

Unit 10 Social living

10a Good citizen awards

Reading an act of compassion

- 1 Look at the title of the article. What act of good citizenship do you think occurred here? Then read the article and answer the questions.

- 1 What was the act that merited an award?

- 2 In what way was it an act of good citizenship?

Good citizen awards

Numerous awards recognize good citizens who make an important contribution to society. Some international awards have been given to luminaries such as Nelson Mandela. But good citizenship happens locally, too. One example is John Byrne, who received the Compassionate Citizenship Award from the Animal Rights Action Network for his modest act of bravery.

One day in July 2011, John Byrne, a 38-year-old homeless man who had lived on the streets of Dublin for over 20 years, was sitting on a bridge in the center of Dublin with his pet rabbit, when an 18-year-old youth passed by, picked up the rabbit and tossed it into the river. Byrne jumped into the cold water after it. He grabbed the rabbit and held onto a ledge to prevent them from being swept down the river. Byrne and the rabbit were rescued after 40 minutes.

John's act united people in their disgust at the antisocial act of the young passer-by and secondly in the sympathy for a vulnerable member of society, who had himself risked his own life to help another vulnerable creature.

- 2 Find the words in bold in the text and then answer the questions.

- 1 What **luminaries** would you find at a movie premiere?

- 2 If you felt **compassionate** towards a homeless person, what action might you take?

- 3 If you can't decide whether to do one thing or another, what do you **toss** to make the decision for you?

- 4 What things are normally **swept**?

- 5 If you were having a party, at what time would it be **antisocial** still to be making a noise and playing loud music?

Language focus tag questions

- 3 Complete these conversations about the incident in the article with the correct tag question.

- 1 "Presumably, throwing the rabbit was some kind of cruel joke, _____?"

"I suppose so."

- 2 "If it was July, the water can't have been that cold, _____?"

"No, you're right. But remember this is Ireland, not the tropics we're talking about."

- 3 "And so someone helped him out of the water, _____?"

"Yes, the emergency services came and rescued both him and the rabbit."

- 4 "And what happened to the young man. Surely, he didn't get away with it, _____?"

"No, he was arrested and charged with cruelty to animals."

- 4 Rewrite these statements as questions using a tag question.

- 1 I think we should go now.
Let's _____?

- 2 I think I'm right to say that.
I'm _____?

- 3 Please promise me that you won't tell anyone.
Don't _____?

- 4 I don't understand why you didn't ask me first.
You could _____?

10b Social animals

Language focus adverbs

1 First underline the adverb or adverbial phrase in each sentence. Then match them with the correct grammatical description (a–e).

- 1 Which animals are the most socially aware?

- 2 Which species treats other members of its group in a considerate way?

- 3 They either leave voluntarily or are pushed out.

- 4 One way or another they don't remain long in the family group.

- 5 A young female, barely one year old, became separated from her own family.

- a adverb + verb
- b adverb + adjective
- c adverbs with the same form as the adjective
- d adverbs meaning *almost...not*
- e adverbs not formed with the *-ly* suffix

2 Rewrite the adjective given in the correct adverbial form. Then place it in the correct place in the sentence.

- 1 What makes them intelligent? (social)

- 2 This is documented. (good)

- 3 She was wandering around. (disoriented)

- 4 This group rejected her—pushed her away. (literal)

- 5 She marched over to the other herd. (straight)

- 6 You'd think that was possible. (hard)

- 7 If they pulled on their rope, a table with corn on it appeared. (simultaneous)

- 8 The elephants learned to coordinate their pulling. (fast)

Idioms animal verbs

3 Complete the sentences with the correct form of these animal verbs.

duck	hound	parrot
swan	wolf	

- 1 I think you're just _____ the views of the newspapers. They're all saying the same thing.
- 2 Don't _____ down your food. It's not a race, you know!
- 3 You said you'd come with me to the party and you can't _____ out of it now.
- 4 You just have to accept that part of the price of success is that people _____ you all the time: for advice, for help, for money.
- 5 Look at him, _____ around as if he was royalty!

4 Look at these other examples of animal verbs (1–4) and match them with the correct definition (a–d).

- 1 Can we try to do this without Stan's help? He's always **worming** his way into every new project.

 - 2 Every month for the last 22 years she has **squirreled away** a small part of her salary with the result that she now has enough to put a deposit down on a new apartment.

 - 3 The teacher was unable to find out who had written graffiti on the school entrance gates because no one was prepared to **rat on** one of their friends.

 - 4 Let's not invite Nick. He always tries to **hog** all the attention. It's very boring for all the other guests.

- a betray by telling secrets
 - b get involved without being invited
 - c to keep for oneself
 - d put aside or save up

10c Rebuilding society

Reading Leymah Gbowee

- 1 Read the story of Nobel Prize winner Leymah Gbowee.

In 2011 Leymah Gbowee, along with Ellen Johnson Sirleaf, the first female president in Africa, were awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for their part in bringing peace to the war-torn country of Liberia. Leymah Gbowee started the women's peace movement that led to the end of the civil war in 2003.

The problem that faced Gbowee was how to reconcile different parties after years of conflict and how to begin the process of healing among victims. She trained as a counselor helping victims of war overcome their trauma.

Gbowee began to realize that this was a man's war and it was to mothers that she could most effectively appeal to end it. Her message was that every society's future lies in its children.

In 2000, Gbowee and Thelma Ekiyor of Nigeria formed the Women in Peacebuilding Network (WIPNET) of which Gbowee became the Liberian coordinator. She continued her trauma rehabilitation work by day and by night planned actions for WIPNET. These actions were peaceful and involved groups of women going to markets and other public places and spreading the message: "Women, wake up—you have a voice in the peace process!" They handed out flyers with these words or drawings for those that could not read.

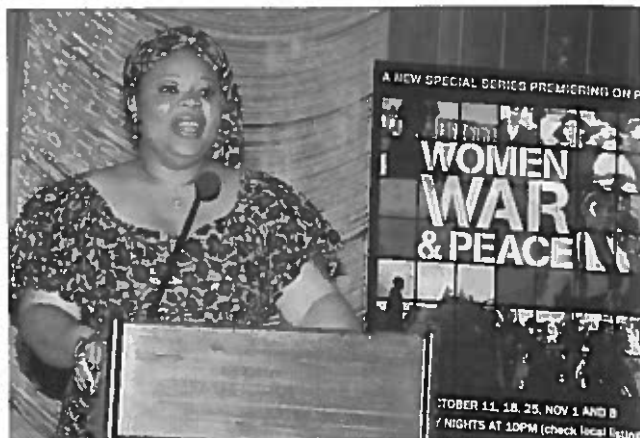
The movement grew. In 2003, Gbowee had an audience with the then president and got him to agree to hold peace talks with the opposition. Four months later in August 2003, the war officially ended. Gbowee remains a tireless campaigner and believer in the power of communities and particularly women to effect social change.

- 2 Answer the questions.

1 What did she win her Nobel Prize for?

2 Whose help did she enlist to achieve her aim?

3 What does she do now?



Word focus free

- 3 Complete the idioms in these conversations using one word in each space.

1 A: Katie's just gone off to India for a month, leaving Jack to take care of the kids.

B: Yes, I heard that. She's a free _____.

2 A: I thought they were giving their advice for free, but they've sent me a bill for \$300!

B: Well, there's no such thing as a free _____.

3 A: Did you have to pay a fine for parking on a yellow line?

B: No, I told them I'd parked there in an emergency, so I got off _____-free.

4 A: Can I just have a look at your newspaper to see the movie theater listings?

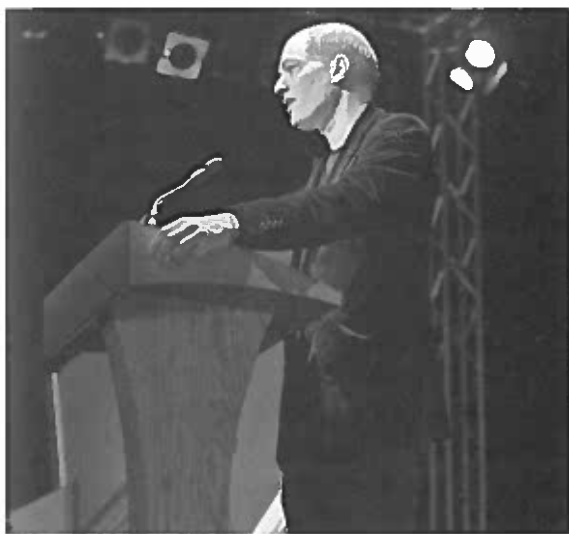
B: Sure, _____ free.

5 A: Do I have to follow any particular guidelines?

B: No, you've got a completely free _____ . Do whatever you think best.

10d TED talks

Real life making conversation



- 1** TED talks are short educational talks given by experts in various fields, which are then posted on the Internet. Have you ever watched one? Read a short conversation about a TED talk.

A: What are you doing?

B: Watching a TED talk on my laptop. You know, TED—it stands for Technology, Entertainment, and Design.

A: Oh, yes. I've seen a few of those. They can be good. Which one are you looking at?

B: It's a guy called Alain de Botton. He's talking about success and failure. He's a really good speaker actually.

A: Yes, he is, isn't he? I heard him on the radio a few months ago being interviewed about a new book. He was excellent. So what's he saying?

B: Well, he's putting forward quite an interesting idea: that we all think that meritocracy in society is a good thing, because it means that those who deserve to get to the top will get to the top, rather than just the rich or the well-connected.

A: Yeah, well, I'd go along with that.

B: Yeah, me too, but what he's saying is that if you believe that, then you'll also believe that those who get to the bottom, or those who just are at the bottom of society, also deserve to be there and to stay there.

A: Oh, yes, I suppose so. I hadn't thought about it like that before.

B: No, me neither. It's interesting, isn't it? So the idea is that if you fail somehow, you've deserved to fail—it's your own fault. And he's saying that that can be pretty crushing for people.

A: Yes, I see, when in fact it might not be your own fault at all. It might be because of some misfortune or bad luck.

B: Exactly.

A: So what does he suggest we do about it?

B: Well, that we change our attitudes about people who don't succeed; that we don't make judgments about them, calling them "losers" and things like that. I can send you the link...

A: Yes, please. I'd like to watch it. Is it very long?

B: I haven't got to the end yet, but I doubt it. They're usually only about fifteen minutes or so.

- 2** Answer the questions.

1 What was this TED talk about?

2 What idea did the speaker in the TED talk criticize?

3 What does he suggest we do instead?

- 3** Which of these points are characteristics of a good listener? Check (✓) the three points that the person listening to the description of the TED talk did.

- a showed appreciation ☐
- b tried to predict what the other person was going to say ☐
- c waited before giving their views ☐
- d asked questions ☐
- e related what they heard to their own experience ☐

Vocabulary collocations: social groups

- 4** Choose the TWO correct options to make collocations.

- 1 ethnic groups / immigrants / minorities
- 2 deep-rooted groups / values / culture
- 3 long-standing relatives / immigrant community / friends
- 4 close-knit family / friends / community
- 5 extended / neighborhood / nuclear family
- 6 first-generation / economic / refugee migrants
- 7 social / party / family gatherings
- 8 rich / cultural / international heritage

10e Social mobility

Writing a discursive essay



- 1** Despite dropping out of college early, Bill Gates (pictured above) managed to build a hugely successful computer software business, Microsoft. How do you think he was able to achieve this? Can you think of anyone else who has done something similar?

2 Writing skill critical thinking in writing

- a** Look at this subject for a discursive essay and think about what your position is, i.e., form a probable answer (your hypothesis).

"It's wrong to tell people that anyone can achieve anything in life. Discuss."

- b** Read the opening paragraph of an essay discussing this question and say what the writer's main argument (thesis) is.

In modern society, we are often told that we can achieve anything if we want it enough. No goal is out of reach: successful business person, medical doctor, even president. But is this really the case? My belief is that this promise is made by people who believe in the power of hard work and it is true that without hard work and dedication you will achieve little. But that is not the same as saying that anyone can achieve anything. That is simply not true.

- c** Look at the second paragraph and find two pieces of evidence that support this argument.

Unfortunately, in every kind of society there are barriers to overcome before you can reach your goal. It could be that not everyone has access to a good education. So, even if you have the determination and desire to become a medical doctor, for example, you cannot get the right training to achieve that goal. The statement also suggests that everyone is born with the same natural abilities, which is clearly not true. Your wish could be to become a concert pianist. Yet in spite of all the hours of practice you put in, you do not have that certain natural talent that separates the great from the good.

- d** What is the function of this final paragraph?

So by all means, let us encourage people to work hard. Let us also try to ensure that everyone has the possibilities and the means to succeed. But let us not pretend that we are all the same and that we can all achieve whatever we want. Because that will only lead to disappointment and a sense of failure when we do not.

- 3** Write your own discursive essay on the same subject: *"It's wrong to tell people that anyone can achieve anything in life. Discuss."* Organize your essay into three paragraphs.

- introduction and your main argument (thesis)
- an analysis of the evidence to support your argument
- conclusion and repetition of your main argument

Wordbuilding compound adjectives

- 1 Complete the compound adjectives with these words.

boiled	cut	faced	handed	minded
sounding	spirited	standing	talking	willed

- 1 She was the first left-_____ tennis player to win a major tournament.
- 2 Breakfast consisted of a piece of bread and two hard-_____ eggs.
- 3 "Luxmore" is an odd-_____ first name. Is it a traditional family name?
- 4 Did you pick up all the litter in the street? It was very public-_____ of you.
- 5 I'm not surprised that she managed to convince them to pay for the damage they had caused. She's a very strong-_____ individual.
- 6 Having to admit they were wrong, after all the fuss they had made, left them looking very red-_____.
- 7 We believe in working closely with our suppliers and building long-_____ relationships with them.
- 8 It's very narrow-_____ to think that all women are interested in shopping.
- 9 He's a very smooth-_____ businessman. Don't let him persuade you to do anything you don't want to do.
- 10 The decision is not clear-_____. There are advantages and disadvantages with both options.

Learning skills speaking skills

- 2 Even at your level of English, you may sometimes feel frustrated at not having the right expressions for everyday situations. Try to build your range of these expressions. Look at the following situations. What would be a natural thing to say in each?
- 1 Someone tries to help you fix your computer, but can't. You say: _____
 - 2 You give someone a ride to the station. The next day they bring you a box of chocolates. You say: _____
 - 3 Someone says they will be seeing a former colleague of yours tomorrow. You say: _____

- 4 In a bus, someone says "You're standing on my toe." You say: _____
 - 5 You're at a conference sitting next to a stranger, waiting for a talk to begin. You say: _____
 - 6 A colleague invites you to lunch, but you have too much work to do. You say: _____
- 3 Think of other everyday situations where you are not sure what would be the right thing to say. Ask your teacher what the correct phrase would be. Keep a note of these phrases.

Check!

- 4 Look at the words and phrases (a-j) which describe the stories about society and communities that you learned about in Student Book Unit 10. Match two words or phrases with each photo.

- a collective intelligence
- b rich cultural heritage
- c no hierarchy in society
- d colonies
- e lend a helping hand
- f Pullman
- g good citizens
- h utopian
- i hunter-gatherer
- j second-generation immigrants

