



NEWS FOR TODAY

Brian Foden



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... Introduction ...

Have you ever tried to read a newspaper or listen to the radio or TV in English and given up quickly because it was too hard? If you're like almost everyone who is learning English (and who is not at a very high level), then your answer is "yes!" As someone who has written thousands of newspaper stories and edited and read thousands of other stories for radio, I completely understand. Writers often use very high-level vocabulary to tell their stories. It's not that they are trying to make it especially hard for you. It's because that vocabulary is very precise and can convey information very clearly. Very precise wording makes it easier for writers to give information in a very short space. But, of course, using that difficult vocabulary makes it harder to read (as an experienced ESL teacher, I also know how students struggle with the language). I have written this series of books to help learners better understand the difficult language they find in the media. My hope is that after reading the chapters in these books, you will have greatly improved your knowledge of English and are better able to understand the stories you see in the media. Happy reading!

*Yours truly,
Brian Foden*

NEWS FOR TODAY

..... Chapter **1** *Sports Stories*

Sports are not only fun to play, but for many people are also fun to watch and read about. Whatever your favorite **spectator sport** is, you can read about it in the newspaper or see and hear about it on TV or the radio. If you are a **fan** of a sport, then you will want to know the special words and phrases we use for that sport. Even if your English is very good, you might not know some **terminology** used in a sport. For example, the word **dribble** is used when a basketball player bounces the ball, and **opponents** are the teams and players trying to beat each other. Don't worry, after reading this chapter, your sports knowledge will increase a lot!





Definitions:

1. **spectator sport** (n) A sport that people watch.
▶ Basketball and baseball are popular spectator sports.
2. **fan** (n) A person who loves a sport.
▶ There were 15,000 fans watching the game.
3. **terminology** (n) Words or phrases used to talk about a certain subject.
▶ I didn't understand some of the terminology the doctor used.
4. **dribble** (v) In basketball, when a player bounces the ball.
▶ Look at that player dribble the ball. He's fantastic!
5. **opponent** (n) The person or team playing against someone else.
▶ No one knew which opponent would win the game.

NEWS FOR TODAY

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Unit

1

Basketball



Basketball is played on a **court**, which is also the name for the places that tennis, badminton, volleyball and some other games are played. Each time a player throws the ball through the **basket**, he **scores** one, two or three points. Balls that go through the basket (sometimes off the **backboard**) and that are thrown from behind the **three-point line** score three points. Balls that score in front of the three-point line (closer to the basket) count for two points. One point is given when a player shoots the ball through the basket during a **free throw**. A player is given a free throw when another player **fouls** him.





Definitions:

1. **court (n)** An area where some ball games, such as basketball and tennis, are played.
 - ▶ There are ten players on the court.
2. **basket (n)** The net that hangs from a metal ring at the two ends of a basketball court.
 - ▶ The ball went through the basket.
3. **score (v)** To get points in a game (in basketball, to throw the ball through the basket).
 - ▶ How many points did he score?

4. **backboard (n)** The board behind the basket that the ball bounces off.

▶ That was a very bad shot – he even missed the backboard.



5. **three-point line (n)** The line that shows where a player must shoot behind to get three points by throwing the ball into the basket.

▶ The ball was thrown from behind the three-point line.

6. **free throw (n)** A throw (shot) given to a basketball player because a player from the other team broke a rule.

▶ The player missed the free throw shot.



7. **foul (v)** To touch or do something to another player in a way that breaks the rules.

▶ That player fouled another player.

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Which games are played on a court?

- (A) tennis, hockey, football and badminton
- (B) badminton, basketball, football and golf
- (C) tennis, basketball, soccer and football
- (D) badminton, basketball, tennis and volleyball



The thing the basketball is thrown through is called a _____.

- (A) basket
- (B) free throw
- (C) score
- (D) court



A basketball thrown **behind** the three-point line (further away from the basket) scores _____.

- (A) one point
- (B) two points
- (C) three points
- (D) no points



Where is the backboard?

- (A) under the basket
- (B) behind the basket
- (C) under the court
- (D) in front of the basket



What happens when a player is fouled?

- (A) He goes home.
- (B) He gets three points.
- (C) He gets a free throw.
- (D) He loses the game.



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Unit

2

Baseball



One of the most popular games is baseball, a game with nine players for each team on the field and nine regular **innings**. Each inning has a first half, called the top of the inning, and a second half, called the bottom of the inning. The baseball field has an **infield**, which is where the bases are, and an **outfield**, which is further away. The **pitcher** throws the ball, and **batters** hit the ball. Each time a player gets to **home base** (or home plate) he scores a point, or a **run**. A home run is when a batter hits the ball (usually out of the park) and gets to home base without stopping.



Definitions:

1. **inning** (n) A period of play in baseball in which each team gets to bat.
▶ That was an exciting inning!
2. **infield** (n) The area where most of the baseball players play.
▶ The pitcher and the batter are in the infield.
3. **outfield** (n) The area outside of the infield, where only a few players play.
▶ He hit the ball into the outfield.
4. **pitcher** (n) The person who throws the ball to the batters.
▶ The pitcher is very good.
5. **batter** (n) The person who tries to hit the ball with a bat.
▶ I think this batter will hit a home run.
6. **home base/plate** (n) The base (place) where the player must get in order to score.
▶ If he can run to home base, he'll score a run.
7. **run** (n) A point in the game of baseball.
▶ The team scored three runs in that inning.



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Questions



What are the parts of an inning called?

- (A) the first and the second
- (B) the top and the bottom
- (C) the low and the high
- (D) the out and the in



The part of the baseball field that the pitcher and batter are in is called_____.

- (A) the outfield
- (B) the farfield
- (C) the inning
- (D) the infield



Who throws the ball to the batter?

- (A) the batter
- (B) the player
- (C) the pitcher
- (D) the outfielder



When is a run scored?

- (A) when a player gets to home base
- (B) when the batter hits the ball
- (C) when the pitcher throws the ball
- (D) at the bottom of the inning



Which one is NOT true?

- (A) The field has an infield and an outfield.
- (B) There are nine players on the field for each team.
- (C) A home run is when the batter gets to home plate.
- (D) A baseball game has 8 innings.



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Unit

3

Football/Soccer



If you ask an American how to score points in football, he or she will say “get a **touchdown**.” This means a player must get the ball into the end zone, and then his team gets six points. The end zones are the ends of the field, and a player can run the ball into an end zone or catch a ball inside of one. However, if you ask people from England, Australia and most other countries, they will say “you get a **goal**.” A goal is worth only one point. What the British call football, the Americans call soccer. In soccer, some players are called **forwards**, because they play further up the field. Others are called **fullbacks**, because they **protect** the goal and help the **goalie**. Only the goalie can use his/her hands; all of the other players can only use their feet.





Definitions:

1. **touchdown (n)** In American football, when a player takes the ball past the goal line.
▶ In American football, you get touchdowns, not goals.
2. **end zone (n)** The areas at both ends of the field into which the teams try to get the ball to score touchdowns.
▶ If you take the ball past the goal line, you are in the end zone.
3. **goal (n)** A point in some games, such as English football (American soccer) and hockey.

▶ That soccer player scores many goals every game.

4. **forward (n)** A player whose most important job is to score goals.

▶ That forward is very tall.

5. **fullback (n)** A player who plays closer to his/her goal and tries to help stop the other team from scoring.

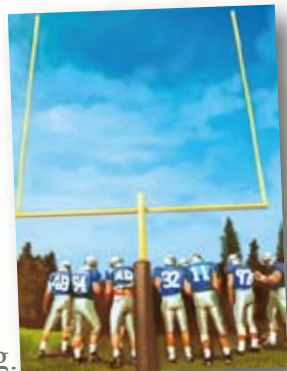
▶ He is a very good fullback.

6. **protect (v)** Help save something (in sports, protecting a goal means helping to stop the other team from scoring).

▶ The fullbacks help protect the goal.

7. **goalie (n)** The person who usually stays between the goal posts and tries to stop the other players from scoring; also called the goalkeeper.

▶ He is a very poor goalie.



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Questions



- ★1 How do you get points in American football?
(A) score a goal
(B) score a home run
(C) score a goalie
(D) score a touchdown

- ★2 How many points is a goal?
(A) one
(B) two
(C) three
(D) six

- ★3 What do Americans call British football?
(A) volleyball
(B) baseball
(C) soccer
(D) football

- ★4 Who helps protect the goal?
(A) the forwards
(B) the backwards
(C) the fullbacks
(D) the fans

- ★5 Which statement is true?
(A) A touchdown is one point.
(B) Only the British play football.
(C) In British football, most of the players only use their feet.
(D) American football and British football are the same.



Notes

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Unit

4

Golf



Golf began in Scotland many hundreds of years ago. Today it is still a popular game. The grass field where golfers play is called the golf **course**. The players **swing** golf **clubs** to hit the balls into 18 holes on the course. Most of the golf course is made up of **fairways**. The **objective** or goal is to get (sink) the ball into all 18 holes with the lowest number of **strokes**. Golfers begin each hole by hitting the ball very hard. However, when they get close to the hole, they **putt** the ball very carefully.





Definitions:

1. **course** (n) The grassy place where golf is played.
▶ The golf course is very wet today.
2. **swing** (v) To try and hit something with a curving movement.
▶ He swung and missed the ball.
3. **club** (n) A long, metal stick with a piece at the end used to hit a golf ball.
▶ He has 14 golf clubs in his bag.
4. **fairway** (n) The long parts of the golf course between the holes.
▶ This fairway is very long.
5. **objective** (n) A goal; aim; target.
▶ The objective of golf is to sink the ball into the holes.
6. **stroke** (n) One hit of the golf ball by a golfer.
▶ The golfer took 4 strokes on that hole.
7. **putt** (v) To hit the ball softly because it is close to the hole.
▶ He was very close to the hole, so he putted the ball in.



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Questions



- ★1 What is the grass field that golfers play on called?
(A) the court
(B) the curse
(C) the course
(D) the club

- ★2 When a player hits the ball, it is called _____.
(A) an objective
(B) a hit
(C) a hole
(D) a stroke

- ★3 Golfers _____ the clubs to hit the ball.
(A) shoot
(B) hit
(C) swing
(D) stroke

- ★4 What are the biggest parts on the golf course called?
(A) the fairways
(B) the goods
(C) the holes
(D) the objectives

- ★5 What does “putt” mean?
(A) to hit the ball very hard
(B) to hit the ball very carefully
(C) to lose the ball
(D) to miss the ball



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Unit

5

The Olympics



The idea of the Olympic Games comes from the sporting games of **ancient** Greece. The modern Olympics started in 1896, with the hope of helping the world become more peaceful. **Athletes** from around the world **compete** against each other. The winners get **medals** – gold for first place, silver for second, and **bronze**

for third. The Olympics are held every four years, each time in a different country.

There are both summer and winter Olympics. Many different sports are part of the Olympics, including swimming, volleyball, baseball, basketball, hockey, **track and field**, and **gymnastics**.





Definitions:

1. **ancient** (adj) Very old.
▶ That sharp stone is an ancient tool.
2. **athlete** (n) A person who plays a sport.
▶ He is a good athlete who can play many sports.
3. **compete** (v) To try to win.
▶ The players competed against each other to try to win the game.
4. **medal** (n) A piece of metal (usually round) given as a prize.
▶ Only the best athletes win medals at the Olympics.
5. **bronze** (n) A type of metal that looks yellowish-brown.
▶ She came in third place, so she won the bronze medal for the race.
6. **track and field** (n) A grouping of sports, such as running and high jump, done on a track or field.
▶ If you run well, you can compete in track and field events.
7. **gymnastics** (n) A grouping of body exercises done indoors, often using ropes and bars.
▶ A person must practice a lot to be good at gymnastics.





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Questions



★1

Where does the idea for the modern Olympic Games come from?

- (A) ancient Greece
- (B) modern Greece
- (C) the USA
- (D) athletes

★2

Where are the Olympics held?

- (A) always in Greece
- (B) never in Greece
- (C) in a different country each time
- (D) only in Europe

★3

How often are the Olympics held?

- (A) every year
- (B) every three years
- (C) every four years
- (D) every ten years

★4

What does “compete” mean?

- (A) to lose
- (B) to win
- (C) to win a medal
- (D) to play against someone else

★5

If you run well, you can do well in which event?

- (A) gymnastics
- (B) golf
- (C) track and field
- (D) volleyball




Notes

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..... Chapter **2** *Entertainment Stories*

Movies, music, theater, books and television shows are all entertainment. In addition to enjoying these types of entertainment, people also like to read and hear about entertainment news. People like to know about **celebrities** and their lives. People also want to read about new movies, television shows, books and music CDs. Most newspapers have an entertainment **section**. Some television shows are only about entertainment. People love to be **amused**, and it seems they can never get too much entertainment news.





Definitions:

1. **celebrity** (n) Someone who is famous, especially in entertainment and sports.
▶ Tom Cruise and Julia Roberts are my favorite celebrities.
2. **section** (n) A part or an area of a larger thing.
▶ Could you pass me the sports section when you're finished reading it?
3. **amused** (adj) A feeling of wanting to laugh or smile; entertained.
▶ Jenny was very amused by the funny TV show.



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..... Unit

1

Movies



Stories about movies are often **reviews**, which are articles that give the opinion of a **critic** who watches a movie and then says if he likes it or not. A critic gives details about the movie's **plot**, but he doesn't **reveal** or tell too much about it. A critic may write about many different types of movies, such as **horror movies** that scare people, or **comedy** movies (comedies) that make people laugh. Other stories about movies are about stars or the **movie industry**, which is another name for the movie business.



Definitions:

1. **review (n)** An opinion of a movie, book, CD or other type of entertainment.

▶ I read two reviews that said the movie is great.

2. **critic (n)** A person who gives his or her opinion of some type of entertainment.

▶ I don't always agree with movie critics.

3. **plot (n)** The story of a movie, book or play.

▶ That movie has a very interesting plot.



4. **reveal (n)** To show something that was hidden.

▶ He revealed the ending of the movie.

5. **horror movie (n)** A movie that scares people.

▶ A good horror movie scares people a lot.

6. **comedy (n)** A movie that makes people laugh.

▶ Do you like comedies?

7. **movie industry (n)** The movie business; things involved in making movies.

▶ A lot of people work in the movie industry in Los Angeles.



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Questions



- ★1 What do you call an article by a critic about a movie?
(A) a critical
(B) a plot
(C) a reveal
(D) a review

- ★2 If a movie has a good plot, what does that mean?
(A) It has many stars.
(B) The story is great.
(C) The acting is good.
(D) It is a funny movie.

- ★3 A movie that scares people is called a _____.
(A) horror movie
(B) comedy
(C) strange movie
(D) scared movie

- ★4 Which word is similar to “business”?
(A) movie
(B) industry
(C) plot
(D) review

- ★5 Which statement is true?
(A) A critic never gives his or her opinion.
(B) A critic doesn't say if he likes or hates a movie.
(C) A critic doesn't talk about the end of a movie.
(D) A critic reveals every detail about a movie.



Notes

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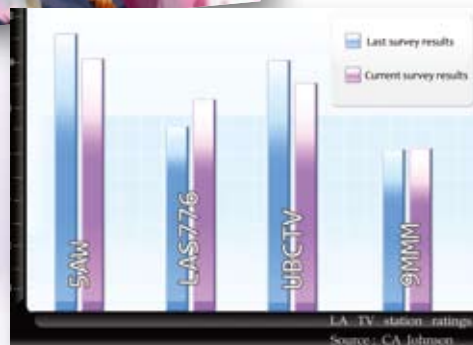
Unit

2

Television



A person who writes about what he or she **thinks of** a television show is called a TV critic. One type of TV show is a **talk show**, which has a **host** who **interviews** famous or interesting people. Other shows, or **programs**, are games (called game shows), news programs and comedies. Shows that continue every week are called TV **series**. In TV and radio, the number of people watching or listening is called the **rating**. If a lot of people watch a show, it has high or good ratings. If not many people watch, it has low or poor ratings.



Definitions:

1. **think of (v)** How you feel about something.
▶ What do you think of that show?
2. **talk show (n)** A show on TV or the radio in which people give opinions and discuss topics.
▶ I think talk shows are boring.
3. **host (n)** A person who introduces a show on TV or the radio and who talks to people on the show.
▶ Some hosts are very handsome.
4. **interview (v)** To ask a person questions to find out more about him/her.
▶ A reporter interviews a lot of people.
5. **program (n)** A show on TV or the radio.
▶ Do you like game shows or other types of programs?
6. **series (n)** TV (or radio) shows that play every week and have the same characters and title.
▶ What is your favorite TV series?
7. **ratings (n)** The number or percentage of people watching a TV or radio program.
▶ A popular show has good ratings.



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Questions



“Think of” is closest to what word?

- (A) like
- (B) opinion
- (C) hate
- (D) talk



On a talk show, who is the person who interviews other people?

- (A) the host
- (B) the boss
- (C) the star
- (D) the critic



What is a TV series?

- (A) a show with a host
- (B) a show that only happens once
- (C) a show that continues every week
- (D) a show that has high ratings



If a show has low or poor ratings, what does that mean?

- (A) Many people watch it.
- (B) It is interesting.
- (C) It has a bad plot.
- (D) Few people watch it.



Which one is NOT a type of TV show?

- (A) a game show
- (B) a talk show
- (C) a program show
- (D) a news program

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Unit

3

Music

A music review can be about a recording (for example, a CD), or a live performance, which is called a **concert**. When a music critic writes, he or she talks about the **melody** (musical pattern of **notes**, or individual sounds) and the **lyrics** of the songs. The **rhythm** of the music is the pattern of musical sounds and how fast or slow they are. People who play and sing music, called **musicians**, may also be called **artists** – the same name given to people who paint or draw.



Definitions:

1. **concert** (n) A musical performance.
▶ I enjoy going to concerts very much.
2. **melody** (n) The main tune (the pattern of notes) of a song.
▶ That song has a beautiful melody.
3. **note** (n) A musical sound made by a voice or musical instrument (e.g., an F note or a C note).
▶ A melody has many notes in it.
4. **lyrics** (n) The words of a song.
▶ I don't understand the meaning of those lyrics.
5. **rhythm** (n) A regular, repeated pattern of sounds.
▶ Many songs have a slow rhythm.
6. **musician** (n) A person who sings or plays a musical instrument.
▶ She is a good musician.
7. **artist** (n) Someone who creates art or music; a musical performer.
▶ I just bought a CD by my favorite artist.



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Questions



What is a concert?

- (A) a CD
- (B) a live performance
- (C) a type of music
- (D) a recording



The words of a song are called _____.

- (A) the lyrics
- (B) the melody
- (C) the rhythm
- (D) the notes



What is rhythm?

- (A) the melody
- (B) the words
- (C) the pattern of sounds
- (D) how loud or soft a song is



Which statement is true?

- (A) The words of a song are called the melody.
- (B) A concert is a live performance.
- (C) A singer cannot be called an artist.
- (D) The lyrics are how fast or slow a song is played.



Which statement is NOT true?

- (A) A person who plays music is called a musician.
- (B) A song can have a slow or a fast rhythm.
- (C) A music critic only writes about CDs.
- (D) The pattern of notes is called the melody.



Notes

Theater

A play is another kind of live performance. However, instead of being called a concert, it is a **stage** performance. Like movie critics, theater critics judge or **rate** the acting in a **play**. But they also look at other things such as the **set** - the items on the stage that show where the story is taking place. The set can include furniture, pictures and other things that help the **audience** believe the play is happening at a certain **location**. Some sets are very interesting and **elaborate**, because they are big and show a lot of detail.



Definitions:

1. **stage (n)** An area (usually higher than where the audience sits) where actors or musicians perform.
▶ He is the best actor on the stage.
2. **rate (v)** To say how good or bad something is.
▶ How would you rate that play?
3. **play (n)** A live performance by actors on a stage.
▶ I thought that was an excellent play.
4. **set (n)** In a play, movie or TV show, the furniture, decorations and other scenery.
▶ The set was beautiful.
5. **audience (n)** People watching or listening to a performance or show.
▶ The audience liked the show very much.
6. **location (n)** A place.
▶ My house is in a nice location.
7. **elaborate (adj)** Something with a lot of detail; something done or made very carefully.
▶ An elaborate plan can be very difficult to make.



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Questions



★1

In a theater, where do the actors act?

- (A) in the audience
- (B) at the location
- (C) on the stage
- (D) in the movie

★2

If you rate something, what do you do?

- (A) you like it
- (B) you hate it
- (C) you say if it is good or bad
- (D) you watch it

★3

Things that tell you where the play is happening are part of _____.

- (A) the play
- (B) the stage
- (C) the set
- (D) the location

★4

What is another word for “location”?

- (A) play
- (B) rate
- (C) perform
- (D) place

★5

Which statement means “elaborate”?

- (A) Something that is very easy.
- (B) Something that is small.
- (C) Something on the stage.
- (D) Something with many details.

The page features a light blue background with a collage of educational and artistic elements. On the left, a stack of several old, worn books is visible. The top right corner shows a section of a film strip. The background is filled with soft, glowing white and yellow light trails that swirl across the page, creating a sense of motion and energy. A faint, large globe is visible in the lower right quadrant. The word "Notes" is written in a teal, cursive-style font in the upper right area.

Notes

Books

Newspapers and magazines also **contain** book reviews. If a book is very popular, it is called a **bestseller**. In addition to writing about the story's plot, a critic will discuss the **setting** of the book. If the book is about events that are not real, it is **fiction**. A book of fiction is called a **novel**. A book about real events is called **nonfiction**. The writer of a book is called an **author**. An author who writes a bestseller can become rich.



Definitions:

1. **contain** (v) To have something inside it or as a part of it.
▶ Some books contain a lot of useful information.
2. **bestseller** (n) A book that is very popular and bought by many people.
▶ His book was a bestseller, so he got rich.
3. **setting** (n) Where something happens, especially in a book, movie or play.
▶ The setting for this book is England.
4. **fiction** (n) A story that is not true or real.
▶ Who is your favorite fiction writer?
5. **novel** (n) A book of fiction.
▶ I like to read novels at night.
6. **nonfiction** (n) Writing that is true or real.
▶ That book is not a novel – it is nonfiction.
7. **author** (n) A person who writes a book or other type of writing.
▶ Would you like to be a famous author?



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Questions



What does “contain” mean?

- (A) knows about
- (B) has in it
- (C) doesn't have
- (D) remembers to



If a book is about events that are not real it is _____.

- (A) nonfiction
- (B) a bestseller
- (C) true
- (D) fiction



What is a bestselling novel?

- (A) a book about something real
- (B) any type of popular book
- (C) a nonfiction book that people like
- (D) a fiction book that people like



What is another word for “setting”?

- (A) play
- (B) rate
- (C) perform
- (D) place



Which two sentences are true?

- (A) Nonfiction means something not real.
- (B) A bestseller is a book many people like.
- (C) Fiction means something real.
- (D) A novel is a book of fiction.

The background features several film strips running vertically, a stack of books on the left, and a large, glowing circular light trail in the center. The overall color palette is warm, with oranges and yellows, transitioning to a soft purple at the bottom.

Notes

NEWS FOR TODAY

..... Chapter **3** *Crime Stories*

The world is full of a lot of good things, but, unfortunately, it is also filled with a lot of bad things – and bad people. That is what crime stories are about: bad people doing bad things to other people. In this chapter, you will read about five types of **crime**. Obviously, **murder** is the worst crime. **Robbery** and **kidnapping** are also very serious crimes. Other **illegal** acts you will read about are **assault** and **fraud**. Yes, it is sometimes difficult to read about crimes that are very bad, but crime is a part of life in the real world.





Definitions:

1. **crime** (n) An act that is illegal (against the law).
 - ▶ There is a lot of crime in big American cities like New York and Los Angeles.
2. **murder** (n) The crime of killing someone.
 - ▶ There was a murder in the park.
3. **robbery** (n) The crime of taking someone's money or things by force or threat.
 - ▶ Three men stole one million dollars in the bank robbery.
4. **kidnapping** (n) The crime of taking a person away by force, and then asking for money to return the person.
 - ▶ The father was forced to pay a lot of money after his daughter's kidnapping.
5. **illegal** (adj) Against the law.
 - ▶ When Dan was younger, he did some illegal things such as stealing.
6. **assault** (n) The crime of attacking (hitting, kicking, using force against) someone.
 - ▶ During the assault, Simon was injured very badly.
7. **fraud** (n) The crime of cheating someone to get their money.
 - ▶ Wendy is worried her son is involved in some type of fraud.

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Unit

1

Murder

When a person **intentionally** kills someone, it is called murder. Another word for murder is **homicide**. A homicide means one person kills another. However, some homicides are accidents. If someone kills another person by accident, it may be called **manslaughter**. A person who is **guilty** of murder could get the **death penalty**, which is also known as **capital punishment**. Not everyone agrees with capital punishment, and not every country allows it. A common punishment for murder is a **life sentence**, which means the person could spend the rest of his or her life in jail.



Definitions:

1. **intentionally** (adv) To do something on purpose, not by accident.
▶ Did you intentionally hit me?
2. **homicide** (n) The act of one person killing another person.
▶ Murder is a type of homicide.
3. **manslaughter** (n) The crime of killing someone by accident.
▶ A person who kills by accident is guilty of manslaughter.
4. **guilty** (adj) Having broken the law; having committed (done) a crime.
▶ He is guilty of murder.
5. **death penalty** (n) The punishment of death.
▶ The murderer got the death penalty as his punishment.
6. **capital punishment** (n) The punishment of death; the death penalty.
▶ Capital punishment is not allowed in many countries.
7. **life sentence** (n) A jail term that makes a person stay in jail for the rest of his/her life.
▶ One punishment for murder is a life sentence.



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Questions



★1

If someone does something “intentionally,” it means _____.

- (A) it was an accident.
- (B) he didn't want to do it.
- (C) it was a mistake.
- (D) he wanted to do it.

★2

Which statement is true?

- (A) Murder is an accident.
- (B) Murder is a type of homicide.
- (C) Manslaughter is the same as murder.
- (D) Manslaughter is not homicide.

★3

If a person did a crime, then he or she is _____.

- (A) guilty
- (B) not guilty
- (C) intentionally
- (D) homicide

★4

Capital punishment is the same as _____.

- (A) a life sentence
- (B) homicide
- (C) the death penalty
- (D) guilty

★5

Which statement is NOT true?

- (A) A life sentence is a common penalty for murder.
- (B) Homicide means one person kills another person.
- (C) A life sentence means the person could spend the rest of his life in jail.
- (A) All countries allow the death penalty.



Notes

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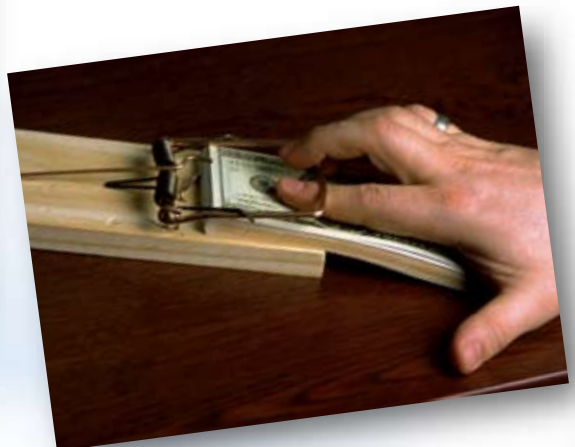
Unit

2

Robbery



An old man is walking along a street one night. Suddenly, another man stops him and **demands** that the old man give him all his money. This is **robbery**. In this case, the robber did not use a **weapon**, such as a knife or a gun. If he had used a weapon, it would be called **armed** robbery. Robbery involves someone (the robber) forcing another person to give him money or other **valuables**. If someone steals something without forcing the victim to **hand it over**, then it is called **theft**.



Definitions:

1. **demand** (v) To ask for something in a very strong way.
 - ▶ The policeman demanded that the woman stop her car.
2. **weapon** (n) Something used for hurting or killing people or animals (e.g., a gun, a knife).
 - ▶ Look out! He has a weapon.
3. **armed robbery** (n) Stealing something from someone by using a weapon.
 - ▶ Armed robbery is a very serious crime.
4. **valuables** (n) Things that a person has that are expensive, especially small items such as jewelry.
 - ▶ Make sure you keep your valuables in a safe place.
5. **victim** (n) A person who has been hurt or killed by someone or something (or has had something else bad happen to them, such as a natural disaster).
 - ▶ The criminal robbed the victim of 500 dollars.
6. **hand over** (v) To give something to someone.
 - ▶ When you buy something, you have to hand over some money.
7. **theft** (n) Taking something from someone illegally.
 - ▶ If you steal a car, it is called car theft.



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Questions



What does “demand” mean?

- (A) ask nicely
- (B) order
- (C) steal
- (D) rob



Which one is NOT a weapon?

- (A) a knife
- (B) a gun
- (C) a bomb
- (D) a potato



If someone uses a weapon in a robbery, it is called _____.

- (A) stealing
- (B) theft
- (C) armed robbery
- (D) weapon robbery



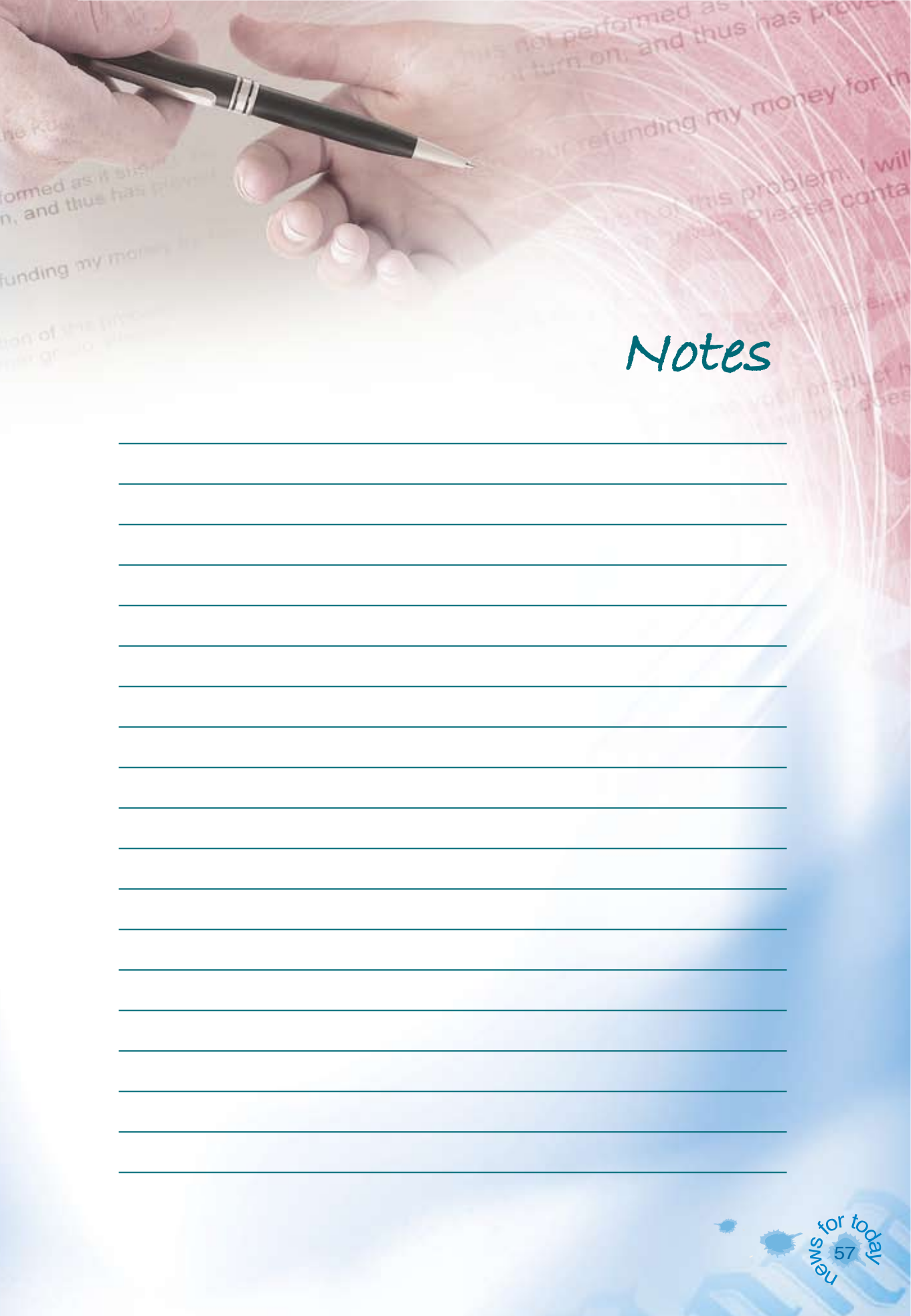
What is another word for “hand over”?

- (A) give
- (B) take
- (C) steal
- (D) order



Which statement is true?

- (A) There is no victim in theft.
- (B) Theft is the same as robbery.
- (C) In a robbery, the victim is forced to hand over money or valuables.
- (D) In theft, the victim is forced to hand over money or valuables.



Notes

Kidnapping

When someone steals something, it is called theft. When someone steals a person, it is called kidnapping. After kidnapping someone, **kidnappers** demand a **ransom** by sending a **ransom note** to the victim's family or by asking over the telephone. They usually **blindfold** the victim, so that the victim can't **identify** them. The kidnappers usually **threaten** to kill the victim if the victim's family doesn't pay the ransom. A person who is held by someone else is called a **captive**. Sometimes kidnappers kill their captives even if they get the ransom.



Definitions:

1. **kidnapper (n)** A person who takes away another person by force.

▶ The kidnappers kidnapped a rich businessman.

2. **ransom (n)** Money demanded by kidnappers to return a person who has been kidnapped.

▶ The kidnappers demanded a ransom of one million dollars.

3. **ransom note (n)** The note or letter that demands the money to be paid for the return of a kidnap victim.

▶ The family got a ransom note that demanded they pay 300,000 dollars.

4. **blindfold (v)** To force someone to wear material that is wrapped around their eyes so they can't see.

▶ The victim was blindfolded when she was kidnapped.



5. **identify (v)** To know what something is or who someone is.

▶ She couldn't identify the kidnappers because they blindfolded her.

6. **threaten (v)** To say you might do something (e.g., hurt or kill someone).

▶ It is a crime to threaten to kill someone.

7. **captive (n)** A prisoner; someone who is not allowed to leave a place; a person who is kidnapped.

▶ The captive was held for 30 days before being set free.

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Questions



Someone who kidnaps a person is called _____ .

- (A) a robber
- (B) a murderer
- (C) a kidnapper
- (D) a kidnap



What do kidnappers demand?

- (A) a robbery
- (B) a hostage
- (C) a threaten
- (D) a ransom



A person who is held by kidnappers is called _____ .

- (A) a captive
- (B) a kidnapper
- (C) a captain
- (D) a kidnap



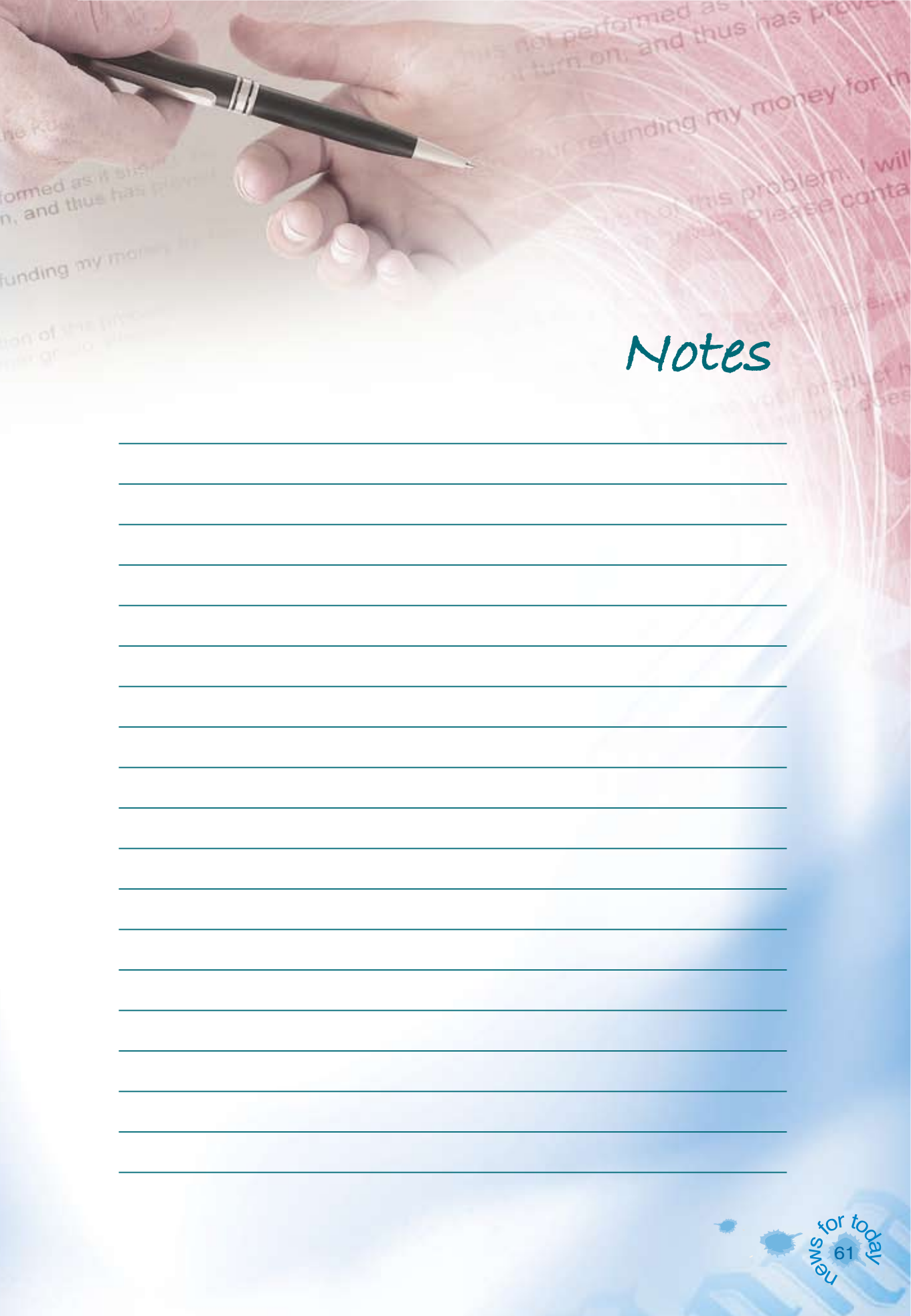
What word is most similar to “identify”?

- (A) hate
- (B) know
- (C) kidnap
- (D) forget



Which statement is NOT true?

- (A) Sometimes kidnappers kill their captives.
- (B) Kidnappers always let their victims go free if the ransom is paid.
- (C) Kidnappers often blindfold their captives.
- (D) Kidnappers usually threaten to kill their victims.



Notes

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4



Assault

Two people are **attending** a party. They get mad at each other. One person hits the other one in the face. This is an assault. If a person **strikes** someone, he or she could be **charged** with assault. Of course, if you **accidentally** hit someone, it is not an assault. The person who **commits** an assault is called an **assailant**. If an assailant hurts someone so badly that he almost kills him or her, the assailant could be charged with **attempted murder**.



Definitions:

1. **attend** (v) To be at an event or performance.
▶ The businessman attended two meetings today.
2. **strike** (v) To hit.
▶ You might want to strike someone, but you shouldn't.
3. **charge** (v) When the police (usually) write a statement saying they believe someone has committed a crime.
▶ He was charged with assault after striking the victim.
4. **accidentally** (adv) To do something that you don't mean to do.
▶ It wasn't an assault, because he hit him accidentally.
5. **commit** (v) To do (used when doing something bad or illegal).
▶ People who commit serious crimes usually go to jail.
6. **assailant** (n) Someone who attacks (hurts or kills) another person.
▶ The assailants ran away when the police arrived.
7. **attempted murder** (n) A crime when someone tries to kill another person, but can't do it.
▶ He tried to kill the man, so he was charged with attempted murder.



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Questions



What does “attend” mean?

- (A) go to
- (B) leave
- (C) assault
- (D) strike



Another word for “strike” is _____ .

- (A) attend
- (B) go to
- (C) hit
- (D) leave



Which statement is true?

- (A) If you accidentally hit someone, you are guilty of assault.
- (B) Attempted murder is the same as assault.
- (C) If you intentionally strike someone, you could be charged with assault.
- (D) If you accidentally strike someone, you are an assailant.



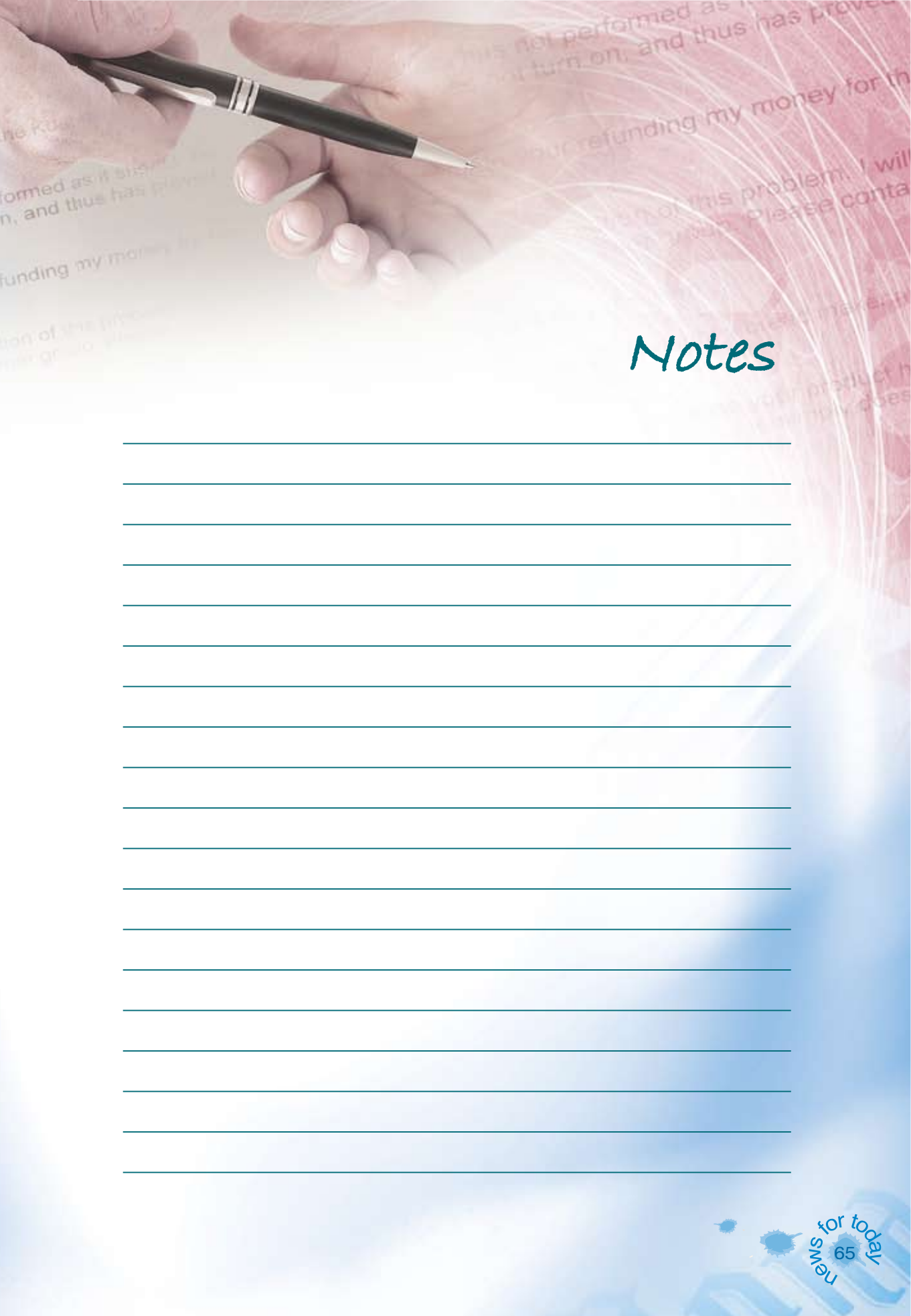
Someone who assaults another person is called _____ .

- (A) a robber
- (B) an assault
- (C) a committer
- (D) an assailant



What does “attempted murder” mean?

- (A) to murder someone
- (B) to assault someone
- (C) to try to kill someone
- (D) to strike someone



Notes

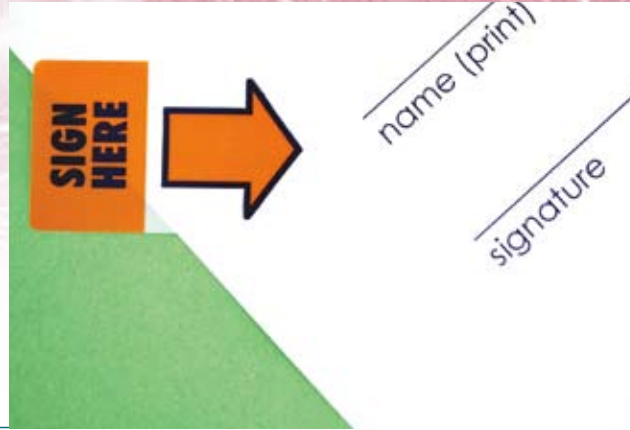
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Unit

5

Fraud



When people cheat or **trick** someone into paying money to them, they commit fraud. One type of fraud happens when someone writes a **check** using a **phony** name. Or the person may try to copy another person's **signature** and write it on a check. This kind of fraud is called **forgery**. Sometimes, those who commit fraud have a very **complicated** plan to trick people. This plan is often called a **scam**. For example, a victim might be told he has won a prize. However, in order to get the prize, he must first pay some money. In a scam, the victim never gets the prize even if he pays the money.



retraced
from his hp
Jim Barrie

Definitions:

1. **trick (v)** To make someone believe in something that is not true.

▶ They tricked that man into paying a lot of money.

2. **check (also cheque) (n)** A piece of paper from a bank that can be used to pay for things.

▶ Can I pay for that sofa by check?



3. **phony (adj)** Untrue; not real; fake.

▶ That bird doesn't look real – I think it's phoney.

4. **signature (n)** A person's name written by that same person.

▶ This check doesn't have a signature on it.

5. **forgery (n)** The crime of illegally copying a signature, document, etc.

▶ He went to jail for forgery.

6. **complicated (adj)** Having a lot of details and/or difficult to understand.

▶ That is a very complicated article.



7. **scam (n)** An illegal plan to trick someone out of money.

▶ The police found out about the scam.

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Questions



Which word is not similar to the other three words?

- (A) fraud
- (B) help
- (C) cheat
- (D) trick



Which one is an example of forgery?

- (A) when you plan a scam
- (B) when you lie on the telephone
- (C) when you commit an elaborate fraud
- (D) when you copy someone else's signature



A complicated plan to trick someone is called a _____.

- (A) scam
- (B) check
- (C) forgery
- (D) commit



What does "phoney" mean?

- (A) real
- (B) not real
- (C) true
- (D) correct



Who is the victim in a fraud?

- (A) someone who tricks people
- (B) someone who plans a scam
- (C) someone who gets rich
- (D) someone who loses money