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# ZAK MAG

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## LEARN ENGLISH WITH ZAK WASHINGTON

Special  
ISSUE #1

### The Betting Shop



## Gambling Betting Horse Racing Bookies



# LEARN ENGLISH WITH ZAK WASHINGTON

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(Youtube: Learn English with Zak Washington 1A)

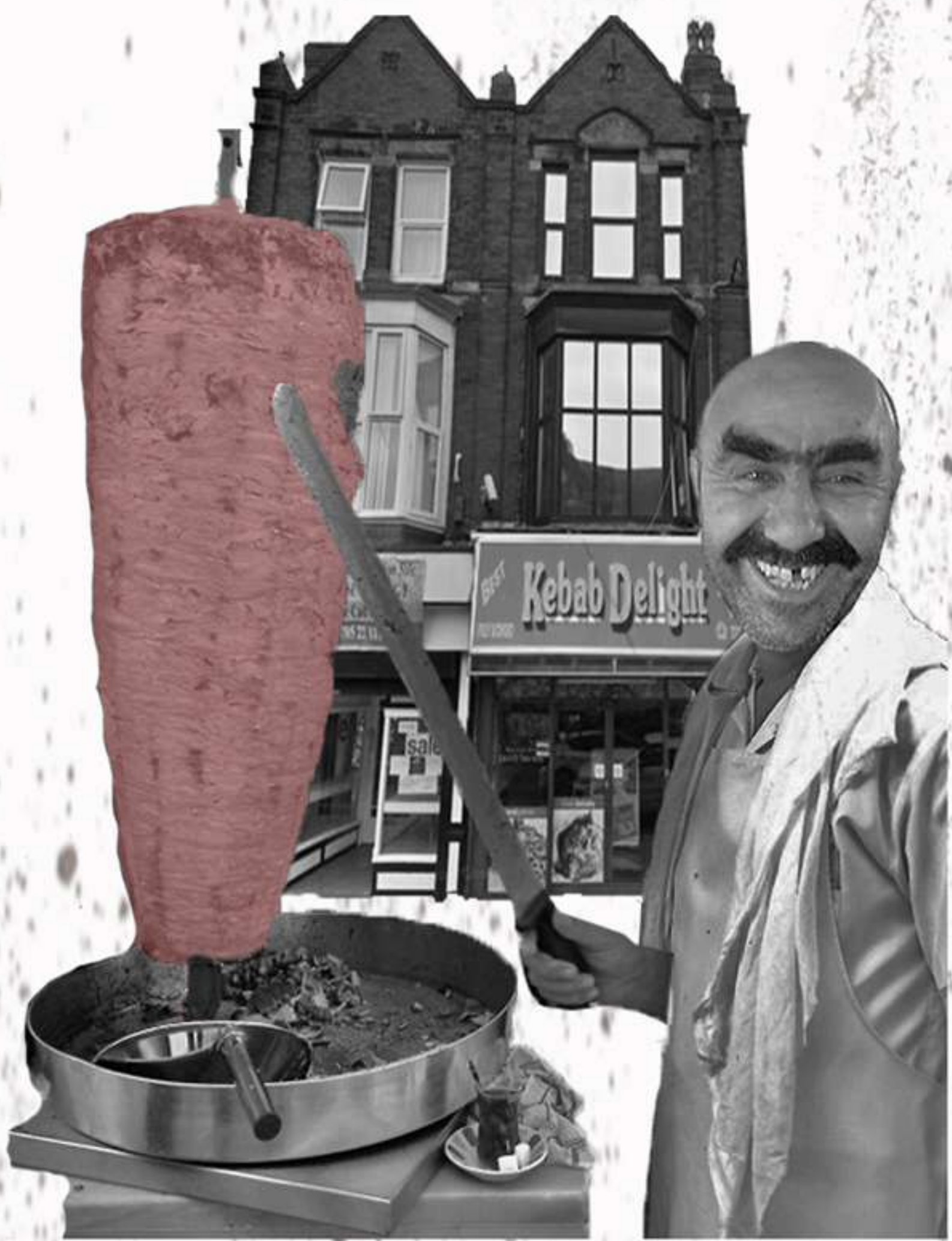
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**We have a new Youtube channel too:  
Learn English with Zak Washington.**



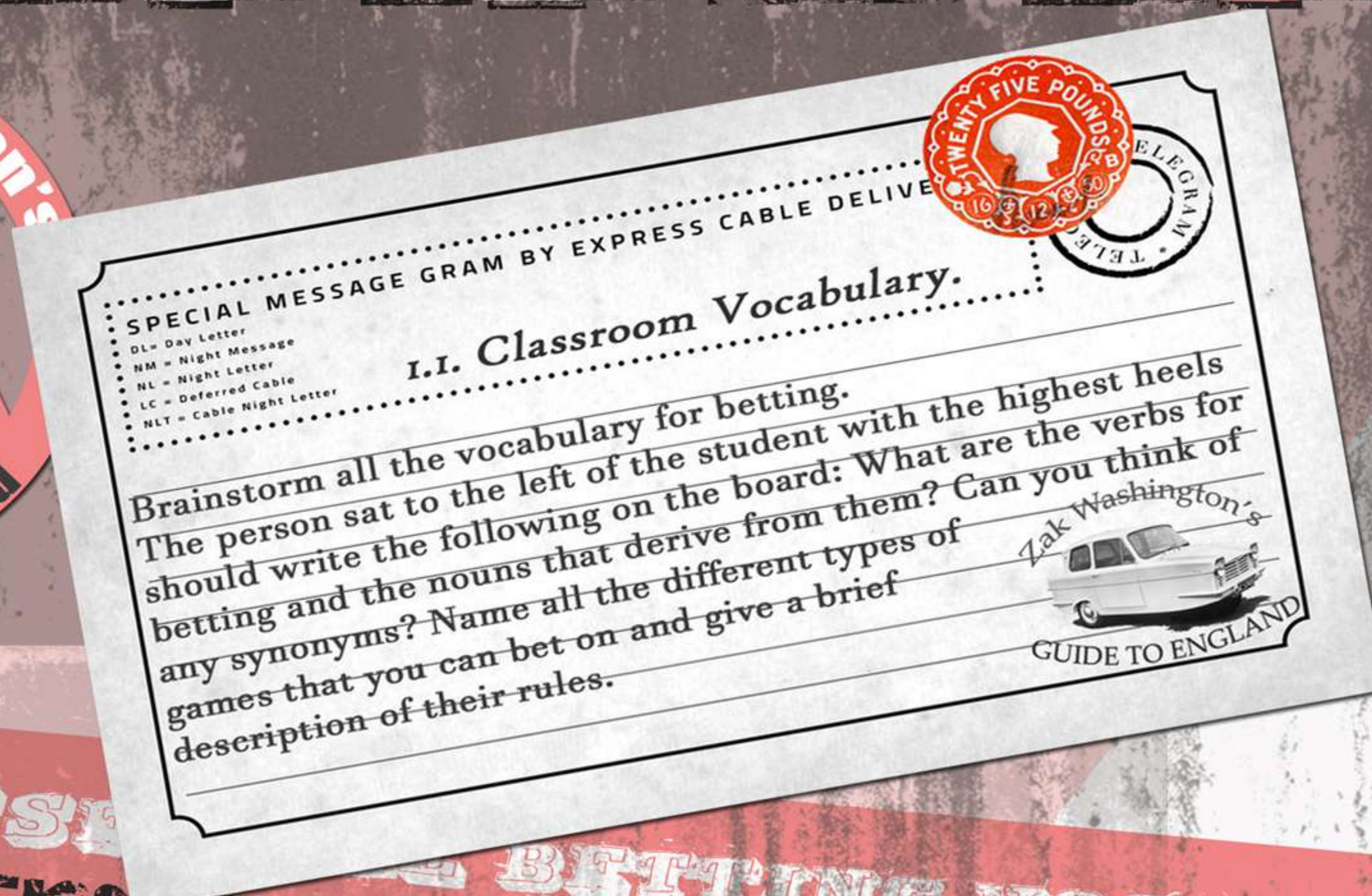
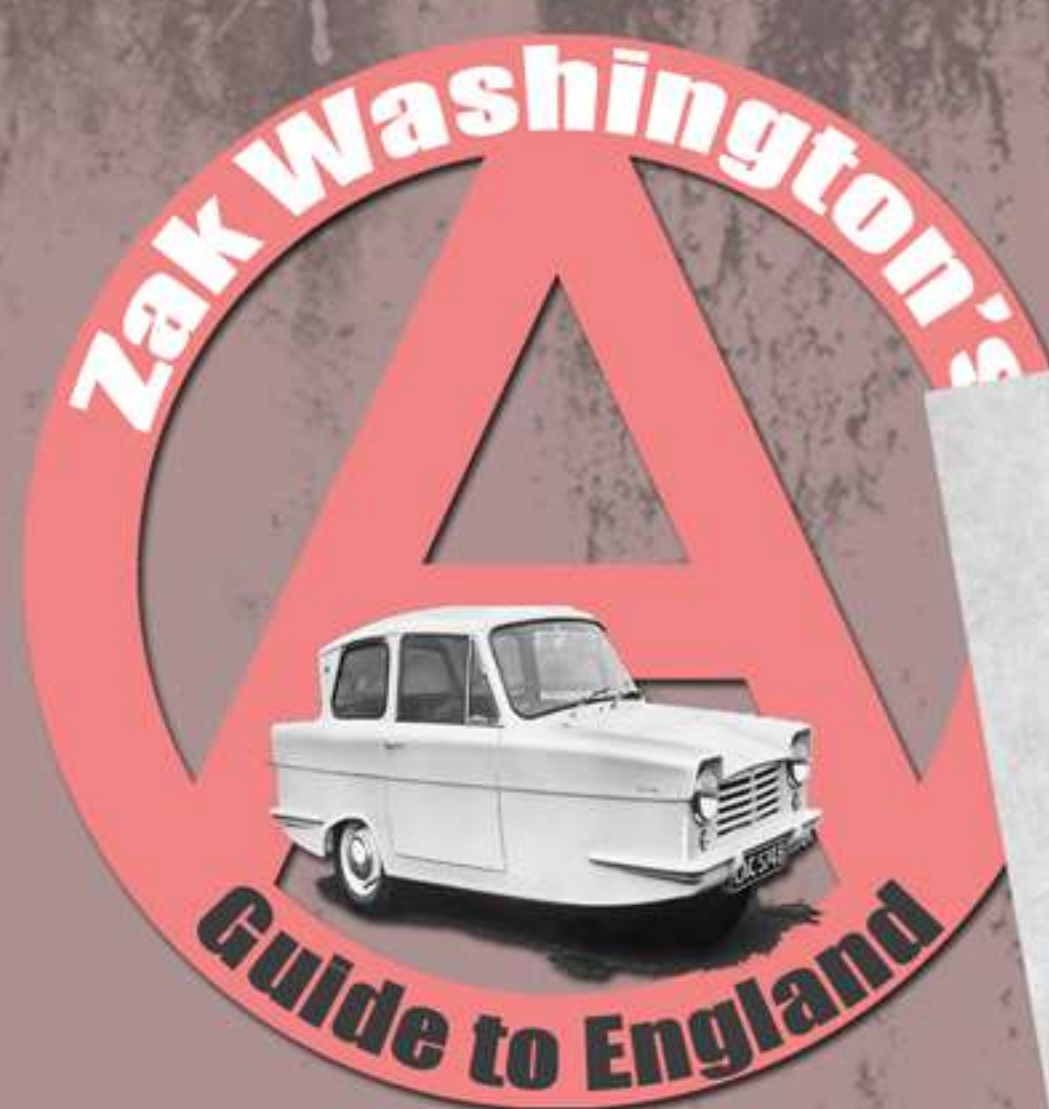
Welcome to ZAK MAG, the magazine that accompanies the free online English course Zak Washington's Guide to England. This is the first edition of the magazine. For the complete course visit [www.zwcommunications.com](http://www.zwcommunications.com)

Today's magazine talks about BETTING. What is betting?  
It is playing games for money.... Read and learn more.





# LEARN ENGLISH WITH ZAK WASHINGTON



English	Spanish	Italian
betting shop,	casa de apuestas	agenzia di scommesse
bookmaker,	casa de apuestas	agenzia di scommesse
bookies,	casa de apuestas	agenzia di scommesse
turf accountant,	casa de apuestas	agenzia di scommesse
gambler,	apostador, jugador	giocatore
to gamble,	apostar / jugar	scommettere
to bet	apostar / jugar	scommettere
bet (past)/betted,	apostó/apostado	scommessa
a bet (an amount of money),	apuesta / jugada	una scommessa
a gamble, (meaning a risk)	riesgo	un rischio
a stake,	apuesta / pozo	scommessa / fondi
odds,	probabilidades	probabilità
pay out,	precio / premio	premio / vincita
lottery,	loteria	lotteria
horse racing,	carreras de caballos	corse dei cavalli
greyhound racing,	de carreras de galgos	corse dei levrieri
favourite,	favorito	più quotato / favorito
underdog,	el que se espera que pierda	sfavorito
outsider,	con pocas posibilidades de ganar	sfavorito
jackpot,	gordo	jackpot / montepremi
slot machine, fruit machine,	tragaperras	slot machine
croupier,	crupier	croupier
chips,	ficha	fiche
dealer,	repartidor de cartas / crupier	banco / croupier
blackjack,	veintiuno / blackjack	blackjack / ventuno
roulette,	ruleta	roulette
craps,	dados	craps
bankruptcy,	quiebra / bancarotta	bancarotta / insolvenza
addictive gambler,	jugador compulsivo	giocatore d'azzardo incallito





## How much do you know about BETTING?

1. Which of the following is NOT a place for gambling?
  - (a) Betting Office
  - (b) Betting Shop
  - (c) Turf Accountants
  - (d) Butcher's
  - (e) Bookmakers
2. What would you do with a FRUIT MACHINE?
  - (a) Buy apples and oranges in it.
  - (b) Put money in the slot and play it.
  - (c) Bet money on how fast it goes.
3. Which are the WORST odds (that pay the least)?
  - (a) 7/4
  - (b) 3/1
  - (c) 2/1
  - (d) Evens
  - (e) 11/4
4. Which of the following is not a gamble?
  - (a) Playing craps in a casino.
  - (b) Telling lies to your wife who has a rolling pin in her hand.
  - (c) Flying in an aeroplane.
  - (d) Letting your wife drive your car.
5. Which game has the highest statistical chance of winning?
  - (a) Craps
  - (b) Blackjack
  - (c) Roulette
  - (d) Slots
  - (e) Wheel of fortune
6. Which is the fastest?
  - (a) A race horse
  - (b) A greyhound
  - (c) Usain Bolt
  - (d) Your sister-in-law when she thinks you've cooked a meal
7. Which would you prefer?
  - (a) Pot
  - (b) A plant pot
  - (c) A paint pot
  - (d) A jackpot
  - (e) A potty
8. Which of these means 'a bet'?
  - (a) A flutter
  - (b) A wager
  - (c) A gamble
  - (d) A fling
  - (e) A flip-flop
9. What is a toss-up?
10. 'I'm over the moon!' What's the meaning?

**ANSWERS  
ON THE  
BACK PAGE**



# LEARN ENGLISH WITH ZAK WASHINGTON



Check out our new Youtube video:  
LEARN ENGLISH WITH ZAK WASHINGTON  
(1A) THE BETTING SHOP

ZAK WASHINGTON. THE TEACHER:

A very good morning to you students!  
Here we are in a typical area of horrible London.  
Anja! Where is the betting shop?

ANJA: I can't see it. There is a fish and chip shop,  
a butcher's, a laundrette, a newsagent's, a  
bookmaker's....

ZAK WASHINGTON: That's it! Let's go in there.  
Come on!

SOPHIE: A bookmakers?... Isn't that where  
they make books? I thought we were going to  
the betting shop.

ZAK: I'll explain to you. I love these places and  
visit them regularly! The betting shop is not a  
shop. Sometimes it's called a 'turf accountants'.  
Turf means grass. But they don't sell grass.  
In fact, they don't sell anything. They don't really  
do accounting either. Sometimes it's called  
a bookmaker's. But guess what? They don't  
make books! So, what do they do? Let's go in  
and have a look. In we go!

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**AHMET: I can't see anything. It's full of cigarette smoke! .....And old men...**

(b) **ZAK WASHINGTON: Here we are in a large rectangular room. On the two walls, on each side of the betting shop, are the lists of horses in the races. Above are televisions fixed on the walls. Students, would you like to have a bet?**

(c) **STUDENTS: Yeah, yeah, yeah.**

3. The payment of the issue fee of £1 5s. is hereby acknowledged. Issued on behalf of the Minister of Posts and Telecommunications

On the TVs are the results of football, horse racing and dog racing. There are little counters below for writing down the bets. There is a slot machine against the right hand wall in the far corner. Everything is fixed to the wall or floor. In the centre are some tall, stand-up ashtrays, and six seats. Nothing is moveable. Nothing is throwable. Everything is fixed to the floor. The floor is covered with cigarette butts. Can you see the counter with the unbreakable glass? That is where you make your bets. There are two signs. One sign says 'BETS' and the other sign says 'PAY-OUTS'. There are two queues. One long. One short. Nobody looks happy. Behind the counter is a blond woman with lots of make-up and a big boots.

\*Delete the inapplicable alternatives

Office and date of Issue of Licence  
11 DEC 1970



# LEARN ENGLISH WITH ZAK WASHINGTON

1.5

Hi boys! Not so bright?  
Intellectually challenged?  
Need help with your grammar?  
I thought so....  
I'm just the girl for you!

Verbs + Gerunds  
or Infinitives

*Watch how your new grammar  
skills help you pick up girls...  
anywhere!*

Complete the following sentences  
using another verb in either the  
gerund/ infinitive.

WHAT TIME DO THEY START...

IF THE FOOD IS DISGUSTING, YOU  
SHOULD PRETEND...

IN MADAME TUSSAUD'S YOU RISK...

PAQUITO IS RICH AND HAS DECIDED...

DO THE MEN IN THE BETTING OFFICE  
WANT...?

IN LONDON EVERYBODY ENJOYS...

WHEN WE ENTERED THE BETTING  
OFFICE EVERYBODY STOPPED....

THE 'BOOKIE' REFUSED...

I CAN'T AFFORD .....

WHEN THE RACE IS OVER DO  
YOU FANCY ....?

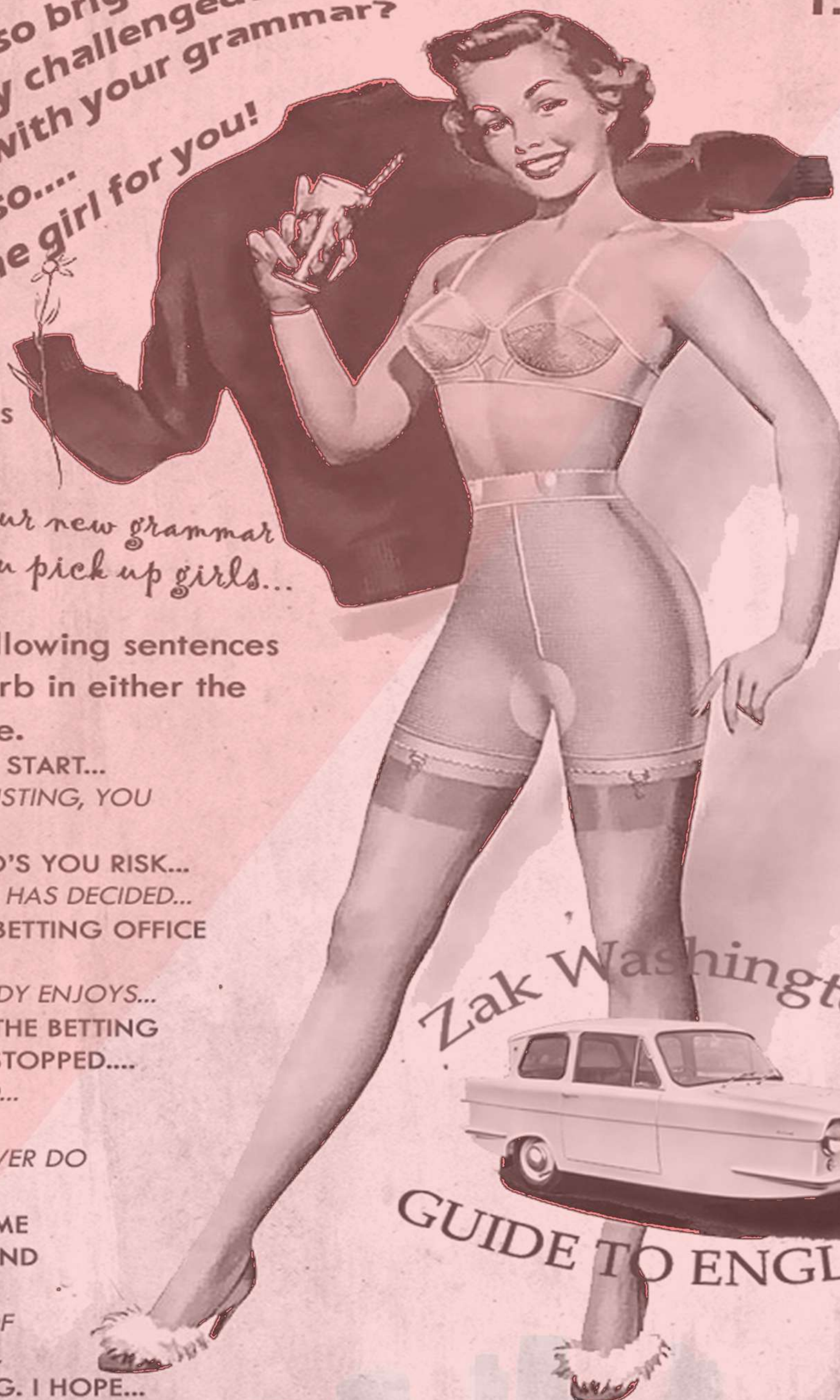
MY WIFE SPOKE TO ME  
ABOUT GAMBLING AND  
I PROMISED...

YOU'VE WON LOTS OF  
CASH. YOU DESERVE....

THE RACE IS STARTING. I HOPE...

I'M ADDICTED TO WHISKY, WOMEN AND GAMBLING. I CAN'T AVOID...

THIS EXERCISE IS REALLY BORING, I DON'T FEEL LIKE ...



Zak Washington's  
GUIDE TO ENGLAND

Find the answers at:  
<https://www.zwcommunications.com/zw-s-guide-to-england-answer-key/>





## BETTING FOR BEGINNERS

What do you think people do in a betting shop? What is the inside of one of these places like? How common do you think betting shops are in Britain? What type of people go to Betting shops?

Betting shops (or betting offices, turf accountants, bookmaker's, bookies etc) are much more common than most foreign students think. You can find one in almost every high street or shopping centre. The reason that most foreigners don't see them is because they don't normally write the words 'betting' or 'gambling' on the sign outside.

In fact, most betting shops have their windows completely covered, so it is almost impossible to see what happens inside.

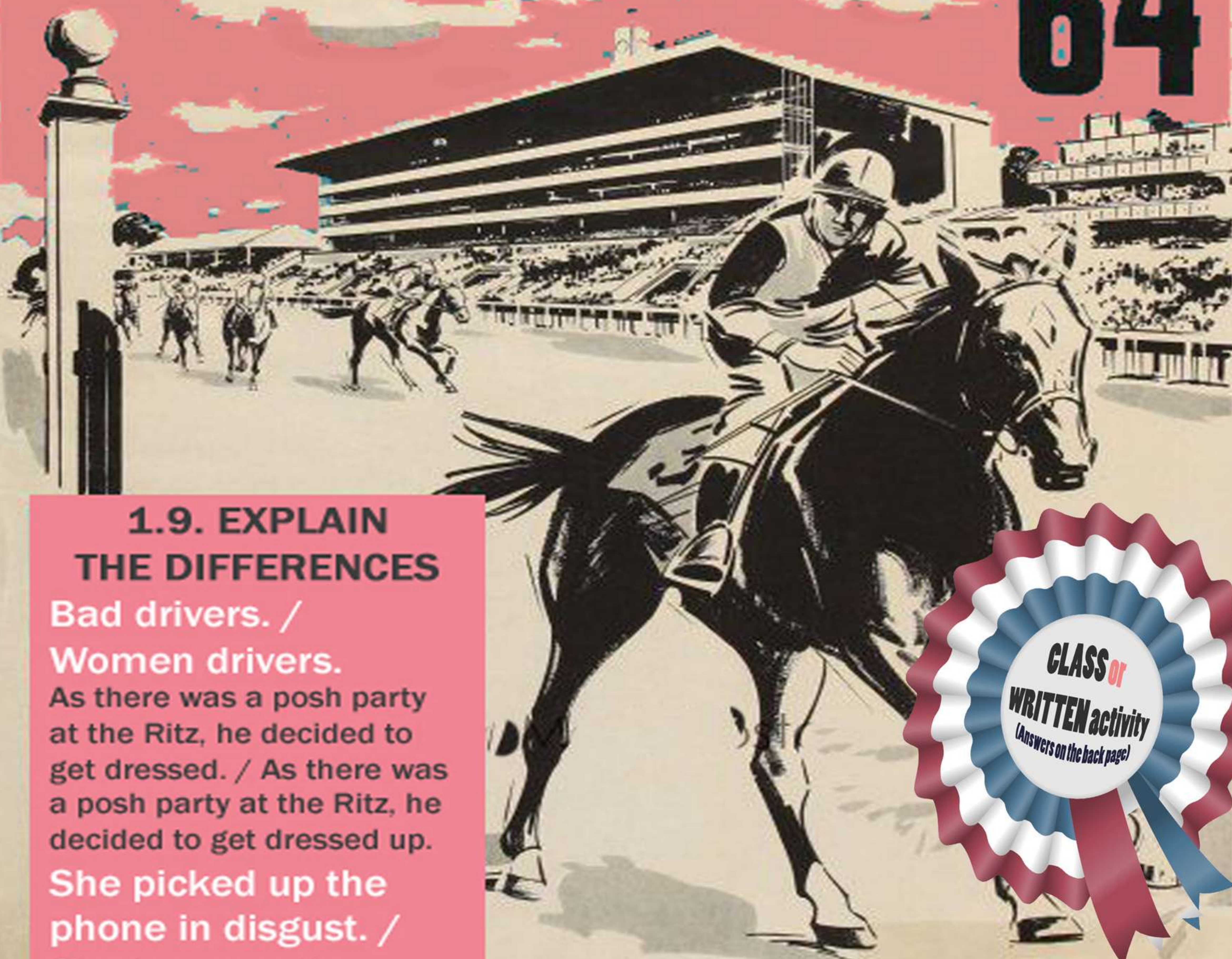
Modern betting offices are quite respectable in appearance, at least from the outside. They are not synonymous with crime, the mafia and corruption, as many foreigners think. That was in the past! On the contrary, now they are respectable, legal and well-regulated businesses.

What type of people go to these places? Most betting offices are found in poor or working class areas. The majority of the clientele are male, but you will find a very colourful assortment of people inside.

Be careful; it gets a bit wild in there sometimes. People don't always enjoy losing all their money, especially when the wife is waiting at home and the children need money. Expect noise, and expect to improve your vocabulary with words that you won't find in the dictionary.



# ROYAL ASCOT 1964



## 1.9. EXPLAIN THE DIFFERENCES

Bad drivers. /

Women drivers.

As there was a posh party  
at the Ritz, he decided to  
get dressed. / As there was  
a posh party at the Ritz, he  
decided to get dressed up.

She picked up the  
phone in disgust. /

She hung up the  
phone in disgust.

At ten o'clock we broke out  
the bottles of champagne. /  
At ten o'clock we broke the  
bottles of champagne.

I missed the bus. / I lost the bus.

Little people live in the centre of London. /

Few people live in the centre of London.

He came to the party wearing a three-piece suite. /

He came to the party wearing a three-piece suit.

I'm anxious to tell my mum that I've got a new  
boyfriend. / I'm anxious about telling my mum  
that I've got a new boyfriend.

An ancient mummy. / An old lady. /  
An antique doll.

Reuter's News Agency. / Patel's Newsagent's.





# LEARN ENGLISH WITH ZAK WASHINGTON

## ANSWER SHEET

1.5. WHAT TIME DO THEY START...+gerund or infinitive.  
IF THE FOOD IS DISGUSTING, YOU SHOULD PRETEND...+ infinitive  
IN MADAME TUSSAUD'S YOU RISK...+gerund  
ALI FRED IS RICH AND HAS DECIDED...+infinitive.  
DO THE MEN IN THE BETTING OFFICE WANT...? +infinitive.  
IN LONDON EVERYBODY ENJOYS...+gerund.  
WHEN WE ENTERED THE BETTING OFFICE EVERYBODY STOPPED.... +gerund or infinitive,  
but with different meanings. Gerund= they stopped what they were doing.  
Infinitive= they stopped in order to...  
THE 'BOOKIE' REFUSED... +infinitive.  
I CAN'T AFFORD..... +infinitive.  
WHEN THE RACE IS OVER DO YOU FANCY....? +gerund.  
MY WIFE SPOKE TO ME ABOUT GAMBLING AND I PROMISED... +infinitive.  
YOU'VE WON LOTS OF CASH. YOU DESERVE..... +infinitive.  
THE RACE IS STARTING. I HOPE... +infinitive.  
I'M ADDICTED TO WHISKY, WOMEN AND GAMBLING. I CAN'T AVOID... +gerund.  
THIS EXERCISE IS REALLY BORING, I DON'T FEEL LIKE +gerund.

How much do you know about betting? ANSWERS

1. D
2. B (A slot machine is a fruit machine.)
3. Evens (The first number is how much you get paid back, the second is how much you bet.)
4. Probably C, because there is very little risk.
5. B
6. D (A greyhound is faster than a horse, which is faster than Bolt.)
7. Pot is cannabis. A plant pot is a place to put plants. A paint pot is a container for paint. A jackpot is a top prize. A potty is a bowl that was used as a toilet, that you kept under the bed. Choose your favourite!
8. E A flip flop you wear on your feet at the beach. All the others are slang words for 'bets'.
9. When you throw a coin into the air to see who wins. (Heads or tails.)
10. I'm very, very happy. (Because I won).

1.7 Is gambling legal in your country? If so, where and when can you do it? What kind of people go to these places? What kind of illegal gambling takes place? What forms of betting should be legal/illegal? Is gambling immoral? In most countries, gambling is very strictly controlled by the government. Does making gambling illegal create secret underground gambling dens? It is unlikely. If Mrs. Miggins wasn't allowed to spend £2 a week on her lottery tickets, it is debatable whether she would join an illegal cock-fighting club. Britain has seemingly contradictory views on betting. There are several forms of gambling available on the high street. Betting shops are everywhere, and have no legal requirements except that you are eighteen years old. You can go and lose thousands there without even having to show proof of identity. Yet with such easy access to gambling, why do some British people still participate in illegal betting on dog-fights, bare-knuckle boxing bouts, or more commonly, back-room poker games, or speculations on pool or snooker matches? Casinos, unlike betting offices, require 24 hours 'cool down' time in which customers can apply for permission to gamble, and then presumably, come to their senses. As already mentioned, it is ironic that the largest percentage of betting offices are found in the more working class parts of town, which could perhaps lead to one of two conclusions; that poorer people are more careless with their money, or perhaps, that this is many people's only chance of making a large sum of money quickly.

As to the moral aspect of betting, the answer here is really a matter of personal opinion, although most of us seem to agree that excessive or compulsive gambling brings serious consequences, but that a little flutter once in a while, a bet on the Grand National (the country's most important horse race) for example, does little harm.

Should betting be permitted in class? What kind of gambling could we use in class to make the lessons more interesting? Decide amongst yourselves. Note that at the end of chapter one there is a discussion on organising a 'league of champions' for those of you who are really competitive. As you will have noticed gambling generates a huge amount of vocabulary and should therefore be encouraged.

1.9. Explain the differences.

**Bad drivers. / Women drivers.** A debatable answer, this one. Women statistically have less accidents, but then, statistically, they spend less time in the car than men. Do they actually drive more carefully? Or just slower? Are they more annoying? Or are men more impatient? I'll leave it to you to fight this one out. Just don't hurt each other.

**As there was a posh party at the Ritz, he decided to get dressed. / As there was a posh party at the Ritz, he decided to get dressed up.** 'To get dressed' means to put on clothes. 'To get dressed up' means to put on your best clothes for a special occasion.

**She picked up the phone in disgust. / She hung up the phone in disgust.** 'To pick up' is to lift the phone. 'To hang up' is to put it back down when you finish a phone call. Illogical? Not really if you think about the original telephones that were hung 'up' on the wall.

**At ten o'clock we broke out the bottles of champagne. / At ten o'clock we broke the bottles of champagne.** 'Broke out' is a colloquial way of saying 'to take out (from the fridge/cupboard etc)'. It is used for celebrations. 'To break' means to smash or destroy.

**I'm anxious to tell my mum that I've got a new boyfriend. / I'm anxious about telling my mum that I've got a new boyfriend.**

'Anxious to' is positive, and means that you can't wait to. 'Anxious about' is negative, and means that you are worried about telling.'

**An ancient mummy./ An old lady. / An antique doll.** An 'ancient mummy' is probably from ancient Egypt. 'Ancient' is not used for people, 'old' is. 'Antique' is used for objects only, that are old but have a historic value.

**Reuter's News Agency. / Patel's Newsagent's.** 'A news agency' is an international organisation that distributes news to different forms of the media. A newsagent's is a typically British shop where you buy newspapers, cigarettes, sweets etc.

**I missed the bus./ I lost the bus.** In the first you didn't arrive at the bus stop in time. In the second, you were the owner of the bus!

**Little people live in the centre of London. / Few people live in the centre of London.** Central London is inhabited by very short people. (Wrong!) / Most people reside in the areas out of Central London.

**He came to the party wearing a three-piece suite. / He came to the party wearing a three-piece suit.** It must have been a fancy dress party.

A three-piece suite consists of a sofa and two armchairs. The suit is, of course, a jacket, waistcoat and trousers. (\$ jacket, vest and pants. )

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