread on the doormat as you come in the door. Then you go into the living room and the coffee is in front of the television, the yoghurt is on the sofa and the steak is stuck to the mirror on a wall. And so on, it's all about making personal associations ... you get the idea. This method isn't just useful for memorising shopping lists. Some famous people have used it to give a speech without using notes.

- Write down a shopping list of eight items and give it to your partner.
- Study your partner's list for sixty seconds using one of the methods in Exercise 2.
- Take it in turns to recall your list. Did the tip help?

4 1.8 Listen to four people talking about memory. Match statements A–E with speakers 1–4. There is one extra statement.

Speaker 1: ☐ Speaker 2: ☐ Speaker 3: ☐ Speaker 4: ☐

The speaker ...

A refers to someone who is incapable of forgetting anything.

B wanted a family member to confirm whether his/her memory was correct.

C disagrees with someone about how they keep a good memory.

D wishes they could forget witnessing a crime.

E can identify someone after seeing them for a short while.

- 5  1.8 Listen again and answer the questions.

- 1 What is Speaker 1's earliest memory?
- 2 Does Speaker 2's grandfather have trouble remembering things?
- 3 Can Speaker 3 remember names and faces well?
- 4 Does Speaker 4 have a good memory?

6 1.9 Complete WORD STORE 1D with the words in the box. Then listen, check and repeat.

- 7 SPEAKING** Complete the questions with the words in WORD STORE 1D. Then ask and answer the questions.

- 1 What's the most _____ memory you have from your childhood? Why do you think you remember it so well?
- 2 Do you have a photographic _____? Would you like to?
- 3 Have you ever heard about anyone who's _____ their memory and couldn't remember anything?
- 4 If people can't remember certain events, are there ways to _____ their memory and help them remember?
- 5 What do you have the most terrible memory _____? Names? Phone numbers? Anything else?
- 6 Do you know anyone who has a memory like a _____? Is it difficult to be around such people?

8 1.10 Listen and repeat the words in the box. Do any of the words have the same vowel sound?

[bread clear learn mean steak wear]

- 9 1.11 Add the words from Exercise 8 to the table. Then listen, check and repeat.

Sound	Typical spelling	Occasional spelling
/i:/	need detail ¹ <u>mean</u>	piece
/ɪə/	here career ² _____	
/ɜ:/	reserved squirt turn	³ _____
/e/	egg	⁴ _____
/eɪ/	made detail pay	⁵ _____
/eə/	pair rare	⁶ _____

- 1 **SPEAKING** How much do you know about your brain? Do the quiz on page 9 and discuss your ideas with a partner.
- 2 **1.12** Listen and check your answers.
- 3 Read the text and answer the questions.
 - 1 What hidden talents did the five people discover?
 - 2 What caused them to discover their hidden talents?
 - 3 How do some experts explain the phenomenon?

EXAM FOCUS Gapped text

- 4 Read the text again. Complete gaps 1–4 with sentences A–E. There is one extra sentence.
 - A After a year, he realised he had acquired extraordinary memory skills and could recall the day of the week of any given date.
 - B Some of us are athletic, some of us mathematical, some of us artistic, and others musical; some of us are just good, while some are exceptional.
 - C We even know where many of the different brain functions, such as memory, sight and smell, are located.
 - D However, their existence has led some researchers to argue that there is an undiscovered genius within all of us.
 - E Soon afterwards, he noticed that his vision had changed. He also realised that he had developed remarkable mathematical abilities.

WORD STORE 1E Collocations

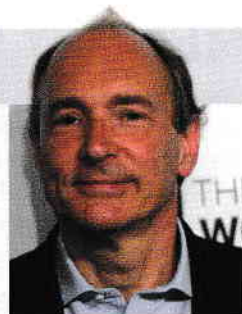
- 5 **1.14** Complete WORD STORE 1E with the base form of the verbs in blue in the text. Explain the difference, if any, between the pairs of collocations. Then listen, check and repeat.
- 6 Complete the questions with the correct form of the verbs in WORD STORE 1E. Then answer the questions.
 - 1 What aspects of the human brain _____ a mystery?
 - 2 Where was Jason Padgett when he was attacked and _____ unconscious?
 - 3 How common is it for savants to lose the new skills they have _____?
 - 4 Why did Ben McMahon _____ a coma?
 - 5 What was Orlando Serrell doing when he _____ a head injury?
 - 6 Where was Tony Cicoria when he _____ by lightning?
 - 7 When did Heather Thompson first _____ an urge to paint?
 - 8 Did she lose _____ when it happened?

- 7 **SPEAKING** If you could discover your hidden talent, what would you like that talent to be? Discuss your ideas with a partner.
- 8 **1.15** Complete the expressions with the words in the box. Use a dictionary if necessary. Then listen, check and repeat.

(behind on rack have)

- 1 be the brains **behind** sth = be responsible for inventing or organising sth
- 2 **brainstorm** sth = discuss (new) ideas
- 3 **brainy** = very intelligent (informal)
- 4 _____ a **brainwave** = suddenly think of a good idea
- 5 **have** sth _____ the **brain** = keep thinking constantly about sth
- 6 _____ **your brains** = try very hard to remember or to solve sth
- 9 Complete the text about Tim Berners-Lee with the expressions in Exercise 8. Why isn't he a multi-billionaire?

Tim Berners-Lee



Tim Berners-Lee is proof that you don't have to be a savant to do amazing things. Berners-Lee, a modest engineer and computer scientist is _____ the World Wide Web. In 1989 he was working for CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research, in Switzerland. An essential part of his job was to _____ ideas with his colleagues and then share information with researchers in different geographical locations. It was while he was _____ for ways to improve the communication process that he _____ – he could use hypertext, a language for sharing text electronically, to allow computers all over the world to talk to each other – through the Internet. The World Wide Web was born! But Tim Berners-Lee did not have money _____! Had he been a more materialistic man, he could have become a multi-billionaire by charging royalties for his invention. Instead, he gave it to the world for free.

- 10 **SPEAKING** Which scientist, inventor or thinker do you most admire? Decide on your top three and give reasons. Compare your ideas with other people in the class.

THE HUMAN BRAIN QUIZ

fact or fiction?

- 1 A larger brain is smarter than a smaller brain.
- 2 On average a person has 70,000 thoughts each day.
- 3 The brain's storage capacity is practically unlimited.
- 4 The brain produces enough electricity to power a small light bulb.
- 5 Most people only use 10 percent of their brain.

HIDDEN TALENTS

1.13

Despite some recent advances, there is still a great deal about the human brain that **remains a mystery**. We know it is made up of about 100 billion nerve cells, called neurons, connected like wires in a giant telephone exchange. We know messages pass down them like electrical signals and jump from one neuron to the next when chemicals known as neurotransmitters are released. ¹ But what we don't fully understand are things like consciousness, intelligence and creativity.

Much of our knowledge comes from studying brain functions when things go wrong. There are some fascinating cases of where a bang on the head has brought about changes in personality or caused a person to become talented in a way they weren't at all before the injury.

A famous case was Jason Padgett, a furniture salesman from Washington, who was mugged by two men after leaving a karaoke bar. He survived the attack, but **was left unconscious**. ² Padgett began to see patterns in everything he looked at, and to draw complex geometric figures. He seemed to understand the mathematical nature of the universe despite the fact that he had little formal academic training. The man who had barely scraped through his school exams ended up pursuing a career in mathematics as a number theorist.

Padgett's is a case of acquired savant syndrome, a condition in which brain damage of some kind unlocks extreme mental abilities. All cases of acquired savant syndrome involve a head injury and the special abilities are typically in the fields of maths, languages, music or art. Having **acquired the new skill**, it is extremely rare for a savant to lose it. The change is permanent.

Another example of this syndrome is twenty-four-year-old Ben McMahon from Australia, who **fell into a coma** after a car crash. A week later he woke up speaking Mandarin Chinese. He had studied Chinese at school, but had never been fluent until the accident. McMahon works now as a Chinese-speaking tour guide in Australia.

Orlando Serrell **suffered a head injury** when he was knocked out in a baseball game at the age of ten. When he regained consciousness, he felt OK and finished the game. ³

He has never made a mistake. For instance, ask him about 11 February 1983 and he says 'Friday. It was raining that day. I had a pizza – pepperoni sausage.'

Some knocks on the head are more dramatic than others. Tony Cicoria, an orthopaedic surgeon, **was struck by lightning**

as he was leaving a public payphone. Luckily there was a nurse nearby and she saved his life. Several weeks after the accident, Cicoria developed a strong desire to listen to classical piano music and play the piano even though he'd never wanted to play a musical instrument before. He is now a successful pianist and composer.

Although cases of female savants are not as common as those of males, there are some examples. Heather Thompson, a successful businesswoman from Washington, was loading her supermarket shopping into her car when the boot door crashed down onto her head. Although she never **lost consciousness**, the accident changed her life. Soon afterwards she **felt an urge** to paint, and overnight she became a talented abstract artist. She explained that her hands simply knew how to use colour and white spaces – it felt natural to her to paint.

There is no single theory to explain each case, but many researchers believe that acquired savant syndrome happens when the right side of the brain compensates for an injury to the left side. The condition is rare – fewer than one hundred cases have been identified. ⁴ The challenge is how to access that hidden knowledge and skill without experiencing a bang on the head.