

READING AND SPEAKING

- 1 You are going to read about one of English Literature's major novelists, Jane Austen (1775–1817). Since the age of cinema and television her novels have become more and more popular. Why do you think this is?
- 2 The following sentences have been removed from the text. Read them. What do you learn about the life and work of Jane Austen?

- 1 ... these novels were written by a genius.
- 2 Jane Austen herself couldn't possibly have imagined this kind of worldwide fame.
- 3 Jane felt particularly miserable at this time and she found it difficult to continue with her writing.
- 4 ... television has led to worldwide fame for this quiet-living spinster with a sense of fun.
- 5 The family often had to entertain themselves at home.
- 6 By this time Jane was 27, and by the standards of the day 'on the shelf'.

- 3 Read the text. Where do the sentences go?
- 4 What significance do the following names have in relation to Jane Austen?

Steventon – *the village where Jane was born.*

Chawton	Winchester	P D James
The BBC	<i>Sense and Sensibility</i>	Tom Lefroy
The internet	Cassandra	Samuel Blackall
Bath	Edward	Emma Thompson
Devon	Nigel Nicolson	Oscar

- 5 Are these sentences about Jane Austen true (✓) or false (X)? Correct the false ones.
 1. 18 million British viewers saw the latest film of *Pride and Prejudice*.
 2. Jane Austen hardly ever travelled abroad.
 3. Her stories always have happy endings.
 4. She didn't start writing until she was 27.
 5. She never accepted a proposal of marriage.
 6. Her family had been living in Bath four years when her father died.
 7. Her first novel, *Pride and Prejudice*, was published in 1813.
 8. Emma Thompson went to Jane Austen's grave to get inspiration for her film.
- 6 What do these numbers in the text refer to?

121,147,947 648.65 18 (x2) 35,000 12
1775 1801 1805 1811 1817 41

What do you think?

- Do you think Jane Austen had a happy life, or do you feel sorry for her?
- Do you think she would have enjoyed the fame she has today?

Jane Austen

- one of the world's most downloaded authors

The latest film of Jane Austen's novel *Pride and Prejudice* grossed over \$121,147,947 worldwide. When the BBC screened its latest adaptation of the same novel it was watched by a record 18 million British viewers. The series was then sold to 18 countries round the world. There are Jane Austen fans in all corners of the globe, and special Jane Austen discussion groups on the internet. Jane is today one of English Literature's best known and best loved writers, the third most downloaded author after Charles Dickens and Mark Twain.

(1) ... In her lifetime she never once travelled abroad, indeed she hardly ever left the south of England. When she died in 1817, only four of her six novels had been published, all anonymously, and she had earned a grand total of £648.65 (about \$1,000) from her books. Now, nearly 200 years later, sales of her novels reach 35,000 a week. There have been film and television productions of not only *Pride and Prejudice* but also *Emma*, *Persuasion*, *Northanger Abbey*, *Mansfield Park* and the Oscar-winning *Sense and Sensibility*.



Portrait of Jane Austen as a young woman

THE SECRET OF HER SUCCESS

What makes her worldwide success so surprising is the narrowness of the world her stories portray, 'three or four families in a country village,' as Jane Austen herself said. However, according to Nigel Nicolson, author of *The World of Jane Austen*, the explanation for her enduring success is very simple: 'Her novels always end happily in a wedding. They are also very funny.' Or, as the author P D James wrote, 'All the books have the same basic plot – searching for and finding the right mate.' Just as in many other novels, you may say, but the difference is that (2) ... The lively characters she created, both male and female, are such that readers still identify with them two centuries later. The novelist Henry James even compared Jane to Homer and Shakespeare.

THE LIFE OF JANE AUSTEN

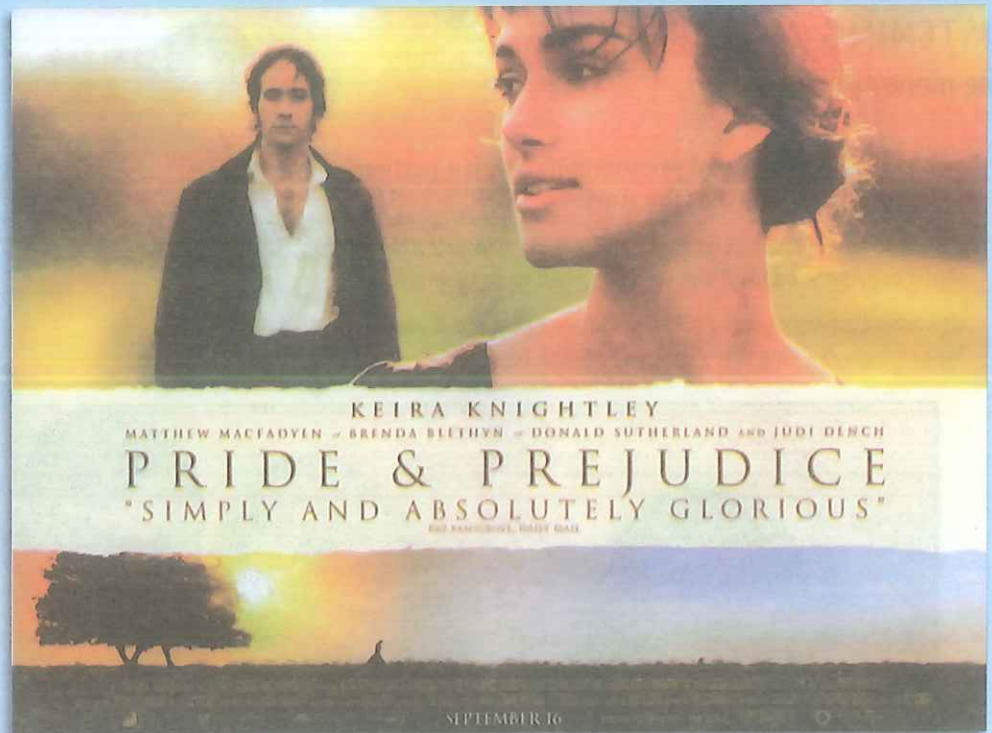
She was born in 1775, the seventh of eight children. Her family were not well off, and lived in a rambling, old house in the village of Steventon in the Hampshire hills. (3) ... and so by the time she was 12, Jane was writing fascinating stories for their amusement.

Although Jane never married she had three possible opportunities. The first was a handsome Irish law student called Tom Lefroy, who she met in 1795, but who returned to Ireland a year later. The second, in 1801, was a young man called Samuel Blackall. Jane met him while on holiday in Devon, but he tragically died suddenly, soon after. The third was a large young man called Harris Bigg-Wither, whose proposal she briefly accepted in 1802, but then changed her mind.

(4) ... She knew only too well that marriage was important for someone in her position, for the only work suitable for a penniless girl of her age was school teaching or being a governess. Thus, in her novels, both money and the institution of marriage have important parts to play.

In 1801 the family moved to Bath, where she was very unhappy. To make matters worse, in 1805, her father died, leaving his widow, Jane and her only sister Cassandra, also unmarried, even poorer than before. They had to leave their home and for four years moved from house to house, often staying with relatives. (5) ... Finally in 1809 Jane's brother Edward allowed them to live in a house on his estate in Chawton, only a few miles from Steventon where she had grown up. Here she was much happier and was able to start writing again. Finally, in 1811, her first novel, *Sense and Sensibility*, was published. *Pride and Prejudice* followed in 1813.

In 1816, Jane Austen fell ill with a disease of the kidneys. She died on July 18, 1817, in the arms of her sister, Cassandra. She was only 41.



A poster for the 2005 film of *Pride and Prejudice*

JANE AUSTEN, A STAR WORLDWIDE

The influence of cinema and (6) ... People see the movie and then read the book. *Pride and Prejudice* was voted in a BBC poll in the UK 'the book the nation cannot live without.' The actress Emma Thompson, who adapted *Sense and Sensibility* for the screen, went to Jane Austen's grave in Winchester to say thank you for the Hollywood Oscar she won for the film. As she said at the Oscar ceremony in Los Angeles, 'I do hope Jane knows how big she is worldwide.'



An 18th century engraving of a scene from *Pride and Prejudice*

LISTENING AND SPEAKING

The money jigsaw

- 1 Look at the headlines and photographs. With a partner, use the prompts to invent the story.

walking to school / ripped up bank notes / flying all over / a bin / a plastic bag / jammed full / torn up notes / had to go to school

after school playing / police / told them where / police took away / Bank of England / long time / gave back / stick together

Our £2,000 jigsaw



Stick-up job on torn bank notes leaves schoolgirls £1,200 richer

What do you think?

Why do you think someone tore up the money? Rachel and her friend have two theories.

- Maybe an old lady decided she wasn't going to leave it to anyone.
- There could have been an argument – one person didn't want the other to have it.

Do you agree? Do you have any better explanations?

- 2 **T 3.5** Listen to one of the girls, Rachel Aumann, being interviewed. Compare your story with hers. (*Sainsbury's* is the name of a supermarket.)

- 3 Answer the questions.

- 1 Where did the girls find the money?
- 2 How big are the pieces?
- 3 Are they being allowed to keep it?
- 4 Is it easy to stick the notes together?
- 5 How do they do it?
- 6 How long have they been doing it?
- 7 How much money is there?

SPOKEN ENGLISH *like*

Rachel uses the word *like* a lot.

Yeah, it was ... erm ... like really out of the ordinary. ... we traced it to like a bin.

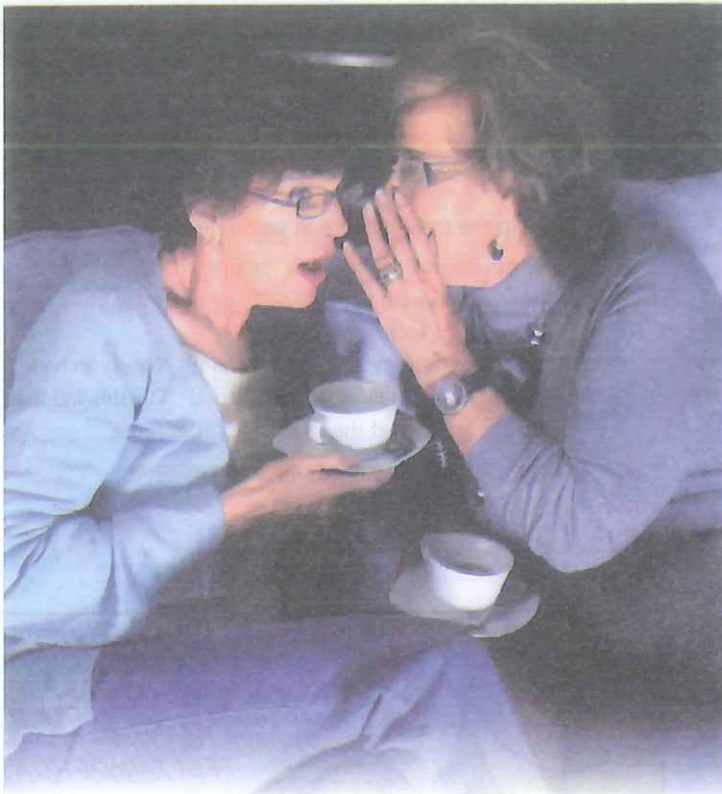
This use of *like* suggests that the speaker (often a younger person) is not making an effort to be precise when describing or reporting a situation.

Look at the tapescript on p127. Find more examples of *like*. Which example shows the correct use of *like* as a preposition?

EVERYDAY ENGLISH

Showing interest and surprise

- 1 **T 3.6** Listen to the dialogue. Write in B's answers. How does she show interest and surprise?



- A Jade's got a new job.
 B _____? Good for her!
 A Apparently, she's going to work in a castle.
 B _____? How amazing!
 A Yes. And it's in Slovenia.
 B _____? That's interesting.
 A Unfortunately, her boss can't speak much English.
 B _____? I thought everyone could these days!

- 2 B uses *echo questions* and *reply questions*. Which are which? Practise the conversation with your partner. Pay particular attention to the stress and intonation.

Music of English

To show interest, the intonation on echo and reply questions should start high, go down, and then go up high at the end.

Has she? Does he? Did she? Are you?

- T 3.7** Listen and repeat.

If you use these short questions without any intonation, you will sound bored and uninterested!

- 3 Complete the conversations with either an echo or a reply question.

- 1 A Sam wants to apologize.
 B _____?
 A Yes. He's broken your mother's Chinese vase.
 B _____? Oh, no!
- 2 A We had a terrible holiday.
 B _____?
 A Yes. It rained all the time.
 B _____?
 A Yes. And the food was disgusting!
 B _____? What a drag!
- 3 A I'm broke.
 B _____? How come?
 A Because I just had a phone bill for £500.
 B _____? Why so much?
 A Because my best friend's in Korea.
 B _____? How interesting!
- 4 A It took me three hours to get here.
 B _____?
 A Yes. There was a traffic jam ten miles long.
 B _____? That's awful!
 A Now I've got a headache!
 B _____? Poor darling. I'll get you something for it.
- 5 A I'm on a mountain, watching the sun set.
 B _____?
 A Yes. And I've got something very important to tell you.
 B _____? What is it? I can't wait!
 A You'd better sit down. I'd like us to move here for good.
 B _____? Wow!

- T 3.8** Listen and compare. Practise them with a partner.

- 4 Your teacher will read out some sentences about himself/herself. Respond, using a reply question or an echo.

4

Nothing but the truth

Questions and negatives • Prefixes and antonyms • Being polite

TEST YOUR GRAMMAR

- 1 Make the sentences negative. Sometimes there is more than one possibility.

I disagree/don't agree with you.

- | | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 1 I agree with you. | 5 I knew everybody in the school. |
| 2 I think you're right. | 6 I've already done my homework. |
| 3 I told her to go home. | 7 You must get a visa. |
| 4 'Is John coming?' 'I hope so.' | 8 My sister likes shopping, too. |

- 2 Write in the missing word in each question.

- 'What of music do you like?' 'Jazz.'
- 'How do you wash your hair?' 'Every other day.'
- 'Who do you look?' 'My mother.'
- 'How does it take you to get to school?' 'Nearly an hour.'
- 'What were you talking to the teacher?' 'Oh, this and that.'
- 'Do you know what the time?' 'Just after three.'

Ask and answer the questions with a partner.

TELLING LIES

Questions and negatives

- 1 Think of some lies that these people might tell.

a teenage boy to his parents a car salesman
a student to the teacher a secretary
a husband to his wife

- 2 All the people in the cartoons are lying. Who to? Why?
3 **T 4.1** Listen to what the people are really thinking. What *is* the truth? Why *did* they lie? Do you think any of the people have good reasons to lie?
4 Which question was each person asked before they lied? Put a-f in the boxes.

- What did you make that face for? Doesn't it look good?
- Can I speak to Sue Jones, please? It's urgent.
- How come you're ill today? You looked just fine yesterday!
- Who gave you that black eye? Haven't I told you not to get into fights?
- Where are you going? How long will you be? I hope you won't be late.
- I want to know if you'll babysit for me tonight. I don't think you will.





LANGUAGE FOCUS

1 In exercise 4, find and read aloud ...

Questions

- ... questions with auxiliary verbs.
- ... questions without auxiliary verbs.
- ... two ways of asking *Why?*
- ... a question with a preposition at the end.
- ... a question word + an adverb.
- ... an indirect question.

Negatives

- ... negative questions.
- ... a future negative.
- ... negatives with *think* and *hope*.

2 Indirect questions

Make these direct questions indirect using the expressions.

Where does he work? I don't know ...

What's the answer? Have you any idea ...?

Did she buy the blue one? I wonder ...

▶▶ Grammar Reference p144

PRACTICE

Quiztime!

1 Work in two groups. You are going to write some questions for a general knowledge quiz.

Group A Look at the information on p155.

Group B Look at the information on p156.

Write the questions for your quiz in your group. Ask and answer questions between groups.

2 Make comments about the answers in the quiz. Some of your sentences might be indirect questions.

We weren't sure ...

We didn't have a clue ...

We had no idea ...

None of us knew ...

We guessed ...

Did you all know ... ?

... how many legs a butterfly has.

... which theory Albert Einstein developed.