LISTENING AND READING

A radio drama

1 **T 3.6** Look at the pictures below and listen to a radio play called *The perfect crime.*

2 Answer the questions.

1 What can you see in the pictures?
2 How did Alice feel about Henry at the beginning of the play?
3 What did her husband tell her?
4 Who is Kathy? Who is Bobby?
5 What did she say when he told her? Why did she decide to do this?
6 What did she do to him then?
7 How do you think she murdered him?
8 What was her explanation to the police?
9 Why were all the policemen thirsty?

3 Read the story. What do you learn from the story that you didn't from the radio drama?

The perfect crime

Alice Jackson's husband, Henry, was a man of habit. So it was that at exactly six o'clock in the evening she was in the kitchen getting a beer for him out of the fridge and watching him walk up the path.

She was smiling. Today the routine was going to be different. It was their tenth wedding anniversary, and some friends were coming round for drinks at 8.00. There was a big ice statue of a couple kissing in the middle of the table in the living room, with twenty glasses waiting for the guests. Alice was looking forward to the evening.

She was very happy. She had a beautiful baby sleeping upstairs, a lovely home, and a husband who she adored.

Henry opened the door and came into the kitchen. She turned round to kiss him and give him his beer.

'Sit down,' Henry said. 'I've got something to say.'

Alice had no idea that in the next two minutes her whole life was going to change.

'I'm sorry,' he said. 'And it's our anniversary, as well. But it's just that Kathy and I are in love. Bobby won't miss me, he's too young.'

She didn't believe her ears. She was in a dream.

'I'll get ready for the party,' she said.

She walked into the living room. When she returned, Henry was standing with his back to her, drinking his beer. She was carrying something heavy. He turned. 'What on earth ... ?' These were Henry Jackson's last words. His wife hit him over the head.

At first he didn't move, then he fell to the floor.

Suddenly Alice began to think very clearly. She took the ice statue back to the living room, and phoned the police.

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Then she turned up the central heating, and went upstairs to put on some make-up.

The police came quickly.

'Is he all right?' she asked.

'He's dead.'

Alice screamed. 'No, no, not Henry! My Henry! Oh Henry!' Through her tears she told how she put the baby to bed, and came downstairs to find Henry on the kitchen floor.

'Burglars,' said Detective Parry.

They took her into the living room.

'Sit down, Mrs Jackson. Sergeant Taylor, get Mrs Jackson a drink. A brandy with some ice. Phew! It's hot in this room. I hope you understand, Mrs Jackson, that we have to search the house immediately. We must find the murder weapon.'

The room was getting hotter. Suddenly an arm fell off the ice statue onto the table. It was melting. Sergeant Taylor went to the statue and picked up the melting arm. He broke it into bits and put some into Alice's brandy.

'Phew! Can I have a glass of water, Mrs Jackson? It's so hot in here.'

'I think we all need one,' said the detective. 'And with ice.' They were all very hot and thirsty.

Alice's friends arrived. 'Poor Alice! Poor Henry!' They cried, and they tried to comfort her.

'Oh, thank you, thank you,' sobbed Alice. 'Please ... stay and have a drink. Help yourselves.'

They all had drinks – gin and tonic, whisky – and they all had ice. The statue was now nearly a pool of water on the floor.

'I wonder what the burglar hit him with,' said one guest.

'Who knows?' said another, taking a sip of her drink.

Alice heard this conversation, and smiled into her brandy.

Based on *Lamb to the Slaughter*, by Roald Dahl; see note on p144.

4 Are these sentences true (✓) or false (✗)? Correct the false sentences.

1 Alice was waiting for her husband because she wanted to kill him.
2 She was happy because it was her anniversary.
3 She didn't know what he was going to tell her.
4 Henry said that he was in love with someone else.
5 She thought for a long time about how to murder Henry.
6 She turned up the central heating because the room was cold.
7 After she murdered him, Alice was very clever in her behaviour.
8 Alice hid the murder weapon.

What do you think?

- At the beginning and the end of the play, Alice was smiling. Why?
- Why do you think she did it?
- Do you think it was the perfect crime? Do you think she got away with the murder? Why/Why not?

Language work

5 Give the past form of these verbs from the story. Be careful with the pronunciation.

adore	_____	phone	_____
open	_____	scream	_____
turn	_____	take	_____
walk	_____	pick	_____
hit	_____	try	_____
fall	_____	sob	_____

Speaking

6 Retell the story in your own words around the class.

VOCABULARY

Nouns, verbs, and adjectives

1 Look at these common noun and adjective suffixes. They are used to form different parts of speech.

nouns	*-ation -ion -ness -ity -ence -sion -ment*
adjectives	*-ous -y -tific -ly -ful -less -ial*

Complete the charts below and mark the stress. There are some spelling changes.

Noun	Verb
communi'cation	co'mmunicate
_____	dis'cuss
_____	'govern
invi'tation	_____
_____	de'velop
_____	ex'plain
edu'cation	_____
_____	de'cide
_____	en'joy
_____	'organize
im'provement	_____
_____	em'ploy

Noun	Adjective
'science	_____
friend	_____
_____	'happy
_____	'different
'danger	_____
use	_____
help	_____
_____	'special
care	_____
noise	_____
'industry	_____
am'bition	_____

2 Complete the sentences with one of the words from exercise 1.

1 My English _____ a lot after I lived in London for a month.
2 I have two _____ in life. I want to be rich, and I want to be famous.
3 'I'm going to work hard from now on.' 'That's a very good _____.'
4 There are many _____ between my two children. They aren't similar at all.
5 Thank you for your advice. It was very _____.
6 I like Italian people. They're very kind and _____.
7 The United Nations is an international _____.
8 I asked the teacher for help, but unfortunately, I didn't understand his _____.
9 Motor racing is a very _____ sport.
10 Fish soup is a _____ of this area. You must try it.
11 I'm having a party on Saturday, and I'd like to _____ you.
12 This is the _____ part of my town. There are lots of factories and businesses.

Making negatives

3 We can make adjectives and verbs negative by using these prefixes.

adjectives	*un- im- in- il-*
verbs	*un- dis-*

Complete the sentences, using a word from the box and a prefix.

pack possible agree tidy fair like
appear employed legal polite

1 Don't go into my bedroom. It's really _____.
2 I can't do maths. For me, it's an _____ subject.
3 I don't _____ fish. I just prefer meat.
4 It's very _____ to ask someone how much they earn.
5 When we arrived at the hotel, we _____ our suitcases.
6 I was _____ for two years. Then I got a job in an office.
7 'I think learning languages is stupid.' 'I _____. I think it's a good idea.'
8 The thief stole my bag, ran into the crowd and _____. I never saw him again.
9 Cannabis is an _____ drug in many countries.
10 You gave her more money than me! That's _____!

EVERYDAY ENGLISH

Time expressions

1 There are two ways of saying dates. What are they?

8/1/98 16/7/85 25/11/02

T 3.7 Listen and check.

Look at the same dates in written American English. What's the difference?

1/8/98 7/16/85 11/25/02

T 3.8 Listen and check.

2 Practise these dates. They are in British English.

4 June 5 August 31 July 1 March 3 February
21/1/1988 2/12/1996 5/4/1980 11/6/1965 18/10/2000 31/1/2005

T 3.9 Listen and check.

What days are national holidays in your country?

3 Complete these time expressions with *at, on, in,* or no preposition.

___ six o'clock	___ Saturday	___ 1995
___ last night	___ December	___ the weekend
___ Monday morning	___ summer	___ two weeks ago
___ the evening	___ yesterday evening	___ January 18

Grammar Reference 3.4 p132.

4 Ask and answer the questions with a partner.

1 Do you know exactly when you were born?

I was born at two o'clock in the morning on Wednesday, the twenty-fifth of June, 1979.

2 When did you last … ?

- go to the cinema
- play a sport
- give someone a present
- have a holiday
- watch TV
- go to a party
- do an exam
- see a lot of snow
- clean your teeth
- catch a plane