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## Phew! And we're back..!

What a summer it has been! The crisis certainly hasn't kept the sun from shining, and it's been an action packed few months what with the Olympics and Paralympics happening in London, and Clever Pants planning four (FOUR!) brilliant shows for this year's Iberian tour!

As well as a return to school, September also sees the return of the Clever Pants monthly newsletter! This time around we've got some cracking quotes, irresistible idioms about trees, a bracing back to school activity to revise grammar and some voracious vocabulary from the Paralympics, plus a song that may be familiar to some of you... maybe?

See you in October!

## Back to School quotes

"Holidays are enticing only for the first week or so. After that, it is no longer such a novelty to rise late and have little to do."

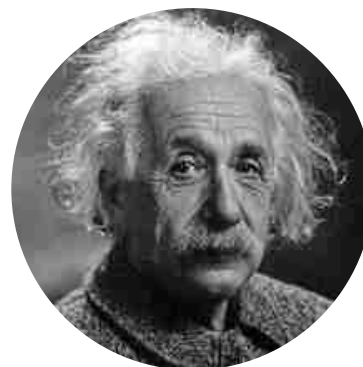
**Margaret Laurence**

"Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself."

**John Dewey**

"The object of education is to prepare the young to educate themselves throughout their lives."

**Robert Maynard Hutchins**



"Live as if you were to die tomorrow; learn as if you were to live forever."

**Mohandas Gandhi**

"Imagination is more important than knowledge. Knowledge is limited. Imagination encircles the world"

**Albert Einstein**

"Schoolteachers are not fully appreciated by parents until it rains all day Saturday."

**E. C. McKenzie**



## A-CET

This year we will once again be working with the African Children's Educational Trust, donating money for every show we do to helping develop educational projects in Africa.

For more information visit their website at [www.a-cet.org](http://www.a-cet.org)

Top eco-tip: if you print the newsletter out, do it in black and white at low resolution to reduce your use of ink.

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## Let's hear it for the trees!

As the changing of the season approaches, our attention turns to the trees and gardens around us.

### Mighty oaks from little acorns grow

To say that big or great things start very small. "It's a small business now, but mighty oaks from little acorns grow!"

### Lead someone up the garden path

If someone leads you up the garden path, they deceive you, or give you false information that causes you to waste your time.

"I feel like you're leading me up the garden path instead of just telling me the truth!"

### Beat around the bush

If someone doesn't say clearly what they mean, making it hard to understand, they are beating about (around) the bush.

"Stop beating around the bush and answer the question!"

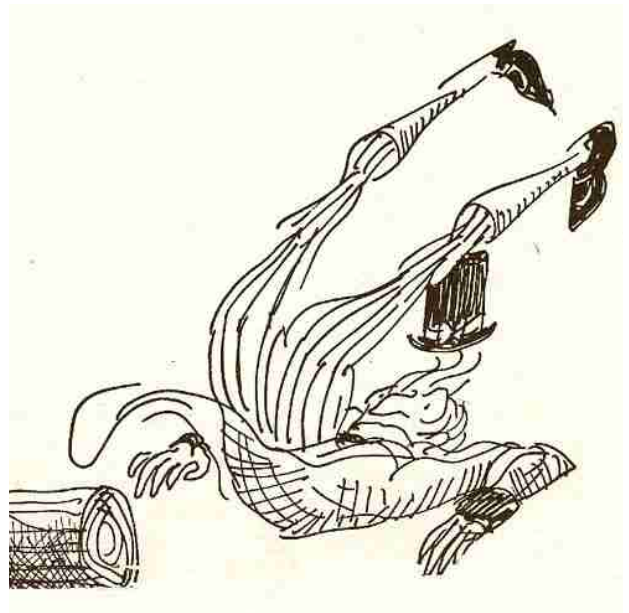
### Barking up the wrong tree

If you are barking up the wrong tree, it means that you have completely misunderstood something or are totally wrong.

"Am I close to the right answer, or completely barking up the wrong tree?"



**idiom** (n): an expression, word, or phrase that has a figurative meaning that is separate from the literal meaning or definition of the words of which it is made.



### Can't see the wood for the trees

If someone can't see the forest for the trees, they are too focused on specific details to see the picture as a whole.

"I need a fresh perspective on this problem. I can't see the wood for the trees here!"

### As easy as falling off a log

Something very easy or simple to do is as easy as falling off a log.

"Learning English is as easy as falling off a log!"

### To (not) be out of the woods

If you are out of the woods, you have emerged safely from a dangerous situation, though the idiom is often used in the negative.

"The doctor says she's getting better, but that she's not out of the woods yet."

### Get the wrong end of the stick

If you have the wrong end of the stick you have misunderstood something.

"I thought she had said that she was married, but it turned out that I'd got the wrong end of the stick."

## Classroom Activity: Your summer!



1. Work with a partner. Decide which possible answer is correct and try to say why. Sometimes both answers are possible.

1. I *go* / *went* to Mallorca during the summer.
2. I *hadn't seen* / *haven't seen* my friends all summer.
3. Last night I *had watched* / *was watching* TV all evening.
4. I *had never been* / *never went* to London before last summer.
5. I *didn't saw* / *didn't see* any good films this summer.
6. I want *to study* / *study* English more this year.
7. I *learn* / *am learning* more at the moment than ever before.
8. I *going to go* / *am going* to the cinema tonight.
9. If you ask me nicely I *will tell* / *tell* you the answer.
10. Every summer I *'m going* / *I go* to visit my grandparents.



2. Put the questions in the correct order.

1. do / over / what / holidays / summer / you / did / the ?  
e.g. "What did you do over the summer holidays?"
2. to / the/ this / have / summer / been / you / a lot / beach ?
3. spent / the / with / who / summer / could / me / you / tell / you ?
4. you / about / to / this / looking / year / what / are / forward ?
5. you / doing / tonight / are / what ?
6. start / year / is / anything / this / doing / there / that / to / start / you / want ?
7. you / recently / have / seen / films / any / good ?
8. 7 o'clock / you / doing / what / at / yesterday / were ?
9. been / ever / have / abroad / you ?
10. when / did / where / go / and / you ?



3. Interview your partner using the questions from exercise 2. Make sure you give full sentences in response so you can practise the correct forms in English!

What did you do over the summer holidays?

Over the summer holidays I went to the beach!

Where / Who with ?  
How long for / Why ?  
Tell me more!

We've been watching the London Paralympic Games and feeling really inspired by the amazing athletes.

Test your speaking by completing the vocabulary activity then talking with a partner about your sporting hobbies.

1. Match the verbs with the words you think are the best match. There might be more than one possible answer.

- |                |  |
|----------------|--|
| 1. Compete in  | A. The 100 metres, the 400m hurdles, the marathon  |
| 2. Watch / see | B. Football, tennis, volleyball  |
| 3. Play        | C. The javelin, shot put, discus.  |
| 4. Run         | D. a sport / an event on TV  |
| 5. Throw       | E. Equestrian, gymnastics, a martial art.  |
| 6. Do          | F. an Olympic event (i.e. the men's Volleyball, the 100m Sprint, the javelin, the long jump, the 1000m swimming, ) |
| 7. Jump        | G. swimming, cycling   |
| 8. Go          | H. further, higher   |

2. Talk about these things with a partner.

Which sports do you... compete in? Like watching on TV? Like playing? Would you like to try? Do / Play / Go?

How often do you play sports? Which sports do you think are the most fun / the most difficult? Why?



## Song

Carly Rae Jespen - Call me, Maybe?



I threw a wish in the well,  
Don't ask me, I'll never tell  
I looked to you as it fell,  
And now you're in my way

I'd trade my soul for a wish,  
Pennies and dimes for a kiss  
I wasn't looking for this,  
But now you're in my way

### chorus

You took your time with the call,  
I took no time with the fall  
You gave me nothing at all,  
But still, you're in my way

I beg, and borrow and steal  
Have foresight and it's real  
I didn't know I would feel it,  
But it's in my way

### chorus

Before you came into my life  
I missed you so bad  
I missed you so bad  
I missed you so, so bad

Before you came into my life  
I missed you so bad  
And you should know that  
I missed you so, so bad

### part chorus

Before you came into my life  
I missed you so bad  
I missed you so bad  
I missed you so, so bad

Before you came into my life  
I missed you so bad  
And you should know that  
So call me, maybe?

Read the lyrics to the chorus.  
Which of the words in the box rhyme  
(have the same sound)?

As you listen, complete  
the lyrics using the words  
in the box.



### chorus

Your stare was \_\_\_\_\_  
Ripped jeans, skin was \_\_\_\_\_  
Hot night, wind was \_\_\_\_\_  
Where you think you're \_\_\_\_\_, baby?

Hey, I just met you,  
And this is \_\_\_\_\_  
But here's my \_\_\_\_\_  
So call me, \_\_\_\_\_?

It's hard to look \_\_\_\_\_  
At you \_\_\_\_\_  
But here's my \_\_\_\_\_  
So call me, \_\_\_\_\_?

Hey, I just met you,  
And this is crazy,  
But here's my number,  
So call me, maybe?

And all the \_\_\_\_\_  
Try to \_\_\_\_\_  
But here's my \_\_\_\_\_  
So call me, \_\_\_\_\_?

blowing  
right  
going  
crazy  
other boys  
number  
chase me  
maybe  
baby  
showing  
number  
maybe  
holding  
number  
maybe

