



BBC RADIO 4 NEWS
Thursday, 24th May 2012
10.00am

ELEMENTARY: CORRECT THE MISTAKE IN EACH SENTENCE

1. The first story is about the UK economy in the first five months of the year.
2. Gross Domestic Product was down by 3% between January and March.
3. Initial figures suggested it had shrunk by only 1.2%.
4. Jane Voley is a senior strategist at a bank.
5. She said the announcement was 'a shock'.
6. She said 'This is a big disgrace to the market.'
7. The initial number of 0.3% came out a few days ago.
8. Many economists expected it be revised lower.
9. UK data has been 'a lot better than expected'.

10. Markets are concerned about the effects of a German exit from the eurozone.
11. The yield on 10-year German bonds has hit a new high this morning.
12. A summit of EU leaders ended with a commitment to boost employment.

13. New figures show a record number of offenders sentenced for minor crimes had committed previous offences.
14. Almost 20% of those sentenced in England and Wales last year had offended before.
15. Almost a third had 50 or more previous convictions or cautions.

16. Amnesty National has accused the UN Security Council of being 'unfit for purpose' over its handling of events in Syria.
17. In its monthly report Amnesty says crimes against humanity have been committed.
18. It says the Security Council has been left looking 'redundant as a guardian of global peas'.

19. An executive director of the Bank of England wants banks to stop offering three current accounts.
20. Andrew Bailey says the idea of free current accounts is 'a mess'.
21. He says banks must be required to charge explicit fees.

22. The comedian Eddie Izzard has had to abandon his plan to run a marathon each day for seven days in South Africa.
23. He said financial complications had forced him to put the project on hold.



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ELEMENTARY: ANSWERS

1. The first story is about the UK economy in the first five months of the year. in the **first three months of the year**
2. Gross Domestic Product was down by 3% between January and March. **0.3%**
3. Initial figures suggested it had shrunk by only 1.2%. **0.2%**
4. Jane Voley is a senior strategist at a bank. **Jane Foley**
5. She said the announcement was 'a shock'. **'a surprise'**
6. She said 'This is a big disgrace to the market.' **'This is a big disappointment to the market.'**
7. The initial number of 0.3% came out a few days ago. **a few weeks ago**
8. Many economists expected it be revised lower. **'revised higher'**
9. UK data has been 'a lot better than expected'. **'a lot worse than expected'**

10. Markets are concerned about the effects of a German exit from the eurozone. **a Greek exit**
11. The yield on 10-year German bonds has hit a new high this morning. **a new low**
12. A summit of EU leaders ended with a commitment to boost employment. **to boost growth**

13. New figures show a record number of offenders sentenced for minor crimes had committed previous offences. **sentenced for serious crimes**
14. Almost 20% of those sentenced in England and Wales last year had offended before. **Almost 90%...**
15. Almost a third had 50 or more previous convictions or cautions. **15 or more**

16. Amnesty National has accused the UN Security Council of being 'unfit for purpose' over its handling of events in Syria. **Amnesty International**
17. In its monthly report Amnesty says crimes against humanity have been committed. **In its annual report**
18. It says the Security Council has been left looking 'redundant as a guardian of global peace'. **'redundant as a guardian of global peace'**

19. An executive director of the Bank of England wants banks to stop offering three current accounts. **free bank accounts**
20. Andrew Bailey says the idea of free current accounts is 'a mess'. **'a myth'**
21. He says banks must be required to charge explicit fees. **'should be required'**

22. The comedian Eddie Izzard has had to abandon his plan to run a marathon each day for seven days in South Africa. **for 27 days**
23. He said financial complications had forced him to put the project on hold. **medical complications**



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INTERMEDIATE: GAP-FILL

1. New figures suggest the UK economy _____ by more _____ at first _____ in the first quarter of this year.
2. Official data shows that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was _____ by _____% between January and _____.
3. Initial figures had suggested it had _____ by only _____%.
4. A senior strategist at a bank said the announcement was 'a _____'.
5. She said 'This is a big _____ to the market.'
6. She went on 'When the initial number _____ a few _____ ago, many economists at the time _____.'
7. They thought this number would be revised _____.
8. However, in the interim there has been bad news from the eurozone and a lot _____ than expected _____ data.

9. There are further signs of market anxiety about the effects of a possible _____ from the eurozone.
10. The yield on _____ - _____ German bonds has hit a new _____ this morning.
11. Investors are seeking a safe haven _____ assets.
12. A summit of _____ leaders ended with a commitment to boost _____, but no new _____ measures to resolve the crisis.

13. New records show that a record _____ of offenders sentenced for _____ crimes had committed previous offences.
14. Almost _____% of those sentenced in England and _____ in 2011 had offended _____.
15. Almost a _____ had _____ or more previous convictions or cautions.

16. Amnesty International has accused the _____ Security Council of being '_____ for purpose' _____ its handling of events in Syria.
17. Amnesty International has just produced its _____ report.
18. It says crimes _____ humanity _____ committed in Syria.
19. It says the Security Council has been _____ looking redundant as a guardian of global _____.

20. An executive director of the _____ of England has said new regulations _____ be required to _____ banks offering _____ current accounts.
21. _____ Bailey says the _____ of free current accounts is a myth.
22. He says bank _____ be required to charge explicit fees.

23. The comedian Eddie Izzard _____ to abandon his _____ to _____ a marathon each day for _____ in South _____.
24. He said _____ complications had forced him to _____ the project on _____.



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INTERMEDIATE: ANSWERS

1. New figures suggest the UK economy shrank by more than at first thought in the first quarter of this year.
2. Official data shows that Gross Domestic Product (GDP) was down by 0.3% between January and March.
3. Initial figures had suggested it had shrunk by only 0.2%.
4. A senior strategist at a bank said the announcement was 'a surprise'.
5. She said 'This is a big disappointment to the market.'
6. She went on 'When the initial number came out a few weeks ago, many economists at the time complained.'
7. They thought this number would be revised higher.
8. However, in the interim there has been bad news from the eurozone and a lot worse than expected UK data.

9. There are further signs of market anxiety about the effects of a possible Greek exit from the eurozone.
10. The yield on 10-year German bonds has hit a new low this morning.
11. Investors are seeking a safe haven for their assets.
12. A summit of EU leaders ended with a commitment to boost growth, but no new concrete measures to resolve the crisis.

13. New records show that a record number of offenders sentenced for serious crimes had committed previous offences.
14. Almost 90% of those sentenced in England and Wales in 2011 had offended before.
15. Almost a third had 15 or more previous convictions or cautions.

16. Amnesty International has accused the UN Security Council of being 'unfit for purpose' over its handling of events in Syria.
17. Amnesty International has just produced its annual report.
18. It says crimes against humanity have been committed in Syria.
19. It says the Security Council has been left looking redundant as a guardian of global peace.

20. An executive director of the Bank of England has said new regulations may be required to stop banks offering free current accounts.
21. Andrew Bailey says the idea of free current accounts is a myth.
22. He says bank should be required to charge explicit fees.

23. The comedian Eddie Izzard has had to abandon his plan to run a marathon each day for 27 days in South Africa.
24. He said medical complications had forced him to put the project on hold.



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ADVANCED: QUESTIONS

1. What seems to have shrunk by more than at first thought in the first three months of 2012?
2. What do the initials GDP stand for?
3. How much did GDP fall by in the first quarter of 2012?
4. What was the initial figure?
5. What is Jane Foley's first sentence? 'This is _____ .'
6. When did the initial number come out?
7. What did many economists expect to happen to the number later?
8. What have been seen from the eurozone in the meantime?
9. What has the UK data been, according to Ms Foley? 'a _____ than expected'
10. Which noun means 'a situation which is getting worse and worse'?

11. What are the markets anxious about the effects of?
12. Which yield has hit a new low this morning?
13. What are investors doing?
14. What ended with a commitment to boost growth?
15. Which verb often accompanies the noun 'crisis'?

16. What have a number of offenders sentenced for serious crimes already committed?
17. Which countries were the statistics gathered from?
18. What percentage of offenders had offended before?
19. What did about a third have?

20. What has Amnesty International accused the UN Security Council of being?
21. Which crimes have been committed in Syria, according to Amnesty International?
22. What has the UN Security Council been left looking, according to Amnesty International?

23. What should banks stop offering, according to an executive director of the Bank of England?
24. What is a myth, according to Andrew Bailey?
25. What should banks be required to charge, according to Mr Bailey?

26. What is Eddie Izzard's job?
27. What plan has he had to abandon?
28. What have forced him to postpone the project?
29. Which phrasal verb means 'to postpone something'? to _____ something



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ADVANCED: ANSWERS

1. What seems to have shrunk by more than at first thought in the first three months of 2012? **the UK economy**
2. What do the initials GDP stand for? **Gross Domestic Product**
3. How much did GDP fall by in the first quarter of 2012? **0.3%**
4. What was the initial figure? **0.2%**
5. What is Jane Foley's first sentence? **'This is a big disappointment to the market.'**
6. When did the initial number come out? **a few weeks ago**
7. What did many economists expect to happen to the number later? **They expected it to be revised higher.**
8. What have been seen from the eurozone in the meantime? **'increased headwinds'**
9. What has the UK data been, according to Ms Foley? **'a bit worse than expected'**
10. Which noun means 'a situation which is getting worse and worse'? **'deterioration'**
11. What are the markets anxious about the effects of? **a possible Greek exit from the eurozone**
12. Which yield has hit a new low this morning? **the yield on 10-year German bonds**
13. What are investors doing? **They are seeking a safe haven for their assets.**
14. What ended with a commitment to boost growth? **a summit of EU leaders**
15. Which verb often accompanies the noun 'crisis'? **'to resolve'**
16. What have a number of offenders sentenced for serious crimes already committed? **previous offences**
17. Which countries were the statistics gathered from? **England and Wales**
18. What percentage of offenders had offended before? **almost 90%**
19. What did about a third have? **15 or more previous convictions or cautions**
20. What has Amnesty International accused the UN Security Council of being? **'unfit for purpose over its handling of events in Syria'**
21. Which crimes have been committed in Syria, according to Amnesty International? **crimes against humanity**
22. What has the UN Security Council been left looking, according to Amnesty International? **redundant as a guardian of global peace**
23. What should banks stop offering, according to an executive director of the Bank of England? **free current accounts**
24. What is a myth, according to Andrew Bailey? **the idea of free current accounts**
25. What should banks be required to charge, according to Mr Bailey? **explicit fees**
26. What is Eddie Izzard's job? **He's a comedian.**
27. What plan has he had to abandon? **His plan to run a marathon each day for 27 days in South Africa.**
28. What have forced him to postpone the project? **medical complications**
29. Which phrasal verb means 'to postpone something'? **to put something on hold**