

Holiday in the Black Forest

I went on my holidays and we went to Germany. The hotel was in the Black Forest. The bus stopped at the hotel and half of the passengers stayed in that hotel and the other half stayed in the hotel across the road. Everyone got their room keys. I said to my wife that I would shower first. I got into the shower and the shower head broke. I went down to the reception to the man on duty. He said he would fix it. When we came back from dinner the shower was fixed but the door-stop was broken. A sharp bolt was sticking out of the floor. It would do damage to your foot if you stood on it. I put an empty coke bottle on it and it was left there for the 10 days we were there.

One day we went to a place in Germany called Baden Baden and we went around the town. Another man on the trip came with us. My wife decided to have a cup of tea. The woman behind the counter asked us what we wanted. "We will have three cups of tea and three sandwiches". The woman gave three sandwiches and three mugs of tea and gave us a carton of milk. My wife grabbed the milk and the milk came out of the carton and spilled over all the cakes on the display stand. The shop assistant was giving out in German and my wife and the man who came with us could not stop laughing.

On the way home the boat to Hull was full. The restaurant was to start to serve at 7.30 pm. At 8.30 we went down to the restaurant and were told to come back at 9.00. We went to our table and my wife went to the buffet to get her meal and two other people sat down at the table. My wife came back with her first course and I went for mine. When I came back the two people were still sitting and I told them they would have to get their own food. The two of them went up for their meal. They could not believe there was so much food. They were French. The food was great on the boat.

Gay

The Swinging Sixties

The swinging sixties was a time when the youth of that decade tried to make changes from old ways to the new ways. Maybe when someone reads this, it might bring back some memories of the swinging sixties.

They developed their own music, fashion and way for life. Many young people decided they didn't like the type of world that their parents and ancestors had created. They thought everybody was concerned with money and business and too many rules governing people's lives. They decided to live together in groups and shared all properties and expenses. This was known as a commune. People who lived like this were known as hippies. They had their own styles of dress and wore flowers in their hair and even painted their bodies with flowers. The flower was chosen as a symbol of love for all people

In the 60's music became very exciting and very popular. Some of the groups and musicians who were popular in the sixties are still known today such as the Capital Show Band and Miami Show Band which unfortunately are not with us today. A lot of folk groups were popular such as the Clancy Brothers and the Dubliners.

During the 60's many people took to the streets to protest against what they thought was wrong or unfair. People protested against the racial prejudice suffered by African Americans. The Women's Rights Movement kicked off once again highlighting the injustices against women. Northern Ireland had its troubles between Catholics and Protestants when violence broke out. British troops were sent out on the streets of Belfast.

Television became an important influence in the sixties. In 1962 when Telefis Eireann began to broadcast, not many homes had television sets but by the end of the sixties every house had one. This let Irish people see what was

happening in the world. It showed viewers what life was like outside Ireland. One programme called The Late Late Show and another called Seven Days gave the Irish people the opportunity to discuss important matters in Irish life. People had the choice as to what they could watch such as news, sports and weather forecasts. Television broadcasted in the sixties a lot of sports such as tennis. Billie Jean King was one of the great tennis players. She won the Wimbledon Championship in 1966, 1967 and 1968 and the doubles in 1961, 1962, 1965, 1967 and 1968. The boxer Cassius Clay was the most famous personality of the sixties. There were plenty more sports heroes such as George Best the footballer and Arkle the racehorse. He was declared National Hunt Champion horse of the year in 1965 and 1966.

The big science and medicine story of the decade was space travel. There was competition between the Soviet Union and the United State to put a person on the moon. In 1961 the Soviet Union became the first to orbit the earth. In 1969 the United States were the first to put a person on the moon. That person was Neil Armstrong. Not all events were peaceful. President Kennedy's brother, Robert Kennedy was assassinated in 1968. One of Dublin's best known land marks Nelson's Pillar, in O'Connell St, was blown up in 1966. Medical history was made when the first heart transplant was performed in Cape Town by Christian Barnard.

We have come a long way since the sixties but there are still some issues to be solved.

Lavinia Ryan

The Students' Day Out to Collins Barracks

We left Colasite Dhulaigh on the bus at ten o'clock. The bus was full. When we got to the barracks we were introduced to the tour guides. We went to see the uniforms first. We were surprised at how small they were. People must have been much smaller in those days.

Then we saw the artillery. The older guns were huge compared to the more modern ones. They must have been very strong to use them. The First Aid kits the soldiers carried were very basic. Every soldier had to carry one.

We also saw the Armoured Personnel Carrier (APC) used by the UN. It had a General Purpose Machine Gun (GPMG) on the top of it. It had been in service in Libya, Chad and the Lebanon.

We saw the original flag that hung over the GPO during The Rising. It was fairly tattered looking. One of the most spectacular exhibits is the plane hanging from the ceiling. It is a De Havilland Vampire T55 jet and dates from the mid 1950's.

The Asgard was the last thing we saw. This was used to bring in a consignment of arms for the Irish Volunteers in 1914. It was restored in the barracks between 2007 and 2011. It is so big it has to be housed in the old gym.

When we finished the tour we went and had our lunch in what was the Officer's Mess. We had a reserved section so we felt very important. The bus brought us back to the school. We had a great day and are looking forward to the next students' day out.

Ken Heggarty

Colm McMullen

Worksheet

The Students' Day Out to Collins Barracks

Where did the students go on their day out?

Name some of the things they saw in the barracks.

What did every soldier have to carry in his kit?

What countries had the APC been on service in?

What was the most spectacular thing they saw?

Why was the Asgard housed in the gym?

Worksheet

The Students' Day Out to Collins Barracks

Unscramble the words from the story below to make the correct words

somt rskbraracs ughe uhgn hcnlu eripVma

Look up in a dictionary the meaning of the following words.

Consignment _____

Armoured _____

Artillery _____

Commonly Misspelt Words

Through

True

Though

Threw

I looked **through** the window.

Is that story **true**.

Most days I go to the supermarket, **though** I never go on a Sunday.

The boy **threw** the ball for the dog.

Fill in the correct word in the following piece.

I brought my thoroughbred dog out for a walk _____ the park.

I _____ the stick for him.

The sun was shining _____ the clouds.

_____ I felt tired the dog wanted to keep playing.

It is _____ the dog kept me going all day long.

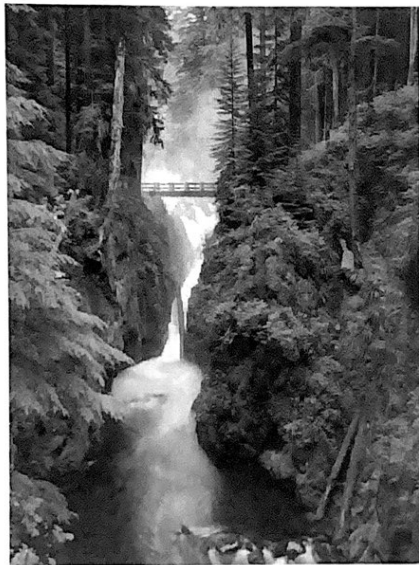
Children walked _____ the sandpit, smiling and laughing with their buckets and spades.

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My Day in St. Anne's Park

My day in St. Anne's Park with my girlfriend and kids was a lovely day. It brought me back to when me and my girlfriend used to bring my son Jason and his cousins to the park. On the day we went they had a Family Day Event in the park. Family Day is on in the park twice a year and they have fun stuff for adults and kids. They had a bouncy castle and a small carnival and lots of food stands where you could get hotdogs, doughnuts, cupcakes and tea and coffee.

St. Anne's Park is a lovely park with a lot of history. It was owned by brothers Arthur and Benjamin Guinness. It was bought by Dublin Corporation in 1939 for €55,000.



Kevin Flannigan

Wordsearch

My Day in St. Anne's Park

V B I T C X V K I D S E Z
E U U F A M I L Y J Q Y A
K E T U N H G U O D Z M S
A R A H I S T O R Y H X T
C J C C N T R T N R I U L
P G I R L F R I E N D C U
U F F A U Q I E S E A H D
C O F F E E W T L R O V A
I B Z C Z O R P N T L R E
R S T U F F A I E N S T G
W C O S L R V Y R F F A L
V Z M W K A Q V T A F I C
W Z X X L E R J G M U J W

Find the words below in this Word Search

adults
carnival
castle
coffee
cupcake
doughnut

family
girlfriend
history
kids
park
stuff

Piper the Second

Last year I wrote about my dog Piper. She was a Great Dane and when she got ill I had to get her put down. It was a very sad time for me. I missed bringing her for walks and I swore I'd never get another dog again.

That was in February. In June my partner's son asked us to help him pick a dog from The Dog's Trust for him and his family. He picked a Golden Retriever bitch that had had a litter of pups and we went over to have a look at them. There was only one left so I took him home. I called him Piper after the other dog. But there the resemblance ends.

Hi is a holy demon. The first week he broke the remote control and chewed the legs of the table. Then he jumped on the coffee table, grabbed my glasses, ran out to the back garden with them and broke them. That was just the first week! Since then my shoes, her shoes, nothing is safe.

He is a year old now and still hasn't calmed down. I got him neutered last week and I hope this calms him down. I live in hope.

He loves his walks in the park every day. The good thing that has come out of this is that I have lost two stone in weight from the walks with him.

Michael Lynch

The Holiday From Hell

Four year ago I went to Torremolinos with my family. There were eight of us, my two sons, my daughter, my niece, my mother and myself. After getting there, little did we know it would turn out to be the holiday from hell!

As we got off the coach, I could not believe my eyes. I was told we were staying in a lovely, quiet villa which turned out to be an apartment block! I was told the villa was lovely and big - it was so small that one of us had to sleep on the balcony and I had to sleep on the chair.

My mother went to use the bathroom and as we were checking out of the apartment we heard a shout. My mother was locked in the bathroom! My son had to use a hanger to open the door. She went into the other bathroom for a shower. As she was getting in, the glass door suddenly came off as she tried to shut it so my daughter had to help her! My friend then put a plug in to iron her shirt and we were left with no power! The place was in darkness and we had to use cigarette lighters to see what we were doing!

The next day we managed to get all the problems sorted and after that we started to enjoy our holiday. As the holiday went on my son asked me to go on the Banana Boat with him. It was so funny because I could not swim and it was just as well I had a life jacket because I fell into the water and had to be pulled out!

Ma went off to get presents one of the days and she bought two lovely bottles of wine that had clackers on them. She decided to take them on the plane in her hand luggage so they wouldn't break. When we got to the airport, my ma didn't know she could not take drink on the plane so they took the wine off her as she went through departures!

Looking back now, we see the funny side of it all!

Brendan Reid.

My Trip to Tipperary

Recently my husband Vinnie and myself decided to go on a trip to Tipperary. We set off in the car on Monday and stayed there' til Thursday. Our friends, Ann and Pat came along with us. This was my second time in that county.

We had a wonderful time. The weather was fine during the visit. There was a lovely view of the mountains and all the area around Tipperary. After the walk in the mountains we had a nice meal in the hotel. It was lovely just to sit there and take in all the scenery.

As you may see, I still love the area very much and I will be visiting it again sometime soon.

Clare Hayes

Q1 How many people went on the trip?

Q2 Had Claire ever been to Tipperary before?

Q3 Was the weather good or bad?

Dictionary Work

Look up the meaning of the underlined words

If you were answerable for something
What would you be?

Explain the word beverage

If you were a caterer what would your job be?

Is a dubious person a reliable person?

What does an executor deal with?

Where would you find your fibula?

What is a gondola?

What type of music is house music?

If you were to instigate something what
would you be doing?

What is a jester?

The Day I'll Never Forget

I can never forget my wedding anniversary the 19th of November, that's the day my house went on fire. It was twenty eight years ago, a day I will never forget. That November had been very wet, funds were low and I needed to dry clothes for the four children.

That particular day I had no coal so I rang my husband and he brought home a small bag from the garage. As I made dinner, Vincent lit the fire. It was about three o'clock. He had to be back in work for four. I put the guard around the fire. I was on a mad cleaning spree, washing clothes putting them on a clothes horse around the fire, and then putting the dry ones away upstairs so every door, drawer and wardrobe was open.

Two of the kids were happily playing with water at the sink and the baby was asleep in his pram in the kitchen. I was upstairs when I thought I heard a bang but I didn't take much notice of it. Then Tara screamed up the stairs to me "Mammy, the house is on fire." I ran down the clothes were all on fire. I had four plastic hanging flower pots on the kitchen ceiling they were melting and spraying pieces of burning plastic around the room. I ran to pull Mark from his pram. I managed to get all four of the kids safely out and into a neighbour's house.

By the time Tommy her husband, jumped the wall my windows had exploded out. The next part is a blur, I was in shock. The fire brigade arrived. The damage was enormous even the ceiling had to be pulled down. They said that most of the damage was caused by the hanging flower pots. There was only one room not damaged the sitting room because the door was closed. Everything in every other room upstairs and down was destroyed by smoke.

Smoke can get into every little crack and pipe. Unfortunately my insurance was up on the 17th of November and I hadn't got the funds to cover it at that time. The fire chief told me he thought it had been caused by a piece of dynamite in the coal that blew the fire guard off. He asked if I had heard a bang I couldn't be sure because the radio was on full blast. The fire hadn't been blazing it was only a small amount of coal the bag had to do for a few days. Dynamite can sometimes be left in coal after it is mined. He told me if I found the dynamite it

would look like a hard and sparkly piece of coal and that I should let him know.
But it was impossible the whole kitchen was out in the back garden.

People were very good. Clothes, bed linen and other things that we needed all arrived. The fire chief had words with the council. We stayed in the front room and they told us they would have the house ready for Christmas. Every year on our anniversary we raise a glass to all the good people who helped us along the way.

Joan Geraghty

Post Card from my Holidays

To all my friends

We're having a great holiday and the weather is perfect so far! We're staying at the 'El Presidente' hotel which is lovely. I would recommend it to anybody going to Benidorm. The food is very nice and the entertainment is brilliant. The hotel is very central, it's right on the main strip, very near the beach and the outdoor market.

There is a great seafood restaurant on the seafront and we have had dinner there a couple of times watching the sun go down. You could spend your whole day wandering around the market. There is so much to choose from. I bought a few things for myself, and don't worry I got you something nice too. We're planning on having a nice walk along the beach later, after dinner and then maybe have a few cocktails before we go back to the hotel for the karaoke and music.

Hope the weather isn't too bad at home.

Ann.

Days of the Week

Fill in the missing letters

Monday Tuesday Wednesday Thursday Friday
Saturday Sunday

Mo__ day

T__esday

W__ __nesday

Thu__ __ day

Fri__ __y

Sat__ __ day

S__ n__ a__

What is the 1st day of the week? _____

What is the 7th day of the week? _____

What is the 3rd day of the week? _____

What is the 4th day of the week? _____

What is the 6th day of the week? _____

What is the 2nd day of the week? _____

What is the 5th day of the week? _____

1975

I began to work in Dublin Gas in 1975. I was a boy of fifteen years of age when my Dad came home and told me that he had got me the job in Dublin Gas. I was only 15 years old. My Dad and I worked together. We used to be on the road at 7am to start work at 8 am. The job that he got me was as a messenger boy. I used to bring post to the main office in D'Olier Street from Sir John Rogerson's Quay. It would take me two hours a day to walk the journey. My wages were £7.50. I was a rich boy.

When I became 21 years old I got a job on the road doing the gas. It was a very hard job to do what I was doing. It was hard labouring work on the machines and on the roads. Now I am working in the office. I am in the job 38 years. I drive for them now.

Ray

Comprehension 1975

How old was Ray when he started to work?

What company does he work for?

What time did he start work at?

My Holiday

On the 30th April I went to Bettystown with my friend Ann Marie and my key worker Michelle. We took two trains, we arrived in the evening. The three of us went for a drink in the pub, it started to rain so we got a taxi to where we were staying. We had a shower and ordered a Chinese take away. We settled down to watch two DVD's , called Grease Lightening and then we watched Dirty Dancing. We all went to bed after that.

The next morning Michelle made us a fry for breakfast. I met my uncle Tony and my auntie Bernie. We had lunch in Uncle Tony and Auntie Bernie's caravan. We all went to an arcade and played bowling. Ann Marie won. We had pub grub for dinner, I had a burger and salad. We all had great fun afterwards, laughing and joking. Michelle was trying to give Tony money in his pocket from Anne Marie and I for his birthday and he would not take it.

Eventually it was time to go home, we got another taxi because I was bursting for the toilet. Michelle let me in. We watched Mamma Mia and we did a clean-up of the house and got ready to go home.

We got a taxi for the train station and got two trains home. I really enjoyed my holiday even though the weather was bad.

Geraldine Julian

Dictionary Work

What is the difference between a dictionary and a thesaurus?

When you know the word and want the meaning you look up a dictionary.

When you know the meaning and want the word you look up a thesaurus.

Look up the meaning of the underlined words

If you were answerable for something

what would you be? _____

Explain the word beverage _____

If you were a caterer what would
your job be? _____

Is a dubious person a reliable person? _____

What does an executor deal with? _____

Where would you find your fibula?

What is a gondola?

What type of music is house music?

If you were to instigate something
what would you be doing?

What is a jester?

Homonyms 1

Homonyms are words pronounced or spelled the same way but have different meanings

The following is a short list of homonyms

Ate	Eight
Blew	Blue
Dear	Deer
Hole	Whole
One	Won
Brake	Break
Flour	Flower
Some	Sum

Can you make a sentence using both words? For example

Eight of the group of children **ate** fish for their dinner on Friday.

Blew / Blue

Dear / Deer

Hole / Whole

Homonyms 2

Select the correct word

One / Won

The _____ over there is green.

They have never _____ anything.

Flour / Flower

The basic ingredient in bread is _____.

That _____ is a lovely colour.

Break / Brake

The left _____ on the bike is broken

If that falls it will _____.

Some / Sum

There are _____ very violent programmes on television.

The sum of $10+10$ is 20

Answers to Capital Letters

1. We saw the O'Connell Bridge.
2. We're going to England in June.
3. We spent our holidays in the Italy last year.
4. I'm starting my job in April.
5. We often go to the beach in the summer.
6. I love learning French.
7. The Chinese man was cooking dinner.
8. I'm fairly bad at maths.
9. One of the courses that i have to take is communications

Answers to Television Programmes Soap Characters

- Answer 1 Love Hate
- Answer 2 Emmerdale
- Answer 3 Fair City
- Answer 4 Home and Away
-

Answers to Commonly Misspelt Words

I brought my thorough bred dog out for a walk through the park.

I threw the stick for him.

The sun was shining through the clouds.

Though I felt tired the dog wanted to keep playing.

It is true the dog kept me going all day long.

Children walked through the sandpit, smiling and laughing with their buckets and spades.