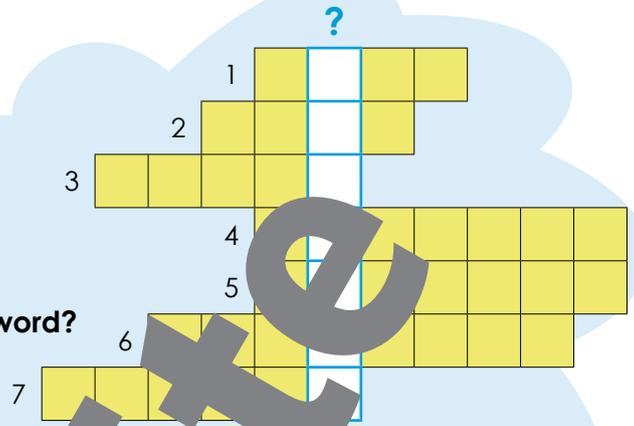


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Day One



1 Do the crossword puzzle. What is the mystery word?

- 1 the Irish name for Ireland
- 2 second largest city in the Republic of Ireland
- 3 big battle in 1690: The Battle of the ...
- 4 the most famous Irish novel, published in 1922
- 5 the Irish Parliament Party was founded in 1882 by Charles Stewart ... (surname)
- 6 a famous ...
- 7 ... Irish songwriter born in 1966: O' ...

2 Find the correct words for the definitions.

- 1 you use them for cutting and picking up meat ... and ...
- 2 you use them to build houses: b ...
- 3 you use it to see better in the dark: l ...
- 4 you use it to eat your soup: s ...
- 5 the area in a house below the ground floor: c ...
- 6 a small community where people live: v ...
- 7 a person who is employed in a house to cook and clean, etc. (old-fashioned, 19th-century term): s ...

3 Number the dialogue in the correct order. Listen and check.

Info box

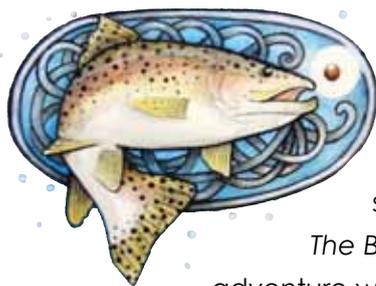


Skellig Michael is an island off the West Coast of Ireland. It is famous for its monastery founded between the 6th and 8th century and its puffins*.

- Miriam: OK, thank you. See you in the afternoon then.
- ...: I'd like to book a tour to the Skelligs for tomorrow.
- Miriam: But the weather forecast says it's going to be good tomorrow.
- ...: OK. If we can't land, can we still see the puffins* on the island?
- Miriam: What a pity. When will you know?
- Miriam: Why not?
- Tour operator: Because we're not sure about the weather. If the weather's bad, we can't go there.
- Tour operator: You're right, but the sea conditions might make it difficult to land there.
- Tour operator: Sure, but you'll need to bring your binoculars*.
- Tour operator: Come again in the late afternoon, then we'll know for sure.
- Tour operator: Sorry, but we don't really know if it will be possible.

Glossary: *puffin – Papageientaucher ; *binoculars – Fernglas

4 Complete the text with the correct form of the word in brackets (past simple or past continuous).



When the Irish warrior Finn McCool, a great figure from Irish mythology, was a boy he had a lot of adventures. One story from the old manuscript *The Boyhood Deeds of Finn* is his adventure with the Salmon of Knowledge. An ordinary salmon ¹..... (swim) in the Well* of Wisdom when nine hazelnuts ²..... (fall) into it. The salmon ³..... (eat) the nine hazelnuts and gained all the world's knowledge. The poet Eces ⁴..... (try) to find the salmon for seven years and one day he finally ⁵..... (catch) it. He

⁶..... (give) it to young Finn and told him not to eat it. But Finn cooked the salmon and while ⁷..... (turn) it over the fire he ⁸..... (touch) the fish and soon ⁹..... (burn) his finger. To ease the pain, he ¹⁰..... (put) his finger for some time. By doing this he gained ¹¹..... (bring) the fish to Eces, the poet, who told him what had happened. He was not hungry, however, and gave Finn the fish to eat. In his later life, he only had to suck his thumb

Glossary: *well – Quelle, Brunnen

5 Read the text and answer the questions below.

One of the most famous Irish myths is called 'The Children of Lir'. When Bodb Derg was elected king of the Tuatha Dé Danann, Lir, the god of the sea, was very annoyed. So Bodb forced one of his daughters, Aoibh, to marry Lir. Aoibh and Lir had four children, one girl and three boys.

When Aoibh died, her children missed her very much and Lir was unhappy again. So Bodb sent another of his daughters, Aoife, to marry Lir. Aoife, however, was jealous of the children and she wanted to get rid of them. First she asked a servant to do it, but the servant wouldn't do it. So one day, when the children were swimming in a lake, she changed them all into swans. When Bodb heard about this, he changed his daughter into an swan.

Unfortunately, nobody could change the children back and they had to stay swans until they heard the sound of a bell ringing in the country. The swans swam from the river wanting to hear a Christian bell, but it wasn't until St Patrick, the first Christian missionary to come to Ireland 1000 years later that they could be changed back.

There are several endings to the story, but a popular one is that they were changed back into very old people, and lived happily ever after in heaven with their mother and father.



- 1 Who was Bodb Derg?
- 2 Why was he annoyed?
- 3 What did Bodb do to make him less angry?
- 4 What happened when Aoibh died?
- 5 Why did Aoife want the children to die?
- 6 What did she change the children into?
- 7 What happened to Aoife?
- 8 How many years did the children spend as swans?
- 9 What saved them?
- 10 What happened when they were changed back?

URBAN LEGEND



The jogger

Info box

People waking up in baths of blood, Elvis Presley alive and living in Alaska, these are the sort of things you'll hear about in an urban legend. These stories are often funny, they're sometimes scary and they're always difficult to believe.

A man, let's call him Bob, works for a large multinational company in London. One day his boss tells him they are sending him to work in the head office in New York for a few months. He's really excited. It's a city he and his wife have visited a few times before and have always liked. Now they have the chance to live there for a while. When he finds out that he's going to be living in a large apartment opposite Central Park, he is even more excited. Bob likes jogging a lot and Central Park is the perfect place to enjoy a run early each morning. On his first day at work, however, an American colleague warns him to be careful in the park. He tells him that there have been a number of muggings* over the last few months with the thieves looking for runners wearing watches or headphones. For this reason, Bob decides not to take anything with him when he goes running.



On a morning after they have been there for about a month, Bob is about to leave the apartment for his run when his wife asks him if he could stop and buy some milk from the local shop on his way home. She gives him a \$10 note, which he puts in his pocket. He kisses his wife goodbye and sets off for the park. It's a beautiful morning and Bob decides to run in a part of the park where he's never been before. After a few minutes, he starts to get a bad feeling. There are fewer people and a lot more trees. He decides to turn back and take his usual route. Then, all of a sudden, he bumps into a jogger coming the other way. The other man apologises and runs on. He seems to be running more quickly. Bob gets the feeling that something is not quite right. Then he remembers the money. He puts his hand into his back pocket. Nothing. The money has gone.

Without thinking, Bob turns around and starts running as fast as he can after the other jogger. After a few minutes he sees the man in front of him. He soon reaches him. He runs in front of the man and stops. The other man stops too. Bob demands that he gives him the \$10. The man refuses so Bob gets really angry. He starts shouting and pushing the thief. Now the other man is really quite scared and reaches for his money. He pulls out a \$10 note, gives it to Bob and then runs away. Bob watches the other man disappear into the trees. His heart is beating really fast now. He knows it was a stupid thing to do but he is happy with himself and he has got his money back. He's too excited to continue his jog so he leaves the park, buys some milk and goes back to his apartment. He can't wait to tell his wife what happened. He knows she will be a bit angry but she'll also be proud too. He opens the door. "You'll never guess what happened," he shouts out to his wife. She looks up at him from the kitchen table. "I already know," she says. "You left the money for the milk on the kitchen table."



JOKE OF THE DAY

1 Look at the pictures. In which picture do you see:

- a dining hall with monks?
- monks laughing?
- a monk shouting a number?
- a man who isn't a monk shouting a number?

2 Here are some things that people say in the joke. In what order do you think they come?

- "Why are they laughing?"
- "Come and join us for dinner with us."
- "Well, would you mind telling a joke?"
- "Please make the joke long."
- "Oh, it's time for the jokes!"
- "I think that's the best joke."

 3 Listen to the joke.

4 Give the joke a score from 0-5 (0 = not funny at all, 5 = really very funny).



Day Two



1 Complete the text with the words below.

case suspects victim weapon blackmailed evidence murderer witnesses

The police were looking for a 1..... had found the 2..... but they hadn't found the murderer 3....., yet. Since there were no 4....., it was a fairly difficult 5..... For weeks and weeks they collected 6..... and in the end they had two 7..... When they learned that the..... one of the suspects, they finally solved the case.

2 Read the beginning of the story and fill in the correct form of the words in brackets (past simple or past perfect).

It 1..... (be) a cold and rainy day, and Marty Malone was glad to go back in his office. He 2..... a suspect all day, but without any luck. 3..... the suspect would lead him to the place where he was hiding the stolen jewels, but he hadn't.

Actually he 4..... (follow) the suspect for more than a week now, and he was wondering whether the suspect 5..... (notice) this. After he 6..... (take) him on a long ride though the city today, he was playing with him. Had Marty missed something?

Marty 7..... (pour) himself a cup of coffee and 8..... (look) at the door to his office. "Marty Malone, Private Detective" it said in black letters. When he 9..... (open) his office a year ago, his girlfriend 10..... (say): "Marty, spend your weekends with me or we'll soon get a divorce." Marty 11..... (not spend) the previous weekends with her, so he 12..... (decide) to go home. He turned off the lights, 13..... (close) the door and never saw the person who 14..... (hit) him on the head.



Speculate
how the story
could go on.



3 Read the first three scenes of the play *Birdie* and tick T (True) or F (False).

SCENE 1 (Mr Martins opens the door to his house)

Tony Martins Yes?

Inspector Fell Mr Martins? Mr Tony Martins? I'm Inspector Fell. I'm sorry, but I've got bad news. We found your brother, Jeremy. Dead. Murdered.

Tony Martins What? Why? Who was it? Why have you come to me? I haven't heard from my brother in two years.

Inspector Fell Is that so? Well, I would like you to identify his body.

Tony Martins Why can't Birdie do that?

Inspector Fell Birdie?

Tony Martins His girlfriend.

Inspector Fell Her name's Birdie?

Tony Martins No, her name's Robyn Mason. She's a doctor at Brent Hospital.

Inspector Fell I see. Still, could you come and identify the body?

Tony Martins Oh, alright.

Inspector Fell By the way, can you tell me where you were yesterday afternoon?

Tony Martins I'm a software writer, Inspector. I don't know how to use a computer. Here I come, programming my way.

Inspector Fell I see, so...

SCENE 2 (Mr Martins and the Inspector talking at the police station)

Inspector Fell We found copies of the old and the new will* in your brother's desk. Did you know anything about the wills? After all, your brother was quite rich.

Tony Martins I'm not poor, Inspector.

Inspector Fell Still, a million pounds, left to you.

Tony Martins What? Why would he leave me a million pounds?

Inspector Fell He left it to you. In his old will.

Tony Martins What?

Inspector Fell He leaves everything to Dr Mason in his new will.

Tony Martins Then she's my killer.

Inspector Fell Maybe. But the will hasn't been signed by any witnesses yet, so theoretically the old will is still the true one.

Tony Martins Good, good. Poor Birdie. (He smirks*.)

Inspector Fell Yes, poor Birdie. Why Birdie?

Tony Martins Robyn, like the bird robin*. Therefore Birdie.

Inspector Fell Does everyone call her Birdie?

Tony Martins How should I know!

SCENE 3 (Inspector Fell alone in his office, talking on the telephone)

Inspector Fell What about that other thing, Jenkins?

Sgt Jenkins I just contacted the administrator. He has to check with his boss, but it should be okay. We'll have all the information by tomorrow, he says.

Glossary: *will – Testament; *fortune – Vermögen; *to smirk – hämisch grinsen; *robin – Rotkehlchen

- 1 The brothers hadn't seen each other for more than a year. T F
- 2 Tony Martins doesn't know much about computers. T F
- 3 Tony Martins had a perfect alibi, because he was at his office with his secretary. T F
- 4 Jeremy Martins left his brother half a million pounds and his house. T F

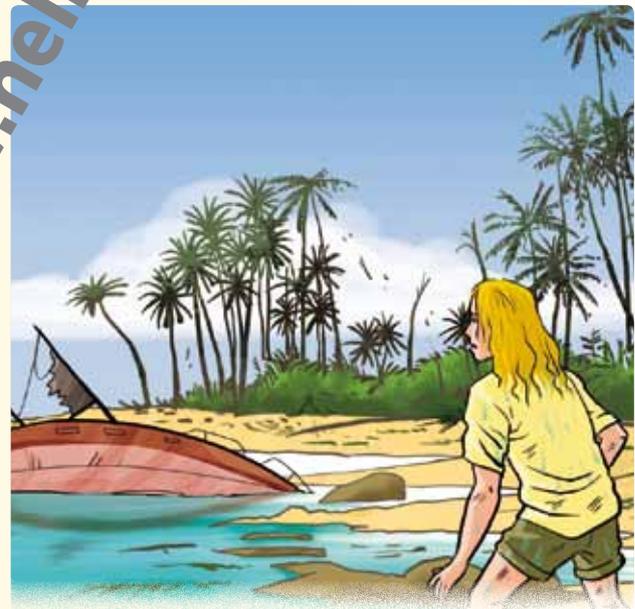
04 **4** Now listen to scenes four and five of the play. Then write an email to a friend in which you briefly outline the case to him / her.

URBAN LEGEND



A woman set out to sail around the world with two friends on a sailing yacht. Everything was fine until two months into their journey when they were hit by a huge storm in the middle of the Pacific Ocean. The two friends were blown into the sea and never seen again. The woman was now alone on the boat with no way of contacting the outside world because her radio had been damaged during the storm. The boat was also in a bad condition and the woman had no way of controlling it. She could only go with the sea took her. A few weeks later the boat was hit by another storm. This time the boat sank and the last thing the woman remembered was falling from her yacht into the sea.

The woman awoke and found herself on a sandy beach. She stood up and looked around. She was on a small deserted island with a few coconut trees in the middle and nothing else. The woman was desperate*. Where was she? How was she going to survive? What would she eat and drink? But then she decided that she wasn't going to die on this island. She built a simple hut among the trees, she found a way of catching fish to eat, she collected rain water to drink. Soon she had



One day after several years on the island, the woman heard the sound of an aeroplane. It sounded really close. She looked up and saw a small plane heading towards the island. She waved as it flew over her. It went past the island, turned around and came towards her again. She could see the pilot. He was waving. As the plane flew over this time, a small parcel was dropped from it. The parcel landed on the beach. The woman ran over and opened it. Inside there was some food and a radio. The woman turned it on and immediately heard the voice of the pilot. It was the first voice she had heard for many years. The pilot told her that there was no need to worry any more, a ship was coming to take her home. But there was one thing the woman really wanted to know. "How did you ever find me?" she asked the pilot. "Did you see my SOS sign in the sand?" "No, we didn't," he replied, "but a teenager in Mexico saw it on Google Earth."

The woman had no idea what Google Earth was but when she finally got home, they showed her the website that had photographed the whole world, including the tiny island where she could see her SOS sign in the sand.



JOKE OF THE DAY

1 Look at the pictures. In which picture can you see:

- a man pointing to a key.
- a dog asking a woman for help.
- a man stating a price?
- a talking dog?
- a sign for someone who wants to sell a dog?

2 Look at the pictures. In what order do you think they appear in the joke?

-

 3 Listen to the joke.

4 Give the joke a score from 0-5 (0 = not funny at all, 5 = really very funny).

