



The Red Carpet (A2 - Pre-Intermediate)

A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Do you have a carpet in the hall of your house or block of flats? If so, is it red?
2. Does red have any symbolic meanings in your country?
3. Are red carpets used on formal occasions in your country? If so, where?

B – Listen and answer

Read these statements. Then listen (without reading) and choose the correct answer.

1. The earliest mention of a red floor-covering used to greet someone is found in a Greek
a) poem. b) play. c) treatise.
2. In the middle ages, the colour of royalty was
a) red. b) white. c) purple.
3. In England, during the Elizabethan era, poor people weren't allowed to wear certain
a) colours. b) clothes. c) Both of these.
4. The first use of a red carpet at a film premiere was
a) in the early 1920s in the USA. b) in the UK in 1922. c) Neither of these.
5. In the 1990s, the red carpet at film premieres began to be used to show off high fashion clothes.
a) True. b) False. c) The article doesn't say.

C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. Who was King Agamemnon welcomed home by?
2. Why had he been away?
3. Why was the dye used to make purple fabric expensive in the Middle Ages?
4. When did red become fashionable in the home?
5. Why did Sid Grauman decide to use a red carpet at film premieres?
6. What changed in the way movie stars were filmed arriving at the 1964 Oscars? Why?

D – Learn it! Use it!

Complete these sentences with words from the glossary. (You may have to adapt the expression in some way; e.g. change the verb tense, or change from plural to singular.)

1. Linen is a _____ made from the fibres of the flax plant. It's used to make summer clothes.
2. The use of butter for frying food isn't _____ in southern Europe.
3. Before _____ assistance with your new device, read the FAQs on our website.
4. We always book our theatre tickets early to _____ we get good seats.
5. I'd like to buy a motorbike, but I can't _____ it at the moment.
6. _____ is a deep, rich, red colour that's between red and purple.

E – Ready for the A2 KEY English Test? (Paper 1, Part 4)

Choose the best word for each space.

The episode of the crimson carpet is one of the most significant scenes in the Aeschylus tragedy Agamemnon. Agamemnon had ¹_____ (left/lived/made) his wife Clytemnestra to rule the country while he was ²_____ (out/alone/away) fighting in the Trojan War. She hated him because he had sacrificed their daughter Iphigenia to satisfy the goddess Artemis, ³_____ (but/so/why) she decided to kill him on his return. She persuaded him to walk on a crimson carpet, which was usually reserved for great heroes, although he was ⁴_____ (sad/afraid/happy) that this would make the gods angry. Then she stabbed him with a knife while he was ⁵_____ (doing/making/having) a bath.
⁶_____ (Since/After/For) ancient times, Clytemnestra has appeared as a very bad person in many works of literature. Nowadays, however, she is sometimes seen as an anti-heroine.

F – Check your pronunciation

Underline the stressed syllable in each of these words.

widespread interpreted although pigment afford
ensured premiere dignify sophisticated venue

G – Talk about it

In pairs or groups.

1. What's your favourite colour?
 2. Why do you like it?
 3. Are there any colours you don't like? Why?
 4. Which colours have a particular meaning in your country?
 5. Do you think colours can influence your feelings? If so, can you give some examples?
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Tim Berners-Lee (B2 -Upper Intermediate)

A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. How much time do you spend online every day?
2. What do you do online?
3. What would you miss most if you couldn't access the Internet?

B – Listen and answer

Read these statements. Then listen (without reading) and write T (true) or F (false).

1. Tim Berners-Lee is an American computer scientist.
2. In 1989, he was at CERN, the European Organisation for Nuclear Research in Geneva.
3. That year, he suggested an information-sharing system and started work on it at once.
4. After publishing the first-ever website in December 1990, Berners-Lee tried to patent it.
5. Berners-Lee has been named as one of the most important people of the 20th century.
6. He would like to keep the web as it is today, and is against any changes to it.

C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. What made Tim Berners-Lee feel the need for a system to share information?
2. What could be done with the new technology of hypertext?
3. What did Berners-Lee build in order to publish the first website?
4. What important elements of modern society has the World Wide Web given us?
5. What is the purpose of the Alliance for Affordable Internet?
6. What aspects of the web is Berners-Lee dissatisfied with?

D – Learn it! Use it!

Complete these sentences with words from the glossary. (You may have to adapt the expression in some way; e.g. change the subject, or change from singular to plural.)

1. Mobile phones have become much more _____ over the years. They used to cost a fortune.
2. Some people use different _____ according to what they want to do online.
3. Our teacher asked us to _____ these environmental problems in order of importance.
4. Joe and Anna had been dating for six months without their friends being _____ of it.
5. Anyone applying for this job should have a _____ experience in the film industry.
6. A _____ of art experts will decide which of the paintings will be included in the exhibition.

E – Ready for the B2 FIRST Certificate in English? (Reading and Use of English, Part 1)

Read the text and decide which word in brackets best fits each gap.

Tim Berners-Lee inherited his love of computing from his parents, both of ¹_____ (who/which/them/whom) were mathematicians and computer programmers who ²_____ (have/had/having/were) worked on one of the first British commercial computers. As a schoolboy, Berners-Lee was keen ³_____ (on/with/for/over) trainspotting and learnt about electronics while setting ⁴_____ (off/out/through/up) a model railway. After leaving school, he ⁵_____ (continued/stayed/went/came) on to study physics at Oxford University and, while there, he built his own computer, using parts from an old television ⁶_____ (equipment/machine/device/set) he had bought from a repair shop. His first period at CERN was ⁷_____ (as/like/doing/working) an independent contractor for six months in 1980. This was when he had the idea of a system based on hypertext to ⁸_____ (make/get/enable/let) researchers to share and update information. He returned to CERN in 1984 and there he realised it was possible to join hypertext with the Internet and create a World Wide Web.

F – Talk about it

In pairs or groups, discuss how people's everyday lives were different before the World Wide Web. How did people...

- keep in touch with friends and relatives living a long way away?
- access the latest news?
- do research for a school project?
- organise a holiday or trip?
- search for something specific they wanted to buy?
- listen to music?
- watch a film?

Cadbury (B1 -Lower Intermediate)

A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Do you like chocolate?
2. If so, do you prefer milk chocolate or plain chocolate?
3. Do you have a favourite brand?
4. Have you ever tasted any Cadbury products? If so, which? What did you think of them?

B – Listen and answer

Read these incomplete statements. Then listen (without reading) and complete them.

1. Cadbury's was founded by John Cadbury in 1824 in _____, England.
2. The company belonged to the Cadbury family until _____.
3. John Cadbury's shop sold _____, _____ and drinking chocolate.

4. In 1875, the company introduced _____, which are now traditional as gifts.
5. In 1893, George Cadbury began to build a village with _____ homes for employees.
6. In 1905, the Dairy Milk bar became the first example of _____-_____ milk chocolate.

C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. What company owns Cadbury now?
2. Why did Quakers like John Cadbury want people to drink hot chocolate?
3. How successful was his business before his sons took control?
4. What did John make sure of when buying cocoa beans from farmers?
5. What benefits did Cadbury give its employees at Bourneville, besides homes?
6. What was missing in the model village? Why?
7. What kind of life did the Cadbury family lead?
8. What was special about the chocolate in Dairy Milk bars?

D – Learn it! Use it!

Complete these sentences with words from the glossary. (You may have to adapt the expression in some way; e.g. change the verb tense, or change from plural to singular.)

1. The Smiths have sold their flat in London and gone to live in a _____ in the country.
2. Did you go camping in a _____ or a caravan last year?
3. Our manager is away sick at the moment and the deputy manager has _____.
4. This chocolate bar has a lot of nuts in it, so it's very _____.
5. Farmers say it's difficult to find people to work in the fields because the _____ are low.
6. In the _____ department on the first floor, they sell delicious hand-made chocolates.

E – Ready for the B1 PRELIMINARY English Exam? (Paper 1, Reading: Part 6)

Write one word only in each space.

Till the middle of the 19th ¹_____, only members of the Anglican Church ²_____ go to Oxford or Cambridge University. This meant that Quakers, who couldn't get a university ³_____, were unable to enter most professions. It is for this ⁴_____ that British Quakers started businesses, making all ⁵_____ of goods: shoes, porcelain, biscuits, and especially chocolate. For the Quaker founders of Cadbury's of Birmingham, Rowntree's of York and Fry's of Bristol, cocoa and sugar were ethical alternatives to alcohol, ⁶_____ was considered by them to be the cause of serious social and moral problems.

F – Write about it

Write about a brand of chocolate that's produced in your country. Mention:

- where it's produced;
- who founded the company;
- when it was founded; you wear it;
- why you like it.

Lab-Grown Meat (C1 -Advanced)

A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Do you eat meat? Or are you a vegetarian or vegan?
2. If you eat meat, what kind of meat do you prefer?
3. Have you ever tried plant-based meat substitutes, like tofu, tempeh or seitan?
4. If so, what did you think of them?
5. Would you be willing to try meat grown in a laboratory? Why (not)?

B – Listen and answer

Read these statements. Then listen (without reading) and write T (true) or F (false).

1. Lab-grown meat isn't made from animal cells.
2. Many companies all over the world are already selling lab-grown meat.
3. In the US, there are two restaurants serving lab-grown chicken.
4. Eric Schulze claims the chicken produced by his company is no different from real chicken.
5. He says there's the same amount of product control as there is for the meat from animals.
6. He foresees that all types of cultivated meat will be available in the near future.
7. He thinks that cultivated meat will appeal even to people who don't normally like meat.
8. Schulze thinks many people are likely to go over to eating cultivated meat.

C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. Where do the cells used to make cultivated meat come from?
2. What are the advantages of this kind of meat, as far as animal welfare is concerned?
3. What other kind of animal protein are international companies working on besides meat?
4. Why does Eric Schulze consider himself qualified to talk about lab-grown chicken?
5. Why is it claimed that cultivated meat is healthier than meat coming from animals' bodies?
6. What does Schulze think is needed to get people to eat this kind of meat?
7. Does he expect the agricultural community to react badly to this new development? Why (not)?
8. What factors does Schulze think will determine the success or otherwise of lab-grown meat?

D – Learn it! Use it!

Complete these sentences with words from the glossary. (You may have to adapt the expression in some way; e.g. change the verb tense, or change from singular to plural.)

1. Those birds on the lake are _____ not swans. Swans are white and have long necks.
2. My granddad used to have a bad cough before he _____ smoking.
3. Alice wrote an email of complaint to the firm but _____ they haven't replied.
4. Max has moved to the country and now he makes a living _____ hunting dogs.
5. We can't repair these window frames any more. They're rotten. We'll have to _____ them.
6. This cutlery is made of stainless _____, not silver, so you can put it in the dishwasher.

E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test? (Reading and Use of English, Part 3)

Use the word in brackets to form a word that fits in the space given.

1. Lab-grown meat comes from cells cultivated _____ (OUT) an animal's body.
2. This eliminates the _____ (SUFFER) of animals bred for their meat.
3. In time, this meat will be sold in restaurants and supermarkets _____ (NATION).
4. Schulze claims its muscle tissue, _____ (CONNECT) tissue and fat is the same.
5. In the production process, it is possible to monitor every _____ (VARY).
6. Schulze states that people who try this meat _____ (OVERWHELM) love it.
7. He thinks there are _____ (COMPEL) arguments for considering this meat vegan.
8. However, he says he's finding ways to reduce his own _____ (CONSUME) of meat.

F – Write about it

In pairs or groups.

1. Does the average person in your country eat a lot of meat?
 2. Is lab-grown meat available where you live? If so, where? In restaurants? In shops?
 3. Do you think it's likely to become popular in your country? Why (not)?
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Answers: The Red Carpet (A2 - Pre-Intermediate)

B – Listen and answer

1. b 2. c 3. c 4. a 5. a

C – Read and answer

1. By his wife, Clytemnestra. 2. He was fighting in the Trojan War. 3. Because the pigment used to make the dye was rare. 4. In the 19th century. 5. He wanted to make the image of Hollywood more sophisticated and respectable. 6. They were filmed arriving in their limousines, because for the first time the red carpet was placed outside the venue.

D – Learn it! Use it!

1. fabric 2. widespread 3. seeking 4. ensure 5. afford 6. Crimson

E – Ready for the A2 KEY English Test?

1. left 2. away 3. so 4. afraid 5. having 6. Since

F – Check your pronunciation

widespread interpreted although pigment afford
ensured premiere dignify sophisticated venue

Answers: Tim Berners-Lee (B2 - Upper Intermediate)

B – Listen and answer

1. F – He's a British computer scientist. 2. T 3. F – He suggested it that year, but started work on it a year later. 4. F – He refused to patent it. 5. T 6. F – He's critical of it and would like it to have new rules and new business practices.

C – Read and answer

1. He was tired of consulting colleagues through constant questions. 2. Documents could be connected and stored on multiple servers controlled by interconnected people. 3. He built the first web browser and server. 4. It has given us online shopping, social media, big tech companies and trillions of web pages. 5. Its purpose is to campaign for universal internet access, especially in the developing world. 6. He's dissatisfied with the web's privacy violations, the growth of misinformation and government abuses and online gender-based violence.

D – Learn it! Use it!

1. affordable 2. web browsers 3. rank 4. aware 5. broad 6. panel

E – Ready for the B2 FIRST Certificate in English?

1. whom 2. had 3. on 4. up 5. went 6. set 7. as 8. enable

Answers: Cadbury (B1 - Lower Intermediate)

B – Listen and answer

1. Birmingham 2. 1969 3. tea – coffee 4. Easter eggs 5. 314 6. mass-produced

C – Read and answer

1. It's owned by Mondelez International (a division of Kraft). 2. Because they wanted them to stop drinking alcohol. (*In those times, a lot of people drank alcohol instead of water because water was often contaminated, but this led to many social problems. Hot chocolate was satisfying and safe to drink because it was made with boiling water.*) 3. It wasn't successful. It was failing. 4. He made sure that the cocoa beans he bought came from farmers who were paying fair wages. 5. It gave them pensions and free dentistry. 6. Pubs were missing because Quakers were against the drinking of alcohol. 7. They led humble lives and donated a lot of their money to charity. 8. It had a higher content of milk than usual.

D – Learn it! Use it!

1. cottage 2. tent 3. taken over 4. crunchy 5. wages 6. confectionery

E – Ready for the B2 FIRST Certificate in English?

1. century 2. could 3. degree/education 4. reason 5. kinds/sorts/types 6. which

Answers: Lab-Grown Meat (C1 - Advanced)**B – Listen and answer**

1. F – It is made from animal cells. 2. F – They are working on producing it. 3. T 4. T
5. F – He says there's a lot more control on cultivated meat. 6. T 7. F – He says if you don't like the taste of meat, you won't like this product. 8. T

C – Read and answer

1. They come from a living animal, a fertilised egg or a bank of stored cells. 2. It's not necessary to breed or slaughter animals and animals aren't treated cruelly to produce it. 3. They're working on seafood. 4. He works for UPSIDE Foods, one of the companies that sell lab-grown chicken, and he helped to design it. He also eats it regularly himself. 5. Because sometimes traditional red and white meat is pumped up with hormones and exposed to pesticides. 6. He thinks education and exposure are needed. 7. No, doesn't. He thinks they'll adapt to it and may even profit from it as he predicts meat demand will double by 2050. 8. He thinks its success will depend on its price, its availability and its taste.

D – Learn it! Use it!

1. ducks 2. gave up 3. as yet 4. breeding 5. replace 6. steel

E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test?

1. outside 2. suffering 3. nationwide/nationally 4. connective 5. variable
6. overwhelmingly 7. compelling 8. consumption