

## VOCABULARY: idioms (taking risks)

1 Match the phrases in bold in sentences 1–6 to the definitions a–f.

- 1 **It's a bit of gamble**, but I think we should give it a go.
- 2 **There's a lot at stake** here, I really don't think it's a good idea.
- 3 **It's against the odds**, but you never know – maybe we'll win. What do you think?
- 4 Well, I'm not sure. We could take a risk and win a million or we could **play safe** and keep what we have.
- 5 I never **try my luck** because I always lose.
- 6 **It's a lottery** – but if we don't play, we'll never win anything.

- a you probably won't win
- b take a risk
- c there's a risk here, but it's only a small one
- d if you lose, you could lose a lot
- e it's a question of luck – anyone could win
- f decide not to take a risk

2 Work in pairs. Discuss these questions.

- What are the risks involved in the following situations?
  - a) asking your boss for a pay rise
  - b) playing the lottery
  - c) walking home alone in the dark
- Do you usually play it safe or do you like to try your luck?
- What was the last big risk that you took?

## READING

1 Look at the title of the article. Which of these words do you think you will find in the article?

addicts   celebrate   charities  
governments   jackpot   low income  
millionaires   schoolchildren

2 Read the article and choose the best ending 1 or 2.

- 1 But when a ticket only costs a handful of small change, there is not much at stake. Why not try your luck?
- 2 The lottery clearly isn't the quick-fix solution to life's problems. It solves some; it causes others. But that isn't going to stop me buying my weekly ticket!

3 Explain in your own words who the lottery winners and losers are.

## Lottery winners and losers

Feeling lucky and want to try your luck on the lottery? The chances of becoming a millionaire are definitely well against the odds (1) \_\_\_\_\_. But millions of ordinary people, like you or me – or John Goodman\*, this week's lottery millionaire – regularly buy our tickets, just in case. Maybe, we too will join the hundreds of people who win jackpots on national lotteries every week.

John Goodman, 42, an unemployed father of two from Swindon, is the latest to join the jet set. John was having a quiet drink (2) \_\_\_\_\_ when his winning numbers came up on the TV and he found out he'd won £17 million. According to locals, John is already planning to buy the pub.

But people like John and his fellow lottery millionaires aren't the only winners. The turnover for the gambling industry in the UK alone is over £42 billion per year – (3) \_\_\_\_\_. And over £1.5 billion of this goes to the government in taxes.

The lottery has always been popular with politicians as a way of raising money. When the British government was looking for ways to spend more on sport and the arts in the 1990s, it turned to the lottery. (4) \_\_\_\_\_, lotteries helped pay for the building of more than 50 universities, including Harvard and Yale. And over 2,000 years ago in China, the Great Wall was partly paid for with lottery money.

But where there are winners, there are also losers. It is well-known that the poor play the lottery more often than the rich and some critics of the lottery call it a tax on the poor. People on low incomes can end up spending hundreds of pounds a year on lottery tickets and some will become lottery addicts. Meanwhile, the rich play it safe by investing their money in less risky ways – (5) \_\_\_\_\_.

Large sums of government money go to charities every year and the charities certainly welcome it. But at the same time, when lottery money starts coming in, governments usually reduce the amount that they normally spend on good causes. This means that many charities, (6) \_\_\_\_\_, can suddenly find themselves with a lot less money.

So who actually wins in the end? It's something to think about next time you find yourself tempted to buy a lottery ticket.

\* For legal reasons, this is not his real name.

- 4 Put the phrases a–f into the gaps 1–6 in the article.
- a and especially the low profile ones
  - b (in fact you're more likely to be struck by lightning)
  - c buying stocks and shares, for instance
  - d in his local pub with his mates
  - e When America was recovering from the Civil War
  - f that's over £115 million a day

5 How do lotteries work in your country? Do you think that lotteries are a good way to raise money?

## GRAMMAR: past simple & past continuous

1 Work in pairs. Look at the sentence from the article below. Then complete the rules with *past simple* or *past continuous*.

*John was having a quiet drink in his local pub when his winning numbers came up on the TV.*

Use the \_\_\_\_\_ for completed past actions.

Use the \_\_\_\_\_ for actions that were in progress at a particular time in the past.

You often use the past continuous with the past simple. Use the \_\_\_\_\_ longer activities. Use the \_\_\_\_\_ for shorter, completed actions.

*When America was recovering from the Civil War, lotteries helped pay for more than 50 universities.*

SEE LANGUAGE REFERENCE PAGE 44

2 Complete the two true stories. Put the verbs in brackets into the past simple or the past continuous.

Three friends (1) \_\_\_\_\_ (*spend*) the weekend in London when they were refused entry at a nightclub because they (2) \_\_\_\_\_ (*not / wear*) shirts and ties. They (3) \_\_\_\_\_ (*go*) to an all-night supermarket and (4) \_\_\_\_\_ (*buy*) some new shirts. While they (5) \_\_\_\_\_ (*pay*) for the shirts, they (6) \_\_\_\_\_ (*decide*) to buy a scratchcard and (7) \_\_\_\_\_ (*win*) £20,000. They (8) \_\_\_\_\_ (*spend*) the whole night celebrating in the nightclub!


A man (9) \_\_\_\_\_ (*walk*) under a tree when some bird droppings (10) \_\_\_\_\_ (*fall*) on his head. As this is supposed to be lucky, he (11) \_\_\_\_\_ (*decide*) to buy an instant lottery ticket and he (12) \_\_\_\_\_ (*win*) £24. The following week he (13) \_\_\_\_\_ (*stand*) under the same tree when the same thing (14) \_\_\_\_\_ (*happen*) again! So he (15) \_\_\_\_\_ (*buy*) another lottery ticket and won £444. He now spends time every week standing under that lucky tree, waiting for that little bird.

## SPEAKING

1 Work in pairs. Make up a story about a lottery winner by answering the questions below. Then practise telling the story to another pair of students.

- Where and when did he/she buy the ticket(s)?
- How did he/she choose the numbers?
- Where and when did he/she hear about their lottery win?
- What was he/she doing at the time?
- What did he/she do next?

## PRONUNCIATION: was & were

1  1.31 Listen to the conversation. Are the underlined words pronounced in their strong or weak forms? When do we use the strong forms of these words?

	strong	weak
was	/wɒz/	/wəz/
were	/wɜː/	/wə/

- A: (1) Was that man standing under the tree again?  
 B: Yes, he (2) was. He (3) was with a friend this time.  
 A: What do you think they (4) were doing?  
 B: I asked them. They said they (5) were waiting for a bird.  
 A: A bird! I find that hard to believe.  
 B: They (6) were! They said it (7) was a lucky bird.  
 A: I knew he (8) was a bit crazy!

2 Work in pairs. Practise the conversation with your partner.

# 4B | Coincidences

## VOCABULARY: *both* & *neither*

Use *both* and *neither* to compare two people or things.

*We both have brown hair.*

*Neither of us has a car.*

*Jenny and Zoe both live in London.*

*Neither Jenny nor Zoe has a boyfriend.*



Dr Condoleezza Rice,  
US Secretary of State



Julianne Moore,  
Hollywood actress

1 Look at the photos. Complete the sentences with *both* or *neither*.

- 1 \_\_\_\_\_ are very successful.
- 2 They \_\_\_\_\_ have brown hair.
- 3 \_\_\_\_\_ of them live in the States.
- 4 \_\_\_\_\_ of them looks very happy.
- 5 \_\_\_\_\_ Condoleezza Rice nor Julianne Moore is poor.
- 6 \_\_\_\_\_ Condoleezza Rice and Julianne Moore have university degrees.

2 Look at sentences 5 and 6 in exercise 1 again. Choose the correct words to complete the rules below.

We use a *plural / singular* verb and *and / nor* with ***both***.  
We use a *plural / singular* verb and *and / nor* with ***neither***.

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3 Work in pairs. Ask your partner questions and find six things you have in common. Then tell the rest of the class about the things you have in common. Use *both* or *neither* with *we* or *us* in your sentences.

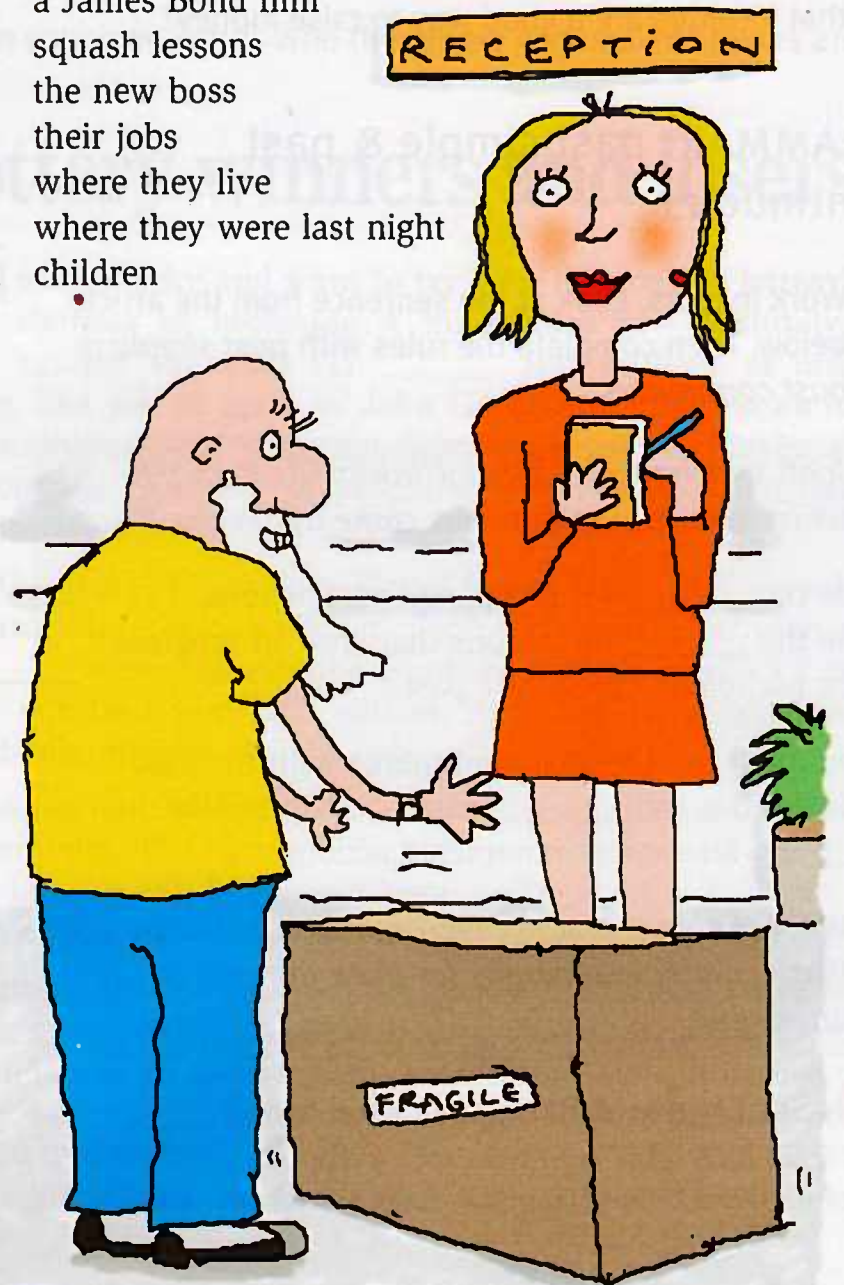
*We both have a brother.*

*Neither of us has visited London.*

## LISTENING

1 🎧 1.32 Listen to a conversation between Clive, the delivery man, and Linda. Tick the topics a–h they discuss. Which two topics are not discussed?

- a a local pub
- b a James Bond film
- c squash lessons
- d the new boss
- e their jobs
- f where they live
- g where they were last night
- h children



2 🎧 1.32 Listen again and make a note of the things Linda and Clive have in common.

3 Find these expressions in tapescript 1.32 on pages 139–140 and explain them in your own words.

- 1 It's worth it.
- 2 It's a bit out of your way.
- 3 You're kidding.
- 4 Small world.
- 5 No rest for the wicked.

## FUNCTIONAL LANGUAGE: talking about similarities & differences

### Similarities

So/Neither + auxiliary verb + subject

- Use *so* after a positive sentence and *neither* after a negative.  
*I'm very busy at the moment. So am I.*  
*I can't drive. Neither can I.*
- Use *do/does/did* if there's no auxiliary.  
*I study English on Thursdays. So do I.*  
*I started two years ago. So did I.*
- Use *Me, too* and *Me, neither*.  
*I like pizzas. Me, too.*  
*I'm not very good at general knowledge. Me, neither.*

### Differences

- Use subject + auxiliary verb, not *so* or *neither*.  
*I'm very busy at the moment. I'm not.*  
*I can't speak Chinese. I can.*
- Use *do/does/did* if there's no auxiliary,  
*I didn't go to the meeting yesterday. I did.*

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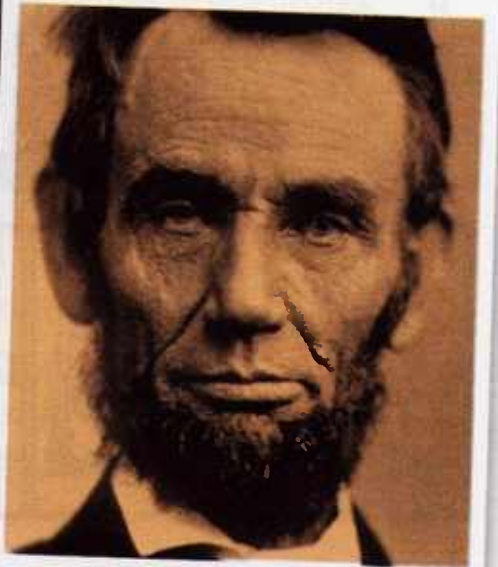
- 1 Find and underline five examples of *so/neither* + auxiliary verb + subject in tapescript 1.32 on pages 139–140. For each example, find the verb that corresponds to the auxiliary verb in the response.  
*So am I. – I'm going tomorrow.*
- 2 Choose the best response to complete the exchanges.
  - 1 A: I didn't like the concert much.  
B: *Neither did I. / Neither didn't I. / Neither I did.*
  - 2 A: I love Beethoven's 5<sup>th</sup> Symphony.  
B: *I do. / I don't. / Neither do I.*
  - 3 A: I wasn't feeling too well yesterday.  
B: *Neither I was. / Neither was I. / So was I.*
  - 4 A: I work in an office.  
B: *So am I. / So can I. / So do I.*
  - 5 A: I'll have a pepperoni pizza, please.  
B: *So do I. / So have I. / So will I.*
  - 6 A: I'm a very good squash player.  
B: *I'm not. / Neither am I. / So I'm not.*
  - 7 A: I'm sure we've met before.  
B: *I am. / Neither am I. / So am I.*
  - 8 A: I haven't been to the park for ages.  
B: *Me, neither. / Me, too. / Neither I have.*

- 3 Work in small groups. Take it in turns to respond to the sentences.

- 1 I like hiphop and rap music.
- 2 I haven't been on a date for ages.
- 3 I'm going to be famous one day.
- 4 I'll probably write a novel when I'm older.
- 5 I'm never late for anything.
- 6 I've got several unusual pets, including a snake.
- 7 I didn't understand maths when I was a kid.
- 8 I was very popular in my last job/at my last school.

- 1 A: *I like hiphop and rap music.*  
B: *I don't!*  
C: *Neither do I!*

## SPEAKING



- 1 Work in pairs, A and B. You are going to read a text about two American presidents.  
A: Turn to page 127.  
B: Turn to page 130.
- 2 Brigit Harrison and Dorothy Lowe didn't know they were identical twin sisters until they met when they were both 34. Use your imagination to think of at least five coincidences that link them.  
*They both had the same number of children.*



- 3 🎧 1.33 Listen and make a note of the coincidences. How many did you guess?