

2

Never lost for words!

Phrasal verbs • Tense review • Sounds and spelling

STARTER

1 Read the extracts. Match them with a cover and type of book. What helped you to identify them?

a modern romance* an autobiography a fantasy a classical drama a thriller a travel story

*This is also known as 'Chick Lit.' = literature for 'chicks'/modern young women.

1 Nothing prepares you for the Grand Canyon. No matter how many times you read about it or see it pictured, it still takes your breath away. Your mind, unable to deal with anything on this scale, just shuts down.

2 To be, or not to be – that is the question. Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to suffer the slings and arrows of outrageous fortune, or to take arms against a sea of troubles ...

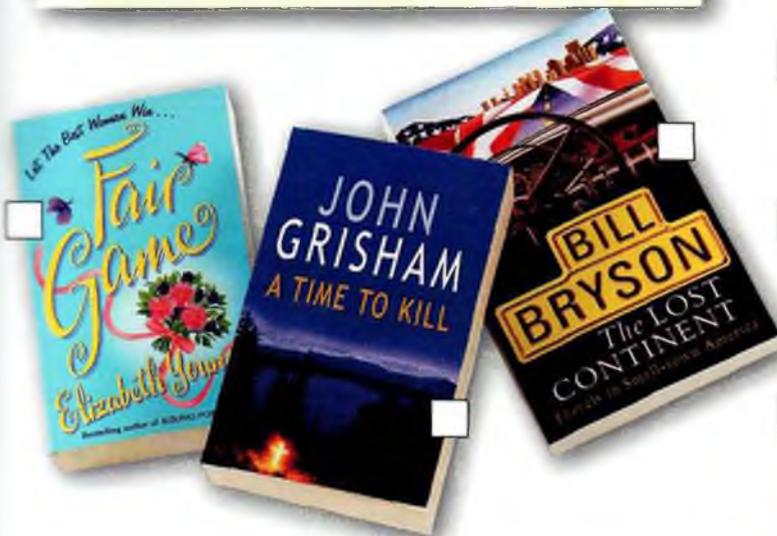
3 I never set out to pinch anyone's bloke, let alone Nina's. The day it all started, picking up a bloke was the last thing on my mind. Even I don't go out on the pull in manky old combats and a sweater that's seen better days.



4 The group stood silently, mesmerized by the two bodies, which, though dead, continued to spew blood. The thick smell of gunfire hung over the stairway.

5 As for Bilbo Baggins, even while he was making his speech, he had been fingering the golden ring in his pocket: his magic ring that he had kept secret for so many years. As he stepped down he slipped it on his finger, and he was never seen by any hobbit in Hobbiton again.

6 The last days of my childhood were also the last days of the village. I belonged to that generation which saw the end of a thousand years' life.



2 What are your favourite types of book? Which books have you read recently? Why? Tell your partner about one of them.

3 Have you read any books in English? Discuss them, and reasons for reading in English, with the class.

READING AND SPEAKING

Losing her words

- 1 Work with a partner. Ask and answer questions to complete the biodata of novelist Iris Murdoch.

Student A Look at this page.

Student B Look at the copy from your teacher.

Where was she born?

MURDOCH, Iris Jean

1919–1999

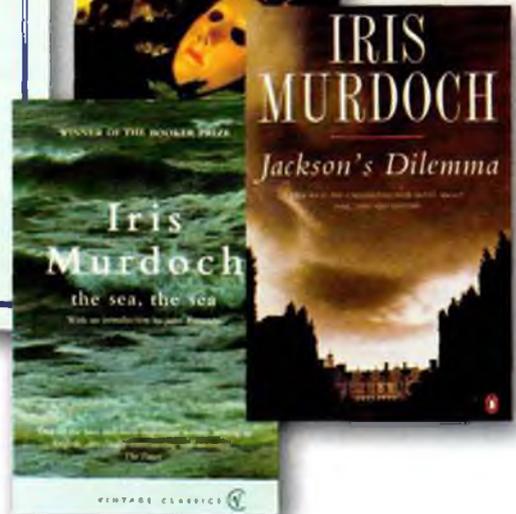
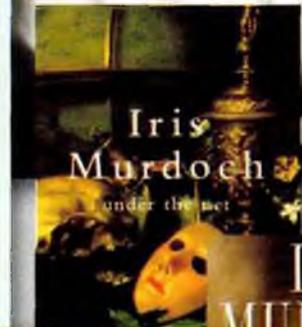
She was born in (1) Dublin, the only child of Anglo-Irish parents. She read (2) classics at Oxford University, then worked for four years in (3) _____. She returned to Oxford to teach philosophy. Her first novel *Under the Net*, published in (4) 1954, was an immediate success. Other titles include *The Sandcastle*, *The Bell*, and *The Sea, The Sea*, for which she was awarded (5) _____. She said that in her novels she tried to convey (6) 'the unique strangeness of human beings'.

In 1956 she married John Bayley, a professor of (7) _____ at Oxford. They had a (8) long, happy, if unusual marriage, but no children.

Iris was still writing in her late 70s. Her 26th and last novel, *Jackson's Dilemma*, published in 1995, was written whilst she was suffering from the beginnings of (9) _____.

The Oscar-winning film, *Iris* (2002), starring (10) Judi Dench and Kate Winslet, tells the story of her love affair with John Bayley and her tragic struggle with the disease.

Dublin.



- 2 Read these three headings from an article about Iris Murdoch.

- Wild piles of books and papers
- Utterly at ease with each other
- Just a bit of writer's block?

What ideas do you get about Iris's house and its occupants?
What is 'writer's block'?

- 3 Read part one of the article and answer the questions.

- 1 How is Joanna greeted when she arrives?
- 2 What impression do you get of John and Iris's house?
Choose three key words from the text to describe it.
- 3 What are your first impressions of John and Iris?
Likeable or unlikeable? Why?
- 4 What images do the words in *italics* convey? Use your dictionaries.
 - a ... the *cheery face* of Professor John Bayley appears at the window, *chewing baked beans* ...
 - b ... *heaving* carrier bags, *spilling* their paper *guts* across the floor ...
 - c ... Iris Murdoch *spirals gracefully* into the room ...
 - d ... an *abandoned* glass of red wine *tucked away* under each armchair ...

- 4 Read part two and answer the questions.

- 1 Why has Joanna requested the interview with Iris?
- 2 Why is Joanna worried?
- 3 Both John and Iris try to explain her difficulty with writing.
How do their explanations differ?
Who is the most optimistic?
- 4 How did Iris approach her writing in the past?
- 5 In what ways does she show that she feels confused?

- 5 Read part three on p20.

A VISIT TO IRIS MURDOCH

BY JOANNA COLES

The journalist Joanna Coles interviewed Iris Murdoch at her home in Oxfordshire shortly before the novelist was diagnosed as suffering from Alzheimer's Disease.

PART ONE

Wild piles of books and papers

'Bell not working.
WE ARE HERE.
Knock vigorously.'

I do, and the cheery face of Professor John Bayley appears at the window, chewing baked beans. 'Come in, come in my dears,' he exclaims, opening

the front door and waving a piece of toast. 'I find beans just the thing for lunch, don't you?'

He whisks us through a chaotic hall, past a vast, unsteady pyramid of books and into the most eccentric drawing room I have ever seen. There are heaving carrier bags, spilling their paper guts across the floor, and wild piles of books and papers. The walls are Georgian Green and though it is midday, it's dark, the window impenetrable to the light because of the fig leaves outside.

As we sit down, Iris Murdoch spirals gracefully into the room, and I suddenly notice there's an abandoned glass of red wine tucked away under each armchair, as if perhaps in case of emergency.



PART TWO

Just a bit of writer's block?

'Hello', Iris smiles, her eyes wide and friendly, and although I have already explained on the telephone, I explain again that I'm here because there are rumours she has given up writing for good. It's not the easiest of questions to ask such an intelligent and prolific author, and I am worried she may think me rude for even trying. But can it be true?

To my huge relief she smiles. 'Well, I'm trying to do something, but it hasn't, well ...' and then she starts laughing.

'Just a bit of writer's block I think,' interrupts Bayley, cheerfully.

'Yes, it's not ... well ... I certainly am trying,' she replies.

Iris Murdoch is without question one of the finest writers of her generation, producing 26 novels. Her last book, *Jackson's Dilemma*, was published last autumn, but nothing has followed. Has she suffered from this kind of block before?

'I think this is a very bad one,' she says absently.

'It has occurred before darling,' says Bayley, leaning towards her reassuringly.

'Perhaps,' she says flatly.

And do you still enjoy writing when you can?

'Well, I enjoy it, when I've found a way out, as it were. But, er ... otherwise ...' and she smiles apologetically.

'Otherwise ... I'm in a very, very bad, quiet place.'

We are all quiet for a moment before Bayley says to her:

'In the past, because of your philosophical mind perhaps, you've worked the whole novel out in advance, in meticulous detail, haven't you darling?'

He heads off to the kitchen to make coffee.

'I feel gloomy,' says Iris. 'The books I've written in the past I've done quite quickly. But I'm afraid at the moment that I'm just falling, falling ... falling as it were. But I may get better. I expect something will turn up. I hope so.'

Utterly at ease with each other

Bayley returns with a jug of coffee.
 'You must pour,' says Iris patting his arm.
 'You must pour.'

'Pour? Oh, I thought you meant 'paw'!

And he starts scrabbling in the air as if he's a cat, and we all laugh. Their relationship is not only touching, it's still fresh and young, making sense of what marriage is for. Despite Iris's current problems, they seem utterly at ease with each other.

I wonder if they've missed having children?

'Iris has never shown the slightest interest in being a mum,' says her husband. 'And I'm not sure, but you could say that the best women novelists didn't have children. Jane Austen, George Eliot ... I mean the really top notch ones.'

As Iris poses obediently for photos, he beckons me over to the kitchen table, where there appear to be two of everything, two honey pots, two mustard pots, two jam pots, and seven jars of coffee.

'We've been to see doctors, you know, and they say the old brain is very crafty. It can come up against a block and for a bit things are a bit strange, but then it finds its way around things again.'



6 Answer the questions on part three.

- 1 How does Iris and John's relationship 'make sense of what marriage is for'?
- 2 How does John explain the fact that they never had children? Does he feel bitter about it?
- 3 What is John's final note of optimism?

7 Answer these questions on the whole article.

- 1 In what ways do the house and its occupants reflect each other?
- 2 What instances are there that show he is proud of his wife's talent?
- 3 In what ways does he show his love for his wife?
- 4 Which adjectives would you use for John and which for Iris? Which describe both?

unconventional	loveable	loving
childlike	supportive	bewildered
distracted	gentle	cheerful
encouraging	dispirited	considerate

Vocabulary work

8 Match the words and definitions.

- | | |
|----------------------|--|
| 1 to whisk sb (away) | a clever in an indirect way |
| 2 rumour (n) | b to gesture to sb to come here |
| 3 prolific (adj) | c information that is possibly not true |
| 4 gloomy (adj) | d to take sb somewhere quickly |
| 5 top notch (adj) | e likely to fall |
| 6 crafty (adj) | f to use your hands like an animal |
| 7 to beckon sb | g very productive |
| 8 unsteady (adj) | h dark and sad |
| 9 to scrabble | i to feel about roughly with the fingers |
| 10 to paw | j high quality |

What do you think?

- Iris always said that she was very lucky to have found John. Why might she have said this? Do you think he felt the same about meeting her?
- How would John Bayley's role in her life differ before and after the onset of her illness?
- Alzheimer's Disease is a tragedy in any family. Why was it a particular tragedy for Iris Murdoch?

VOCABULARY

Phrasal verbs

1 A phrasal verb can have more than one meaning. Some meanings are literal, some are metaphorical. In which of these sentences is *take in* used literally? Is it separable or inseparable?

- 1 My sister is always taking in stray cats.
- 2 These trousers are too big. I need to take them in.
- 3 She was completely taken in by his lies.
- 4 She likes to take in a gallery or two when she's in London.
- 5 They had so much news that I couldn't take it all in.

2 Complete the phrasal verbs from the article about Iris Murdoch on pp19–20.

- 1 There's a glass tucked _____ under each armchair.
- 2 There are rumours she has given _____ writing.
- 3 In the past you've _____ the novel out in advance.
- 4 He heads _____ to the kitchen to make coffee.
- 5 I may get better. I expect something will _____.
- 6 (The brain) can come _____ a block.

▶▶ Grammar Reference p147

1 Complete the four sentences, using each phrasal verb twice in a suitable form.

give away give up

- 1 'Guess how old I am.' 'I _____. You'll have to tell me.'
- 2 They _____ a free CD with next month's magazine.
- 3 He tried to disguise himself, but I knew it was him. His voice _____ him _____.
- 4 He handed his gun to the police officer and _____ himself _____.

work out work up

- 5 I can't _____ how to start this machine.
- 6 She _____ herself _____ into a terrible state about the exam next week.
- 7 All this physical works makes you _____ an appetite.
- 8 I keep fit by _____ regularly at the gym.

put down put up

- 9 Stay with us. We can easily _____ you _____ for the night.
- 10 Let me _____ that date _____ in my diary or I'll forget it.
- 11 The shop _____ just _____ all its prices. I'm not going back.
- 12 He has a way of always _____ me _____, and I feel so foolish.

get on with get up to

- 13 The kids are very quiet. I wonder what they _____?
- 14 What page _____ we _____ in the last lesson?
- 15 How _____ you _____ your husband's family?
- 16 How _____ you all _____ last night's homework?

go down with go in for

- 17 I can't understand why people _____ a career in politics.
- 18 I keep sneezing. I think I _____ a cold.
- 19 Her last novel _____ badly _____ the critics.
- 20 Our family _____ big celebrations at Christmas.

2 Compare the pairs of sentences. What effect does the particle have?

- 1 I wrote a letter. I wrote down his address.
- 2 I saw her at the station. I saw her off at the station.
- 3 You used my toothpaste. You've used up all the toothpaste.

3 Complete the sentences with a verb and a particle.

get (x2)	make	wear
work	settle	hand
hold	lie	
go	keep	

through	away (x2)	on
into	up	back
around	over	off
in		

- 1 My daughter spends the whole day _____ in front of the telly.
 - 2 _____ from me. I've got a cold.
 - 3 You told the teacher I cheated! I'll _____ you _____ for that! Just wait!
 - 4 My tooth started hurting as the effects of the painkiller _____.
 - 5 We're off! _____ tight!
 - 6 _____ your homework carefully before you _____ it _____.
 - 7 The students were very quiet, _____ on their computers.
 - 8 My son's a total mystery to me. I can't _____ to him at all.
 - 9 You didn't believe what he said, did you? He _____ the whole thing _____.
 - 10 Have you _____ your new flat yet?
- 4 **T.2.1** Listen and respond to the lines of conversation, using a phrasal verb from this page.

Do you want a cigarette?

No, thanks. I've given up.

T.2.2 Listen and compare your answers.

LISTENING AND SPEAKING

I have nothing to declare but my genius!

1 Read these quotes from Oscar Wilde, a well-known Anglo-Irish writer famous for his sayings. What impression do you form of Oscar from them?

‘To love oneself is the beginning of a lifelong romance.’

‘There is no such thing as an immoral book. Books are well written, or badly written.’

‘There is only one thing in the world worse than being talked about, and that is not being talked about.’

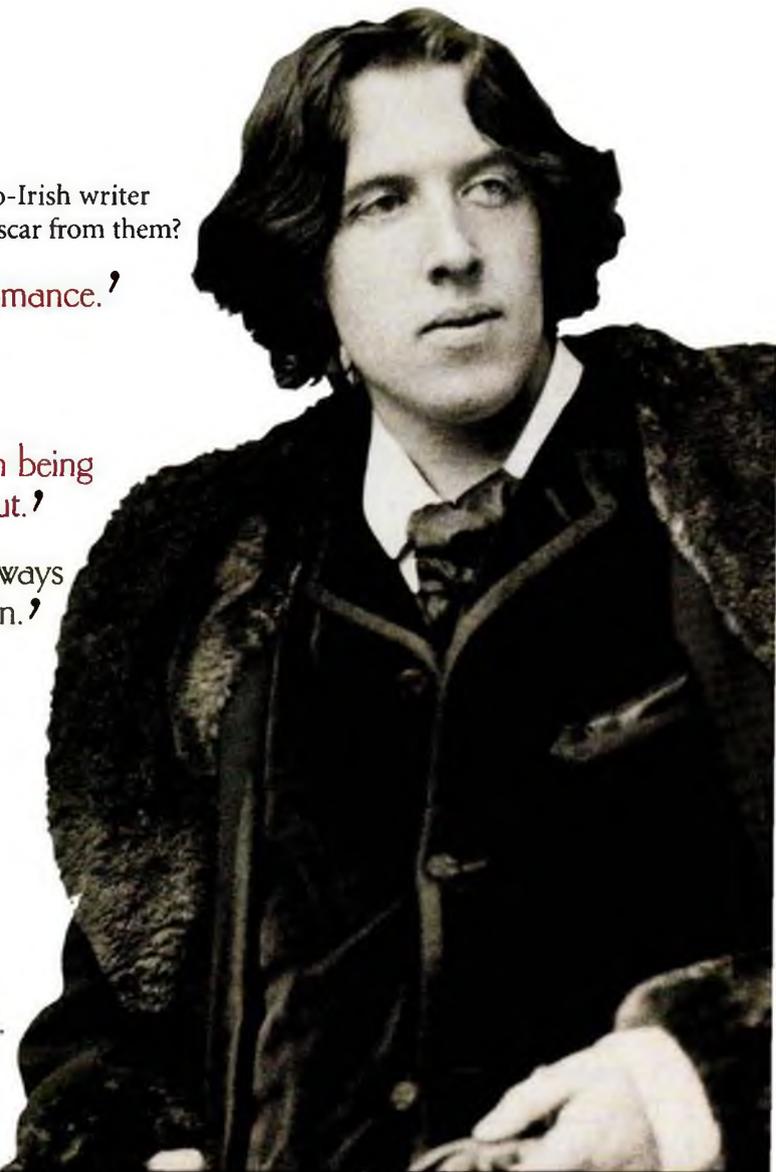
‘I never travel without my diary. One should always have something sensational to read on the train.’

‘I can resist anything but temptation.’

2 Are these statements about Oscar Wilde true or false? Discuss with a partner.

- 1 He was a famous 20th century writer.
- 2 He wrote plays, poetry, and prose.
- 3 His most successful plays were comedies.
- 4 He never married.
- 5 He was imprisoned because of his political beliefs.

3 Read the biodata of Oscar Wilde and check your answers. Which play is considered to be his masterpiece? What is the meaning of the words *earnest* and *Ernest*? What is their pronunciation?



OSCAR WILDE

1854–1900

An Irish-born English poet, novelist, and playwright. His greatest success was in the theatre with his shrewd and sparkling comedies, such as *Lady Windermere's Fan* (1892) and *An Ideal Husband* (1895). *The Importance of Being Earnest* (1895) is considered to be his masterpiece. Based on the double meaning of the name Ernest, it is an attack on people who take themselves too seriously. Wilde married in 1884 and had two sons. However, in 1895 he was imprisoned for two years for homosexual practices. On his release in 1897 he went to live in France. He died in Paris in 1900.



4 **T 2.3** Listen to a scene from *The Importance of Being Earnest*. Lady Bracknell is interviewing a young man, Jack Worthing. Answer the questions.

- 1 Why is Jack being interviewed?
- 2 What's his occupation? Where does his money come from? Does he earn it?
- 3 Who is Gwendolen?
- 4 What pleases Lady Bracknell about Jack? What displeases her?
- 5 What do you learn of Jack's family background?
- 6 Is his interview successful?
- 7 What advice does Lady Bracknell give him?
- 8 Which of these adjectives would you use to describe Lady Bracknell?

reserved	aristocratic	snobbish	overbearing	timid
witty	prejudiced	earnest	inarticulate	arrogant
courteous	haughty	patronizing		



5 **T 2.3** Your teacher will give you the scene. Read and listen to it again. Then answer the questions.

- 1 Give some examples to justify the adjectives you chose to describe Lady Bracknell.
- 2 How did Jack get the surname 'Worthing'?
- 3 What do you learn about the lives of the English upper classes in the 19th century? What was important to them? What were their attitudes to marriage, work, and property?
- 4 How does Oscar Wilde make the scene funny? Give some examples.

Vocabulary work

- 6 Find words in the scene to replace the words in *italics*.
 - 1 There are far too many *lazy* men.
 - 2 I do not approve of anything that *interferes* with natural ignorance.
 - 3 As far as I can *see*, *the people who hunt animals illegally* are the only people who *earn money from it*.
 - 4 A girl with a simple, *innocent* nature, like Gwendolen could hardly be expected to *live* in the country.
 - 5 The *deceased* Mr Thomas Cardew, an old gentleman *with a very kind and generous personality*.
 - 6 *Where* did this Mr James, or Thomas, Cardew *find* this ordinary handbag?
 - 7 The line is *not important*.
 - 8 I *admit* I feel somewhat *confused* by what you have just told me.
 - 9 To be born, or at any rate, *reared* in a handbag, seems to me to *show no respect* for the ordinary decencies of family life.
 - 10 Our only daughter – a girl *raised* with the utmost care ...

What do you think?

- Discuss these questions with a partner.
 - 1 How do you think Jack came to be in the handbag? Write down as many ideas as you can think of.
 - 2 Do you think Jack ultimately discovers his origins and marries Gwendolen?
- Discuss your ideas with the class. Your teacher will give you the answers. Read and compare them. Whose ideas were closest?
- Work with a partner and act out the scene together. Remember, it's a comedy, so make it as funny as possible! Perform the scene in front of the class.

LANGUAGE FOCUS

Tense review

- 1 Which tenses are used in these sentences? Write the verb forms in the correct place in the charts. Fill any gaps with examples of your own.
- 1 You're *being* very quiet. *Have you been silenced* by Oscar's wit?
 - 2 Jack *was found* in a handbag while the cloakroom *was being cleaned*.
 - 3 It's the first time I've *seen* you in ages. What *have you been doing*?
 - 4 As soon as we *have* any news, you'll *be* the first to know.
 - 5 This room *is being used* for a meeting at the moment.
 - 6 I wish I'd *realized* that he'd *been lying* to me all along.
 - 7 He *didn't recognize* his home town. It *had been rebuilt* after the war.
 - 8 We'll *have been living* here three years this November.

ACTIVE	Simple	Continuous
Present		<i>are being</i>
Past		
Future		
Present Perfect		
Past Perfect		
Future Perfect		

PASSIVE	Simple	Continuous
Present		
Past		
Future		
Present Perfect	<i>have been silenced</i>	
Past Perfect		
Future Perfect		

▶▶ Grammar Reference p148

Simple and continuous

- 2 Where possible, change the verb forms in these sentences from simple to continuous or continuous to simple. What is the change in meaning? Why is the change sometimes not possible?
- 1 Everyone's very nice to me. I don't know why.
 - 2 I'll see Luis later.
 - 3 I've cut my finger. It's really hurting.
 - 4 David always gives Pam expensive presents.
 - 5 What do you do?
 - 6 He fired a gun.
 - 7 She was dying.
 - 8 I've been checking my emails.
 - 9 The train leaves in five minutes.
 - 10 That room is used as a study.

Perfect and non-perfect

- 3 Compare the use of tenses in these pairs of sentences. What are the differences in meaning?
- 1 They've been married for thirty years.
They were married for thirty years.
 - 2 I come from Scotland.
I've come from Scotland.
 - 3 When I've talked to him, I'll tell you.
When I talk to him, I'll tell him.
 - 4 The arrangements will be finalized on Friday.
The arrangements will have been finalized by Friday.
 - 5 Did you ever meet my grandfather?
Have you ever met my grandfather?
 - 6 I wish I knew the way.
I wish I'd known the way.
- 4 This is what the comedian Groucho Marx said to his host at the end of a party:



The joke rests on two different uses of the Present Perfect. What are they?

Active and passive

- 5 Correct these sentences.
- 1 In the extract from *The Importance of Being Earnest*, Jack is interviewing Lady Bracknell.
 - 2 His money invests in stocks and shares.
 - 3 Gwendolen can't expect to live in the country.
 - 4 Jack gave the name Worthing.
 - 5 The bag had found at Victoria Station.
 - 6 Oscar Wilde imprisoned for two years.

Tenses and verb forms

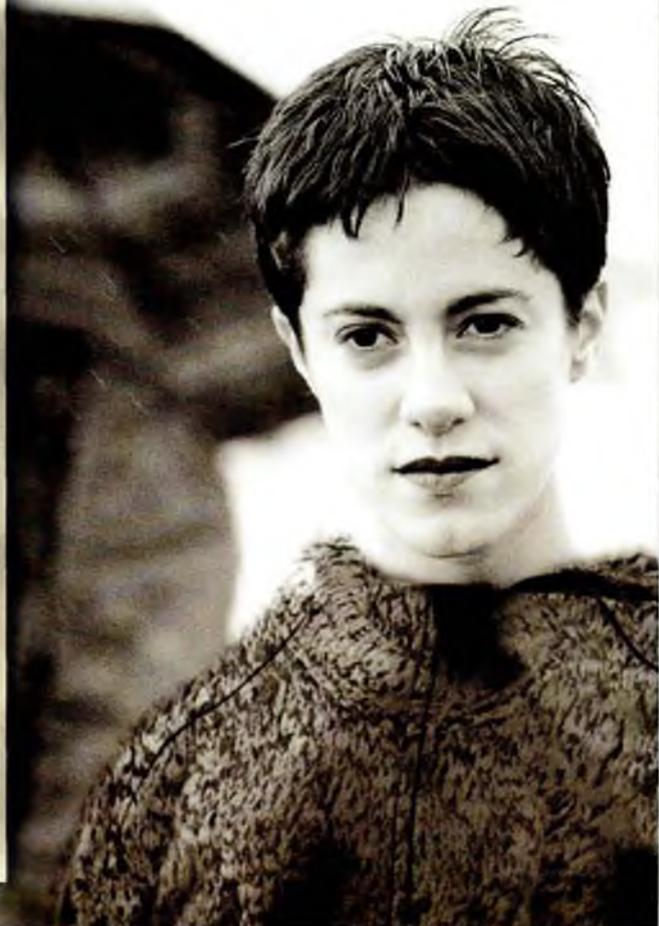
- 6 **T 2.4** Close your books and listen to an extract from a modern romantic novel. You should recognize the opening lines. The speaker is Harriet Grey, a young woman who lives and works in London. What problems does she have? What do you learn about her 'friend' Nina?
- 7 **T 2.4** Read the text and put the verb in brackets into a suitable tense or verb form. Listen again and check and compare. What do you think happens next in the story?

FAIR GAME

25

I never (1) _____ (set out) to pinch anyone's bloke, let alone Nina's. The day it all (2) _____ (start), picking up a bloke was the last thing on my mind. Even I (3) _____ (not go out) on the pull in manky old combats and a sweater that (4) _____ (see) better days. All I (5) _____ (think of), on that drizzly afternoon, was (6) _____ (find) a cab home. (7) _____ (start off) in mist-like fashion, the drizzle (8) _____ (move up) a gear, as if it (9) _____ (think) about (10) _____ (turn into) proper rain. At this point I was just up the road from Covent Garden, with drizzled-on hair and a jumper starting (11) _____ (smell) of a wet Shetland sheep. That was when I saw Nina (12) _____ (come) out of a smart little restaurant, with a bloke on her arm.

If I can misquote Jane Austen here, it is a truth universally (13) _____ (acknowledge) that if you are fated (14) _____ (bump into) someone like Nina when you (15) _____ (not see) her for four years, you (16) _____ (look) like a pig's breakfast. While she (17) _____ (look) like a *Sunday Times* fashion shoot in silk and cashmere. Only about six paces away, she (18) _____ (talk and laugh) in her silver-tinkle way to the bloke, who (19) _____ (hold) her umbrella up to stop her (20) _____ (get) wet. The last time I (21) _____ (see) her (at a wedding four years back) she (22) _____ (have) some tall, dark specimen in tow. Although everything about him was theoretically perfect, I (23) _____ (not be) particularly impressed – to me he (24) _____ (seem) just a bit plastic, somehow. I (25) _____ quite _____ (not know) what it was with this one – he wasn't classically good-looking exactly, but the spark (26) _____ (hit) me at once!



THE LAST WORD

Sounds and spelling

- 1 Work with a partner. Write down all the English words you know which contain the letters *ough*. Tell the class, paying particular attention to the pronunciation.
- 2 Read the poem and decide on the pronunciation of the words in *italics*. Use a dictionary if necessary.

Hints on English Pronunciation

I take it you already know
 Of *tough* and *bought* and *cough* and *dough*
 Others may stumble but not you,
 On *thorough*, *plough*, *enough* and *through*
 Well done! And now you wish perhaps
 To learn of less familiar traps.

Beware of *heard*: a dreadful word
 That looks like *beard* and sounds like *bird*.
 And *dead*: it's said like *bed* not *bead*
 For goodness sake don't call it *deed*.
 Watch out for *meat* and *great* and *threat*
 (They rhyme with *suite* and *straight* and *debt*).

And *here* is not a match for *there*,
 Nor *dear* and *fear*, for *bear* and *pear*.
 And then there's *dose* and *rose* and *lose* –
 Just look them up – and *goose* and *choose*
 And *cork* and *work* and *card* and *ward*
 And *font* and *front* and *word* and *sword*
 And *do* and *go*, then *thwart* and *cart*,
 Come, come! I've hardly made a start.

A dreadful language? Why man alive!
 I'd mastered it when I was five.
 And yet to write, the more I tried,
 I hadn't learned at fifty-five.

- 3 **T 2.5** Listen and check your pronunciation. Practise reading the poem aloud, taking turns to read a verse each.

- 4 Write the words from the poem beside their phonetic transcription in column A.

▶▶ **Phonetic symbols chart on inside back cover**

	A	B
1	/θru:/ through	threw
2	/hɜ:d/	
3	/mi:t/	
4	/swi:t/	
5	/hɪə/	
6	/dɪə/	
7	/beə/	
8	/peə/	
9	/rəʊz/	
10	/tʃu:z/	

T 2.6 Listen to ten sentences with words that sound like those in column A, but have a different spelling and meaning. Write them in column B.

- 5 The words in exercise 4 are all **homophones**. These are words with the same pronunciation but different meaning. Here are some more homophones. Say the word in phonetics, then write the homophones.

	A	B
1	/pɔ:/ pour	paw
2	/bi:n/	
3	/wɪtʃ/	
4	/weə/	
5	/wɔ:/	
6	/θrəʊn/	
7	/kɔ:t/	
8	/flaʊə/	
9	/pi:s/	