

WYDANIE SPECJALNE O LONDYNIE

WYDANIE SPECJALNE MAGAZYNU DLA UCZĄCYCH SIĘ JĘZYKA ANGIELSKIEGO

ENGLISH matters

DESTINATION: LONDON



Studying in London
MULTICULTURALISM IN
ENGLAND'S CAPITAL
Gags & Jokes about
... the Smoke

The Magic of Coldplay
Michael Caine's • 
Everlasting Charm

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London Trivia

by Jonathan Sidor

What is Rotten Row?

Rotten Row is a broad bridle path located in the southern part of Hyde Park. It stretches for more than 1,300 metres. It was created in 1690 by William III, who sought to create a new route through Hyde Park. Highwaymen were a common menace at the time, so the wide, brightly lit road was meant to serve as a much safer alternative for travellers. Rotten Row gradually became popular amongst the wealthy. They would gather along the track to ride on horses or in carriages. While the path's name might seem objectionable at first glance, its origins are actually quite innocuous. The initial moniker was *Route du Roi*, French for "the King's Road."

What is Speakers' Corner?

The famous Speakers' Corner is located in the northwest corner of Hyde Park. It is a forum for open discussion and debate on a wide range of issues. No topic off-limits. The location was first used



- 1 **rotten** | zgniły, zmurszały
row | rząd
broad | szeroki
to stretch | rozciągać się
to seek to do sth | próbować coś zrobić
highwayman | rozbójnik
menace | zagrożenie, groźba
lit | oświetlony
gradually | stopniowo
the wealthy | ludzie zamożni
to gather | gromadzić się
carriage | powóz
path | ścieżka, dróżka

as a centre for protests and riots during the 1850s. Noted individuals who have spoken there are Vladimir Lenin and George Orwell, along with many others. Religion, politics and social justice are common topics up for debate, and heckling is also welcomed by regulars. The most prominent speeches and assemblies take place on Sundays.

What is the Shard?

The latest addition to London's skyline, the Shard is a towering skyscraper whose crown reaches just shy of 310 metres. This officially makes it the European Union's tallest building. A stunning example of neo-futurist architecture, the stature and appearance of the Shard combine to create a powerful impression for any spectator. The tower's exterior form is that of a glass pyramid. Inside, visitors will find multiple dining options, art galleries and a host of corporate offices. The gem, however, is the observation deck. It is situated on the 72nd floor and includes both indoor and outdoor elements. The view is truly breathtaking.

- objectionable** | wstrętny, nieprzyjemny
innocuous ɪˈnɒkjʊəs | niewinny
moniker | przydomek, przezwisko
corner | róg
range | szereg
off-limits | zakazany
2 **riot** | zamieszki, rozbój
social justice | sprawiedliwość społeczna
to heckle | przeszkadzać komuś, zakrzyzczyć kogoś
assembly | zgromadzenie
towering | strzelisty, wysoki
shy of | prawie
stunning | świetny
stature | postawa, rozmiar
appearance | wygląd

What is the Monument?

The Monument is a remarkable piece of London's history. It looks like nothing more than an antiquated column that easily gets lost amidst the multitude of London's other majestic sites. However, its significance is what Londoners and tourists alike revere. Completed in 1677, the Monument marks the spot where the Great Fire of London began in 1666. Designed by famed architect Christopher Wren, the column is actually nothing short of an architectural wonder. Sightseers may wish to ascend its 311 steps to admire London from its viewing platform. To this day, it still holds the title of the world's tallest isolated stone column.

When did London host the Olympics?

London holds the honour of being the only city to host the modern Olympics on three occasions. They were held in 1908, 1948, and most recently in 2012. The 2012 event was met with widespread critical acclaim. Londoners came out in droves to act as volunteers for the games. It was a star-studded affair, with British icons like Queen

- exterior** | zewnętrzny
multiple | liczny
gem | klejnot
breathtaking | zapierający dech w piersiach
3 **remarkable** | niezwykły
amidst | wśród
multitude ˈmʌltɪtjuːd | mnogość, masa
to revere | szanować, czcić
to be nothing short of X | być niemal X
sightseer | zwiedzający
to ascend | wspinać się, wejść na górę
to host | być gospodarzem
to hold the honour | mieć zaszczyt
recently | ostatnio
acclaim | uznanie
star-studded | pełen gwiazd

Elizabeth II, the Spice Girls and a crowd of others all making surprise appearances. A lasting remnant of the games is the ArcelorMittal Orbit, a curious outdoor artistic installation that may come across as quite bizarre to some. Showcasing London's position as a vibrant and modern metropolis, the Orbit serves as a 114-metre tall observation tower. It has been called bold, radical, and groundbreaking. Olympic organisers attest that the Orbit will serve to rejuvenate the neighbourhoods of London surrounding the Olympic Park. The majority of Londoners, however, have yet to warm to the tower, regarding it as an eyesore. The space-age construction may simply be ahead of its time.

How many bridges does London have?

London is well-known for its beautiful bridges, which are historical and artistic marvels. There are no fewer than 34 bridges spanning the River Thames within London's city limits. Perhaps the most recognisable one is Tower Bridge, which has been a London landmark since 1894. It is a popular tourist attraction and serves as the perfect backdrop for a photo. It is often mistakenly referred to as London Bridge, which is another bridge entirely. A second outstanding bridge is the Millennium Bridge, which just so happens

to be London's newest. Opened in 2002, the bridge is exceptional in that it is only open to pedestrian traffic. Initially, some were worried that it was too wobbly, yet it was quickly revamped to make it sturdier. The Millennium Bridge's strategic location in the London centre is picture-perfect. Sites such as the Globe Theatre, the Tate Modern museum, and St. Paul's Cathedral are all just a short stroll away.

What are coal holes?

Any keen observer walking down one of London's older, more affluent streets is sure to be in for a treat if they keep their eyes peeled. An assortment of round, cast iron covers are sprinkled on the pavement of many of London's wealthier avenues. Known as coal holes, these metal lids once had a significant purpose in the past. Households that were more well-to-do would use these holes as chutes to transport coal from the street into the cellar. Each room typically had its own coal fire, so keeping homes stocked with enough coal to last through the cold English winter was a top priority. Today, the metallic caps of the coal holes serve as nothing more than a symbolic reminder of a time gone by. That being



said, each coal hole is unique. The covers bear their own intricate design, and some of them are purely awe-inspiring.

What does a London cab look like?

The omnipresent image of a yellow New York City taxi has long been etched into our minds as the classic depiction of cabs worldwide. Countless other cities have mimicked the style of New York's taxis. Not so for London. Cabs in the United Kingdom's capital have their own distinct design. The style of taxi in the UK is called a hackney cab. This type of car is more spacious than the usual New York City variant, sometimes comfortably seating up to eight passengers at one time. Passengers often sit facing the back of the car. Moreover, taxis in London are traditionally dressed in a monochromatic black hue, hence the nickname "black cab."

London taxi drivers must famously pass a rigorous exam covering the city's numerous alleyways and routes in order to obtain their licence. The process of becoming a professional taxi driver ordinarily takes anywhere from two to four years. ■

4 remnant of sth | ślad czegoś,

pamiątka po czymś

curious | ciekawy, osobliwy

to come across | *tu*: wydawać się

bizarre | dziwaczny

to showcase sth | za/prezentować coś, wy/lansować coś

bold | odważny, śmiały

groundbreaking | przełomowy, nowatorski

to rejuvenate sth | ożywić coś

to warm to sth | zacząć coś lubić, przekonać się do czegoś

to regard sth as sth | uważać coś za coś

eyesore | brzydactwo, paskudztwo

marvel | cud

no fewer than | nie mniej niż

to span | rozciągać się

recognisable | rozpoznawalny

backdrop | tło

referred to as X | zwany X

outstanding | wyjątkowy, niesamowity

5 pedestrian | pieszy

wobbly | chybliwy

revamped | przerobiony

sturdy 'stɜ:(r)di | *tu*: mocny, solidny

stroll | przechadzka

coal | węgiel

hole | dziura

keen | wprawny

affluent | bogaty

to keep one's eyes peeled | wyteżać wzrok

cast iron kɑ:st 'aɪə(r)n | żeliwny

sprinkled | porozrzucany

pavement | chodnik

lid | pokrywa

household | gospodarstwo domowe

well-to-do | zamożny

chute | zsyp

cellar | piwnica

cap | pokrywa

reminder of sth | pamiątka po czymś

6 to bear sth | mieć coś, prezentować coś

awe-inspiring 'ɔ:..ɪn,spəɪə.rɪŋ | budzący podziw

cab | taksówka

omnipresent | wszechobecny

etched into sth | wryty w coś

depiction | wyobrażenie

countless | niezliczone

hue | odcień

hence | stąd

nickname | przydomek

alleyway | alejka

ordinarily | zwykle

“Not A Lot of People Know That”



MP3


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www.englishmatters.pl

by Urszula Gruszecka

For the young generation of film fans, Michael Caine is known for his roles in Christopher Nolan's productions, such as *The Dark Knight* (2008), *Inception* (2010) and *Interstellar* (2014), where he portrays father figures. However, there is much more to this actor, who is considered an icon of cinema.

How Maurice Became Michael

Sir Michael Caine was born as Maurice Joseph Micklewhite in 1933 in South London. He came from a working class family. His mother was a cook and his father Maurice, from whom he got his name, was a fish market porter. Growing up where he did, little Maurice at that time naturally picked up the Cockney accent for which he has since become widely known. When Maurice started to gain recognition in the film industry, he decided to change his name, as the surname Micklewhite was not the best for an aspiring actor. His first choice was

Michael Scott, which he perceived as “less risible” than his real one. However, when it turned out that there already was an actor named Michael Scott, he had to rethink his choice. He recalled that particular moment in his life in an interview, when he said: “I went and sat down on a bench in the middle of Leicester Square. I looked around at all the cinemas... and then I saw it. Humphrey Bogart, my hero, was starring in *The Caine Mutiny*. Caine I would be – because it was short, because it was easy to spell, because I was feeling very mutinous at the time”. And that is how Maurice Joseph Micklewhite became Michael Caine.

The Cockney Man

In one interview, Michael Caine said that the trigger for him to become an actor was the actors he saw in the cinema when he was a boy. Being a son of a working class parents did not allow him to go to the theatre, so he became a film-goer instead. He perceives his generation of actors as those who wanted to become actors not due to the plays they saw, but due to the films they went to. At the age of ten, he took part in school plays. Michael did not believe in drama school. He said that if somebody had told him in the past that he should have tried to apply to that sort of school, he would have thought that they

- o knight nat | rycerz
- inception | incepcja
- however | jednak/że
- considered | uważany
- 1 to pick up sth | podłapać coś, nauczyć się czegoś
- widely known | powszechnie znany
- to gain recognition | być rozpoznawalnym
- aspiring | tu: początkujący

- 2 to perceive sth as sth | postrzegać coś jako coś
- risible | śmieszny
- to turn out | okazywać się
- to rethink sth | przemyśleć coś ponownie
- to recall sth | przypomnieć sobie coś
- bench | ławka
- to star in sth | występować, grać w czymś
- mutiny | bunt
- mutinous | zbuntowany, buntowniczo nastawiony

- 3 trigger for sth | przyczyna czegoś, przyczynek do czegoś
- to allow sb to do sth | pozwalać komuś na zrobienie czegoś
- film-goer | widz kinowy
- instead | w zamian, zamiast
- due to sth | z powodu czegoś
- to take part in sth | brać w czymś udział
- to apply to | składać podanie do, ubiegać się o miejsce w

1

2

3

were mad. For him, the learning process could take place while actually performing, not studying.

To become somebody in the film industry was not easy, but for a working class man with a Cockney accent, it was even more difficult. Michael undertook many different roles and many diffe-



rent part time jobs to make ends meet. His constant failures almost led him to give up. When he applied for the role of a Cockney character in *Oliver Twist* and was not cast, he felt as if it was a slap in the face from fate. He was a tough Cockney man himself, coming from the exact same background as the character, and yet he did not get the part. The first bigger role he finally managed to get was the role of an upper class officer in *Zulu* (1964). This was

Cockney – a British accent originally associated with the working class Londoners living in the East End of London.

quite ironic, as he had auditioned for the role of a cockney officer, and in the end got to play the posh one. Later, Michael claimed that if the director had been British, he would have never cast a Cockney actor as an upper class character. However, when the actual director asked him if he could do an upper class accent, Caine said "I can do any accent".

Womaniser, Gangster, Sleuth

After *Zulu* Michael's career started to develop in a positive direction. However, it was his role in *Alfie* (1966) that really did the trick and won him the critics' ac-



claim. *Alfie* was a bittersweet comedy drama about a charming womaniser who discovered that there was more to life than casual sex and carefree pleasure. After that success, his career kicked off and he started to travel all over the

world. It was a really busy period of his life, but he felt really rewarded with the work he was doing. Once he was finally financially secure, he decided to repay his mother, a widow, for her years of love and bought a house for her.

The other dream he wanted to come true was the dream about being a producer. It became a reality in 1971, when along with Michael Klinger, he decided to make an adaptation of the book *Jack's Return Home* by Ted Lewis, to which Klinger had the rights. The title of the adaptation was *Get Carter*. The story was dark and filled with violence, although Michael claimed that it was not really about the violence itself, but about the realism of the environment they wanted to depict. The film presented the reality of gangster life. According to Caine, it could not have been done differently. The critics did not share that idea, though.

The next important film after that was a film version of the play *Sleuth* (1972), where Michael played alongside Sir Laurence Olivier. Michael recalled that when they first met he was little anxious about the work they were going to do together. However, there was a moment after a very challenging and emotional scene on set, when Olivier said: "I thought I had an assistant, Michael. I see I have a partner". This remark is considered by Michael as the greatest compliment he has ever received. ▶

- 4 **actually** | *tu*: rzeczywiście
to perform | występować, grać
to undertake sth | podejmować się czegoś
to make ends meet | z/wiązać koniec z końcem
constant | ciągły
failure | niepowodzenie, porażka
to lead sb to do sth | do/prowadzić kogoś do zrobienia czegoś
to give up | poddawać się
cast | obsadzony w roli
slap | policzek
fate | los
tough *taif* | twardy
background | *tu*: środowisko
to get the part | dostać/otrzymać rolę

- to manage to do sth** | *tu*: udawać się coś zrobić
upper class | z wyższych sfer
5 **to audition** *tu*: 'di:ʃn | brać udział w przesłuchaniu/castingu
posh | elegancki, szykowny
to claim that... | s/twierdzić, że...
actual | *tu*: ten sam
womaniser | kobieciarz
sleuth | detektyw
to do the trick | zadziałać
acclaim | uznanie
casual | przypadkowy, niezobowiązujący
carefree | bez troski
to kick off | wystartować, nabierać rozpędu

- 6 **rewarded with sth** | usatysfakcjonowany czymś
financially secure | zabezpieczony finansowo
to repay sb | *tu*: odwdziżyć się komuś
widow | wdowa
to come true | spełniać się
violence | przemoc
environment | środowisko
to depict sth | przedstawiać coś
according to sb | według kogoś
to share sth | dzielić się, *tu*: podzielać
alongside | u boku
anxious about sth | niespokojny o coś, zaniepokojony czymś
challenging | *tu*: trudny
remark | uwaga

Educating Rita (1983)

The film that brought Caine the biggest acclaim was not a gangster, or a criminal, or a mystery movie. It was an intelligent story about a professor and his student, and their journey towards knowledge. Rita (Julie Walters) was a working class woman married to a husband who just wanted to have a baby and a normal home. His wife on the other hand saw her future differently. She wanted to “find herself”

and to broaden her horizons, and it was Dr. Frank Bryant (Michael Caine), a heavy drinking, disillusioned university lecturer, to whom she turned, signing up for a degree in literature at the Open University. Their tutorials opened up Rita’s mind to literature, and at the same time made Frank wonder if what he

was doing was really the best thing for the young, honest woman that had come into his office. The film depicted the inner struggles of both characters and had an ending that left viewers with a warm feeling inside. For this role, Michael Caine received a BAFTA Award and a Golden Globe alongside Julie Walters who received the same awards for the role of Rita. Michael was also nominated for a best actor Oscar, but he lost out to Robert Duvall.

7 **knowledge** | wiedza

to broaden one’s horizons | poszerzać horyzonty

heavy drinking | nadużywający alkoholu

disillusioned | pozbawiony złudzeń

to sign up for sth | zapisać się na coś

degree | tu: kurs

tutorial tju:’tɔ:riəl / tu:’tɔ:riəl | lekcja, seminarium

inner | wewnętrzny

struggle | walka

to lose out to sb | przegrać z kimś

In *Educating Rita* we can hear the famous quote “Not a lot of people know that” uttered by a drunk Frank during a speech in front of his students. This line had been invented by a Michael Caine impersonator many years before. It had become closely associated with Caine - even though, up till this moment, Caine himself had never actually uttered the phrase. Its appearance in the film was a special comedy moment for British audiences familiar with the catchphrase.



Fact File

In 1992 Michael Caine starred in the musical, *The Muppet Christmas Carol*. He played the main role of Ebenezer Scrooge – one of the most famous characters of Charles Dickens.

What Next?
Although Michael claimed not so long ago that he perceived himself as a retired actor, he is still willing to take up roles in enterprises he finds interesting. He appears on the silver screen almost every year, usually in small roles. The most recent characters he played were connected with

Christopher Nolan’s films and *Kingsman: The Secret Service* (2015) directed by Matthew Vaughn. At the Cannes festival this year the audience had the chance to see a trailer for Paolo Sorrentino’s new film *Youth*, with Michael as an ageing composer in his late autumn years. Michael Caine seems to have reached the same stage as his latest character, but he is still full of enthusiasm and most definitely has not said his last word yet. ■

8 **uttered** ’ʌtə(r)d / ’ʌtəd | wypowiedziany

drunk | pijany

impersonator | aktor imitacyjny, parodysta

associated with sb | kojarzony z kimś

even though | po/mimo, że

appearance | pojawienie się

familiar with sth | zaznajomiony z czymś

catchphrase | powiedzonko

retired | emerytowany

to take up sth | podejmować się czegoś

enterprise | przedsięwzięcie

ageing | starzejący się

Joanna Ignaczewska is an international actress with Polish roots who has been living in London. She is a real polyglot, globe-trotter and screen chameleon.

Read the interview and learn what it’s been like to study in New York, live in London and be constantly on set.

by Katarzyna Szpotakowska

o challenge | wyzwanie

roots | korzenie

screen | tu: filmowy, ekranowy

chameleon ka’mi:liən | kameleon

constantly | ciągle

set | plan filmowy

EM: How did your international acting adventure begin? When did you start working abroad? Would you say it was a conscious decision, a coincidence or a stroke of luck?

JJ: Probably, all of these three things. It was a bit of a conscious decision and a bit of coincidence, and also a little bit of luck.

I always dreamt of studying acting outside Poland. I started my career in Poland. I was working professionally in films and television for a few years. I was studying acting for two years in Warsaw and then I found out about the Actors Studio in New York and it became my ultimate dream. I did everything for a couple of years to get in there and to move to New York. That’s how my international acting adventure started.

I was in my early twenties when it happened. I was studying for two years in Warsaw, getting experience and getting

The Challenge of Acting

everything required to be in the Actors Studio and move across the ocean. I really wanted that to happen and I pursued my dreams. Coincidence - maybe a little bit from the point I was obsessed with Marilyn Monroe when I was a teenager and she was in the Actors Studio. Her biography, her films got into my head so much that I started to think about the school she went to. If I hadn't found out about it, I might have never thought about

- 1 **adventure** | przygoda
conscious | świadomy
coincidence | przypadek, zbieg okoliczności
stroke of luck | łut szczęścia
to find out about sth | dowiedzieć się o czymś
ultimate | największy
to get in | dostawać się (gdzieś)
to be in one's twenties | być po dwudziestce
experience | doświadczenie

2

the Actors Studio in the first place.

EM: What are the three most important things you learnt at the renowned Lee Strasberg Actors Studio?

JJ: I think the Actors Studio gave me confidence and made me realise who I was as an actor, and how I could use that professionally, as well as what my strengths were.

It is a school that allows you to explore yourself and it's not just that "the method" is good. It is a studio that shows

- 2 **to require sth** | wymagać czegoś
to pursue sth tə pə'sju: 'sʌmθɪŋ | podążać za czymś, dążyć do czegoś
to be obsessed with sth | mieć obsesję na jakimś punkcie
to get into one's head | utkwić w pamięci kogoś
3 **in the first place** | najpierw, tu: w ogóle
renowned | słynny
confidence | pewność siebie

3

you different types of acting, and different kinds of methods, allows you to explore all of them and pushes you to choose one that fits you the best.

EM: How does acting education in Poland differ from that in the US?

I think in the US you have more possibilities. The US education system is more open to different techniques, and understands better that people are different and they need different tools ►

- to realise sth** | uświadamiać sobie coś
strength | tu: mocna strona
to allow sb to do sth | pozwalać komuś na zrobienie czegoś
to explore sth | badać coś, zgłębiać coś
4 **to push sb to do sth** | popychać, motywować kogoś do czegoś
to fit sth | pasować do czegoś
to differ from sth | różnić się od czegoś
tool | narzędzie

4

to work with their emotions, to work in front of the camera, or on stage. It's more experimental and controversial. It pushes actors more across the borderline. From what I know, when I was in Poland, I explored Stanislavski and Russian, Eastern European acting techniques that had been around for ages. There were many methods, like Meisner technique, that I didn't see and didn't explore in Poland, although that is changing. This was over ten years ago. I know that now there are some specific courses, and people from abroad come to Warsaw to run such acting courses. I think, now, it's going in the right direction. Ten or twelve years ago, education when it comes to acting and also artistic professions, was quite limited.

EM: While studying at the Lee Strasberg Actors Studio, you had an opportunity to become Blanche Dubois. Did you model yourself on Vivien Leigh? What was your Blanche Dubois like?

Jl: I actually love the original performance of Vivien Lee in *A Streetcar Named Desire*. On a certain level, I was definitely inspired by that. In the Actors Studio they always encourage you to create your own character based on your own feelings, to explore, to give yourself permission to be very truthful. For me, acting is a state of being, not a state of pretending. My Blanche Dubois was Joanna, Joanna was Blanche. It was one person. Working like that can be very confusing and dangerous, but it is very satisfying as well, because you're very truthful, very realistic.

I'd never change the technique and the way I worked on Blanche Dubois. My Blanche Dubois was a little bit neurotic, using my weaknesses in my personality. She's a very disturbed lady, a very disturbed character. I tried to make sure that that came across. I tried to present something that stayed in peoples' minds. I think that was one of the most successful roles that I played in New York. I think it will always be a very special role that will stay in my mind and my heart for a quite a long time.



For Joanna, acting is a state of being, not a state of pretending.

5 borderline | granica
to be around | istnieć
specific | konkretny, sprofilowany
to run sth | prowadzić coś
opportunity | okazja, możliwość
actually | w zasadzie, tak naprawdę
to encourage sb to do sth | zachęcać kogoś do zrobienia czegoś
character | postać
based on sth | w oparciu o coś
permission | pozwolenie

truthful | szczerzy
state | stan
to pretend | udawać
confusing | mylący, niejasny
satisfying | satysfakcjonujący
neurotic | neurotyczny
weaknesses | słabość
personality | osobowość
disturbed | niezrównoważony
to come across | przekazywać
to present sth | przedstawiać coś, pokazywać coś
mind | umysł

EM: How has knowledge of English and German helped you achieve your acting goals?

JJ: It's absolutely crucial. There was no way I could study at the Actors Studio in New York if I didn't know English. I speak three other foreign languages and I'm learning French. In December I signed a contract with a very good agent in Germany and flew to Berlin for a festival for my first serious audition. It's absolutely fundamental that I speak other languages. If I couldn't, I'd never have an international career. It wouldn't be possible.

I'm very grateful to my parents that they pushed me to learn languages from an early age. Otherwise my career wouldn't be possible on that level. Even Russian, that I didn't really like at school, seems to be very useful lately. Knowing other languages and speaking with certain accents allows you to play different parts. I'm constantly going for Dutch, Swedish, Norwegian, German, Polish, Russian, Lithuanian or Ukrainian girls parts. It's very, very useful to have this kind of uniqueness that allows you to be very different.

EM: At present, you live in London. Why did you decide to settle down in that particular city?

JJ: London, right now, is the place I call home, no matter how much time I spend abroad filming. Last year I spent ten months on international locations, so I wasn't in London much at all. It is a place of perfect balance. A city that

Theatre

Vocab Trainer

prompter's box - a small booth at the front of the stage where a prompter sits who gives an actor their cue if they forget their lines

prompter's box | budka suflera

cue | sygnał, wypowiedź

line | kwestia

gives me something very unique. It's like a crossover between America and Europe, because it is close to Poland and other European cities, but it is an English-speaking country, and it is probably the best city when it comes to bridging the Atlantic in my industry.

America and the UK have very good links when it comes to premieres, because they share the same language. Films that come out in the States come out in the UK very quickly and vice versa. It is a very good platform for me, a very good place to be in.

At heart, I'm an Eastern European girl. I always say I'm Polish. The culture and my background are very important to me. So being closer to home is definitely very important.

London was a very conscious decision and made sense in a lot of ways. I've been here for seven years, so it seems it was a good decision.

EM: What is it about London that fascinates you?

JJ: Variety and so many cultures. No matter where you're from, you're going to find other people with that nationality in London. It is very satisfying in many ways. The variety of cultures, foods. It's very nice to be in a place that is so open to international flavours. I really like that about London.

EM: If you were to find a perfect adjective to describe London, which one would it be and why?

JJ: I think London is very flexible. That would be the one word I'd choose. Flexible in a way that is tolerant, and so many different people can find themselves here in many different industries and professions.

In London, you can find yourself, no matter what you're looking for, or which profession you belong to.

EM: Your acting experience is extremely broad. You play in films, tv series as well as performing in theatre. Which form of acting is the most challenging, which one is the most difficult?

JJ: Acting is difficult, generally speaking. It's never easy. If you do it properly, and you jump in with both feet, it's never going to be easy for you. For me, it doesn't matter whether it is theatre, TV or film. For me, the most important thing is the script I'm working on, the people, the director, the crew and the part itself. Those are the factors that decide whether I want to be part of the production or not. ▶

6 knowledge | znajomość

to achieve sth | osiągać coś

goal | cel

crucial | kluczowy, niezwykle ważny

audition ɔ:'dɪʃ(ə)n | przesłuchanie

fundamental | fundamentalny, o zasadniczym znaczeniu

grateful | wdzięczny

to seem | wydawać się

certain | pewien

part | rola

constantly | nieustannie

to go for sth | ubiegać się o coś

uniqueness | wyjątkowość, unikalność

at present | obecnie

to settle down | osiedlać się, zamieszkać gdzieś na stałe

location | tu: plener, plan

balance | równowaga

7 crossover | skrzyżowanie

to bridge sth | łączyć coś

industry | tu: branża

premiere | premiera

to come out | mieć premierę, wychodzić

at heart | w głębi serca

background | pochodzenie

8 to fascinate sb | fascynować kogoś

variety | różnorodność

no matter | nieważne,

bez względu na

flavour 'fleɪvə | smak

adjective 'adʒɪktɪv | przymiotnik

flexible | elastyczny

to look for sth | szukać czegoś

to belong to X | należeć do X

broad | tu: bogaty

to perform | występować

properly | właściwie

whether | czy

script | scenariusz

director | reżyser

crew | ekipa filmowa

factor | czynnik



When it comes to the biggest challenge, it's always about the part. That's where the biggest challenge is.

Theatre gives me something very fragile. Working with an audience is very moving for me, because a lot of projects I work on, across all genres, are very emotional. I've played in scenes where I've been raped and killed; scenes with a high level of emotions. When I do that in the theatre, I can feel people holding their breath, or laughing really hard, or crying. It's amazing when you can feel the emotions of a few hundred people. Many times, after my performances, strangers come to me, hug me and tell me how amazing it was and how much they loved my work. It's very satisfying.

In film, I don't have contact with the

audience until the film ends up in the international festivals. Then, I go to the festivals to the screenings and have time to be with the audience, answer questions and watch the film with the audience. It's quite an extraordinary feeling. In film, I feed on the pleasure of working with the camera. My first audience is the crew and cast and the people I work with on set. That's amazing as well. As it happens, in London, for the last seven years I've been working mostly in film, quite a lot in television and not much at all in theatre. But, whenever I have an occasion and to be on stage again, I really enjoy it, and cherish it.

So, it's all difficult for very different reasons. You can't really compare it that much. When it comes to the biggest challenge, it's always about the part. That's where the biggest challenge is. There are parts that come easier to me and parts that are more challenging. Probably, that's what I go for. I always go for the biggest challenge, because that will stretch me as an actor. But it doesn't matter which media it is, it is more connected with the material itself.

EM: Which film or films that you've played in would you recommend to EM readers who like to be scared? Would it be *The Scopia Effect* or *Dark Signal*?

- 9 **fragile** 'fradzɪl | *tu*: ulotny
audience 'ɔ:diəns | widownia
moving | poruszający, wzruszający
genre 'ʒɔərə/'(d)ʒɒnrə | gatunek literacki/filmowy
raped | zgwałcona
to hold one's breath | wstrzymywać oddech
stranger | nieznajomy
to hug sb | przytulać kogoś

- 10 **to end up** | kończyć gdzieś, docierać gdzieś
screening | projekcja, pokaz
extraordinary | nadzwyczajny
to feed on sth | żywić się czymś, czerpać z czegoś
pleasure | przyjemność
cast | obsada
stage | scena

- to enjoy sth** | lubić coś
to cherish sth | bardzo coś sobie cenić
11 **to compare sth** | porównywać coś
when it comes to ... | jeżeli chodzi o ...
probably | być może
to stretch sb | *tu*: być dla kogoś ćwiczeniem
to recommend sth | polecać coś
scared | przestraszony

JJ: I'd recommend both. They are both very scary. They are different films. *The Scopia Effect* is the film I'm most proud of. I was working on that film for four years. It was a film that brought me my first acting nomination for best actress in the best feature film. That happened at the end of 2014. *The Scopia Effect* came out last year worldwide, so hopefully it will be available in Poland and a few other European countries, as well as in the US. Of course, in the UK you can see the film. It was released on iTunes on the 27th of April 2015. *The Scopia Effect* is a psychological thriller. It has moments that push you to the edge, and you feel for the character.

Dark Signal is a film that was created by Neil Marshall. Right now he is directing *Game of Thrones*. Before he directed a film called *The Descent* - a very scary, very demanding film when it comes to holding you under pressure. If you like these types of films, *Dark Signal* and *The Scopia Effect* will both speak to you in very strange and different ways.

EM: Who is the character Janet played by you in *Adieu Marx*? The film received an honourable mention award at the Berlin Independent Film Festival. What was the secret of the success of this comedy?

JJ: *Adieu Marx* had a very unusual script. It was a very fun, sarcastic story. I think the secret about being a good comedic actor is not trying to be funny. If you're trying to be funny, you're not going to be funny. If you're serious and you're really into the subject, the situation, the character,

the reaction can be funny. That's the secret when it comes to comedy acting.

Adieu Marx was a great experience. The film was directed by an Australian director who came to London to do this film. A lot of the actors were Australians, New Zealanders, some were Londoners. It was quite a nice mix and I liked that. I think you see it in the film that we all come from different countries, backgrounds, cultures. That was quite an unusual project and we were well received at a few festivals, received a few awards. It was nice to be a part of it.

At the beginning, I was supposed to play a very small part, just an episode, and I ended up playing one of the main female roles. It was almost two years ago. I still keep in touch with the people involved. It is a nice movie that I keep on my CV very proudly.

EM: Do you prefer working with male or female directors?

JJ: I don't have that much opportunity to work with female directors, because the majority of the directors in the UK are men. I do love working with female directors. They are different than men. Their projects are very specific, their scripts as well. There's more sensitivity to it and I really enjoy that.

The director of a film or a TV series is like a captain on a ship. He or she steers the production. The vibe, the atmosphere on set depends on the director. This is the person who leads the whole team in a specific way. It's not just that working with the director is different because of the sex, it's about the whole atmosphere that changes because the director is female.

EM: What kind of films do you watch? Which ones influenced you the most?

JJ: I love watching movies. I'm addicted to it. I'm constantly changing what my favourite movie is. I get inspired by a lot of good films. I love Meryl Streep, Jack Nicholson, Johnny Depp. I love good actors that can create unforgettable parts. Sometimes I watch a movie a few times just because I want to be inspired by the acting. There are directors, such as Clint Eastwood, that would be very high on my list. He is one of those Renaissance people who can do everything. He edits his films, writes the music, writes the script, acts, directs. It is something that really inspires me. There isn't one particular type of film, though, or a certain director or actor. I'm inspired by everything. My job is to always be open and to watch as much as I can, so that I can be inspired even more.

EM: Finish the sentence please: The future...

JJ: The future is always very hopeful, very exciting, because I don't know what is going to happen tomorrow. Last year I found out about a job in Jordan in a series called *Blood Brothers*. I found out about this on the Monday, and by Saturday I was in Jordan, in Amman for five months.

The future is unpredictable and that's what makes it so bloody exciting. I wouldn't change it for the world. There are some negative things. The future is very uncertain as well. But I'd rather it to be uncertain, exciting, unpredictable, rather than boring. ■

12 proud of sth | dumny z czegoś

feature film | film fabularny

available | dostępny

to push sb to the edge | doprowadzać kogoś na skraj możliwości, przypierać kogoś do muru

to feel for sb | współczuć komuś

demanding | wymagający

under pressure | w napięciu

honourable mention award | wyróżnienie

to be into sth | pasjonować się czymś

subject | temat

13 to be well received | zostać pozytywnie

odebrany

award | nagroda

female | żeński, kobiecy

to keep in touch with sb | być z kimś w kontakcie

involved | zaangażowany

majority | większość

sensitivity | wrażliwość

to steer sth | sterować czymś, kierować czymś

vibe | klimat

to depend on sth | zależeć od czegoś

13 to influence sb | wpływać na kogoś

to be addicted to sth | być od czegoś

uzależnionym

constantly | ciągle

unforgettable | niezapomniany

Renaissance ˌrɛnɪs(ə)ns / ˌrɛnɪ'sɔːs | renesans

to edit sth | montować coś

particular | konkretny, określony

though | mimo, że; chociaż

exciting | ekscytujący

Jordan | Jordania

unpredictable | nieprzewidywalny

bloody | cholernie

uncertain | niepewny

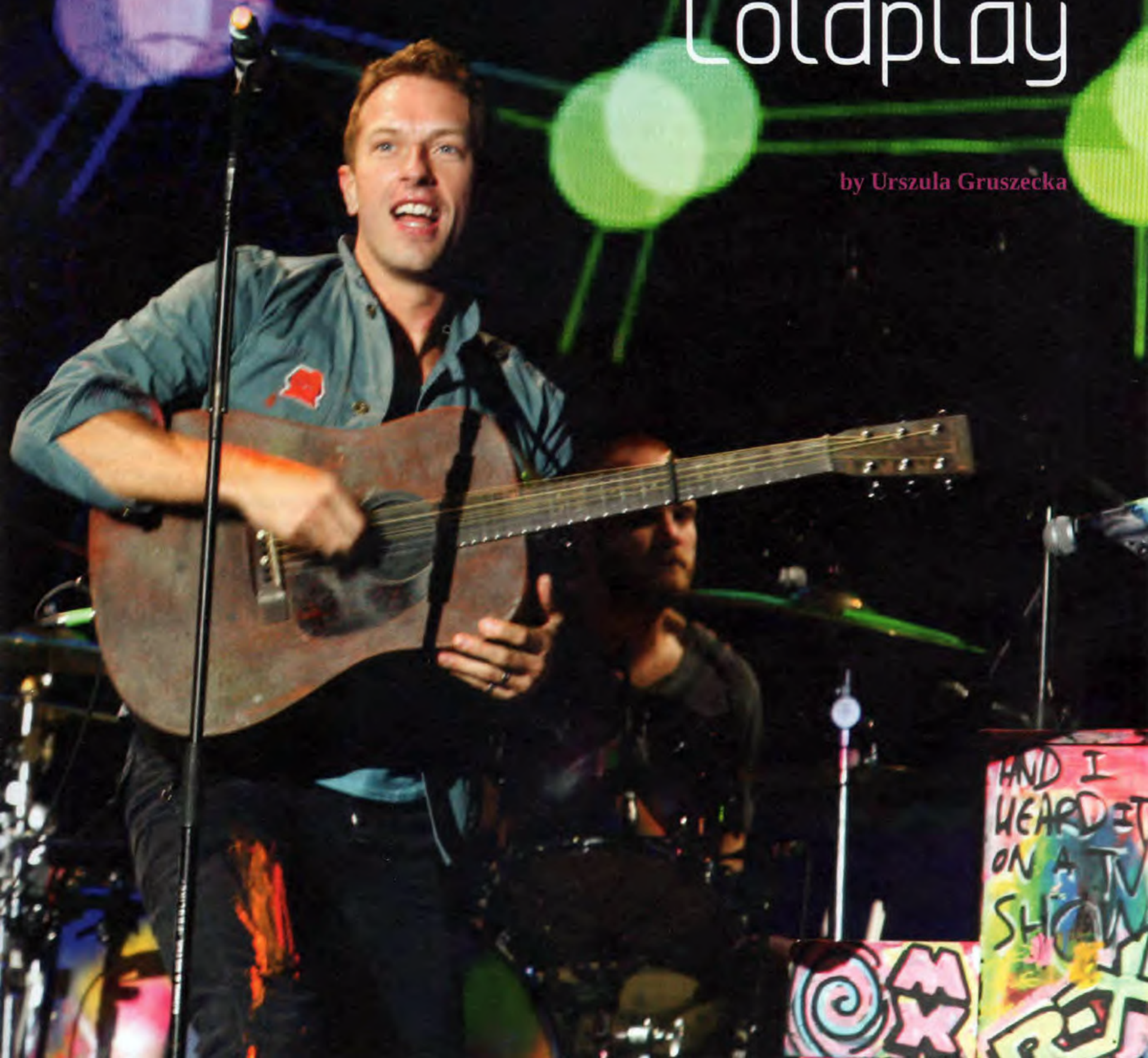
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The Magic of Coldplay

by Urszula Gruszecka



There are bands, and there are legends. London is one of the most multicultural cities in the world. It has been the cradle of thousands of bands, from which some lasted only a few months and some made history. Coldplay is one of those legends that are still there, shining and spreading their magic all around the world.

The Band

The band was created in 1996 by Chris Martin and Jonny Buckland. Guy Berryman and Will Champion joined shortly after. Through the years, the members of the band have not changed, which is not common among rock bands which have been around for so long. Martin believes that his work is a way of expressing his emotions. He perceives writing songs as a sort of process of self-discovery that allows him to analyse his own feelings and moods. Apart from his inner self, he draws inspiration from the relationships between the people in his life. The bond between the band's members is one of the sources of artistic inspiration as well.

Being almost as close as a real family

Fact File

While making the music video for *The Scientist* Chris Martin had to learn the lyrics backwards, as the video uses a reverse narrative, which means that the whole performance is recorded normally and then played backwards, creating an interesting illusion.

has not meant they have avoided misunderstandings, though. After their third album was released, the atmosphere among the members of the band was becoming heavy. Chris Martin was eventually fired, which gave the band time to re-establish its priorities. In the long run, it turned out to be a good thing. After some time, Chris came back to a rejuvenated group. They all agreed that they had to work on communication, because it was the chemistry between all of them that they owe their success to. What's more, all the members became more involved in the creative process.

There was even a time when Chris realised that Guy had been working on his own pieces of music. However, when asked, Guy declared that his work was not good enough to be presented to a larger audience. Finally, though, he plucked up enough courage to put his ideas forward, leading to the song *Magic*, which is considered one of the band's greatest hits. Interestingly, the group decided that they would share the writing credits, so each of them would have the same rights to the songs.

The Inspiration

The lyrics of the songs are often

perceived as a form of a diary by Chris Martin. He said that he often starts writing from the titles and later goes further with the ideas. Although he loves his job, he rarely listens to the band's songs, as he claims that he cannot learn anything new from them. Their music is said to be inspired by U2, Travis and R.E.M., and in their later works some may find the influence of Blur and Arcade Fire. However, the band is a brand in itself. Although they are London band, they definitely sound like an international one whose work

Fact File

Coldplay recorded a song entitled *Princess of China* with Rihanna.



cannot be mistaken for anyone else. The lead vocals are characteristic, and, along with the music, create a brand of its own.

The Albums

Coldplay's first studio album was called *Parachutes* and was released in 2000. It was a success, but it was their third album *X&Y* (2005) that got to the top of the charts and became the best-selling album of 2005. After that, each of their albums reached the top of the charts and received platinum status. This clearly shows how big a fan base the band has. ►

o **cradle** 'kreɪd(ə)l | wylęgarnia, kolebka

to last | trwać

to spread | rozprzestrzeniać (się), szerzyć

1 **through the years** | na przestrzeni lat

common | typowy

to perceive sth as sth | postrzegać coś jako coś

mood | nastrój

apart from sth | oprócz czegoś

to draw inspiration from sth tə drɔː ,ɪnspə'reɪʃ(ə)n frəm 'sʌmθɪŋ | czerpać natchnienie z czegoś

source | źródło

2 **to avoid sth** | unikać czegoś

misunderstanding | nieporozumienie

to release sth | wydać coś (np. album)

to become heavy | zagaższać się

eventually | w końcu

in the long run | na dłuższą metę

to turn out | okazywać się

rejuvenated rɪ'dʒu:vəneɪtɪd | odnowionej, odrodzonej

to owe sth to sth | zawdzięczać coś czemuś

audience | widownia

to pluck up (the) courage to do sth | zebrać się na odwagę, żeby coś zrobić

3 **rarely** | rzadko

to claim that... | twierdzić, że...

to be mistaken for sb else | zostać wziętym za kogoś innego

parachute 'pærəʃu:t | spadochron

The first single that caught people's attention was *Yellow* from the album *Parachutes*. In spite of the fact that the song is, according to Chris, a melancholic story of unrequited love and emotional devotion, by many fans it is actually considered as a song with positive undertones. Another single that reached the top spots is *Speed of Sound* from the album *X&Y*, which encourages people to take their chances in life and not to be afraid of failure. Chris said in one interview that this reflects his attitude towards life, that he has changed, in the way that now he is aware that being afraid of love and of what others may think about his work is not the right way of living. That is what the song is about. The biggest success, as far as singles go, are, along with those mentioned above, *Viva la Vida* from the album *Viva la Vida or Death and All His Friends* (2008) and *Paradise* from the album *Mylo Xyloto* (2012). In 2013, the band recorded the song *Atlas* for the second part of the *Hunger Games - Catching Fire* trilogy. The most recent song that has become a firm favourite among fans as well as the critics is *A Sky Full of Stars* from *Ghost Stories* (2014).

Magic

Irrespective of your musical preferences, Coldplay is among the musical elite that truly deserves respect. In a world

- 4 **to catch sb's attention** | zwrócić czyjąś uwagę
unrequited love ,ʌnrɪ'kwæɪtɪd lʌv | nieodwzajemniona miłość
devotion | oddanie
failure | porażka
attitude towards sth | stosunek do czegoś, podejście do czegoś
to be aware that... | być świadomym czegoś
irrespective of sth | bez względu na coś
 5 **to thrive on sth** | żywić się czymś
fed up with sth | znudzony czymś
predictability | przewidywalność
faithfulness to sth | oddanie czemuś, lojalność
genre 'ʒɒnrə | gatunek (np. muzyczny)
 6 **advantage** | zaleta
to convince sb to do sth | przekonać kogoś do zrobienia czegoś

thriving on change, a world so easily fed up with predictability, they have managed to transform their faithfulness to the music genre they represent into their

biggest advantage, convincing even RiRi to become their princess. It seems that Coldplay not only sing about magic, but are truly able to do some magic as well. ■



The lyrics of the songs are often perceived as a form of a diary by Chris Martin.

A Brief History of London

by George Sandford

Packed with iconic landmarks and thronging with a huge, multicultural population, London is one of the must-see capitals of the world, but how did it become this vast metropolis? *English Matters* leafs through the history books to uncover the explanation.

Romans and Saxons

Scholars dispute whether the origin of the name is Roman or Celtic, but it's certain that as early as the first century AD there was a Roman settlement called Londinium on the site. Being well inland

from the coast and offering a deep port on the River Thames, London provided the ideal location to build a substantial town. It's believed that Roman London housed as many as 45,000 people and offered all the facilities typical of Roman town planning. This included a forum, basilica, public baths and, of course, an amphitheatre, although it was too early to throw Christians to the lions, as Christianity didn't reach Britain until Augustus's mission of 597. Coming under frequent attack from Saxons, Picts and Scoti in the north and west of Britain, and Vandals and Visigoths closer to home, by 410,

the Romans had pulled the plug on their British excursion, leaving the way clear for the Saxons. They inhabited the city on a smaller scale, focusing on silverwork and trading until 500 years later, when raiding Danes popped in to rape and pillage. In the eleventh century, King Olaf of Norway and his men also invaded, giving rise to the children's rhyme, London Bridge is falling down.

Fire!

The commencement of rule by William the Conqueror from Normandy in 1066 brought stability and consolidation ►

o **brief** | krótki

1 **packed with** | pełen czegoś

landmark | charakterystyczny obiekt

to throng with sth | być pełnym czegoś

huge | ogromny

must-see | *pot.* warty zobaczenia

vast | ogromny

to leaf through sth | kartkować coś

to uncover sth | odkrywać coś

Romans | Rzymianie

scholar | uczoney, badacz

to dispute | debatować, spierać się o coś

origin | pochodzenie

AD=Anno Domini | naszej ery

settlement | osada

site | teren

inland | położony w głąb lądu

2 **coast** | wybrzeże

to provide sth | zapewniać coś

location | lokalizacja

substantial | znaczący, duży

to house | dawać schronienie, mieścić

facility | obiekt

to include | obejmować coś, zawierać coś

basilica | bazylika

bath | łaźnia

to come under attack | być atakowanym

frequent | częsty

Picts | Pikowie

Scoti | Gaelowie, północni Szkoci

3 **to pull the plug** | zaprzestawać czegoś

excursion ɪk'skɑːʃ(ə)n / ɛk'skɑːʃ(ə)n | wyprawa

to leave the way clear | zostawić komuś wolną drogę

to inhabit sth | zamieszkiwać coś

to focus on sth | skupiać się na czymś

silverwork | wyroby ze srebra

trading | handel

to raid sth/sb | najeżdżać coś/kogoś

Danes | Danowie

to pop in X | wpadać do X

to rape | gwałcić

to pillage | rabować

to invade sth/sb | najeżdżać coś/kogoś

to give rise to sth | dawać czemuś

początek

rhyme | rymowanka

commencement | początek

William the Conqueror

'wɪljəm ðə 'kɒŋk(ə)rə | Wilhelm Zdobywca

stability | stabilność



1

2

3



Oil painting by anonymous artist, ca. 1670.

to the city. The mark one versions of the Tower of London and St. Paul's Cathedral were built, although the Christopher Wren design would replace the latter in the seventeenth century. The city became a great trade hub and this contributed to the disaster that struck in 1348. The arrival of the plague called "The Black

- 4 mark one** | *pot.* pierwszy (z wielu)
although | mimo, że
to replace sth | zastępować coś
the latter | ten drugi
hub | węzeł (np. komunikacyjny)
to contribute to sth | przyczynić się do czegoś
disaster | katastrofa
to strike | uderzać, nawiedzać
plague *pleg* | zaraza, dżuma
5 to wipe out sth | zmieść coś z powierzchni ziemi
to recover from sth | podnosić się po czymś
outbreak | wybuch
bubonic plague | dżuma dymienicza (jedna z postaci dżumy)
inhabitant | mieszkaniec
to survive | przetrwać
narrow | wąski
cobbled | brukowany
cheek by jowl | bardzo blisko
thatched | kryty strzechą
dwelling | domostwo
foundry | odlewnia

Death" wiped out at least a third of the London population. In time, the city recovered, but there was another outbreak of bubonic plague in 1665 that killed 25 percent of the city's half a million inhabitants. Those that survived were living in narrow, cobbled streets, cheek by jowl in thatched dwellings next to foundries, smithies and bakeries. It was in the last of these establishments, a bakery owned by Thomas Farynor in Pudding Lane, that the Great Fire of London broke out just one year after the plague. It raged for days, and, with woefully inadequate fire-fighting equipment, it destroyed an estimated 13,500 dwellings, although apparently, relatively few people were killed in the blaze.

From Parks to the Blitz

Like all good phoenixes, London rose from the ashes stronger than before. The city prospered and the landed gentry introduced Hyde Park and Richmond Park, and commissioned the building of grand abodes such as Buckingham Palace, Marlborough House and The Mansion

- smithy** | kuźnia
establishment | przybytek
to break out | wybuchać
to rage | szaleć
woefully | żałośnie
inadequate | niewystarczający, nieodpowiedni do czegoś
fire-fighting | strażacki
to destroy sth | niszczyć coś
to estimate sth | szacować coś
apparently | *tu:* jak się okazało
relatively | stosunkowo
blaze | wielki pożar, pożoga
phoenix | feniks
to rise from the ashes | podnosić się z popiołów
to prosper | prosperować, rozwijać się
landed gentry | szlachta ziemiańska
to introduce sth | wprowadzać coś, zapoczątkować coś
to commission sth | zlecać coś
grand | wielki, okazały
abode | *lit.* dom, siedziba
6 foodstuff | artykuł spożywczy

House, home of the Lord Mayor of London. As international trade grew and exports of wool, clothing, beer, foodstuffs and furniture expanded, West India, London, St Katharine and Millwall Docks were added. To accommodate the growing population, the city spread out to absorb what had previously been the country areas of Chiswick, Putney, Wimbledon, Richmond and Ealing, to name but a few. By 1900, the city was connected to a national rail network, had an underground system, street gas lighting and a population of six million. If there was ever any doubt about its credentials, these were vanquished as the city truly arrived on the world stage, being not only the capital of England but of the British Empire. The Nazis tried to reduce the population somewhat, and during the Second World War, the city took quite a pasting. In the air raids, known as the blitz, which took place between 1941 and 1944, over 20,000 people were killed and many more injured. Up to 150,000 people took refuge each night in the London Underground, which now served as a vast air raid shelter.

- to expand** | rozwijać się
to accommodate sb | przyjmować, dawać dach nad głową
to spread out | rozciągać się, rozrastać się
to absorb | wchłaniać
previously | poprzednio, wcześniej
to name but a few | na przykład, aby wymienić tylko kilka
rail | kolej
network | sieć
underground | podziemny
credentials | *tu:* status
to vanquish sth | pokonywać, rozwiewać, przewycięzać
stage | scena, arena
empire | imperium
somewhat | nieco
to take a pasting | dostać lanie
air raid | nalot
to take place | mieć miejsce
injured | ranny
to take refuge *ta tejk 'refju:dʒ* | schronić się
to serve as sth | służyć jako coś
shelter | schronienie

Remarkable and surprising facts about London

- The Tube was started in 1863 and now comprises 250 miles of track served by 270 stations. 52 percent of the underground network is actually above ground.
- London's orbital motorway, the M25, is the longest city ring-road in the world at 117 miles.
- Big Ben is not the name of the clock tower on the Houses of Parliament but the actual bell inside.
- Despite the advent of GPS, to get a London Taxi Licence, drivers still need to learn 'The Knowledge,' where they have to memorise and know off by heart over 25,000 roads, routes, landmarks and buildings.
- Royal Navy ships entering the Port of London are required to give a barrel of rum to the constable of the Tower of London.
- The world's first traffic light was installed outside Westminster Palace (the Houses of Parliament) in 1868.

remarkable | wyjątkowy

to comprise of sth | składać się z czegoś

track | tora

network | sieć

orbital (road) | obwodnica

motorway | autostrada

ring-road | obwodnica

actual | *tu: sam*

despite sth | pomimo czegoś

advent | nadejście czegoś

to memorise sth | zapamiętywać coś

by heart | na pamięć

navy | marynarka

to enter sth | *tu: wpływać do czegoś*

barrel | beczka

constable | BrE posterunkowy

traffic light | światła

From Fog to Fireworks

A peacetime tragedy that beset the city was the notorious Great Smog of December 1952. A combination of cold weather and still air trapped the pollution of factory chimneys and thousands of domestic coal fires under a cloud of smog that engulfed the city and pressed down upon it. The "pea souper" was so dense that public transport was suspended and even walking in the day required the hazardous shuffling of tiny footsteps, but the health impact was more catastrophic. It is estimated that as many as 12,000 people died from respiratory problems. It remains to this day, Britain's biggest environmental disaster, but at least it precipitated the introduction of the Clean Air Act in 1954.

The post-war years saw a major programme of slum clearance and modernisation. Business thrived again, spurred by the burgeoning car market and increased consumer demand. New landmarks were added to the London skyline, such as the distinctive, rocket-like Post Office Tower which opened in 1965 and the 135m high

7 fog | mgła

peacetime | czas pokoju

to beset sb/sth | nękać, dręczyć coś/kogoś

notorious | niesławny, o złej sławie

combination | połączenie

still | nieruchomy, stojący

to trap sth | więzić coś

chimney 'tʃɪmni | komin

domestic | domowy

coal | węgiel

to engulf sth | pochłaniać, ogarniać coś

to press down | napierać na, naciskać, osiadać na

pea souper | *tu: gęsty smog*

dense | gęsty

to suspend sth | zawieszać coś

to require sth | wymagać czegoś

hazardous | niebezpieczny

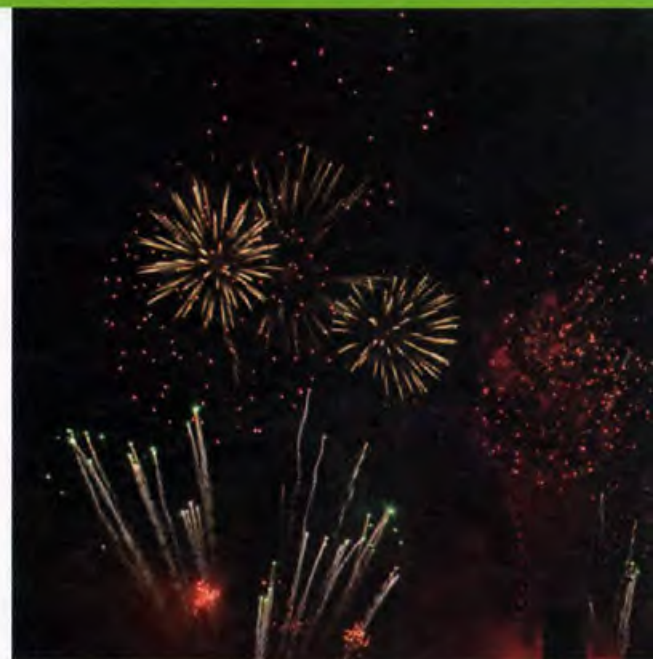
shuffling | szuranie, powłóczenie nogami

tiny | malutki

footsteps | kroki

impact | wpływ

respiratory | związany z układem oddechowym



Ferris wheel, The London Eye in 2000. Now, it always takes centre stage at the New Year's firework display.

A Melting Pot

One of the things that any visitor to London will notice is the city's remarkable ethnic diversity. Indeed, in a 2013 census, only 45 percent of the 8.5 million Londoners described themselves as white British. As many as 300 languages are spoken in the city by immigrants or descendants of people coming from every corner of the globe, but this influx is ►

to remain | pozostawać

disaster | katastrofa

to precipitate sth | przyspieszać coś

act | ustawa

post-war | powojenny

major | *tu: szeroko zakrojony*

slum | slums

to thrive | kwitnąć

to spur sth | pobudzać coś

burgeoning | rozkwitający, rodzący się

demand | popyt

skyline | panorama

distinctive | charakterystyczny

8 **display** | pokaz

melting pot | tygiel kulturowy, mieszanka kultur

remarkable | wyjątkowy

diversity dɪ'vɜ:stɪ / dɪ'və:stɪ | różnorodność

indeed | istotnie, w rzeczy samej

census | spis ludności

descendant | potomek

globe | glob, świat

influx | napływ

not just a recent phenomenon. Persecuted Huguenots arrived in numbers in the 1670s, and slavery and trading in the East Indies opened the door to Indians, Pakistanis, Africans and Caribbeans. Jews and the Irish have always been well represented, but have since been joined by Greeks, Turks and Italians, by Bangladeshis in the rag trade area of Brick Lane and the Chinese in Soho. A visit to London's China Town is well worth adding to the itinerary of a call on the capital, but you can find something of interest wherever you look. Stand on any tube station platform and you'll see a worldwide fashion show of saris, wrappers and dashikis and, with this immense ethnic diversity, you'll never be stuck for a bite to eat. Pretty much anywhere in the bustling streets of London, you'll be spoilt for choice, with the opportunity to tuck into virtually any nation's cuisine from Armenian to Zambian.

A Creative Capital Still Trading

As well as being a hive of activity with a cornucopia of culinary delights, London has always been a magnet for musicians, artists and architects and a catalyst for creativity. Beyond the obvious Buckingham Palace, Houses of Parliament and

The Pink Floyd album cover of *Animals* (1977)



Tower Bridge, you might try an alternative sightseeing tour taking in Sir Norman Foster's 30 St Mary Axe, aka The Gherkin, and the iconic Battersea Power Station, as featured on the Pink Floyd album cover of *Animals*. Buildings aside, the city is

perhaps still best remembered for the swinging sixties, with Carnaby Street fashion, Mary Quant esigns and boyish London supermodel, Twiggy. On the musical front, we can thank the city for producing the likes of The Rolling Stones, George Michael, Coldplay, Pet Shop Boys, Queen, Elton John, Adele, not forgetting The Clash with their apocalyptic anthem, London Calling.

If London does beckon you, by all means take a stroll down Oxford Street to Marble Arch and on to Trafalgar Square and Nelson's Column, but dare to go off the beaten track, too. Visit the Sikh enclave of Southall, the predominantly black district of Peckham or the markets at Camden and Petticoat Lane. After all, London was built as a trading port and 2,000 years on, it is still doing good business.

If you're good at haggling, there's no better place to pick up a bargain and you'll be following in the footsteps of generations of Londoners before and probably, those that will follow in years to come. ■

- 9 **recent** | niedawny
phenomenon | zjawisko
persecuted | prześladowany
slavery | niewolnictwo
rag trade | przemysł odzieżowy
itinerary | plan podróży, trasa podróży
call | tu: wizyta
tube | pot. BrE metro
platform | peron
wrapper | chusta, szal
dashiki | dashiki (kolorowa i luźna koszula afrykańska)
immense | ogromny
to be stuck | być uwięzonym, być ograniczonym
bite | coś na ząb
bustling | tętniący życiem
to be spoilt for choice | mieć zbyt dużo możliwości
to tuck into sth | pot. pałaszować coś,

- obżerać się czymś
virtually | w zasadzie, praktycznie
cuisine | kuchnia
to be a hive of activity tə bi: ə haɪv (ə)v ak'tɪvɪti | aż wrzeć, roić się od czegoś
cornucopia | róg obfitości
delight | przyjemność, rozkosz
magnet | magnes
catalyst | katalizator
beyond | poza
obvious | oczywisty
10 **sightseeing tour** | wycieczka ze zwiedzaniem
gherkin | korniszon
power station | elektrownia
to feature sth | przedstawiać coś
cover | okładka
aside | poza
11 **perhaps** | być może
the swinging sixties | swingujące lata 60-te

- boyish** | chłopięcy
the likes of X | temu podobni
anthem | hymn
to beckon sb | przywoływać kogoś
stroll | spacer
to dare to do sth | odważyć się coś zrobić
to go off the beaten track | zbaczać z utartej ścieżki
enclave | enklawa
predominantly | głównie, w przeważającej mierze
district | dzielnica
after all | wszak, przecież
to pick up sth | łapać, znajdować coś
bargain 'bɑ:ɡɪn | okazja
to haggle | targować się
to follow in sb's footsteps | podążać w czyjeś ślady
in years to come | w najbliższych latach

50 Shades of Colour

by Robin Das

As a born and bred Londoner, my Polish students often ask me how my home city compares to Krakow. My answer is always simple and straightforward; you can't compare London to any Polish city, or even anywhere else, as London is not a city in the traditional sense – for with its multicultural communities, festivals, neighbourhoods and traditions, it is the world in miniature.

- o shade | odcień
- bred | tu: rasowy
- to compare to sth | wypadać w porównaniu do czegoś
- straightforward | bezpośredni
- neighbourhood | dzielnica, okolica

MP3



kod dostępu: vrzk
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The First Immigrants

For as long as England has been a seafaring nation, there have been immigrants from Africa and the Far East residing in London. During Tudor times it became fashionable for the upper classes to acquire an African servant, or a Moor as they were then known, and many aristocratic portraits of the time portray an alabaster-skinned lady being waited on by an ebony hued, meek boy servant, serving her an exotic fruit. However, in a trend that persists

to this day of blaming immigrants for a county's woes, in the 1590s, with England stricken with plague and famine, Elizabeth I issued proclamations that 'those kinde of people should be sente forth of the land'.

Inevitably, such policies failed, and with Britain's ever-expanding role in the slave trade, in which London's, Liverpool's and Bristol's ports became hopping off points for black sailors, slaves and servants, the UK's non-white population steadily grew throughout the 17th and 18th centuries. Many of these escapees ended up in the seedier sides of London, and by the 1760s, the capital's black population was numbered between 10 and 15,000. Interestingly, as there were few women of African descent, most of these first immigrants would have formed relationships with British women, and over the generations their offspring would have blended back into mainstream British society. It's a source of perplexity to many British people today, who appear stoutly Anglo-Saxon, when they stumble upon a mysterious Moor ancestor when researching their family tree.

In the mid to late 19th century, the East India Company, which imported silks, ceramics, spices and perfumes from the East, brought with them sailors from the Orient. Many were abandoned by their masters and crews once in London's docklands, and toiled in the shipyards to scrape together passage for their return voyage. Others made the best of it and set up shop in London's east end, in areas like Poplar and Limehouse, where some of them became notorious for operating illicit opium and gambling dens.

The Windrush Generation

Fast forward to Britain post-1945, and the MV Empire Windrush en route from Australia to London pulled into port in Kingston, Jamaica, then part of the British Empire. At the same time there were adverts extolling the virtues of moving to the UK, and nearly 500 Jamaicans decided to take the gamble. When they arrived they were housed in disused underground shelters in Clapham, south London, which is within walking distance of Brixton, an area which became synonymous

Elizabeth Murray, Lady Tollemache, later Countess of Dysart and Duchess of Lauderdale, with a black servant, by Sir Peter Lely, ca. 1651



- 1 **seafaring** | żeglarski
fashionable | modny
to acquire sth | nabywać coś
Moor | Maur
ebony **hued** | koloru hebanowego
meek | potulny
servant | służący
to persist | prze/trwać
2 **to blame sb for sth** | obwiniać kogoś o coś
woe | niedola
stricken with sth | dotknięty czymś
plague pleɪɡ | dżuma
famine 'fæmɪn | głód
to issue sth | wydawać coś

- to send sb forth** | wyrzucić kogoś
inevitably | co nieuniknione
to fail | zawodzić
ever-expanding | rosnący, zwiększający się
slave trade | handel niewolnikami
hopping off point | punkt przerzutowy
sailor | żeglarz
steadily | trwale
escapee | uciekinier
seedy | zniszczony, zaniedbany
numbered | szacowany
descent | pochodzenie
offspring | potomstwo
to blend back into sth | mieszać się ponownie z czymś
mainstream | *tu*: główny nurt, większość
perplexity | zakłopotanie
to appear | wydawać się
stoutly | *tu*: zdecydowanie
to stumble upon sb | natknąć się na kogoś
ancestor | przodek
to research sth | badać coś, przeszukiwać coś
silk | jedwab
3 **spices** | przyprawy

- abandoned** | opuszczony, porzucony
crew | załoga
dockland | dzielnica portowa
to toil | harować
shipyard | stocznia
to scrape together | zbierać z wysiłkiem / ciułać
to make the best of it | wykorzystywać to jak najlepiej
to set up sth | zakładać coś, otwierać coś
notorious for sth | znany z czegoś złego
to operate sth | *tu*: obracać czymś
illicit | nielegalny
gambling den | kasyno
en route | w drodze
to pull into | zawinąć (do portu)
advert | reklama
to extoll sth | wychwalać coś, opiewać coś
virtue | *tu*: zaleta
to take the gamble | zaryzykować
housed | ulokowany, zakwaterowany
disused | opuszczony
underground | podziemny
shelter | schronienie

with Afro-Caribbean immigrants. Today, many of those first arrivals assimilated children and grandchildren still live in the area, which is famed for its Caribbean restaurants and bars.

Today, the Windrush generation are seen as pioneers, as there was little set up for them on arrival and they faced hostility, discrimination – a common sight was the ‘No Irish, Blacks and Dogs’ sign in boarding houses – and, on occasions, outright attacks by their white ‘hosts’. On the other hand, their music and dance was to influence and shape the swinging sixties along with reggae, soul and hip-hop taking root in the flourishing music scene of the 70s and 80s.

Shaping a New Britain

The third really significant group to move to London were Asians from the Indian sub-continent, and many of these were actively persuaded to emigrate in the booming post-war years, to fill the jobs that British people saw as beneath them; postmen, bus drivers, tube drivers and the like. In the early 1960s, Conservative Health Minister Enoch Powell oversaw a recruitment drive to lure Indian doctors to work in the newly formed National Health Service. It's undoubtedly true that without mass immigration the NHS couldn't have coped, as immigrants took on health jobs from the lowliest cleaners to the top



consultants, helping to make Britain's universally free health service the envy of the world. Ironically, it was to be the same politician, Enoch Powell, who would damn multi-culturalism later in the decade, when he made a provocative speech, dubbed ‘rivers of blood’, in which he predicted mass strife if mass immigration continued unabated.

In London, many Asians settled in the east, in areas such as Brick Lane, known as the Curry Mile, for its wealth of Indian restaurants, and Finsbury Park, where

many Muslims settled. In the west of London, in Southall and Neasden, many Hindus congregated and founded the biggest Hindu temple outside Indian, the Shri Swaminarayan Temple, a shimmering marble and limestone marvel.

The New Europeans

On 1st January 2004, when the European Union nearly doubled in size overnight with the accession of many former Communist states, the stage was set for a new wave of immigration, most ►

- 4 **arrival** | przybycie, przyjazd
famed for sth | znany z czegoś
to face sth | zmierzyć się z czymś
hostility | wrogość
common | powszechny
sight | widok
boarding house | internat
outright | bezpośredni
host | gospodarz
to influence sth | wpływać na coś
to shape sth | ukształtować coś
to take in root | zakorzeniać się w
flourishing | kwitnący
significant | znaczący
to persuade sb to do sth | przekonywać kogoś do zrobienia czegoś
booming | kwitnący

- beneath** | tu: niegodny
tube driver | kierowca metra
to oversee sth | nadzorować coś
recruitment drive | pęd rekrutacyjny
to lure sb tə lʊə(r) / ljuə(r) 'sɒmbədi | wabić / nęcić kogoś
undoubtedly ʌn'daʊtɪdli | bez wątpliwości, niewątpliwie
to cope | radzić sobie
to take on | podejmować
cleaner | osoba sprzątająca
5 **envy** | zazdrość
to damn sth | przekląć coś
dubbed | nazwany, okrzyknięty

- to predict sth** | przewidzieć coś
strife | konflikt, spór
unabated | z niesłabnącą siłą
to settle | osiedlać się
wealth | bogactwo, duża liczba
6 **Muslim** 'mʊzlm / 'mɔzlm | muzułmanin
to congregate | zbierać się
to found sth | zakładać coś
temple | świątynia
shimmering | mieniący się
marble | marmur
limestone | wapień
marvel | cudo
accession | przystąpienie
former | były
stage | scena

Advice from a Native Speaker:

On more than one occasion a Polish friend or student has innocently referred to the number of Negroes in London. It's tricky for Poles, in a country which doesn't have a lot of non-white diversity, to know what's the right and wrong term for different ethnic groups in other more multi-cultural countries. Even an innocent mistake can cause offence - or worse - in the UK, USA or Australia.

So, in the UK a person of African or Caribbean descent would be described as black, while in the USA they would be African-American. The term 'Negro' is completely unacceptable in any country, as it has connotations with the slave trade. The term 'Moor', which described black people before industrialisation, wouldn't be widely understood today. In Britain, 'Asian' would describe anyone who has ethnicity from the Indian sub-continent, such as from India, Pakistan or Sri Lanka. Bear in mind that in the USA and Australia, 'Asian' is used to refer to people whose origins are from China, Thailand, Vietnam and Japan, as these countries have larger south-east Asian populations than Britain.

innocently | niewinnie
to refer to sth | odnieść się do czegoś
tricky | podstępny
diversity | różnorodność
offence | obraza
while | podczas gdy
to bear sth in mind | mieć coś na uwadze

notably from Poland. It's true to say that most people were caught off guard by the numbers of Eastern Europeans that headed to the UK and London, but like the immigrants before them, they have shaped the face of Britain and by and large, have comfortably found their niche in the major conurbations, and in London.

Most Exciting Multicultural Events

Some corners of the capital have become renowned for unique multi-cultural celebrations.

Notting Hill in west London hosts one of the most spectacular Caribbean carnivals in Europe, as hundreds of locals, mostly of Afro-Caribbean origin, take to the streets for a two-day jamboree. Now

in its 50th year, it's a London institution, and the dancers' plumes, feathers and headdresses seem to expand and become jazzier with each passing year.

Ealing in west London is the backdrop for the Mela, a riotous celebration of music, dance, entertainment and music from South Asia, last year enjoyed by 80,000 Londoners. Staying in the borough, Ealing is one of the best places in London to catch Diwali, or the festival of lights, strictly observed by Hindus and Sikhs, who place candles in the windows of homes, celebrating the triumph of good over evil.

China Town, off Leicester Square in central London, is where you'll see row on row of fluorescent coloured orange ducks dangling in the windows of one Chinese

7 notably | zauważalnie
to catch somebody off guard | zaskoczyć kogoś
to head to | zmierzać do
by and large | w zasadzie
conurbation | aglomeracja
renowned for sth | znany z czegoś
to take to the streets | wylegać na ulice
8 plume | pióro, pióropusz
feather | pióro
headdress | nakrycie głowy,

przybranie głowy
to seem | wydawać się
to expand | rozprzestrzeniać się
to be the backdrop to/for sth | stanowić tło dla czegoś
riotous | *tu:* hałaśliwy, huczny
entertainment | rozrywka
borough 'bʌrə / 'bɜ:roʊ | dzielnica
strictly | ściśle
observed | przestrzegany
row rəʊ / roʊ | rząd
dangling | zwisający

Empire Windrush (SS Windrush)

The Windrush generation are so-named because they were the first significant group of post-war immigrants to move to Britain. They consisted of 492 official passengers and one stowaway, who departed Kingston Bay in Jamaica in 1948 aboard the SS Windrush - a German cruise liner captured by the British.

The British Nationality Act of 1948 had granted citizenship rights to Commonwealth residents – in other words, those who had been citizens of the old British Empire. Once settled in the UK, the vast majority found work in London in newly nationalised industries, such as health, transport and the post office, and led the way for the new-look multi-cultural Britain that began to take shape.

There are many markers to the Windrush generation in London, including a memorial stone in Ealing, west London, and a square in Brixton, south London, where many Afro-Caribbean families settled.

restaurant after another. It's here that you'll catch the **flamboyant** Chinese dragon as he **twists** and **twirls** his way to Trafalgar Square **in readiness for** the Chinese New Year in early February. As **dusk draws in**, **dozens** of Chinese red **lanterns** are **lit** and **drift off** into the dark, creating a harmonious, **haunting glow** of light.

My Own London

In my own London borough, Waltham Forest in East London, Polish **delis**, Romanian **bakeries** and Greek **barbers** **jostle** alongside Italian espresso bars, Swedish sandwich bars and Asian tea houses along and off the main drag. **Burka clad** Muslim women **scurry by**, **swarthy** looking young men **hailing from** Bulgaria to Syria and **in between**, jostle with each other in their own **tongue**, as an oriental acupuncturist and pharmacist **flicks** over his 'closed' sign **indicating** his store is open for business. In this middle of this **throng** a **gaggle** of **blue-rinse Bettys** **natter** together, a **reminder** of the old, **stolidly** white working classes. This is the face of London's world and the **vast majority** of Londoners wouldn't have it any other way. ■

- ◉ **flamboyant** | ekstrawagancki
- to twist** | skręcać, wyginać się
- to twirl** | wirować, obracać się
- in readiness for sth** | w gotowości na coś
- dusk** *dɜːsk* | zmierzch
- to draw in** | zapadać
- dozen** | tuzin
- lantern** | lampion
- lit** | zapalany
- drift off** | gasnąć
- haunting** *ˈhɔːntɪŋ* | zapadający w pamięć
- glow** | blask
- delis** | delikatesy
- bakery** | piekarnia
- barber** | fryzjer
- to jostle** | *tu*: znajdować się tuż obok, żyć obok siebie
- clad** | ubrany, odziany
- to scurry by** | przemykać w pośpiechu
- swarthy** | śniady
- to hail from** | pochodzić z



Notting Hill in west London hosts one of the most spectacular Caribbean carnivals in Europe.

- in between** | (z obszaru) pomiędzy (jednym a drugim krajem)
- tongue** *tʌŋ* | język
- to flick** | machać
- to indicate sth** | wskazywać coś
- throng** | tłum, chmara
- gaggle** | grupa

- blue-rinse Betty** | starsza pani o konserwatywnych poglądach
- to natter** | *pot.* gawędzić, gadać
- reminder** | pamiątka, pozostałość
- stolidly** | *pej.* stateczny, flegmatyczny
- vast** | ogromny
- majority** | większość

MP3



kod dostępu: 8tky
www.englishmatters.pl

Studying in London

by Barbara Jasińska



London has over forty universities and other higher education institutions to choose from. The offer covers specialist and more general or interdisciplinary courses in various, central and quieter locations, in the form of full-time studies or flexible part-time schedules easy to reconcile with your job. And all these in one of the most bustling, cosmopolitan, culturally and economically developed cities in the world. Many have already taken their chances to get a London university degree, now it's time for you.

Prestigious Studies

The quality of British higher education is recognised by employers all over the world. According to the Guardian ranking concerning UK universities, with 87.8% of graduates having a job six months after they finished studies, Imperial College London is the best in the category of employability. Yet, the lists with top world universities also contain London schools in very high positions. The QS World University Rankings® 2014/15, for example, places as many as three London higher education institutions among fourteen which received maximum points for “employer reputation”. These are the London School of Economics and Political Science, Imperial College London, and London Business School. In the overall assessment of the organisation mentioned above, Imperial College London takes second place in the worldwide ranking, after the University of Cambridge.

The system of higher education in the UK is known for its practical approach to learning. It assumes that students must be prepared for their future work, which is why theoretical classes are completed with numerous projects and traineeships. British professors' and lecturers' attitude to students is completely different from ►

- o **to cover** | *tu*: obejmować
- schedule** | grafik, harmonogram
- to reconcile sth with sth** *ta* 'rekənsaɪl 'sʌmθɪŋ wɪð 'sʌmθɪŋ | *po*/godzić coś z czymś
- bustling** | tętniący życiem
- to take one's chances** | zaryzykować
- 1 **prestigious** *pre*'stɪdʒəs | prestiżowy, renomowany
- according to sth** | według czegoś
- concerning** | dotyczący
- graduate** | absolwent
- employability** | zdolność do zatrudnienia, chęć zatrudnienia przez pracodawców
- overall** | ogólny
- assessment** | ocena
- approach to sth** | podejście do czegoś
- to assume that...** | zakładać, że...
- traineeship** | praktyki
- lecturer** | wykładowca
- attitude to sb** | stosunek do kogoś

the one in Poland. Both sides work on equal terms and they're rather like partners in their everyday relations.

How to Apply

All the European Union citizens are treated as home students in the UK. They undergo the same admission procedure as the British. Applications to universities in the UK must be submitted through UCAS (the Universities and Colleges Admissions Service). You can do it on the UCAS website or in any British Council branch. EU students should complete applications by

A well-written personal statement is the most important part. Here, you must convince the school that you're the right candidate for them.

15th of January to start their education in the next academic year. After this date, your documents will be marked as "late", and you will have no guarantee that they will be considered.

Via the UCAS system, you can choose up to five courses. Apart from personal information, the application form contains your education and employment details, a personal statement and a reference letter from your teacher, tutor, adviser or any other person who knows you from the academic point of view. A well-written personal statement is the most important part. Here, you must convince the school you want to study at that you're the right candidate for them.

Entry requirements for Poles are set individually by each higher education entity based on the results of the Polish matura exam taken at the advanced/extended level. There are universities that accept students with relevant subjects (at least two) passed at 65%, but the most prestigious institutions, like Imperial College London, require results of 85-90%.

You should pay attention to the language

Fact File

London Universities in QS World University Rankings® 2014/15 in overall assessment

- Imperial College London – 2nd place
- University College London – 5th place
- King's College London – 16th place
- London School of Economics and Political Science – 71st place
- Queen Mary University of London – 98th place
- Royal Holloway University of London – 275th place
- SOAS, University of London – 331st place
- City University London – 341st place
- Brunel University London – 355th place
- Birkbeck, University of London – 431st place
- Goldsmiths, University of London – 501st place

requirements of your target university. Some of them demand only your Polish matura exam in English passed at the advanced/extended level. Other institutions will want certain certificates from you, to be sure that your knowledge of English is sufficient. The most popular ones include: IELTS Academic, PTE Academic, and TOEFL. British schools also accept CPE, CAE and TOEIC. The certificate shouldn't be more than two years old. There are also institutions which require that prospective students take the university's own internal test checking their language skills.

Who Can Afford It?

Higher education in London is known for being expensive. The maximum charge for home or EU students in 2015 amounts to £9,000 pounds. Yet this doesn't mean that you definitely can't afford it if you don't have that sum of money. First of all, there is a well-organised system of student loans which are available for all EU citizens. The interest rate is low and after graduating, you pay back only 9% of your earnings before tax above the threshold of £21,000 annually. This means that if your salary is, for example, £25,000 a year, you repay 9% of £4,000, which means £360 a year (£30 a month). If you live in

- 2 **on equal terms** | na równych prawach
- to apply for sth** | ubiegać się o
- to undergo sth** | przechodzić przez coś
- admission** | przyjęcie
- to submit sth** | składać coś (np. podanie)
- branch** | oddział
- via** | przy użyciu czegoś, za pośrednictwem czegoś
- personal statement** | oświadczenie osobiste
- tutor** | korepetytor, opiekun naukowy
- to convince sb to do sth** | przekonać kogoś, żeby coś zrobić
- entity** | *tu*: jednostka
- based on sth** | na podstawie czegoś
- relevant** | odpowiedni, odnośny, właściwy
- to pay attention to sth** | przywiązywać uwagę do czegoś
- 3 **target** | *tu*: docelowy
- to demand sth** | wymagać czegoś
- sufficient** | wystarczający
- to afford sth** | pozwolić sobie na coś
- charge** | opłata
- loan** | pożyczka
- available** | dostępny
- interest rate** | stopa procentowa
- earnings** | zarobki
- threshold** | próg
- salary** | pensja



King's College London Chapel

another country, the threshold is set at a different level, depending on the local costs of living.

Secondly, you can apply for scholarships funded by the UK government, particular universities and various independent organisations.

Thirdly, the costs of living can be easily covered by combining education with a job, which is much easier in the UK than in Poland. This is thanks to the organisation of studies, where there are fewer lectures and other classes, because learning is based on more individual work done by students at the most convenient time for them.

Top City for Students

On top of the best quality education resulting in high employability, London offers an exciting social and cultural life. Studying in one of the most cosmopolitan cities in the world, you can make friends that will form a global network. It's simply impossible to get bored in this simultaneously historic and modern place, offering an outstanding number of different kinds of leisure activities. Living there, you can develop any hobby at all, and get to know any culture in the world. It's like a melting pot of nations, languages, tastes, smells, and personalities

against the background of British tradition and history. Why not take a chance and get a degree, knowledge, experience and friends? ■

4 **scholarship** | stypendium

convenient | wygodny, odpowiedni

5 **to make friends with sb** | zaprzyjaźnić się z kimś

simultaneously sɪm(ə)'tɛɪniəsli |

równocześnie, zarówno

outstanding | niesamowity

leisure 'leɪzə(r) | czas wolny

melting pot | tygiel

Kings of the Underworld

MP3


 kod dostępu: xegx
 www.englishmatters.pl

by Dan Sandford

For years, London's underworld has captured the imaginations of both its citizens and people further afield. Impressed by the power, flash cars and fine suits, some London gangsters gained a cult following, and there are few East Enders who do not claim to have known The Krays. Seen by some as cold-hearted killers and others as loveable rogues, these heavy-handed crime bosses etched their names into history. *English Matters* goes undercover to get the inside gen.

Gang Heritage

The further one goes back, the less one can dig up about criminals in London. The

middle of the last century, though, is particularly well documented, and has been written about again and again and turned into films. Smuggling and prostitution rackets had been going on for centuries, but what is often considered the starting point of gang warfare is a scrap between the Dover Road Fighting Gang and the Green Gate Fighting Gang. Far from being master criminals, they were little more than hoodlums throwing their weight around. They would be followed by much wilyer gangs, though.

When there was peace, there was little news, but when two big gangs were scrapping over territory, sparks would fly and locals would be on red alert.

The next major rivalry to get out of hand was between The Odessians and The Bessarabians, Russian Jews who hated one another. They extorted money from their fellow Jews. Their victims were typically new immigrants to the country, some without the correct paperwork or on the fringes of the law, who had a natural fear of the police. They would stay shtum even when the gangs got heavy on them. The two gangs began to squabble over the same patch, ears were cut off, shops were turned over and eventually, most of the members of both gangs were sentenced to prison.

London's gangs were often of mixed heritage - usually Jewish, Irish and Italian; all played their parts and some united to

- o **underworld** | półświatek
- 1 **to capture sb's imagination** | rozbudzać czyjąś wyobraźnię
- citizen** | obywatel, mieszkaniec
- afield** | daleko
- impressed** | pod wrażeniem
- flash** | szpanerski
- fine** | świetny
- to gain sth** | zdobywać coś
- cult following** | grono fanatycznych wyznawców
- to claim sth** | twierdzić coś
- cold-hearted** | bezduszny
- loveable** | kochany
- rogue** | BrE łajdak, szubrawiec
- heavy-handed** | nieokrzesany, surowy
- to etch sth into sth** | wyrycić coś w czymś
- to go undercover** | pracować pod przykrywką
- inside** | tu: poufny
- gen** | pot. BrE informacja

- heritage** | dziedzictwo
- the... the... | im... tym...**
- to go back** | wracać, sięgać pamięcią
- to dig up sth** | wygrzebywać coś
- 2 **century** | wiek
- though** | niemniej jednak
- particularly** | szczególnie
- to turn into sth** | zmieniać się w coś, przekształcić się w coś
- racket** | pot. branża, biznes
- to go on** | trwać
- considered** | uważany za
- starting point** | punkt wyjścia
- warfare** | wojna
- scrap** | pot. bójka, konflikt
- hoodlum** | pot. chuligan, gangster
- to throw your weight around** | pot. rządzić się, panoszyć się
- wily** | chytry, przebiegły
- local** | lokalny mieszkaniec

- to be on red alert** | być w stanie najwyższej gotowości
- 3 **major** | znaczny
- rivalry** | rywalizacja
- to get out of hand** | wymykać się spod kontroli
- Jew dzu:** | Żyd
- to extort sth** | wyłudzać coś
- fellow** | tu: rodak
- paperwork** | dokumenty, formalności
- on the fringes of sth** | na marginesie czegoś
- to stay shtum** | trzymać gębę na kłódkę
- to get heavy on sb** | BrE ciężko kogoś karać
- to squabble over sth** | kłócić się o coś
- patch** | pot. BrE teren
- to cut off sth** | odcinać coś
- to turn over sth** | oddawać coś, zrzekać się czegoś
- eventually** | w końcu
- to sentence sb to sth** | skazywać kogoś na coś
- to play one's part** | odgrywać swoją rolę
- to unite** | łączyć się, łączyć siły

1

2

3

settle scores with mutual enemies, as was the case when The Sabinis and North London Jews put their differences to one side to come up against the Brummagen Boys. Both gangs were heavily involved in gambling. The Sabinis operated on racecourses and had swanky night clubs in London, while the North London Jews focus was on 'spielers', illegal gambling dens, where petty criminals would lose their money.

Although the facts have been somewhat altered, some of this bloody rivalry is serialised in the hit show *Peaky Blinders*. The weapon of choice was a razor, preferably a rusty one, and cutting someone from a rival gang was known as chivving. It would usually scar someone for life, without risking a murder charge. In the pre-war years, it was easy for these gangsters to have the police in their pocket. The police gave them little or no trouble and would work hand in hand. The Sabinis for example, would tip off the local constabulary as to who was a pickpocket by patting them on the back with chalk. The Sabinis' stranglehold on bookmaking was significantly weakened when there was mutiny amongst ranks and the gang split in two. Sabini was already in his fifties when the Second World War broke out. Due to Italy's fascist stance, the Jewish and Italian gangs no longer retained relations, and the Jewish gang had evolved into The Whites, with a young Jack Spot and Billy Hill working for them, learning the art of crime and lurking in the shadows with a view to taking over.

♦ **to settle scores with sb** | wyrównywać rachunki z kimś
mutual 'mju:tʃʊəl /'mju:tʃ(ə)l | wspólny
enemy | wróg
to be the case | być w rzeczywistości, mieć miejsce
to put one's differences to one side | odkładać na bok różnice
to come up against sb | stawać wobec kogoś
gambling | hazard
racecourse | tor wyścigów konnych
swanky | *pot.* elegancki
spieler | szulernia
den | melina
petty criminal | drobny przestępca
although | mimo że
somewhat | nieco
to alter sth | zmieniać coś
bloody | krwawy
serialised | s/fabularyzowany
weapon of choice | *tu:* ulubiona broń

razor 'reɪzə | brzytwa
preferably | najchętniej, najlepiej
rusty | zardzewiały
chivving | pocięcie, zeszpecenie
to scar sb | kiereszować
for life | na całe życie
charge | zarzut
pre-war | przedwojenny
to have sb in one's pocket | mieć kogoś w kieszeni
hand in hand | ramię w ramię
to tip sb off | *pot.* dawać komuś cynk
constabulary | BrE policja
pickpocket | kieszonkowiec
to pat sb on the back | klepać kogoś po plecach
chalk tʃɔ:k | kreda
stranglehold | trzymanie za gardło, kontrola
bookmaking | przyjmowanie zakładów
to weaken | słabnąć
mutiny | bunt
ranks | szeregi
to split | rozdzielać się
to break out | wybuchać
stance | stanowisko
to retain | utrzymywać
to evolve | ewoluować
to lurk | czaić się
to take over
sth | przejmować
coś





Though Sabini was born in the UK and couldn't even speak Italian, the law was looking for a way to see him off, and in 1940 he was convicted as an enemy alien. He narrowly missed out on being deported, and instead found himself incarcerated for a year. With no heir to the throne (his only son died during the war), he retired to Hove where he ran a bookmakers, allowing The Whites to take over his business. Sabini is said to be the gangster Colleoni in Graham Greene's *Brighton Rock*.

While these gangs focussed on gambling, The Messinas, of Sicilian Maltese heritage, tricked women into prostitution

and ran rings in London, Valletta and Alexandria, amassing as many as thirty brothels in the West End alone. In comparison with the decade-long empires of the likes of Sabini, their stint was short-lived. Their downfall was instigated by a crime reporter called Duncan Webb, who interviewed more than a hundred girls and published a front-page exposé on the gang. Scotland Yard took a keen interest

and pursued them aggressively, until they upped sticks and set up shop in Belgium.

Spot the Gangster

What was even more short-lived though, was the Whites' reign. They had made strides in the war, mostly through opportunism, and the Italian and Jewish gangs being weakened. Jack Spot, the son of a Polish-Jewish tailor from Łódź, so nicknamed because of a mole on his cheek, had been out of the East End, firstly fighting in WW2 and later, restoring order in Leeds for a well-known crook. On his return to the East End, he was displeased

with the way that the Whites were siphoning off the profits of Jewish-run spielers. Meanwhile, Billy Hill, a bit of a jack of all trades in the crime world, seized the opportunity to join forces with Spot. Hill never thought much of The Whites. He came from a criminal background, having seriously stabbed a man at 14, had dabbled with everything from shoplifting and burglary through to fraud, had a wealth of contacts and always saw himself as a potential underworld leader.

Jack Spot also fancied himself as King of the Underworld, and both he and Hill had a tendency to embellish their stories and revel in getting away with crimes. While Jack Spot was generally interested in racecourses and clubs, Hill was more into heists and they drifted apart until they became fierce enemies. Both wanted everyone to fear them, know who they were and considered themselves untouchable. Hill had a lot of the Met on his payroll, but perhaps more importantly, he had wiggled his way into the tabloids with the help of the same journalist that had put an end to The Messinas' reign in Soho's clubs. Hill

- 5 to look for sth | szukać czegoś
to see sb off | odsyłać kogoś
to convict sb | skazywać kogoś
alien | cudzoziemiec
narrowly | ledwo
to miss out on sth | przegapiać coś
to deport sb | deportować kogoś
instead | zamiast
to incarcerate sb | osadzać kogoś w więzieniu
heir e: | dziedzic
to retire | przechodzić na emeryturę
to allow sb to do sth | pozwalać komuś na zrobienie czegoś
to focus on sth | skupiać się na czymś
to trick sb into sth | podstępem skłaniać kogoś do czegoś
- 6 to run sth | prowadzić coś
to amass sth | gromadzić coś
brothel | dom publiczny
in comparison with sth | w porównaniu do czegoś
empire | imperium
the likes of X | temu podobni
stint | okres
downfall | upadek

- to instigate sth | wszczynać coś
crime reporter | dziennikarz piszący dla kroniki kryminalnej
to take a keen interest in sth | żywo się czymś interesować
to pursue sb | ścigać kogoś
to up sticks | *pot.* BrE przenieść się
to set up shop | *pot.* zakładać biznes
to spot sb | zauważać kogoś
reign | panowanie
to make strides | robić postępy
tailor | krawiec
to nickname sb | przezywać kogoś, nadawać komuś przydomek
mole | pieprzyk
cheek | policzek
to restore sth | przywracać coś
order | porządek
crook | oszust
displeased | niezadowolony
- 7 to siphon off sth | wyprowadzać coś (np. pieniądze)
profit | zysk
jack of all trades | spec od wszystkiego
to seize sth *tə si:z 'saimθɪŋ* | chwytać coś

- to join forces with sb | łączyć z kimś siły
to stab sb | zadawać komuś cios nożem
to dabble with sth | parać się czymś po amatorsku
shoplifting | kradzież sklepowa
burglary | włamanie
fraud | oszustwo
wealth | bogactwo
to fancy oneself as sb | uważać się za kogoś
to embellish sth | *tu:* koloryzować coś
to revel in sth | napawać się czymś
to get away with sth | uchodzić komuś na sucho
to be into sth | interesować się czymś
heist | napad z bronią w rękę
to drift apart | oddalać się od siebie
fierce | zaciekły
fear | bać się kogoś
untouchable | netykalny
the Met = the Metropolitan Police | BrE policja w Londynie
payroll | lista płac
to wiggle one's way into sth | wkręcać się do czegoś
to put an end to sth | kończyć coś

Criminal London Slang

bent copper - corrupt policeman

a blag - a robbery

claret - blood, 'there was a lot of claret after the fight'

contract - a commission and payment to kill somebody

do bird, do porridge, do time, in the nick - serve a prison sentence

do a bank job - rob a bank

a drink - payment for participating in a crime, 'there will be a nice drink in it for you'

a fence - sb who knowingly accepts stolen property to resell

to grass on sb/sb up - to inform on sb to the police

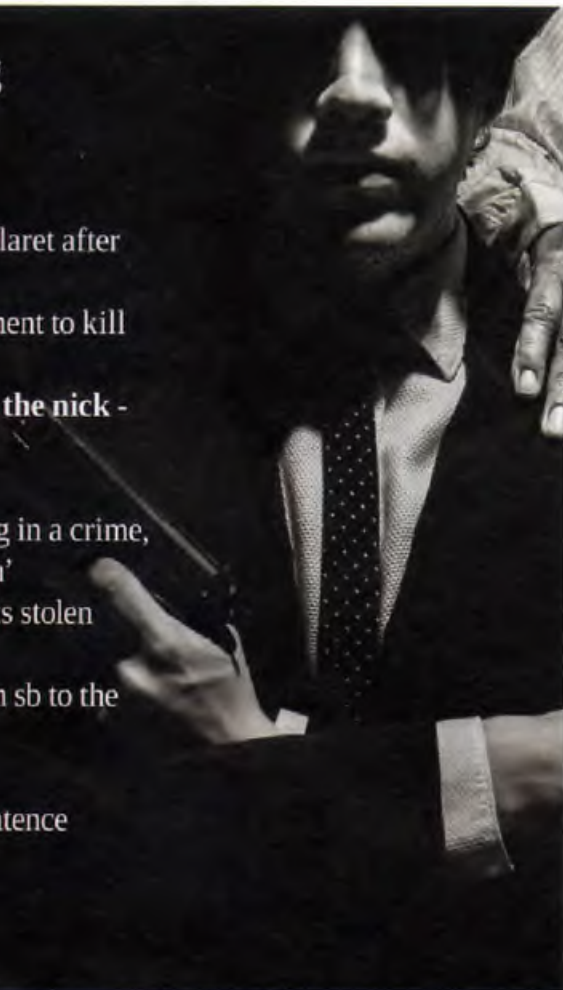
a grass/nark - informer

a lifer - sb serving a life prison sentence

to nick - to steal

a screw - a prison warden

tom - jewellery



gave Duncan Webb an insight into crimes, and Webb portrayed Hill as he wanted to be seen at the time. Spot found it infuriating, and the two set about each other until both gangs were weakened. There were various tit for tat incidents, including a street fight that saw Spot and a Hill ally, Albert Dimes, both stabbed. Neither reported the crime and it was known as 'the fight that never was'. Spot was set about by a number of East End henchmen, including popular heavy Frankie Fraser. Although he never squealed, his wife chose to press charges and Fraser and his pals went down. This not only marked Spot as a rat, but also weakened his position. No one feared him anymore.

The Swinging 60s

Hill, on the other hand, retired to Spain, living lavishly off his bank robbery earnings. He had been a mentor to the next generation of criminals, and two boys that had been particularly impressed by him were the identical twins, The Krays. The Krays probably need little introduction. There are enough books written

about them to fill a library, and most East Enders of a certain age will probably have a Kray-related anecdote to tell you. If you're not familiar with them, a film is due to come out this year called *Legend* which will surely give you an insight into their violent yet glitzy world. The boxers turned mobsters were impeccably dressed, rubbed shoulders with celebrities and even forged links with the Mafia in the US, and ran most of London. A turf war broke out with two other brothers from the South of London - the Richardsons. Ultimately, all of them would do very lengthy stretches in prison and only one of them lives on - Eddie Richardson. At 78 years old, he is now better known for fundraising activities than his rule of South East London that teemed with torture and violence.

With that in mind, it is perhaps little wonder that there have never been such brash and attention-seeking gangsters in London since. It is hard to say who is at the helm of the London underworld today, but whoever it is, they keep a very low profile. ■

- 8 **insight into sth** | wgląd w coś
to portray sb | przedstawiać kogoś
infuriating | doprowadzający do szału
to set about sb | rzucać się na kogoś
various | różny
tit for tat | *pot.* wet za wet
including | w tym, włączając
ally | sojusznik, sprzymierzeniec
to report sth | zgłaszać coś
henchman | poplecznik
to squeal | *pot.* donosić
to press charges | wnosić zarzuty
pal | *pot.* kumpel
to go down | *pot.* iść do więzienia
to mark sb | wskazywać kogoś, piętnować kogoś
rat | *pot.* zdrajca
on the other hand | z drugiej strony
to live off sth | żyć z czegoś
lavishly | bogato, w przepychu
earnings | zarobki
impressed | pod wrażeniem
identical twins | bliźnięta jednojajowe
- 9 **certain** | pewien
probably | prawdopodobnie
related to sth | związany z czymś
to be familiar with sb/sth | znać kogoś/coś
due to sth | z powodu czegoś
to come out | wychodzić, mieć premierę
violent | pełen przemocy
glitzy | *pot.* efekciarski, na pokaz
X turned Y | X a potem Y
mobster | gangster
impeccably | nienagannie
to rub shoulders with sb | obracać się w czyimś towarzystwie
to forge links with sb | nawiązywać z kimś kontakty
turf war | wojna terytorialna (gangów)
ultimately | ostatecznie, w końcu
stretch | *tu:* odsiadka
fundraising | zbieranie funduszy
teemed with | roić się od czegoś
to have sth in mind | pamiętać o czymś
perhaps | być może
it is little wonder that... | nic dziwnego, że ...
brash | bezczelny, arogancki
attention-seeking | zabiegający o uwagę
to be at the helm of sth | być u steru czegoś
to keep a low profile | trzymać się w cieniu

Tradition vs Modernity

by Roberto Galea

Some cities are distinctly monochromatic, with a certain element dominating the colour scheme of that particular metropolis. London, on the other hand, bursts at the seams with all the hues of the rainbow. It is a lively and vibrant city, unlike any other in Europe or beyond.

Political London

London is the seat of politics in the UK, where all the decision-making is done, mainly within the Houses of Parliament, officially known as Westminster Palace. This impressive Gothic building sits impressively on the north bank of the Thames and is open to the public for guided tours. Visitors can walk around several areas of the building, including the famous Commons Chamber, which is at the heart of British politics.

However it's not necessary to book a £25 tour just to see the inside of the building. Whenever the House of Lords or the House of Commons is in session, visitors can sit in the public gallery and



get a bird's eye view of all the action. Who knows? Perhaps you could witness a session which goes down in the history books!

After you're done being awestruck by the splendid architecture of the palace, head north for a five minute walk to a little alley called Downing Street, home to one of the most important men in the world. The street itself is closed to the general public, as the police keep a very close eye on security. However, if you stand at the gates of Whitehall, you can catch a glimpse of the iconic black door which opens only from the inside.

Ironically, there is much more to London politics than those related to the UK. Many international political figures have made London their home over the years. These include Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, who gave lectures in a room above the Red Lion pub, in London's Soho district.

Marx was also a regular of the British Museum Library, where he would sit for hours ruminating on the concept which would eventually germinate into the Communist Manifesto.

Other luminaries who had a card at the library included Lenin (who

- o **colour scheme** 'kɒlə(r) ski:m | kolorystyka
- on the other hand** | z drugiej strony
- to burst at the seams** | pękać w szwach
- hue** | kolor, odcień
- vibrant** | tu: dynamiczny
- 1 **seat** | siedziba
- mainly** | głównie
- bank** | brzeg
- guided tour** | wycieczka z przewodnikiem
- including** | włącznie

- Commons Chamber** 'kɒmənz 'tʃeɪmbə(r) | sala obrad Izby Gmin
- to book sth** | za/rezerwować coś
- the House of Lords** | Izba Lordów
- the House of Commons** | Izba Gmin
- to get a bird's eye view of sth** | uzyskać widok z lotu ptaka na coś
- 2 **to witness sth** | być świadkiem czegoś
- to go down in the history books** | zostać zawartym w podręcznikach do historii; przejść do historii

- awestruck** 'ɔ:stɹʌk | oniemiały z wrażenia
- to keep a (very) close eye on sth** | bacznie obserwować coś
- to catch a glimpse of sth** | dostrzec coś
- 3 **related to sth** | powiązany z czymś
- to include sb** | obejmować kogoś
- to give lectures** | dawać wykłady
- to ruminate on sth** | myśleć nad czymś
- eventually** | w końcu, ostatecznie
- to germinate into sth** | przerodzić się w coś
- luminary** | sława

signed in under the name Jacob Richter), as well as novelists Bram Stoker and Sir Arthur Conan Doyle.

Royal London

The world is aflutter with excitement about a new member of the British Royal Family. Charlotte will be joining three other generations of monarchy who are at the heart of British life. Their principal residence and workplace is Buckingham Palace, an impressive Neoclassical structure, which is visited by hordes of tourists every month.

The Palace not only serves as a home to the Royal Family, but also a hub for the British nation to gather in times of rejoicing. Iconic elements of the Palace are the Queen's Guards: members of the British Army whose job it is to protect the Family.

A tour of the royal sights in London would not be complete without a visit to the Tower of London, an imposing edifice which covers 12 acres of land in the middle of the city. The palace has a dreadful past as a prison which housed many people who were key to the history of the UK. These included Thomas More, a philosopher and statesman who opposed Henry VII's position as the head of the Protestant church in England. More was imprisoned for a year in the Tower before he was beheaded. His body is buried behind the walls of the crypt of St Peter Ad Vincula.

Many of the four million tourists who visit the Tower on a yearly basis, do so to

see the famed Crown Jewels – a collection of precious stones so impressive that will leave the visitor speechless. Among the jewels of the collection (no pun intended) are several crowns and diadems which have been worn by the British monarchy throughout the ages.

Another traditional element of the Tower are the ravens, which are meant to protect the Tower of London. According to lore, "If the Tower of London's ravens are lost or fly away, the Crown will fall and Britain with it." Therefore it is imperative to keep a handful of black birds around the Tower, just in case. And with the ravens, comes the famed Ravenmaster – perhaps one of the best jobs in the United Kingdom. He once said that it's hard work keeping the birds in check. They eat a lot of meat, as well as biscuits soaked in blood. They sometimes also get the odd roadkill which the Ravenmaster comes across on the side of the road. If "it's not been too badly mangled!"

Following this hearty dose of culture, why not take a stroll in St James's Park, a 57-acre space slap-bang in the middle of the city. Very much like Central Park in New York, St James's (as it is affectionately known) offers London's residents a much-welcome respite from the hustle and bustle of the city.

The park includes two small islands. One of these, Duck Island, bears this name after the lake's collection of water fowl. ►

Did you know?

Crown Jewels

The oldest piece of regalia dates back to the 12th century and is a gold spoon used to drizzle holy oil on monarchs.

One of the major pieces of the collection is St Edward's Crown. It weighs in at a hefty 2.23 kg and is decorated with scores of diamonds, rubies and other precious stones. It was last used during the coronation of Queen Elizabeth II in 1953.

regalia | insygnia

regalia

to date back

to X | sięgać

do X

to drizzle |

spryskiwać

hefty | ciężki

score | tu:

sznur



4 to sign in | zapisać się

novelist | powieściopisarz

aflutter with sth | poruszony, pobudzony

to join sth | dołączyć do czegoś

horde | chmara, stado

hub hʌb | centrum

to gather | gromadzić się

imposing | imponujący, olśniewający, robiący wrażenie

edifice | budynek

to cover sth | tu: rozciągać się na czymś

dreadful | straszny, okropny

to house sb | gromadzić kogoś, zakwaterować kogoś

statesman | rzecznik

imprisoned | uwięziony

beheaded | ścięty

buried | pochowany

on a yearly basis | corocznie

5 Crown Jewels kraʊn 'dʒu:əls | klejnoty koronne

precious 'preʃəs | cenny

speechless | oniemiały

pun | gra słów

intended | zamierzony

raven 'reɪvən | kruk

according to sth | według czegoś

lore | tu: wierzenia ludowe

to fly away | odlatywać

to fall | upadać, tu: kończyć się

imperative | nadrzędny

handful | garstka, tu: stado

to keep sb/sth in check | mieć kogoś/coś pod kontrolą

soaked in sth | nasączony czymś

roadkill | przejechane zwierzę

to come across sth | natykać się na coś

mangled | zmiażdżony, pogruchotany

hearty | obfity

to take a stroll | spacerować się

slap-bang | pot. bezpośrednio

affectionately | czule

respite | ulga, wytchnienie

hustle and bustle 'hʌsl ən 'bʌsl | krzątanina

to bear the name after sb/sth | nosić imię po kimś/czymś

fowl faʊl | ptactwo

London in Numbers

- **11** the number of different lines in the city's metro network, lovingly called 'the Tube'.
- **43AD** the year the area was first settled by Romans.
- **32** the number of boroughs in London.
- Over **300** the number of languages is spoken in London.
- **8.2 million** is the number of people who live London (2011 census).

to settle | *tu*: zasiedlać

borough | 'bʌrə / 'bɜːrɒʃ | dzielnica

census | spis ludności



which include a colony of pelicans which were first gifted to the park by a Russian ambassador in 1664.

The Tiffany fountain is situated to the south of Duck Island, and creates jets of water up to eight metres high. The main aim of this feature is to aerate the water and make it a better medium for fish to grow in, but the effect is also aesthetic. At night the fountain is illuminated with a crafty LED system providing an enchanted view of Buckingham Palace in the backdrop.

And with all this talk of royals in the British capital, one cannot miss Westminster Abbey, the church which

has hosted the coronation of almost every English (and later British) Monarch since 1066.

When You Tire of London, You Tire of Life

Perhaps more than any other European capital, London has it all, and is at the forefront of things with distinct districts paying tribute to different life pulses - a throbbing financial centre that sets the pace for other major markets; cutting edge journalism around Fleet Street; packed theatres playing out life's fare in the West End, while nearby Soho is

a nostalgic reminder of the City's hedonistic days

In short, whatever you are looking for, you can find in London, the epicentre of world culture, finance and society. The Royal family might be somewhat controversial, but let's admit it, over the last centuries, it has built, or bought or established things that now enchant tourists from all over the world!

In the words of Samuel Johnson, who wrote the first dictionary of the English language: "When a man is tired of London, he is tired of life; for there is in London all that life can afford." ■

6 gifted | *tu*: sprezentowane

jet | strumień

to aerate sth | napowietrzać coś

crafty | zmyślny, przemyślany

enchanted | urzekający

in the backdrop | w tle

7 to host sth | gościć coś

to pay tribute to sth | oddawać czemuś hołd

throbbing | pulsujący, tętniący życiem

to set the pace for sth | wyznaczać tempo

cutting edge | najnowocześniejszy

life's fare | *tu*: chleb powszedni, życie codzienne

8 reminder | pamiętka, pozostałość

to admit sth | przyznawać coś

to establish sth | ustanawiać coś, zakładać coś

to enchant sb | oczarowywać kogoś

to afford | *tu*: oferować



Trouble by Coldplay

by Katarzyna Szpotakowska

They sing about losing their head, but it is them so many of us have lost our heads for. Having read the article on page 14, you already know their story, now it's time for you to learn what their lyrics are all about.

Let's focus first of all on the word 'trouble'. How often have you been in trouble? Are you a troubleshooter or a troublemaker? Here is the word 'trouble' in questions and answers.

Q: Who is a troubleshooter?

Someone whose task is to solve problems in an organisation.

Q: Who is a troublemaker?

Someone who deliberately causes problems, arguments.

Q: What is the opposite of: to stay/keep out of trouble?

to be in (serious/big/deep) trouble / to get into trouble / to run into trouble
Examples: *The company ran into serious financial trouble after employing a new accountant.*

If he learns that it was you who betrayed him, you'll be in deep trouble.

Q: What phrases with the word 'trouble' can you use to describe your health?

heart/stomach/back trouble

Example: *I've had a week off work with back trouble.*

have trouble with sth

Example: *Mary has been having trouble with her back.*

give/cause sb trouble

Example: *My back used to give me a lot of trouble when I had to spend 10 hours a day in front of the computer.*

Q: Who was a famous female troublemaker from the past?

Lady Godiva, who rode naked on horseback through the town of Coventry. Her aim was to protect the citizens of the town from paying high taxes levied on them by her own husband.

1. Oh no, I see,
2. A spider web is tangled up with me,
3. And I lost my head,
4. The thought of all the stupid things I'd said.

2. WEB worldwide

Tim Berners-Lee – the inventor of the world wide web was born in London in 1955. Since his invention of www, a lot of new words have been created with the noun 'web'.

web browser – search engine e.g. *Google*

web traffic – the number of visitors on a particular website

Web 2.0 – technology allowing users to interact with each other in social media e.g. *blogging*

Web 3.0 – another stage of development of www characterised by focus on the individual, user engagement, connecting data

2. to be tangled up – to be twisted round something in an untidy manner

3. to lose your head – to become upset to such an extent that you stop thinking clearly

What else can we lose?

consciousness

your balance/footing

face

heart

ground

your heart to someone

your nerve

4. I'd said = I had said = Past Perfect tense ▶

lyrics | tekst piosenki

to focus on sth | s/koncentrować się na czymś

to solve sth | rozwiązać coś (np. problem)

deliberately | celowo, umyślnie

to keep out of sth | trzymać się z daleka od czegoś

accountant | księgowa/y

to betray sb | zdradzić kogoś, wydać kogoś

health | zdrowie

stomach | żołądek

back | plecy

female | płci żeńskiej

naked | nago

aim | cel

levied | nałożony (np. podatek)

web browser 'web ,brauza(r) | wyszukiwarka internetowa

to allow sb to do sth | umożliwić komuś zrobienie czegoś

engagement | zaangażowanie

untidy | niedbały

consciousness /'kɒnʃəsnɪs/ | tu: przytomność

nerve | cierpliwość



5. Oh no, what's this?
 6. A spider web, and I'm caught in the middle,
 7. So I turn to run,
 8. The thought of all the stupid things I've done,
 9. And I never meant to cause you trouble,
 10. I never meant to do you wrong,
 11. And I, well if I ever caused you trouble,
 12. And oh no, I never meant to do you harm.
 13. Oh no, I see,
 14. A spider web and it's me in the middle,
 15. So I twist and turn,
 16. But here am I in my little bubble,
 17. Singing I, never meant to cause you trouble,
 18. And I, never meant to do you wrong,
 19. And I, well if I ever caused you trouble,
 20. Oh, no I never meant to do you harm.
 21. They spun a web for me,
 22. They spun a web for me,
 23. They spun a web for me.

bubble | bańka

The above lyrics are the property of the author and have been published here only for educational purposes for persons studying English.

10. / 12. Don't do what you should make!

DO: to do sb wrong / to do sb harm / to do sb good / to do the ironing / to do the floors / to do your nails / to do sb a favour / do research / to do homework

MAKE: to make tea / to make a suggestion / to make progress / to make a phonecall / to make a noise / to make a mistake / to make a list / to make a loss / to make sb laugh

11. Fill your speech with 'fillers'!

The ability to use fillers in a foreign language is a testimony of a speaker's fluency and advanced knowledge of a language. Here are a few examples of fillers used in English: *well, actually, so, basically, you know, you see, like.*

12. I never meant to = I never intended to... / I didn't want to...

18. Synonym Finder:

wrong = incorrect, improper, faulty, untrue, mistaken, unsuitable

15. to twist and turn - to move around in a restless manner

It is typical of English to use two synonymous words instead of one to express one thought e.g. *neat and tidy, spick and span, terms and conditions (of a contract)*

20. Never say never

'Never, ever' is used to additionally emphasise 'never'
I'll never, ever talk to this airhead again.

Never mind = don't worry

Never mind, you can sit the exam again.

That would never do = that is inappropriate/wrong

Don't forget a tie. That would never do!

21. Spotlight on irregular verbs

spin – spun – spun - here: to make thread

My grandma taught me how to spin.

Dear readers, let us finish this language lesson based on music with the following creed:



to do sb harm | wyrządzić komuś krzywdę

to do the ironing /tə du: ði 'lɪəniŋ/ | wy/prasować coś

to do sb a favour | wyświadczyć komuś przysługę

filler | wtrącenie

ability | umiejętność, zdolność

testimony of sth | świadectwo czegoś, dowód na coś

fluency | płynność

to intend to do sth | zamierzać coś zrobić

faulty /'fɔ:lti/ | wadliwy

unsuitable | nieodpowiedni

restless | niespokojny, nerwowy

spick and span | czystutki, wypucowany

terms and conditions | warunki (np. umowy)

airhead | głupek, dureń

to spin | tu: prząść

creed | credo



You Must Be Joking!

MP3



kod dostępu: 5ejy
www.englishmatters.pl

by Dan Sandford

At the outset, London might appear to be a bit of a serious place, people are usually in a rush and the wet weather doesn't appear to lend itself to light-hearted humour, even those out running and cycling seem to be taking life a bit too seriously, but beneath the vener of stuffiness, lies a fun-loving population. *English Matters* goes in search of a laugh on the streets of London.

Due to the city's constantly changing demographics and a reluctance to travel north of Watford Gap (a service station on the suburbs of London), there are surprisingly few jokes about Londoners knocking about. There are, however, some quite good ones.

We will start off with one of the greatest all-time London jokes that points out the pleasure that a tourist may experience when encountering a well-mannered British bobby. It goes like this: ▶

o at the outset | na początku
to be in a rush | spieszyć się
to lend itself to sth | nadawać się do czegoś
light-hearted | radosny, niefrasobliwy
to seem | wydawać się
beneath | pod
vener | *tu*: pozory
stuffiness | sztywność
search | poszukiwanie
 1 due to sth | z powodu czegoś
constantly | nieustannie
reluctance | niechęć

service station | stacja obsługi pojazdów
the suburbs | przedmieścia
to knock about | *pot.* włóczyć się
however | jednak
to start off | zaczynać
to point out sth | wskazywać na coś, zwrócić uwagę na coś
pleasure | przyjemność
to experience sth | doświadczać czegoś
to encounter sb | spotykać kogoś
well-mannered | dobrze wychowany
bobby | *pot.* BrE policjant

An American tourist in London was desperate to take a leak. After a long search, he couldn't find any public bathroom to relieve himself. So he went down one of the side streets to take care of business. Just as he was unzipping, a London police officer showed up.

'Look here, old chap, what are you doing?' the officer asked.

'I'm sorry,' the American replied, 'but I really gotta take a leak.'

'You can't do that here,' the officer told

him. 'Look, follow me.'

The police officer led him to a beautiful garden with lots of grass, pretty flowers, and manicured hedges. 'Here,' said the policeman, 'whiz away.'

The American tourist shrugged, turned, unzipped, and started weeing on the flowers. 'Ahhh,' he said in relief. Then turning toward the officer, he said, 'This is very nice of you. Is this British courtesy?'

'No,' replied the policeman. 'It's the French Embassy.'

desperate | zdesperowany

to take a leak | pot. odlać się

to relieve oneself | załatwić się

to go down (a street) | iść (ulicą)

side street | boczna uliczka

to take care of business |

załatwić sprawę

to unzip | rozsuwać

(rozporek)

to show up | pojawiać się

chap | pot. BrE facet

to reply | odpowiadać

to follow sb | iść za kimś

manicured | wypielęgnowany

hedge | żywopłot

to whiz away | tu: sikać

to shrug | wzruszać

ramionami

to wee w: | sikać

in relief | z ulgą

courtesy 'kɔ:tsi | uprzejmość

embassy | ambasada



Of course, the idealistic image of a helpful police officer has these days been replaced with the idea that there are too few police on the streets. If you believe government statistics, then the crime rates have been in decline for some time. Popular jokes would suggest otherwise:

Londoners

A hoodie goes to an East End library to get out a book. The assistant says, 'In order to borrow a book, you need to prove you're a citizen of London.'

So he stabs him.

What do you get if you cross London with a bicycle?

Stabbed.

The Cockney accent tends to come in for significant ribbing when it comes to other parts of the country. These two jokes focus on the pronunciation you

might find yourself hearing when bumping into a local:

Two drunk Cockneys are walking through London.

One slurs, 'Is this Wembley?'

'No it's Thursday,' he mutters back.

And finally another cringeworthy, Christmas cracker joke.

Q: Where did the Cockney chiropractor go on holiday?

A: Spine

Having a Laugh

If you want to get a feel for London related humour, you might be best off watching a comedy. There are a wide variety of comedies based around life in London, and no matter what kind of sense of humour you have, you'll probably find something to match it.

2 to replace sth with sth | zastępować coś czymś

government | tu: rządowy

crime rate | wskaźnik przestępczości

to be in decline | spadać, maleć

to suggest sth | sugerować coś

otherwise | inaczej, coś zupełnie innego

3 to get a feel for sth | wnikliwie coś ocenić, wyczuć coś

X related | powiązany z X

to be best off doing sth | najlepszym rozwiązaniem byłoby zrobienie...

variety | tu: wybór

to be based around sth | opierać się na

czymś, skupiać się wokół czegoś

sense of humour | poczucie humoru

to match sth | pasować do czegoś

hoodie | pot. młoda osoba nosząca bluzę z kapturem

to get out sth | tu: wypożyczyć coś

in order to | aby

to borrow sth tə 'bɔ:ɾəʊ 'sʌmθɪŋ | pożyczać coś

to prove sth | udowadniać coś

citizen | obywatel

to stab sb | pchnąć kogoś nożem

to cross sth | tu: przejechać

cockney | gwara używana we wschodnim Londynie

to tend to do sth | robić coś zazwyczaj

to come in for ribbing | być przedmiotem żartów

when it comes to X | jeżeli chodzi o X

to focus on sth | skupiać się na czymś

pronunciation | wymowa

to bump into sb | wpadać na kogoś

local | lokalny mieszkaniec

drunk | pijany

to slur | bełkotać, połykać słowa

to mutter | mamrotać

cringeworthy | zawstydzający, żenujący

Christmas cracker joke | słaby żart

chiropractor 'kaiɾə(θ),praktə | kręgarz

spine spain | kręgosłup

South East London, an area that is considered poorer than others, has often been a staple setting. Britain's favourite comedy is *Only Fools and Horses*. The series has an excellent supporting cast but its wheeler-dealer Del Boy and his younger brother, doing their best to flog their range of dodgy gear that are the centrepiece. The country's most loved entrepreneurs have constant scrapes with the Old Bill and are as lucky in love as they are in finding the item that will propel them from the council flats of Peckham to the trendy West End. Strangely enough, it's a show that has never sold very well outside of the UK, perhaps the Cockney patter does not translate well.

Peckham also features *Desmonds*. Although it wasn't the first predominantly black TV show, it was certainly the best. It centres around a barbers shop run by a British-Guyanese barber called Desmond. Though a likeable man, his hairdressing

skills were extremely questionable. Apart from being incredibly humorous, the show gives the viewer a curious insight into the prejudices between the Caribbean and African communities of London. Some of the jibes are hilarious.

Over the last decade, it is dark comedy that has come to the forefront. If you want something more up-to-date then you will still struggle to get away from the East of London. Buckingham Palace and Hampton Court just don't seem to provide the same belly laughs. Two of the country's recent award-winning comedies are set within miles of each other.

First up is *Misfits*, a series that features a group of young offenders who gain supernatural powers following an electrical storm. The teenage tearaways' powers are exaggerated forms of characteristics that already existed in them. Mayhem ensues when these already mischievous characters

begin using their newfound powers to their own advantage. The series becomes more sci-fi orientated as it goes on but always retains a feeling of urban grime.

The newest series of all to make waves in the world of comedy is *Rev*. British comedy is all too often set in a countrified England that has little relevance to today. *Rev* sets out to do quite the opposite. It portrays a realistic image of the modern-day problems a capital city clergyman might encounter. Reverend Adam Smallbone has moved from the country and needs to wise up to the fact that his parishioners are not in any way similar to the ones he knew in rural Sussex. He finds himself trying to help homeless drug addicts, and fending off social climbers keen to pally up with the reverend in order to get their kids into a posh school. Although from the off it seems a bit twittery, the vicar soon finds himself struggling with the pressures ►

- 4 **to be considered** | być uważanym za
staple | podstawowy
supporting cast | obsada drugoplanowa
wheeler-dealer | *pot.* kombinator
to flog | *pot.* BrE opylać coś
dodgy | podejrzany, szemrany
gear | sprzęt
centrepiece | największa atrakcja
entrepreneur ˌɒntrəprəʊnə | przedsiębiorca
constant | nieustanny
scrape | *pot.* tarapaty, kłopoty
the Old Bill | BrE *pot.* policja
to propel sb | popychać kogoś, *tu:* przenieść kogoś
council flat | mieszkanie socjalne
patter | gadka
to feature sth | *tu:* być miejscem akcji
although | mimo że
predominantly | w przeważającej mierze, głównie
barbers shop | zakład fryzjerski (męski)
to run sth | prowadzić coś
though | chociaż
likeable | sympatyczny
- 5 **questionable** | wątpliwy
apart from sth | oprócz czegoś
incredibly | niewiarygodnie
humorous | żartobliwy
insight into sth | wgląd w coś

- prejudice** | uprzedzenie
jibe | kpina, żart
hilarious | komiczny, przezabawny
to come to the forefront | wysuwać się na pierwszy plan
up-to-date | aktualny
to struggle to do sth | zmagać, borykać się z czymś
to get away from sth | wyrwać się skądś
belly laugh | *pot.* śmiech do rozpuku
recent | niedawny
award-winning | nagradzany, uznany
first up | pierwszy na liście
offender | przestępca, sprawca wykroczenia
to gain sth | zdobywać coś
supernatural | nadprzyrodzony
following sth | po czymś
electrical storm | burza z piorunami
tearaway | *pot.* narwaniec
exaggerated | wyolbrzymiony
characteristic | cecha charakterystyczna
to exist | istnieć
mayhem | chaos, zamęt
to ensue | wywiązywać się, powstawać
mischievous ˈmɪstʃɪvəs | złośliwy, rozrabiaka
character | postać
- 6 **newfound** | nowo odkryty
to one's own advantage | na własny użytek

- to go on** | trwać
to retain sth | zachowywać coś
urban ˈɜːb(ə)n | miejski
grime | brud, syf, *tu:* seceneria
countrified | wiejski
relevance | związek, znaczenie
to set out to do sth | postanawiać coś robić
the opposite | coś zupełnie odwrotnego
to portray sth/sb | przedstawiać coś/kogoś
modern-day | współczesny
clergyman | duchowny
to encounter sth/sb | napotykać coś/kogoś
reverend | pastor
to wise up to sth | zdać sobie sprawę z tego, że...
parishioner | parafianin
rural | wiejski
homeless | bezdomny
drug addict | narkoman
to fend off sb | bronić się przed kimś, odpierać czyjeś ataki
social climber | karierowicz
to be keen to do sth | palić się do czegoś
to pally up with sb | *pot.* zaprzyjaźniać się z kimś
posh | ekskluzywny
from the off | BrE od początku
twittery | *pot.* głupiotki
vicar | pastor (w kościele anglikańskim)

of inner-city life and gets into numerous scrapes, such as taking ecstasy whilst shooting squirrels; the series grows on you.

London in Funny Films

When it comes to comedy films, London rarely features. Guy Ritchie likes using it as a setting for his gangster films and Woody Allen has a fondness of it as a backdrop for his comedy dramas, with an emphasis on drama. But if it is giggles you are after, then you may struggle to find something that fits the bill. *Run, Fat Boy Run* was slightly below par considering the cast contained quality in the form of Simon Pegg and Dylan Moran. Having done a runner on his wedding day and jilting the bride to be, an unfit Dennis decides to win her back by lacing up and running a marathon.

Funnily enough, a marathon plays an integral part in another partly London based comedy film. Considered extremely risqué, *Four Lions* proved to be something of a success.

Whilst a large part of the film takes place in Sheffield and a smaller part in the Pakistani mountains, the climax of the film is the London Marathon. A group of terrorists want to blow up

the London marathon. Released in 2012, just six years after the London bombings, some people considered it to be too close to home to be considered funny. The Boston marathon incident helped seal people's disapproval. The most impressive thing about this film is that director Chris Morris, known for controversial subject matter, somehow manages to get the viewers on the side of the terrorists, so that they genuinely become likeable characters.



No Exceptions

So as you can see, not even London is big enough to avoid being ribbed. Londoners are the butts of others' jokes and the city doesn't take itself too seriously either.

Please don't mistake the French Embassy for a loo though, or the joke could be on you! ■

The Language of Jokes

Set up and punchline - Typically, a joke involves a set-up, which creates an image and perspective in your mind, and finishes with a punchline that delivers an ironic reinterpretation of the situation - such as in the French Embassy joke.

The two drunken Cockneys joke works on the humour of misunderstood homophones - e.g. Wembley/Wednesday, Thursday/thirsty.

Misdirected logic - there are lots of jokes that involve the formula, 'what do you get if you cross X with Y?' This tempts the respondent to look for a logical explanation but usually, the answer follows a totally different line of reasoning.

In-jokes and stereotypes - a lot of British humour is contextual, which is why it doesn't always travel well. You need to recognise the spivvy, do-a-deal nature of the typical cockney in order to see the humour of Fools and Horses. Like this: *'Come on Rodney, I've told you before, it's everything between you and me split straight down the middle, 60-40.'*

set up | wprowadzenie

punchline | puenta

to involve sth | zawierać coś, mieć coś

mind | umysł

to deliver sth | dostarczać czegoś

to misunderstand sth | źle coś rozumieć

homophone | homofon, wyraz brzmiący tak samo

e.g.=exempli gratia | na przykład

misdirected | źle ukierunkowany, mylnie skierowany

to tempt sb | kusić kogoś

respondent | odpowiadający, rozmówca

to look for sth | szukać czegoś

line of reasoning | logika

in-joke | żart środowiskowy

contextual | kontekstowy

to recognise sth | rozpoznawać coś

spivvy | BrE kanciarski

do-a-deal | interesowny, przedsiębiorczy

to split sth | dzielić coś

7 inner-city | podupadła część śródmieścia

to get into sth | wdawać się w coś

whilst | podczas gdy

to grows on sb | podobać się komuś coraz bardziej

rarely | rzadko

setting | sceneria

fondness | słabość do czegoś

backdrop | tło

emphasis | nacisk

giggle | chichot, zgrywa, ubaw

to be after sth | *tu*: chcieć czegoś, poszukiwać czegoś

to fit the bill | *pot.* spełniać oczekiwania

to be below par | być poniżej oczekiwań

to contain sth | zawierać coś

to do a runner | BrE *pot.* zwieźć skądś

to jilt sb | rzucać kogoś

bride to be | przyszła panna młoda

unfit | w złej kondycji fizycznej

to win sb back | odzyskać kogoś

to lace up | *tu*: zakładać buty (sportowe)

risqué | niecenzuralny, kontrowersyjny

to prove to be | okazywać się

to take place | rozgrywać się gdzieś

climax | punkt kulminacyjny

to blow up sth | wysadzać coś w powietrze

8 to release sth | wydawać coś, mieć premierę

too close to home | zbyt drażliwy

incident | wydarzenie, incydent

to seal | przypieczętować, potwierdzać coś

disapproval | brak aprobaty

impressive | robiący wrażenie

subject matter | tematyka

somehow | jakimś cudem

to manage to do sth | udawać się coś zrobić

viewer | widz

genuinely | rzeczywiście, autentycznie

exception | wyjątek

to be the butt of jokes | być obiektem żartów

loo | *pot.* BrE toaleta

9 joke is on you | to tobie powinno być głupio

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