



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS
Thursday, 3rd May 2012
10.00am

ELEMENTARY: CORRECT THE MISTAKE IN EACH SENTENCE

1. Sir Mervyn Queen is the governor of the Bank of England.
2. The Bank of England failed to do its job properly before the financial crisis of 2010.
3. Sir Mervyn has admitted he should have shouted a warning 'from the treetops'.
4. Banks had been allowed to borrow and steal too much.

5. A new deal will allow a private firm running a heavily indebted NAS hospital to make a profit.
6. Lord Howe has sent an email to the company.
7. The company is called 'Square'.
8. Hinchingsbrooke Hospital is in Cambridge.
9. The Government argues that without the deal the public will lose 'a well-run service'.
10. The chairman of the private company is Ali Parsa.
11. He appeared on the Tonight programme.
12. The contract will run for two years.
13. The hospital is £14 million in debt.

14. Voting is underway in this year's national elections.
15. Almost 5,000 chairs are being contested in 181 local authorities.
16. Voting is taking place in England, Wales and Northern Ireland.
17. There are also mayoral contests in London, Blackpool and Salford.

18. New figures show the coastal waters around the UK are the cleanest they've been for at least 10 years.
19. The current system of measurements began 40 years ago.

20. The authorities in New Zealand have raised concerns about 'a stupid drinking game called "Possum"'.
21. During the game participants sit on walls drinking alcohol until they fall to the ground.
22. The craze has reportedly swept the North Island city of Dunedin.
23. Public parks are strewn with (i.e. covered in) glass, letters and vomit.



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ELEMENTARY: ANSWERS

1. Sir Mervyn Queen is the governor of the Bank of England. **Sir Mervyn King**
2. The Bank of England failed to do its job properly before the financial crisis of 2010. **the financial crisis of 2008**
3. Sir Mervyn has admitted he should have shouted a warning 'from the treetops'. **'from the rooftops'**
4. Banks had been allowed to borrow and steal too much. **to borrow and lend too much**

5. A new deal will allow a private firm running a heavily indebted NAS hospital to make a profit. **NHS hospital**
6. Lord Howe has sent an email to the company. **a letter, not an email**
7. The company is called 'Square'. **'Circle'**
8. Hinchingsbrooke Hospital is in Cambridge. **Cambridgeshire (i.e. the county, not the city)**
9. The Government argues that without the deal the public will lose 'a well-run service'. **'a valued service'**
10. The chairman of the private company is Ali Parsa. **He's the chief executive.**
11. He appeared on the Tonight programme. **the Today programme**
12. The contract will run for two years. **'the 10-year contract'**
13. The hospital is £14 million in debt. **£40 million**

14. Voting is underway in this year's national elections. **in this year's local elections**
15. Almost 5,000 chairs are being contested in 181 local authorities. **'Almost 5,000 seats'**
16. Voting is taking place in England, Wales and Northern Ireland. **England, Scotland and Wales**
17. There are also mayoral contests in London, Blackpool and Salford. **Liverpool**

18. New figures show the coastal waters around the UK are the cleanest they've been for at least 10 years. **'for at least two decades' i.e. for at least 20 years (a decade = 10 years)**
19. The current system of measurements began 40 years ago. **It began 'in the late 1980s'.**

20. The authorities in New Zealand have raised concerns about 'a stupid drinking game called "Possum"'. **a student drinking game**
21. During the game participants sit on walls drinking alcohol until they fall to the ground. **They sit in trees.**
22. The craze has reportedly swept the North Island city of Dunedin. **the South Island city of Dunedin**
23. Public parks are strewn with (i.e. covered in) glass, letters and vomit. **glass, litter and vomit**



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INTERMEDIATE: QUESTIONS

1. What is the surname of the governor of the Bank of England?
2. When did the Bank of England fail to do its job properly?
3. Where should he have shouted a warning from?
4. What had banks been allowed to do?
5. Fill in the missing words: 'He said the decision to _____ the bank of _____ regulatory powers was partly to _____.'

6. What will the deal allow a private company operating an NHS hospital to make?
7. What is Lord Howe a minister of?
8. What is the name of the private company?
9. Where is Hinchingsbrooke Hospital?
10. Who could lose 'a valued service' without the deal, according to the Government?
11. What is Ali Parsa's role in the private company?
12. What will last for 10 years?
13. What is the last word Ali Parsa says?

14. What type of elections are being held today?
15. How many seats are being contested in 181 local authorities?
16. Where are these local authorities?
17. Which two cities, besides Salford, are voting for their mayors?
18. What are holding referendums on whether to choose directly-elected leaders?

19. What does the newsreader say about the coastal waters around the UK?
20. When did the current system of measurements begin?

21. What is 'Possum' in New Zealand? (*NB Not to be confused with a possum, which is an animal.*)
22. Where do participants sit while drinking large quantities of alcohol?
23. What do they then do 'in a drunken stupor'?
24. Where in New Zealand is Dunedin?
25. What are public parks in Dunedin strewn with (i.e. covered in) because of this new craze?



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INTERMEDIATE: ANSWERS

1. What is the surname of the governor of the Bank of England? **King**
2. When did the Bank of England fail to do its job properly? **before the financial crisis in 2008**
3. Where should he have shouted a warning from? **'the rooftops'**
4. What had banks been allowed to do? **They had been allowed to borrow and lend too much.**
5. Fill in the missing words: 'He said the decision to strip the bank of its regulatory powers was partly to blame.'

6. What will the deal allow a private company operating an NHS hospital to make? **a profit**
7. What is Lord Howe a minister of? **health**
8. What is the name of the private company? **Circle**
9. Where is Hinchingsbrooke Hospital? **It's in Cambridgeshire.**
10. Who could lose 'a valued service' without the deal, according to the Government? **the public**
11. What is Ali Parsa's role in the private company? **chief executive**
12. What will last for 10 years? **the contract (between Circle and the Government)**
13. What is the last word Ali Parsa says? **'absolutely'**

14. What type of elections are being held today? **local elections**
15. How many seats are being contested in 181 local authorities? **almost 5,000**
16. Where are these local authorities? **in England, Scotland and Wales**
17. Which two cities, besides Salford, are voting for their mayors? **London and Liverpool**
18. What are holding referendums on whether to choose directly-elected leaders? **10 other cities**

19. What does the newsreader say about the coastal waters around the UK? **She says they are the cleanest they've been for at least two decades.**
20. When did the current system of measurements begin? **in the late 1980s**

21. What is 'Possum' in New Zealand? (NB Not to be confused with a possum, which is an animal.) **It's a student drinking game.**
22. Where do participants sit while drinking large quantities of alcohol? **in trees**
23. What do they then do 'in a drunken stupor'? **They fall to the ground.**
24. Where in New Zealand is Dunedin? **It's in the South Island.**
25. What are public parks in Dunedin strewn with (i.e. covered in) because of this new craze? **glass, litter and vomit**



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ADVANCED: GAP-FILL

1. The governor of the _____ of England is Sir Mervyn _____.
2. He's said he's prepared to _____ with any new inquiry into the bank's _____ before the financial crisis in _____.
3. He's admitted he '_____ from the _____' that banks _____ been allowed to _____ and _____ too much.
4. He _____ blamed the bank's failures on the decision to _____ it of its regulatory powers.

5. _____ have condemned a deal which will allow a private _____ running a _____ indebted _____ hospital to _____ a profit.
6. The newsreader mentions a _____ which the _____ minister Lord Howe wrote to the company, _____.
7. The letter gives details of how the company will be _____ for _____ Hinchingsbrooke Hospital in _____.
8. The Government's argument is that _____ this deal the _____ would _____ a valued service.
9. The company's _____ executive, Ali Parsa, appeared on the _____ programme.
10. He said he was _____ the deficit _____ be settled during the 10-year _____.
11. The hospital is £_____ million in debt.
12. The last word Mr Parsa says is '_____'.

13. Voting is _____ in this year's _____ elections.
14. Almost 5,000 _____ are _____ contested in _____ local authorities in England, _____ and _____.
15. There are also mayoral contests in _____, _____ and Salford.
16. Ten other _____ are holding referendums on _____ to introduce _____-elected leaders.

17. New _____ show that the UK's _____ waters are the _____ they've _____ for at least 40 years.
18. The results were the most _____ recorded _____ the current system of measurements _____ in the late _____.

19. A student _____ game called 'Possum' is causing concern in New Zealand.
20. In the game participants _____ in _____, _____ alcohol, until they _____ to the _____ in a drunken stupor.
21. The _____ has reportedly _____ the South _____ city of Dunedin.
22. Public parks are strewn with (i.e. covered in) _____, _____ and _____.



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ADVANCED: ANSWERS

1. The governor of the **Bank** of England is Sir Mervyn **King**.
2. He's said he's prepared to **cooperate** with any new inquiry into the bank's **failures** before the financial crisis in **2008**.
3. He's admitted he '**should have shouted** from the **rooftops**' that banks **had** been allowed to **borrow** and **lend** too much.
4. He **partly** blamed the bank's failures on the decision to **strip** it of its regulatory powers.

5. **Unions** have condemned a deal which will allow a private **firm** running a **heavily** indebted **NHS** hospital to **make** a profit.
6. The newsreader mentions a **letter** which the **health** minister Lord Howe wrote to the company, **Circle**.
7. The letter gives details of how the company will be **paid** for **running** Hinchingsbrooke Hospital in **Cambridgeshire**.
8. The Government's argument is that **without** this deal the **public** would **lose** a valued service.
9. The company's **chief** executive, Ali Parsa, appeared on the **Today** programme.
10. He said he was **certain** the deficit **would** be settled during the 10-year **contract**.
11. The hospital is **£40** million in debt.
12. The last word Mr Parsa says is '**absolutely**'.

13. Voting is **underway** in this year's **local** elections.
14. Almost 5,000 **seats** are **being** contested in **181** local authorities in England, **Scotland** and **Wales**.
15. There are also mayoral contests in **London**, **Liverpool** and Salford.
16. Ten other **cities** are holding referendums on **whether** to introduce **directly**-elected leaders.

17. New **figures** show that the UK's **coastal** waters are the **cleanest** they've **been** for at least 40 years.
18. The results were the most **positive** recorded **since** the current system of measurements **began** in the late **1980s**.

19. A student **drinking** game called 'Possum' is causing concern in New Zealand.
20. In the game participants **sit** in **trees**, **drinking** alcohol, until they **fall** to the **ground** in a drunken stupor.
21. The **craze** has reportedly **swept** the South **Island** city of Dunedin.
22. Public parks are strewn with (i.e. covered in) **glass**, **litter** and **vomit**.