



## Taco Day (A2 - Pre-Intermediate)

### A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Do you ever eat dishes that come from other parts of the world?
2. If so, which is your favourite foreign dish?
3. How many Mexican dishes can you name?
4. Have you ever eaten tacos? If so, did you like them?

### B – Listen and answer

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

1. In the US, many restaurants offer special deals on Tacos every  
a) Thursday.                      b) Tuesday.                      c) Friday.
2. Consumption of tacos has ... since the start of the pandemic.  
a) gone up                      b) gone down.                      c) stayed the same.
3. A mention of a meal with tortillas was made in the  
a) early 15th century.                      b) late 16th century.                      c) early 16th century.
4. Tacos were brought to the United States by  
a) Mexican soldiers.                      b) American soldiers.                      c) Mexican immigrants.
5. They are usually filled with  
a) fish and lime.                      b) meat and onion.                      c) fish and cheese.
6. National Taco Day was started by  
a) Robert L. Gomez.                      b) the National Taco Council.                      c) a fast food restaurant.

### C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. How do people celebrate Taco Day?
2. Who were the first to eat tacos, according to some anthropologists?
3. What did these people fill their tacos with?
4. What theory is there about the origin of the word taco?
5. What were tacos de minero and where were they used?
6. Why did taco fillings change?
7. Why did Robert L. Gomez start sending Mexican food to US Presidents on their birthdays?
8. What happened to National Taco Month?

### 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. Bread and pasta are usually made from \_\_\_\_\_.
2. Our great grandfather lived in the country and used a horse and \_\_\_\_\_ to transport goods.
3. Amy has lived in this house \_\_\_\_\_ she was a child.
4. Tom's car's old and keeps breaking down. He'll have to buy a new one \_\_\_\_\_.
5. We bought the children some ice cream. They \_\_\_\_\_ it. They've behaved well recently.
6. This winter will be a very difficult one if the cost of gas continues to \_\_\_\_\_.

## E – Ready for the A2 KEY English Test? (Paper 1, Part 5)

Complete the email. Write one word for each space.

Hi Michele,

Thank you for your email asking me to be your penpal. Here is some information about me. I am the 1\_\_\_\_\_ age as you and I go to a high school here in Houston, Texas. I 2\_\_\_\_\_ born in Mexico but my family moved 3\_\_\_\_\_ Texas when I was a baby and I 4\_\_\_\_\_ up here in Houston. My grandmother lives with 5\_\_\_\_\_ and she's a very good cook. She makes a lot of Mexican dishes, which I like a 6\_\_\_\_\_. My favourite is tacos. What's your favourite dish? Write soon and tell me.

Andy

## F – Check your pronunciation

Underline the stressed syllable in each of these words.

deserve according survey (noun) origins suggest  
indigenous extract (verb) immigrants politicians newspapers

## G – Write about it

Write about one of your country's most famous national dishes. Mention:

- what it's made of;
- when/where it's usually eaten;
- how/when/where it was created;
- how popular it is.

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## Adam Smith – The Father of Economics (B2 - Upper Intermediate)

### A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Are you interested in economics? Why (not)?
2. What do you know about Adam Smith?
3. Can you name any other famous economists?

### B – Listen and answer

Read these incomplete statements. Then listen (without reading) and fill in the blanks.

1. Adam Smith was \_\_\_\_\_ on 5th June, 1723.
2. He began to study at Oxford University when he was \_\_\_\_\_ years old.
3. In 1751 he became a professor at \_\_\_\_\_ University.
4. In \_\_\_\_\_, he published The Theory of Moral Sentiments.
5. His most famous work is Inquiry into the \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ of the Wealth of Nations (1776).
6. Smith never used the word 'capitalism'. Instead he used the term \_\_\_\_\_.

### C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. Why is Adam Smith's book The Wealth of Nations considered so influential?
2. What shows that Smith was well-known internationally even before becoming a professor?
3. What is the 'invisible hand' that Smith refers to in his book The Theory of Moral Sentiments?
4. What change was taking place in the way wealth was created?
5. How did Smith think the wealth of a nation should be evaluated?
6. What idea do you get about Smith as a person from the information contained in the article?

## 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 from singular to plural.)

1. She'd always loved acting and luckily she won a \_\_\_\_\_ to a famous drama school.
2. Joshua Reynolds was an 18th century English artist who specialised in painting \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Dad's very \_\_\_\_\_. Once he went to the office in his slippers.
4. The shop stopped selling chocolates in summer because there wasn't much \_\_\_\_\_ for them.
5. The government has ordered an \_\_\_\_\_ into the way the police handled the situation.
6. Ann's working too hard at the moment. If she goes on like this, she'll have a \_\_\_\_\_

## 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.

Adam Smith did not spend the 1\_\_\_\_\_ (all/whole/most/time) of his life in Great Britain. In 1763, he 2\_\_\_\_\_ (cancelled/dismissed/retreated/resigned) his post at Glasgow University and became the tutor of the young duke of Buccleuch, who was 3\_\_\_\_\_ (about/around/close/likely) to go on a tour of Europe. Smith received a 4\_\_\_\_\_ (charge/bill/fee/salary) of £300 a year, plus travelling expenses and a generous pension; much more than he had 5\_\_\_\_\_ (gained/earned/paid/taken) at Glasgow University.

He and the young duke set 6\_\_\_\_\_ (away/over/off/along) for France in 1764 and during a lengthy stay in Toulouse, Smith started working on his book *The Wealth of Nations*. He also visited Geneva, where he made the 7\_\_\_\_\_ (knowledge/meeting/acquaintance/friend) of Voltaire, and Paris, where he was introduced into the great literary salons of the French Enlightenment. His years abroad 8\_\_\_\_\_ (let/made/took/enabled) him to broaden his horizons considerably.

## F – Write about it

Write about a highly influential book published in your country. Mention:

- who it was written by;
- when it was published;
- what it's about;
- what impact it had.

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## The Cuban Missile Crisis (B2 - Upper Intermediate)

### A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. What do you know about the Cuban Missile Crisis?
2. Which countries were involved in it, besides Cuba?
3. Can you name any of the heads of state that had important roles in the crisis?

### B – Listen and answer

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

1. The crisis began when US spies operating in Cuba saw Soviet nuclear missile sites there.
2. The Cold War had influenced J. F. Kennedy's election campaign.
3. In 1961, an attempt was made to depose Fidel Castro, with the help of the United States.
4. Kennedy refused to meet the Soviet leader Nikita Khrushchev that year.
5. The crisis got worse when a Soviet plane was shot down while flying over Cuba.
6. Both countries were forced to compromise to avoid a nuclear war.

## C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. Why is the Cuban missile crisis considered a historically important moment?
2. What had Kennedy's election campaign been based on?
3. What happened in Cuba as a result of the failed attempt to depose Fidel Castro?
4. What steps taken by the Soviet Union and the United States led to the missile crisis?
5. How did the United States react to the discovery of Soviet missile sites on Cuba?
6. What events almost led to the firing of a nuclear-armed torpedo?
7. What did the US do in return for the removal of Soviet missiles from Cuba?
8. What was done after the missile crisis to reduce the risk of nuclear war?

## 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. Once I forgot to pay my gas bill and the company \_\_\_\_\_ my gas supply.
2. In the UK, it's illegal to sell knives or any other \_\_\_\_\_ to anyone under the age of 18.
3. This safety device \_\_\_\_\_ the machine from overturning.
4. The country's \_\_\_\_\_ with the United Kingdom has increased in recent years.
5. One of this government's \_\_\_\_\_ is to reduce unemployment.
6. This is the \_\_\_\_\_ where the new shopping centre is going to be built.

## E – Ready for the B2 FIRST Certificate in English? (Reading and Use of English, Part 2)

Read the text and think of the word which best fits each gap. Use only one word for each gap.

Cuba, which is 1\_\_\_\_\_ just 90 miles from the coast of Florida, had enjoyed a close relationship with the United States until 1959, when its right-wing dictator General Batista was overthrown in a revolution led 2\_\_\_\_\_ Fidel Castro. At the time of the revolution, most of Cuba's businesses, banks and sugar and tobacco plantations 3\_\_\_\_\_ to Americans and a large part of its sugar and tobacco was exported to the United States. Fidel Castro 4\_\_\_\_\_ have liked Cuba to continue to have close ties with the USA. However, when the US government refused to have 5\_\_\_\_\_ kind of dealings with him, Castro turned to the Soviet Union 6\_\_\_\_\_ support. He also nationalised the American-owned companies in Cuba 7\_\_\_\_\_ paying any compensation, so the United States banned the importation of all Cuban goods. This 8\_\_\_\_\_ Cuba to turn increasingly to the Soviet Union as an export market and for defence.

## F – Write about it

Write about a moment of crisis in your country's history. Mention:

- what the crisis consisted of;
- when/where the events happened;
- how the crisis developed;
- who/what was responsible for it;
- how it was resolved.

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## Picture Post (C1 - Advanced)

### A – Before you start

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Do you read magazines?
2. If so, what kind?
3. Do you think photographs are an important part of a magazine's contents? Why (not)?
4. Which are the best-known news magazines in your country?

## B – Listen and answer

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

1. Rob West's documentary is about the role of news magazines at the beginning of the 20th century.
2. Picture Post did not publish stories about celebrities.
3. The founder of the magazine, Stefan Lorant, had edited magazines in Hungary and Germany.
4. Picture Post presented news stories in a politically neutral way.
5. The magazine was a success despite its high price.
6. Rob West claims it created the tradition of documentary photography.

## C – Read and answer

Read the article and answer the questions.

1. Why was Picture Post different from other news publications in terms of subject matter?
2. Why was it different in its use of images?
3. How did Lorant's experience as a film director prove useful when he began editing magazines?
4. Why was he imprisoned in Germany?
5. What criteria did Lorant often use when deciding how to position photos on a page?
6. How did Picture Post help to form British social policies after World War II?
7. What influence did Lorant's style of photojournalism have on today's web pages?
8. What might be one of the reasons for the decline in sales of Picture Post in the mid 1950s?

## D – Listen to the interview (Optional)

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. When the volcano started erupting, thousands of people \_\_\_\_\_ the area on foot or in cars.
2. Sometimes children misbehave because they want to \_\_\_\_\_ to themselves.
3. There's a \_\_\_\_\_ of family doctors at present, so you have to wait weeks for an appointment.
4. Jake's very sociable and makes friends easily; \_\_\_\_\_ his brother, who never talks to anyone.
5. We're \_\_\_\_\_ a surprise party for my sister on Sunday. Can you come?
6. That's a photo of San Francisco, not Chicago! The \_\_\_\_\_ to the photo is obviously wrong.

## E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test? (Reading and Use of English, Part 2)

Complete the text. Use only one word in each space.

Between 1906 and 1914, a Liberal government introduced a series of social reforms in Britain in 1\_\_\_\_\_ to reduce poverty. These included old age 2\_\_\_\_\_, free school meals and National Insurance. However not 3\_\_\_\_\_ benefited from them.

During World War II, the country was governed by a coalition 4\_\_\_\_\_ up of Conservative, Labour and Liberal politicians. The degree of government intervention in people's 5\_\_\_\_\_ increased considerably through measures like food rationing, which was introduced to make sure that everyone, 6\_\_\_\_\_ rich or poor, had access to the required amount of food. This government involvement in people's health and well-7\_\_\_\_\_ was welcomed by most people and resulted in a landslide victory for the Labour party at the General Election of 1945 and the subsequent setting 8\_\_\_\_\_ of the Welfare State.

## **F – Write about it**

Write about a well-known news magazine in your country. Mention:

- when it began publication;
  - how often it comes out;
  - what its format is;
  - who it was founded by;
  - who it's edited by;
  - what kind of stories it focuses on;
  - who its main contributors are.
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## **Answers (Taco Day A2 - Pre-Intermediate)**

### **B – Listen and answer**

1. b 2. a 3. c 4. c 5. b 6. c

### **C – Read and answer**

1. They go to their favourite Mexican restaurant or host a taco party at home. 2. Indigenous people in Mexico. 3. They filled them with fish or live insects. 4. One theory is that it comes from the Spanish word ataco, which comes from the verb atacar. 5. They were small explosives used in the silver mines in Mexico in the 1800s. 6. They were adapted to American tastes. 7. To remind politicians of Mexican voters. 8. It gradually died out.

### **D – Learn it! Use it!**

1. wheat 2. cart 3. since 4. eventually 5. deserved 6. increase

### **E – Ready for the A2 KEY English Test?**

1. same 2. was 3. to 4. grew 5. us 6. lot

### **F – Check your pronunciation**

deserve according survey (noun) origins suggest  
indigenous extract (verb) immigrants politicians newspapers

## **Answers (Adam Smith B2 - Upper Intermediate)**

### **B – Listen and answer**

1. baptised 2. 17/seventeen 3. Glasgow 4. 1759 5. Nature – Causes 6. commercial society

### **C – Read and answer**

1. Because it laid the foundations of classical free market economic theory. 2. People even came from Russia to hear him speak. 3. It is the tendency of free markets to regulate themselves using competition, supply and demand and people's self-interest. 4. There was an evolution from land-based wealth to wealth created by assembly-line production methods. 5. He thought it should be evaluated based on the country's level of production and commerce, not on its gold and silver deposits. 6. He was probably shy, since he stumbled over words. His shaking fits suggest he was of a nervous disposition. His absent-mindedness indicates that he was thoroughly absorbed in his work.

### **D – Learn it! Use it!**

1. scholarship 2. portraits 3. absent-minded 4. demand 5. inquiry 6. nervous breakdown

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

1. whole 2. resigned 3. about 4. salary 5. earned 6. off 7. acquaintance 8. enabled

## Answers (The Cuban Missile Crisis B2 - Upper Intermediate)

### B – Listen and answer

1. F – The sites were photographed by an American spy plane, not seen by spies in Cuba.
2. T
3. T
4. F – The two leaders met that year.
5. F – A US plane was shot down over Cuba.
6. T

### C – Read and answer

1. Because the world came close to a nuclear war.
2. It had been based on promises of a tough opposition to the Soviet Union and international communism.
3. The country became more militarily and economically dependent on the Soviet Union.
4. The Soviet Union threatened to cut off access to West Berlin and ordered the building of the Berlin Wall. The United States increased its intercontinental ballistic missiles and installed them in Western Europe and Turkey, ready to be fired at the Soviet Union. In response, the Soviet Union sent missiles to Cuba.
5. The United States placed a ring of ships around Cuba to prevent military supplies from arriving.
6. A US plane was shot down. Then the US Navy forced a Soviet submarine to surface. The submarine was about to fire a nuclear-armed torpedo, but decided not to.
7. They removed their missiles from Turkey.
8. An international treaty was signed limiting nuclear weapons testing and a hotline was set up between the Kremlin and the White House to improve communications.

### D – Learn it! Use it!

1. cut off
2. weapons
3. prevents
4. trade
5. goals
6. site

### E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test?

1. located/situated
2. by
3. belonged
4. would
5. any
6. for
7. without
8. caused/led

## Answers (Canadian Crime C1 - Advanced)

### B – Listen and answer

1. F – It's about the rise and fall of the magazine Picture Post.
2. F – It also published celebrity stories.
3. T
4. F – It was openly anti-fascist and was not afraid to share its opinions.
5. F – Its relatively low price was one of the reasons for its success.
6. T

### C – Read and answer

1. It focused on the lives of ordinary people and on life in Britain on a day-to-day basis.
2. It invented a new way of combining images and text and made bold use of pictures to tell stories.
3. It enabled him to apply the techniques of film editing to the presentation of pictures and stories within magazines.
4. Because the Nazis identified him as a potential source of opposition to their regime.
5. He often placed big bold images on the right-hand page because he thought that was where the eye fell. He also placed photos so that they would be seen in a sequence that would tell a story. Sometimes he numbered them for this purpose.
6. The magazine raised social awareness by drawing attention to poor social conditions in parts of Britain. It also discussed the possibility of an expanded welfare state and a free national health service.
7. It led to an understanding of how to lay out stories on a page and how to use images with captions to tell stories.
8. One possible reason is the increasing popularity of TV as a source of news stories.

### D – Learn it! Use it!

1. fled
2. draw attention
3. lack
4. unlike
5. holding
6. caption

### E – Ready for the C1 ADVANCED English Test?

1. order
2. pensions
3. everyone/everybody
4. made
5. lives
6. whether
7. being
8. up