## Numbers

- Lucky numbers
- Discourse markers
- yeah
- Six clicks
- Modals in the past
- one / it
- Numerology
- Compound adjectives


## Lucky numbers



## Speaking

1 Where would you find these numbers (1-6)?
2 Which numbers do you know by heart? How do you remember them?
social security number; I keep the number in my phone
3 Do any numbers have special associations in your country? What are they? Why do they exist?

## Reading

1 Look at this article from a website. Does it mention the topics you talked about?


1 Can you imagine having to avoid saying certain numbers because they bring bad luck? Or repeating others just because of how they sound? Well, in the Far East these ideas are not so strange. In China, the numbers four and seven are often avoided because the former implies death and the latter means 'gone'. For this reason, many hospitals don't have a fourth floor. In contrast, six, eight and nine are thought to be lucky, because they have homophones with auspicious meanings: six (pronounced 'Liu' in Chinese) implies that everything will go smoothly; nine ('Jiu') implies 'everlasting', especially in friendship and marriage. Phone numbers, car licence tags and room numbers which end with these three digits are favourites too.

2 Perhaps eight is the most widely used number when it comes to trying to generate good luck. Its homophone suggests good fortune - specifically in financial terms - and so prices such as $\$ 28.88$ are everywhere in shops. In Hong Kong, even their travel card is associated with eight - it's an Octopus card! The customer service number of the Sichuan Airline is $8888-8888$. Moreover, they paid $\$ 288,000$ to buy it! It's all GR8 news if you're a fan of spiders! Other factors combine in making important decisions. The launch of a new company was delayed from the third week of August, when the Hungry Ghost Festival happens, to the second week of September, because of bad Feng Shui. Even worshippers in temples study the ash from burning incense sticks to try to divine their lucky numbers.
3 The chances of winning the twice-weekly lottery are about the same as being struck by lightning (that's around 5.3 million to one!) but it's a safe bet the Taiwanese government weren't expecting the strange phenomena that lotto mania has created. People have always gathered with morbid fascination to look on at the scene of accidents, but now they note down the registration numbers of vehicles involved in case they give clues to the winning lottery numbers. What's more, visiting foreigners may be surprised by taxi drivers who badger them for birth dates, passport numbers or almost anything else they might consider to be omens of good fortune. There are even supposedly lucky sites where you can purchase lottery tickets. One such is the area of Taipei flooded by a typhoon, which is hugely popular because of a Chinese proverb that states 'water brings fortune'.

2 Suggest a suitable heading for each paragraph.
3 In which of the paragraphs does the information appear?

1 Religious rituals play a part in some forms of gambling. para(s) $\qquad$
2 People choose certain numbers and dates if they are considered lucky. para(s) $\qquad$ _
3 People resort to unusual means to choose numbers that may bring luck. para(s) $\qquad$
4 Companies make business decisions based on superstitions. para(s) $\qquad$
5 The pronunciation of certain numbers is the same as other words. para(s) $\qquad$ -

4 Find words or expressions in the paragraphs that mean...
1 a word that sounds the same as another (para 1/2)
2 showing signs that something will be successful (para 1)
3 previous, or first of two ideas mentioned (para 1)
4 to make a prediction (para 2)
5 an interest in unpleasant events, especially death (para 3)
6 to annoy someone by asking something repeatedly (para 3)
7 a violent tropical storm (para 3)

## Listening

1 What do you imagine is the connection between numbers and these people?
a accountant
e customer in shop
b call centre worker
f lottery salesperson
c clown
g nurse
d croupier
h teacher

2 (8.1) Listen to five people and match them with the jobs (a-h). There are three extra options.

3 Listen again and match the extracts with these descriptions.

1 Telling a story about work that day.
2 Relating an anecdote about a customer.
3 Talking about preparing for work.
4 Dealing with strange behaviour.
5 Refuting a commonly held perception.
4 What do the speakers say about the following?
Speaker 1: Even numbers
Speaker 2: Bad omens
Speaker 3: A good luck ritual
Speaker 4: How interesting numbers are
Speaker 5: Lottery tickets

Language focus

## Discourse markers

Discourse markers are used to make what we are saying or writing more logical, coherent or effective.
1 Find examples in the reading text to match these categories.
1 Contrasting two ideas.
2 Supporting a previous idea.
2 Add these discourse markers to the two categories.
besides
equally
even so
however
in addition
nevertheless on the one hand similarly whereas yet

3 Turn to the Language Practice Activities on pages 111-112.

See Reference Guide, pp. 21-22. See Workbook, p. 49.

## The Real Thing: yeah

1 (8.2) Listen to these extracts and complete the gaps. Hmm, well, $\qquad$ , I'm a number cruncher, but hey, we are not as boring as..
So, $\qquad$ , anyway, turns out his boss had three sixes in her number,...

Why is yeah being used here?
2 (8.3) Listen to the examples (1-5) and match yeah with the uses (a-e).
1 Yeah, sure I see what you mean, but I think if we look carefully the real issue is elsewhere.
2 He said he'd be on time? Oh yeah, I'll believe it when I see it!
3 So there I am, yeah, and I've gone through a red light, yeah and the cop's asking me for my licence and..
4 Uh-huh ... yeah ... yeah ... right yeah ... if I could just make a comment...
5 Was it embarrassing? Oh yeah, you bet it was!
a agreeing or affirming
b giving positive feedback signals while listening
c as filler before going on to add comment
d emphasising
e expressing doubt or disbelief
3 Turn to the Communication Activities on page 123.


## cerct 1

## Speaking \& Reading

1 Look at the title of this article. What do you understand by it?
2 Read the article and see if your ideas are mentioned.

## IT'S A SMALL ONLINE WORLD:

## YOU'RE ONLY SIX E-MAILS AWAY FROM ANYONE

A recent experiment lends weight to the idea that we are all somehow connected to each other by a chain of about six social relationships - known as 'six degrees of separation'.
Over half the volunteers selected for the investigation were middle class, educated, Christian professionals; reflecting commonly held notions of the internet-using population in the US. They were asked to relay a message to a randomly selected target person by forwarding it to an acquaintance chosen because they were perceived to be 'closer' to the target than they were themselves. The messages that reached their targets took around six 'forwardings' to arrive.

Successful chains were more likely to involve links that originated via work or education. More than half of the choices participants made when passing on a message were based on the next link in the chain living closer to the target or being someone who shared the target's occupation. The results also highlighted the importance of gender; men passed
messages more frequently to other men, and women to other women. Researchers found that this tendency to pass messages to same-sex contacts was strengthened by about 3 per cent if the final target was the same gender as the sender and similarly weakened in the opposite case.
The original six degrees of separation experiments were performed in the 1970s by Stanley Milgram, an eminent American psychologist, who came to the conclusion that 'one is connected through a short chain of social ties to other individuals, the average chain length being six people.' He dubbed this the 'small world problem' after the obligatory cocktail party response of strangers who unexpectedly discovered that they shared acquaintances.
One important question that this excellent new study raises is that of how much people know about their own social networks. Another is why it matters. The findings may help scientists understand how diseases spread, how social networks develop, or even how to track down criminals.

3 Complete these statements about the text.
1 The majority of the participants were...
2 Volunteers were chosen to mirror...
3 Participants in the experiment had to...
4 If the participant shared the same gender as a final target, they were more likely...
5 Male and female participants in the experiment...

4 Find synonyms in the text for these words; there may be more than one.
1 experiment
2 volunteers
3 researchers
4 results
5 forward a message
5 What is the 'obligatory cocktail party response' referred to in the text? Is there a similar expression in your language?


## Listening

1 Do you know the film Six Degrees of Separation? Read this description of the plot.

Six Degrees of Separation (1993) relates the idea that any two people taken at random must have at least six people in common. The anti-hero is a young New Yorker (Will Smith) who meets the wealthy fother of a recent Princeton graduate, and pretends to know his son.

2 (8.4) Listen to a radio interview and answer these questions.
1 What is the link between the movie Six Degrees of Separation and the cult fad Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon?
2 How did the idea for the game come about?
3 What kind of actor is Kevin Bacon?
3 (8.5) Listen again to the last part of the interview. How do these people and objects connect with the actor Kevin Bacon in photo 1?


4 Explain how Six Degrees of Kevin Bacon works.
Copycat Dianne Wiest Gene Hackman
Sigourney Weaver Footloose मFK
The Birdcage Holly Hunter The Firm

From Kevin Bacon to Kevin Costner. JFK From Kevin Bacon to $\qquad$ to $\qquad$ to $\qquad$ to
$\qquad$ to the alien in Alien.

## Language focus

## Modals in the past

## 1 Look at these extracts from the interview.

1 ...it must have been quite a night!
2 ...we should have been studying...
3 ...you ought to have been working...
4 ...what these guys could have achieved in life..
5 ...we could have ended up...
a Which example/s make assumptions or deductions about what possibly happened?
b Which example/s suggest actions that didn't happen?
c Which example/s make a criticism?

## 2 Complete the rules.

To make modal auxiliary verbs in the past we use the modal + $\qquad$ + past participle of the verb.
The only modal that is followed by to is $\qquad$ _.

## We use modals in the past

to speculate and make assumptions.
He must have gone home - he's usually here at this time.
They can't have got lost - I gave them clear directions.
I'm sure she would've called to tell us. (probable) It couldn't have been a burglar - nothing is missing! He might/may have made a mistake.
to imagine a different possibility.
It could have all gone wrong. (but it didn't) What a crazy driver! They might/may have been killed. (but they weren't)
To be honest, I would have preferred pizza. (but we had pasta)
to suggest criticism of something that did or didn't happen. You should have been here an hour ago! The film's already started.
I'm sorry, I ought to have called. I forgot.
Well, thanks a lot! You could've waited for me! Why didn't you?

3 Now turn to the Language Practice Activities on page 112.

See Reference Guide, pp. 20-21.
See Workbook, pp. 48-49.


## Speaking \& Reading

1 Discuss these questions in pairs.
1 What happened in the world on the day you were born?
2 Do you know anyone who shares your birthday?
3 How likely is it that two people in this room were born on the same day?
2 Read this text from an 1876 pamphlet on How to Impress your Dinner Guests and check your answers.

## An Amazing Coincidence?

When one happens to be hosting a soirée or supper party for twelve or more guests, amaze everyone present by making an incredible announcement - and being proven right! Once everyone is relaxing after dinner, say in a most confident voice, 'Is anyone aware that we are quite probably in the presence of someone who shares his birthday with another ... and I mean exactly the same day! Shall we compare...?'

One's guests will be astounded when you are proven right, as you most certainly will be! It has been mathematically proven that in a group of twelve people, there is a greater than even chance that two of them will have been born on the same day. Clearly, the more people present, the more likely one is to be proved correct, but twelve is the key number, so do not attempt this feat if there are fewer than a dozen people in the room.

Should one be proven wrong on any occasion, as is bound to happen from time to time by the immutable laws of chance, the sympathy of your guests, rather than their derision, is the most likely outcome, for it may be guaranteed that two people will have birthdays only one day apart!

3 Identify any examples of formal or old-fashioned language in the text. Rewrite them in modern English.

Should one be proven wrong: If you are (found to be) wrong.

4 How many people in the room share birth dates? Make your predictions and compare with the rest of the class.

5 Check everyone's birthday. Whose predictions were right? Are you surprised by the outcome?

## Speaking \& Reading

1 Do you know about numerology or 'life path numbers'? Do you know how to calculate your life path number?
2 Read the text below to see if any of your ideas are correct.

## NUMEROLOGY CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE!

What is numerology? Each letter has a numeric value that represents a certain vibration. The numbers in your name and date of birth can give a lot of information about your character, motivation, purpose, and talent!
Your birth date determines your life path. This number represents who you are at birth, and the natural characteristics of your personality that will stay with you throughout your life.
Your life path number is derived from your date of birth. To calculate your life path number, reduce each part of your birth date to a single digit, add these together and reduce this total to a single digit. For example, if your birthday is 14 December 1986, add the 1 and the 4 of the day together $=5$, add the 1 and 2 of the month together $=3$, then add the digits of the year together $1+9+8+6=24$, then add the 2 and the 4 together $=6$. Finally add 5 (day) +3 (month) +6 (year) $=14$, then $1+4$, giving a Life Path number of 5 .

3 Which of these opinions expresses your own most closely?


I'm not sure, I need more information.

4 Calculate your life path number. Who else in the class shares your number?

## Listening \& Vocabulary

1 (8.7) Listen and complete notes on the life path numbers described.

| Number | Positive Characteristics | Negative Characteristics |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
|  | leader, flexible |  |
|  |  |  |

2 Listen again. Which number, in your opinion, has more positive than negative characteristics? Why?
3 Which number do you think is closest to your personality? Compare with your partner.
4 Test your memory. Cover the chart. Which character adjectives can be made from these noun stems?
argument dependence judge trust

## Writing

1 Write a numerology profile for the www.numerologyonline.com website. Choose a life path number not described in the listening section.
You should include the following points:

- The historical importance of the number.
- Positive and negative qualities associated with the number.
- Predictions for the future; for example, job, lifestyle, money and romance.


## Hidden meanings



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## IIIXIIIIII

## Speaking

1 What do you know about hidden codes? Discuss in small groups.
2 In what situations do you regularly use a secret number? Compare in small groups. pin code, door entry code...

## Listening \& Vocabulary

1 If $a=1, b=2, c=3$ and so on, what are these words?
a 3-15-4-5
b $4-5-3-9-16-8-5-18$
c $3-18-25-16-20-15-7-18-1-16-8-25$
2 Match the words in Exercise 1 with the following meanings.
1 the study of secret writing
2 a set of symbols (letters, numbers or words) used to hide a message
3 discover the hidden meaning of a message
3 (8.8) Listen to this radio programme. How many ways of hiding messages are mentioned?
4 Listen again and choose the correct option.
1 Some numbers have important mysterious / mystical associations.
2 Codes began with secret agents / all kinds of people.
3 Early methods for hiding messages were very secure / highly dangerous.
4 New encoding techniques were established to make the message / the code difficult to decipher.
5 Machines can be used to make codes more difficult to create / to break.
5 Look at the words in bold in Transcript 8.8 and match them to the following:
1 mixed up
3 unintelligible
5 transmitted
2 stopped
4 hairless
6 changed

## Reading \& Speaking

1 Match these questions with extracts 1-3 from the radio programme.
a Which numbers have changed the world? Why?
b Are any numbers interesting only from a mathematical point of view?
c How have numbers been used to predict the future or to give special significance to events?

One area that certainly fascinates scientists - and I'm definitely with them on this - is prime numbers. Actually, just recently a German doctor discovered the largest prime number ever found, over seven million digits! And that's pretty impressive, because apart from the fact that they're indivisible by any number other than themselves or one, the sequence of prime numbers is, it seems, totally unpredictable and infinite - I mean, we just never know where the next one will be. And that makes them fascinating, mysterious, you know, this randomness is both very beautiful and very troublesome, which is why scientists spend so long trying to predict what the next one will be. They were extremely useful when people started needing more complicated codes, precisely because of this unpredictability...

Well, not so long ago we went through the phenomenon of so-called Millennium Fever, but that was certainly not a modern thing. Since people started recording time and the passing of the years, big dates like the turn of a century or whatever have filled people with certain apprehension, which in the past I suppose was understandable, you know, a step into the unknown. Certain numbers just seem to attract people - hundreds, thousands, smaller numbers too. For many people, three is an almost mythical number, possibly because of its religious associations, you know, the Holy Trinity and so on. And interestingly, seven, most people's lucky number, has been proved to have something to do with chance and luck - it's the number of times you need to shuffle a deck of cards to guarantee they're completely mixed. But I'm afraid I can't agree with all this mumbojumbo about the number 11, ever since the attacks on the World Trade Centre, counting the number of days and adding them up foretelling the next attack ... to be honest, I think it's a little hysterical...

Well, it's a little known fact that the number zero had to be invented. Until the mathematician and astronomer Muhammad Bin Ahmad suggested the idea of zero, in 967 AD, numbers were only used for counting things that existed. Imagine a world without zero - one simple thing might never have existed: computers, because they use a code called binary, which is a series of ones and zeros. And the code that allows us to use the internet, a thing called Public Key Encryption, is a completely foolproof and safe way of sending and receiving information, all done with coded numbers. And of course there's Pi, which expresses the relationship between a circle's diameter and circumference. It was an incredibly important scientific advance when it became possible to define Pi with accuracy, even if we know it's another infinite number...

2 Answer the following questions in your own words. Compare your answers with a partner.
1 What two facts make prime numbers so interesting?
2 Why are prime numbers useful in making codes?
3 What reason does the speaker give for Millennium Fever?
4 What link does the speaker make between the number seven and luck?
5 What surprising idea does the speaker mention about the number zero?
6 What important scientific relationship is expressed by the number Pi ?

3 Read the extracts again and highlight where the speakers express enthusiasm or scepticism.
Enthusiasm; I'm definitely with them on this.
4 The extracts were transcribed from a radio programme. Find features of spoken language.
The use of fillers like 'well', ...
5 Turn to the Communication Activities. Student A: look at page 123. Student B: look at page 126.

6 Why do people believe in theories like the ones mentioned in text 2? Do you know of any world events in which numbers have played a significant role?

## Vocabulary

## Compound adjectives

1 Look at the word 'troublesome' in bold in extract 1. What does it mean? What other words can be formed from the word 'trouble'? troubling

2 What does 'foolproof' mean in extract 3? What other words can be added to 'proof'? shockproof

3 Match the words from the two boxes to make other compound adjectives and complete the following sentences. Which two nouns can be used with more than one suffix?
awe worry child whole fool pain rain trouble some free proof

1 Those pills come with a lid, so don't worry.
2 Come on! It can't fail! It's a great plan! It's utterly $\qquad$ !

3 If you prepare properly and take precautions, your trip to the jungle should be $\qquad$ _.
4 That holiday was just $\qquad$ ; it was the best I ever had.
5 She's happy not to have a baby, she's $\qquad$ by choice.
6 He ate a $\qquad$ diet, avoiding processed foods, all his life.
7 Try taking this $\qquad$ jacket, that should keep you dry.
8 She's a type; she's always getting anxious about things.
4 (8.9) Listen and check.
5 Which of these compound adjectives have positive connotations? In what context might they be frequently used?

## World English DVD



## Strictly Ballroom



## Before you watch

## Dance style quiz

1 Work in pairs. Match these ten dance styles with the countries that they are often associated with.
a Tango
b Salsa
c Waltz
d Rumba
e Samba
f Flamenco
g Foxtrot
h Lambada
i Cha-Cha-Cha
j Paso Doble
2 What role do you think these three people will have in a news report about ballroom dancing in the Philippines?


Vangie Labalan


Ramil Marfe


Julie Yap-Daza

## While you watch

1 Which of the dance styles in the quiz were mentioned in the introduction?

2 Complete the gaps.


It gets to me like in every $\qquad$ of my body. It gets to me, it $\qquad$ me up and when you dance the $\qquad$ , you feel so $\qquad$ ...

It seems to be a ladies' turf. Ladies call the shots. It used to be that there were night $\qquad$ where unescorted ladies are not allowed to enter, remember. But now ladies go to ballroom night $\qquad$ to ballroom
$\qquad$ unescorted.

3 Are these statements true or false? If false, explain why.
1 According to Julie, ballroom dancing is an excuse for ladies to dress up.
2 Ramil teaches exclusively in dance venues.
3 Vangie says that she will happily buy Ramil a Rolex watch.
4 Ramil claims that some female clients have asked him to live with them.
5 He feels uncomfortable because he is not sure what the ladies want in return.
6 Vangie says that it is not appropriate for there to be any sexual interest between dancing partners.

## After you watch

1 What do these expressions mean? Check the context in the transcript.
to call the shots life at the end of the rainbow to have time on your hands
to be all dressed up and nowhere to go
to be on the prowl
2 Change the incorrect information in this summary of the news report.
Middle-class women in Manila have started to go ballroom dancing to find rich, single men. They buy imitation expensive jewellery to impress the men. Philippine society is very liberal and it is quite normal to find husbands with mistresses and their wives with younger boyfriends. It is easier for these encounters to take place on the dance floor, often with the dance instructors themselves!

## The Secret of Happiness

## Before you watch

1 Make a list of things that make most people happy. Can you remember how various people answered this question in Unit 7 ?

2 Do you think people in the UK are particularly happy or unhappy compared to other European countries? Give reasons for your answers.

3 What do you think would make these people happy? Choose from the options below.

a Having a cup of tea.
e Having a partner.
b Talking to a pretty young woman.
c Holidays, cigarettes and friends.
d Tai-chi, yoga, meditation - relaxing in general.
f Having time, having money.
g Arsenal winning the league this season.
h My belief in God.

## While you watch



1 Watch the introduction and answer the questions.
1 What things have made the start of the year depressing...

- according to the newsreader?
- according to the reporter?

2 How many British people consider themselves to be very happy?
3 Why is this surprising?
4 How does the presenter describe the weather in the UK?


Dr Glen Wilson

2 Complete the gaps before you watch the interviews.
Well, the weather is not a major $\qquad$ of our happiness, nor is material $\qquad$ or taking pills like $\qquad$ What really makes us happy is having a $\qquad$ in life, $\qquad$ goals, a sense of identity and a few $\qquad$ people that we care about and who care about us.

3 Watch the short interviews and check your answers to Before you watch, Exercise 3.
4 In what circumstances does Joanna recommend going to the pub?

## After you watch

1 What do these expressions mean? Check the context in the transcript.

> to feel blue miserable gits looming threat a happy bunch to let somebody down

2 Would people in your country respond to the question 'what makes you happy' in the same way?
3 How would you respond to that same question?

