1B Do you believe in it?

1 READING & LISTENING

a Look at the beginning of two true stories. What do you think they might have in common?

b ➤ Communication Work in pairs A and B and read two stories.
A read Noises in the Night on p.104. B go to p.109 and read The Strange Object on the Hill.

HARD TO BELIEVE? BUT IT HAPPENED TO ME...
Have you ever experienced a paranormal happening? Write and tell us about it.

NOISES IN THE NIGHT

About six months ago, my husband Russ and I moved into a house in the country. Our house is the middle one of three terraced houses and it’s more than a hundred years old. A young couple live in the house on our right, but the house on our left was empty and for sale.

THE STRANGE OBJECT ON THE HILL

This happened when I was 16, and I can still remember it vividly. It was a clear morning, sunny but with a breeze. I was going to meet a school friend to go walking in the hills where there were some wonderful views. I’d agreed to meet him at the top of one of the hills.

THE COFFEE CUP READING

I went to Turkey a few years ago with a colleague called Chris. We’d been sent there by the British Council to train secondary school teachers in a school on the outskirts of Istanbul. While I was there I decided to go and see an old friend of mine, a young Turkish woman called Fatos, who I hadn’t seen for several years. I called her and we agreed to meet in a hotel in the centre of Istanbul. Chris came too, and the three of us had a very pleasant dinner together. After dinner we ordered Turkish coffee and we chatted for a while, until Fatos suddenly asked me, “Would you like me to read your coffee cup?” I refused politely because, to be honest, I don’t really believe in clairvoyants and fortune-telling. But Chris immediately said he would be happy for her to read his coffee cup... Adam, London
Listen to the rest of *The Coffee Cup* Reading and answer the questions.

1. What were the first two things Fatos saw in Chris's coffee cup? Were they accurate?
2. What was the third thing she saw?
3. How did Chris and Adam react to this?
4. Who did Chris's mother live with?
5. Where did Chris go the next morning?
6. Who called Adam? Why?
7. What was the bad news?
8. How did Fatos react to what had happened?
9. How does Adam feel about the experience?

Listen to some extracts from the story and complete the missing words. Try to work out what they mean.

1. Well, Carla, Chris's girlfriend at the time, was blonde, so that was _____ too.
2. But Chris is quite a _____ sort of person and he didn't seem to be too worried by what she'd said.
3. It was a slightly _____ end to what had been a very enjoyable evening.
4. So, was it just a _____ ...
5. I always used to be very _____ about fortune-telling...

**2 SPEAKING**

Talk in small groups.

Which of the three stories do you find the spookiest?
Can you think of any possible explanation for what happened in each story?

**Have you (or anybody you know) ...?**
- seen or heard something which can't be explained, e.g. a UFO or a ghost
- visited a fortune-teller, psychic, or faith healer
- had a surprising coincidence

**Reacting to a story about something strange**
When somebody talks about something strange or difficult to explain we often react with these phrases.

How / That's strange; bizarre; odd; weird; spooky

**3 GRAMMAR auxiliary verbs**

Look at the dialogues and try to complete the gaps with a [+ or −] auxiliary (do, did, is, was, etc.).

1. A I heard a noise in the middle of the night.
   B _____ you? What kind of noise?
2. A You don't believe in ghosts, _____ you?
   B No, I don't.
3. A I don't believe you really saw a UFO.
   B I _____ see one! It couldn't have been anything else.
4. A I've never been to a fortune-teller.
   B Neither _____.
   C I _____, it was really interesting.

Listen and check. In pairs, decide which auxiliary (1–5) is used...

A [ ] to add emphasis
B [ ] to say that you are different
C [ ] to check information
D [ ] to show surprise
E [ ] to say that you are the same

**4 PRONUNCIATION**

intonation and sentence rhythm

Listen to the dialogues. Notice the stressed auxiliary verbs.

A dreamt that I saw a ghost last night.
B Did you? So did I. How spooky!
A I don't believe in fortune-telling.
B Don't you? I do.

Repeat the dialogues with a partner, copying the rhythm and intonation.

Complete sentences 1–8 so that they are true for you.

1. I'm not very good at _____ (activity)
2. I'm going to _____ tonight (verb phrase)
3. I love _____ (kind of music)
4. I don't like _____ (kind of food)
5. I've never read _____ (famous book)
6. I'd love to live in _____ (town or country)
7. I was very _____ as a child (adj of personality)
8. I didn't _____ last night (verb phrase)

Work in pairs A and B. A read your sentences to B.
B respond with a reply question and then say whether you are the same or different. Then swap roles.

Listen to another dialogue. Is do stressed in the highlighted phrases?

A You don't like horror films, do you?
B I do like them. It's just that sometimes they're too scary!

Repeat the dialogue with a partner, copying the rhythm and intonation.


**5 SONG** Unbelievable 🎵
6 LISTENING & SPEAKING

a. On a piece of paper write the sentence I look forward to hearing from you. Then sign your name underneath and give the piece of paper to your partner.

b. Look at the signatures of some famous people. Can you identify any of them? Do you know anything about these people's personalities?

c. Read an extract from a book about graphology. Do you believe that our signature might say something about our personality?

What your signature says about you

Your signature is the part of your handwriting that says the most about your personality. It is quite common for your signature to change during your life because it reflects how you develop and evolve as a person. You may have more than one signature, for example: a more formal signature (name and surname) when you sign a credit card or your passport, and an informal signature (just your first name) when you sign a birthday card.

Our signature is very much part of the way in which we present ourselves to the world, so it can give some important clues about the kind of person we are and how we feel about ourselves.

d. 17, 18, 19, 20 Listen to an expert in graphology talking about how to interpret somebody’s personality from their signature. Complete the notes on the right.

Taking notes

We often need to take notes when we are listening, for example to somebody giving a lecture. If you need to take notes when you are listening to someone speaking in English, try to write down key words or phrases because you won’t have time to write complete sentences. Afterwards you could expand your notes into full sentences.

e. In pairs, interpret the signatures of the famous people. Do any of the interpretations coincide with what you already thought?

f. Now look at your partner’s signature and try to interpret it. Do you agree with your partner’s interpretation of your signature?

g. Do you believe that you can learn anything about someone’s personality by...?
   - analysing their handwriting (graphology)
   - looking at their hands (palmistry)
   - analysing the position of the sun, moon, and planets at the exact time of their birth (astrology)
   - another similar method

1.17) What’s in your signature?
Your name = your private self
Your surname =
You use only initials either for your first name or your surname =
There is a space between your name and surname =

1.18) The size of your signature
Your first name is bigger than your surname =
Your surname is bigger than your first name =
Your whole signature is big =
You sign in capital letters =
Your signature is small =

1.19) The legibility of your signature
Your signature is legible =
Your signature is illegible =
The more illegible your signature is...

1.20) The angle of your signature
A rising signature =
A descending signature =
A horizontal signature =
The angle of a signature may change depending on...
7 MINI GRAMMAR
the...the... + comparatives

The more space there is between your name and surname, the more you wish to keep separate these two parts of your personality.
The more illegible your signature is, the less assertive you probably are as a person.

Use the + comparative adjective or adverb to show that one thing depends on another, e.g.
- The sooner we start, the earlier we’ll finish. = how soon
  we will finish depends on when we start.
- The colder it is, the more clothes you need to wear
  to keep warm. = how many clothes you need to wear
  depends on how cold it is.

a Rewrite the sentences using the...the + comparative.
1 If you study a lot, you learn a lot.
The ___________, the ___________.
2 If we leave soon, we’ll get there earlier.
The ___________, the ___________.
3 If you have a lot of time, you do things slowly.
The ___________, the ___________.
4 If you are fit, you feel good.
The ___________, the ___________.

b Complete the sentences in your own words.
1 The more money you have, ...
2 The sooner you start your homework, ...
3 The faster I speak in English, ...
4 The less you sleep, ...

e Read the information on adjective modifiers.

- **Modifiers**
  - We often use modifiers with adjectives of personality.
    - With *positive characteristics*
      - My mum is quite / pretty good-tempered
      - My sister is quite / rather / pretty bad-tempered
    - With *negative characteristics*
      - a bit really / incredibly well-behaved
      - My coworker is a bit / very / really / incredibly well-behaved

f Tell the partner about people with the characteristics below. Give examples of their behaviour.

Do you know somebody who is...
- rather bad-tempered
- extremely absent-minded
- a bit tight-fisted
- very good-tempered
- incredibly strong-willed
- quite self-centred

One of my cousins is a bit two-faced. She says one thing to me, and then I find out she said the exact opposite to somebody else in the family...

8 VOCABULARY compound adjectives

a Look at some extracts from the listening in 6. Can you remember what the gapped words were?
1 Some people actually sign in capital letters, which suggests that they may be big-___________ or even arrogant.
2 A descending signature...suggests that you are the kind of person who gets disheartened or depressed when you are faced with problems, perhaps because you are not very self-___________.
3 A horizontal signature usually indicates a person who is well-___________ and emotionally stable.

b 1,21) Listen and check. Do the compound adjectives have a positive or negative meaning?

- **Compound adjectives**
  - Compound adjectives are adjectives that have two parts.
  - The second part often ends in -ed or -ing, e.g. well-behaved, hard-working. The words are normally linked by hyphens. The main stress is on the second word.

With a partner, look at some more compound adjectives to describe a person’s character. Use the two parts of the word to try to work out their meaning, and say if they are positive or negative characteristics.

bad-tempered good-tempered open-minded
narrow-minded absent-minded easy-going laid-back
tight-fisted two-faced strong-willed self-centred

Think bad-tempered means somebody who gets angry very easily...

d 1,22) Listen and repeat the compound adjectives in c.
1 THE INTERVIEW Part 1

a Read the biographical information about Ryan Judd. What do you think the HR department of a company does?

Ryan Judd was born in 1976. He has been working as a recruitment advisor in the HR (Human Resources) department at Oxford University Press since 2010.

b (1 23) Watch or listen to Part 1 of an interview with him. Tick (✓) the things he says candidates for a job interview should do.

1. Be enthusiastic about the job
2. Call the interviewer by their first name
3. Ask questions about the job
4. Ask questions about the salary
5. Include a photograph on your CV
6. Write a good cover letter
7. Check everything is correct on your CV
8. Dress appropriately
9. Be prepared for the interview
10. Arrive on time

Glossary
CV: the abbreviation for Curriculum Vitae, a written record of your education and the jobs you have done that you send when you are applying for a job
covering letter: a letter containing extra information which candidates send with their CV
recruiter: the person who finds new people to join a company
salary banding: the level of pay given for certain jobs within a company

Part 2

b Listen again and answer the questions.

1. What choice did he have with the first candidate he talks about?
2. What explanation for her behaviour did the second candidate give?
3. What kind of clothes does he think candidates should wear?
4. Why did the third candidate arrive in the wrong kind of clothes? Did he get the job?

Glossary
A blazer: a smart jacket which is not worn with matching trousers

Part 3

a (1 25) Now watch or listen to Part 3. Complete the two ‘extreme interview’ questions he mentions.

1. How would you describe ________ to your ________?
2. Would you rather fight a horse-sized ________ or a hundred duck-sized ________?

b Listen again. Mark the sentences T (true) or F (false). Say why the F ones are false.

1. Ryan thinks the purpose of extreme interviewing is to see how candidates react in a strange situation.
2. He has used extreme interviewing on several occasions.
3. The first ‘extreme’ question he mentions was asked to see if the candidate had technical and communication skills.
4. The second ‘extreme’ question was asked to see if candidates had leadership potential.
5. Ryan thought that was a good question.
6. He would have chosen the first option.
interviews

2 LOOKING AT LANGUAGE

Formal language
Ryan often uses more formal words and expressions than would normally be used in conversation, but would often be used in a more formal setting, e.g. a job interview.

1. '...you're also looking for them to show experience relevant to the position.'
2. 'During an interview, once it has begun, I will always try to start the interview with some general questions...'
3. 'First thing is obviously, making mistakes on their application, um, that's always seen negatively.'
4. '...but again during the interview when she hadn't said that's why she was doing it, it was a bit of a surprise.'
5. '...you would expect, expect to see suitable shoes and the same for a woman as well...'
6. 'It's not something that I have direct experience of, but I know about some of the techniques that they use...'
7. '...I'm not even sure if I would have been able to give an immediate answer...'

1.26 Listen to some extracts from the interview and replace the highlighted words or phrases with the more formal equivalent used by Ryan.

b Watch or listen again. Who (Je, Jo, I, Y, or Jst)...?

- didn't get the job because of his / her age
- had their interview the most recently
- prepared for the interview by assessing how suitable he / she was for the job
- took some medicine to help make him / her feel less nervous
- tried to find out what the company believed in

c 1.28 Watch or listen and complete the highlighted Colloquial English phrases. What do you think they mean?

1. 'I just practised every question that they could ask me in my ____________________.'
2. '...and then tried to ______________________ my experience to the various different points on the job interview...'
3. 'I think it went well because they ____________________ up with an email.'
4. '... their philosophy, the history and the ____________________ of the company.'
5. 'In the end they said I was too young so they didn't ____________________ me.'

4 SPEAKING

Answer the questions with a partner.

1. Have you ever been interviewed for a job or a place on a course? What was it for? How did you prepare for it? How did it go?
2. Have you ever interviewed another person? What for?
3. What do you think is the most important advice to give to someone who is going for a job interview?