

Reading • Language Organiser • Speaking

Assignment 15

10 ⌚

Pre-reading



Before reading the article, discuss the following questions with a couple of classmates.

- 1 What is a meme? What different types do you know?
- 2 What is the function of memes? Do they serve any purpose, or not?
- 3 Describe one meme that you think is funny (or awful) or one that you can remember well. Why did (or didn't) you like this meme?
- 4 What does it take to become or create a successful meme?
- 5 Do you think that everyone who appears in a meme makes money with it?
- 6 Would you mind going viral as a meme? Explain your answer.

Assignment 16

20 ⌚

Reading



Read the article. Answer the questions in English. Write full sentences and use your own words.

- 1 What specific type of meme is the article about?
- 2 What does the writer want to find out, according to lines 23-32?
- 3 How many views has the 'Charlie bit me meme' had since it was uploaded?
- 4 Do Charlie and Harry make money with the meme? Explain.
- 5 How do Charlie and Harry feel about being famous?
- 6 What is meant with 'First World Problems' (l. 92)?
- 7 Does Silvia make money with 'her' meme? Explain.
- 8 What is Lucia Gorman famous for?
- 9 How does Lucia feel about being famous?
- 10 The writer poses a question in lines 164-166: 'You might think that being made fun of online isn't uncommon in 2020. But does that make it OK?' Is this question answered here?

Assignment 17
Language Organiser

15



A **phrasal verb** is a combination of words (for example, a verb plus a preposition) that when used together take on a different meaning to that of the original verb.

A
Most of the phrasal verbs below can be found in the text. Complete the sentences with the correct preposition(s). Choose from: *after – down – from – of – off – on – out – up – with*. Also write down the Dutch translation of the phrasal verbs.

	<i>in Dutch, this means ...</i>
1 Detectives had <i>tracked</i> her ... in California.	
2 They had to <i>put</i> ... their wedding for a year.	
3 We've been asked to <i>come</i> ... some new ideas.	
4 He came round for a coffee and we <i>ended</i> ... having a meal together.	
5 I enjoyed my job, but it was time to <i>move</i> ...	
6 To <i>find</i> ... more, visit our website.	
7 Only one man tried to help us; the rest just <i>looked</i> ... in silence.	
8 He <i>turned</i> ... a job at an investment bank.	
9 Who is <i>looking</i> ... your dog while you're away?	
10 I hope I haven't <i>kept</i> you ... your work.	
11 Luckily, we didn't <i>run</i> ... petrol and we got home okay.	

B
Complete the sentences with the correct phrasal verbs. Choose from the phrasal verbs in exercise A. Make sure you use the correct form.

- A large crowd ... as the band played.
- The rugby match has been ... until tomorrow because of bad weather.
- She always ... lame excuses to hide the fact that the work is not done.
- Put the pizza on the bottom rack of the oven to ... the cheese ... burning.
- Before we ..., does anyone have any questions?
- I finally managed to ... the book you wanted in a second-hand book shop.

Assignment 18
Reading

10



Read the following fragment and fill in the blanks. Choose from: *as – basically – even – footage – frantically – get – embarrassed – peppered – shock – somehow – trolls – viral*.

Note: there are two words that you can't use.

Alisha Barnard was just 11 when she went ... (1)

'I was in my bedroom when I first saw that half a million people had viewed it,' Alisha explains. The 'it' in question is webcam ... (2) of her trying to sing Whitney Houston's 'I will always love you', screaming with rage when she couldn't hit the high notes. She ... (3) tried to delete it – not knowing it was already too late.

She's 20 now and working as a sales and customer service advisor in Scunthorpe. When she uploaded the video, 'I was just a kid playing around on a laptop and ... (4) managed to post it to YouTube. I never expected anyone to see it.' But deleting it wouldn't change anything. The video was reuploaded by another YouTube user, under the title 'PSYCHO GIRL tries to sing "I will always love you"'. Today, it's had over 17.6 million views. And ... (5) this isn't the original video, Alisha doesn't make any money from it.

After the initial ... (6), Alisha began to scroll and see what people were saying about her, the ... (7) laughing and jeering, until it eventually became too much. The comments today have been turned off. But even now, 10 years later, her personal Instagram account is ... (8) with comments, mostly people asking if she's the girl from 'that meme'.

Initially ... (9), Alisha says over the years she's learned not to take the comments to heart. 'I wouldn't change being a meme – it's made me who I am today,' she explains. 'It's helped me to become a strong person and to not let people ... (10) to me.'

Assignment 19
Pre-speaking

10



Giving advice

You could ...	If I were you, I'd ...
You might ...	Maybe you should / shouldn't ...
How about ... (+ -ing)?	Have you ever thought of ... (+ -ing)?
I would / wouldn't ...	You'd better (not) ...
Why don't you ...	You ought to ...

What would you say to these people in the following situations? Give advice. Choose from the options above. Use each option only once. Write down your advice.

- I can't sleep at night because my neighbour is always playing loud music.
- A group of girls is trolling me on Facebook. I don't know what to do.
- I got a bad mark in maths again. I can't keep up.
- I think one of my classmates suffers from depression. How can I help?
- My parents want me to study law, but I'm more interested in arts.
- My brother always takes my clothes before asking me first.
- I think my parents read my text messages, but I can't prove it.

8 I'm always short of money.

Assignment 20
Speaking



<i>giving advice</i>	<i>agreeing / disagreeing</i>
You could / should / might ...	You're right. / You're wrong.
Why don't you ...?	I agree. / I disagree.
Don't let it get to you.	Absolutely! / No way!
If I were you, I'd laugh about it.	That's what I thought. / Come on!

What happened to Silvia, Lucia Gorman, or Alisha Barnard could happen to anyone. Imagine this happened to you or to one of your friends. Suddenly, a picture or video of you goes viral and becomes a meme. How would you feel? What advice would you give to your friend? In this assignment, you are going to have a conversation with a classmate about it.

One of you takes speech card 1, the other one takes speech card 2. Take a few minutes to prepare your role, then have the conversation. Swap roles when you have finished the conversation.

Speech card 1

A while ago, you were in a difficult situation. You weren't looking your best that day, and to make matters worse, you were reacting to the situation in a rather awkward way. The moment was captured on film or photo by somebody who happened to be there too. And now you are going viral on the Internet.

- Describe where you were and what happened that day (if you need inspiration, have a look at bit.ly/wr-meme).
- Talk about the meme: what is it like, what comments do you get?
- Say how it is making you feel and ask for advice.
- Listen to your classmate's advice and react in an appropriate way.

Speech card 2

Your classmate appears in a meme that is rapidly going viral.

- Listen to your classmate's story and respond to his/her feelings.
- Ask questions to find out what happened.
- Give your opinion and your advice.

Communication Toolbox

<i>expressing your feelings and responding to feelings of others</i>	<i>giving your opinion</i>
I am / I feel upset / angry / frustrated / overwhelmed / embarrassed.	I think you're absolutely right.
I don't have any control over it.	I completely disagree.
I know it must be difficult for you.	It seems obvious to me that ...
I feel really sorry for you.	May I just point out that ...
I understand what you mean.	If you ask me ...
<i>asking questions</i>	<i>giving counterarguments</i>
But what if ...?	Possibly, but ...
Have you thought of ...?	On the other hand ...
Do you realise that ...?	I'm in two minds about that.