



THE WIND THAT SHAKES THE PHONES



Scan to review worksheet

Expemo code:
1HJF-L1L2-37E



1

Warm up

In pairs, discuss the following questions.

1. Have you ever seen a ghost? What happened?
2. Why do you think there have been so many films made about ghosts?
3. Do most people in your country believe that something happens after we die?
4. Do you think that the culture you are from influences how much you believe in life after death?





2

Focus on vocabulary

Match the underlined words to the definitions below.

1. She felt inclined to go with his friends to the party.
 2. As soon as I met the medium, I got a feeling there was something different about her.
 3. We tried to take part in a séance, but we were too drunk to take it seriously.
 4. The news report about the disaster was really disturbing.
 5. He tried to summon them through the use of magic and special potions.
 6. The pendulum didn't work like it used to, so the clock didn't keep accurate time anymore.
 7. There was a person down the street who said they could cure the sick with psychic healing.
- a. (n) a meeting in which people try to contact and talk to spirits
 - b. (adj.) wanting to do something
 - c. (adj.) making you feel anxious or shocked
 - d. (v) call or try to obtain someone or something
 - e. (adj.) connected with strange powers and not easily explained by natural laws
 - f. (n) a person who claims to be able to talk to the dead
 - g. (n) a long straight part with a weight at the end that moves evenly from side to side

3

Listening for predictions

Part A: Look at the different methods used to try and contact the spirits or ghosts. With your partner try to predict how the given information matches each method, then listen and check your predictions.

- a) ... ability to contact the deceased...
- b) ...often has letters and numbers printed on...
- c) ...The process involves emptying your mind...
- d) ...person who has passed away will then guide the counter...
- e) ...choose the room in your house that is thought to be the heart...
- f) ...be able to summon ghosts by staring...
- g) ...a pendulum and it will swing over the word yes or the word no...
- h) ...rates going as high as \$200 per session...

1. Ouija board : _____
2. Séance : _____
3. A medium : _____
4. Mirror gazing : _____





Part B: Read the sentences from the script and think about which words from the vocabulary section could go in the gaps, only four are needed. Afterwards, listen to the audio and check your predictions.

1. "... They are said to have the _____ ability to contact ..."
2. "... You should then be able to _____ ghosts by staring into the mirror..."
3. "...but it helps if your friends are spiritually _____..."
4. "... For some, the thought of talking to ghosts or spirits is seriously _____
..."

4 Listening for details

Listen one more time and try to answer the following questions.

1. Which two languages is the word Ouija created from?
2. Where and when was the Ouija board first put on sale?
3. What type of friends is it better to have for a séance?
4. What should you have done before the séance begins?
5. What do Mediums function as?
6. Who first came up with the idea for mirror gazing?

5 Vocabulary for conversation

Look at the examples of natural language from the podcast, with your partner and from the context, try to guess the meaning of each one. To help you remember the expressions, have a discussion with your partner and use them to talk about your life.

- "... No matter what side of the fence you find yourself on you can't deny that there is a mountain of ways..."
- "... So, if you are looking to establish communication with the dearly departed..."
- "... The process involves emptying your mind..."

Let's chat

1. When it comes to the debate on nature versus nurture, what side of the fence do you find yourself on?
2. What is the difference in tone between the dearly departed and the dead?
3. In which situations might it be a good idea to empty your mind?



6

Focus on vocabulary

Part A: Match the following vocabulary to the definitions.

- | | |
|-------------------------------|---|
| 1. grief (n) | a. being found, especially by chance |
| 2. <u>obsolete</u> (adj.) | b. a very sad feeling especially when somebody dies |
| 3. <u>turning up</u> (phr. v) | c. not looking at something carefully or in depth |
| 4. <u>set up</u> (phr. v) | d. small stones often used to make paths |
| 5. <u>Reverend</u> (n) | e. the title of a member of the church |
| 6. <u>gravel</u> (n) | f. no longer used because something has taken its place |
| 7. <u>craggy</u> (adj.) | g. create or start something |
| 8. <u>superficial</u> (adj.) | h. being made of sharp, steep rocks |

Part B: Put the vocabulary from Part A into the correct gaps in the following sentences.

craggy **gravel** **grief** **obsolete** **Reverend** **set up** **superficial** **turning up**

1. Pieces of ancient treasure suddenly started _____ on the local beach.
2. The new _____ has moved up here from London.
3. They became close because they were both going through a period of _____.
4. If you walk down the _____ alleyway you will find the school at the end of it.
5. The documentary presented only a _____ view of a complicated topic.
6. The _____ coastline was very dangerous for nearby ships.
7. We decided it would be a good idea to _____ a ghost-contacting business.
8. I used to love my DVD player but now it has become completely _____.





7

Skimming for general understanding

Read the following paragraph titles for the article titled "The wind that shakes the phones" and match them to the correct paragraph.

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| A) Opening the door for tragedy | E) Mystery for Mr Brown |
| B) Soften the hurt | F) The spread of the phone |
| C) Talking but not connected | G) A chance to process |
| D) Phone on a post | |

The wind that shakes the phones

Contacting those that we have lost

I. _____¹

Our relationship with grief is a complicated one, and trying to come to terms with that can be impossible to achieve. Over the years, kind-hearted souls have come up with all matters of ways in which those who are grieving can ease their pain, and one of these ideas is the wind phone.

II. _____²

The concept of the wind phone came from Itaru Sasaki, a garden designer living in Japan. Sasaki had lost a cousin to cancer and was looking for a way to maintain a connection with them. For this, he installed an old-fashioned phone in his garden, but he did not connect it to any wires. Sasaki discovered that the whole process of talking into an obsolete phone comforted him during the dark days.

III. _____³

The tragedy was to strike the same area on a gigantic scale in 2011 when over 15,000 people lost their lives to a gigantic earthquake and tsunami. This event pushed Sasaki to open his wind phone to the public and ever since this generous act, his phone has received over 30,000 visitors. After this, the concept of the wind phone started to become more attractive to those dealing with loss.

IV. _____⁴

The chance to say things that couldn't be said proved to be attractive to many, and wind phones started turning up in different locations all over the planet. Worldwide there are believed to be over 200 locations in which you can come across a wind phone, and people travel from miles around to speak into one.

V. _____⁵

A special wind phone has been set up beside an old church in the state of Connecticut in America. The Reverend of the church has said that the phone has become really popular. The phone itself is connected to a simple wooden post beside a gravel path and next to it is a sign that says- "This phone will never ring. It is connected by love to nowhere and everywhere."

VI. _____⁶

In the UK, wind phones have been gradually catching on and you can now find them in a number of diverse locations. From a cliffside in Anglesey to a hospice in Stourbridge, the idea seems to appeal to so many different people. The phone in Anglesey is particularly gorgeous as it looks out over the Irish Sea and is hidden among some craggy rocks. It is unclear who set up this particular phone, but it has a dedication to someone called "Paul Brown" and states that it is for "everyone who has lost a loved one".

VII. _____⁷

The death of someone close to us is undoubtedly one of the most difficult times of our lives, and while the wind phone may seem superficial to some, to others it offers them an opportunity to process the multitude of emotions that come along with grief.

Sources: BBC, Daily Post, Wikipedia

8

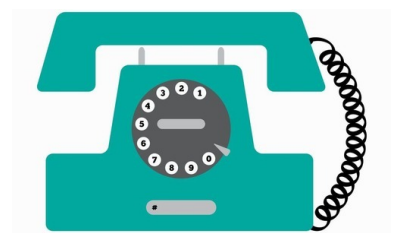
Reading comprehension

Part A: Read the following statements and decide if they are True or False.

1. Itaru Sasaki was an interior designer from Japan. _____
2. Talking into the phone helped Sasaki. _____
3. Since 2011, over 30,000 people have used Sasaki's phone. _____
4. According to the article, there are now over 200 wind phones in Japan. _____
5. The phone in Connecticut is connected to a metal post. _____
6. One of the wind phones in the UK has a view of the English Channel. _____
7. The phone on Anglesey was set up by Paul Brown. _____
8. In the final paragraph, the article suggests that the phone will be liked by all. _____

Part B: Look at the questions and discuss them with your partner.

1. What did you think of the article? What is your initial opinion in relation to wind phones?
2. Why do you think windphones are now popular all over the world?
3. Where in your city/ country would be the best location for a wind phone?
4. If you were given the opportunity would you like to use a wind phone? Why/ Why not?





9

Optional extension: vocabulary for conversation

Look at the examples of natural language from the audio report and the article with your partner and from the context, try to guess the meaning of each one. To help you remember the expressions, have a discussion with your partner and use them to talk about your life.

- ... and trying to come to terms with that can be impossible to achieve...
- In the UK, wind phones have been gradually catching on and...
- ... there are believed to be over 200 locations in which you can come across a wind phone...

Let's chat

1. How do you try to come to terms with things in life that you think are unfair?
2. Are there any new styles that are catching on in your country at the moment?



Transcripts

3. Listening for predictions

Speaker: Talking to the dead

Speaker: For some, the thought of talking to ghosts or spirits is seriously disturbing while for others it offers them a chance to prove that there is life after death. No matter what side of the fence you find yourself on you can't deny that there is a mountain of ways in which you can try contacting the dead. So, if you are looking to establish communication with the dearly departed, we are going to present to you a few of the most popular ways on today's podcast and help you on your way.

Speaker: Often taking centre stage in popular teen-horror flicks an Ouija board is something that anybody can try at home with their friends. Quite surprisingly the word "Ouija" was crafted from the French and German words for "yes" and was originally seen up for sale in Baltimore in 1891.

Speaker: The board often has letters and numbers printed on it with a movable counter placed in the middle. People around the board will place one of their hands on top of the counter (often a glass), and then ask a question to someone in the spirit world. The theory is that the person who has passed away will then guide the counter to the letters or numbers and answer their questions.

Speaker: In many ways, a séance is similar to a Ouija board, but in others, it is quite different. You can also set this one up at home, but it helps if your friends are spiritually inclined. What you are often asked to do is to choose the room in your house that is thought to be the heart of the home, then sit down together and hold hands.

Speaker: Before the ceremony begins every participant should've prepared some basic questions for the spectre to answer e.g. Are you okay? Am I doing the right thing by getting married? Should I buy a new car? It is easier to ask yes or no questions because the ritual often involves a pendulum and it will swing over the word yes or the word no that you'll have already written on the floor.

Speaker: If you don't trust your friends to get in touch with the dead then you will need a real expert, a medium as they are known in the ghost business. Mediums have been described as functioning as a "voicebox" for the dead. They are said to have the psychic ability to contact the deceased which they do through their so called "extrasensory perception". Hiring this type of person doesn't come cheap though with rates going as high as \$200 per session.



Speaker: On the cheaper side of the scale, we have mirror gazing. It all comes from an American named Raymond Moody who after a near death experience created something called a “psychomanteum”. In simple terms, a “psychomanteum” is created by putting a mirror into a dimly lit room. You should then be able to summon ghosts by staring into the mirror. The process involves emptying your mind and thinking about the person you want to see again. You slowly look into the mirror, ask your questions and then be patient and wait for your answers.



Key

1. Warm up

5 mins.

This gives the teacher an opportunity to set the context and allows the students time to share their previous knowledge and their opinions in relation to ghosts, spirits, and people's interest in such subjects. Monitor and provide on-the-spot feedback when appropriate.

2. Focus on vocabulary

5 mins.

Make sure students can correctly pronounce the target vocabulary. Ask them to complete the task by themselves first, and then compare answers with a partner.

1. → b. 2. → f. 3. → a. 4. → c. 5. → d. 6. → g. 7. → e.

3. Listening for predictions

Part A:

5 mins.

Students compare their answers with their partners.

1. OUIJA BOARD : b) ...often has letters and numbers printed on... d) ...person who has passed away will then guide the counter...
2. SÉANCE : e) ...choose the room in your house that is thought to be the heart... g) ...a pendulum and it will swing over the word yes or the word no...
3. A MEDIUM : a) ...ability to contact the deceased... h) ...rates going as high as \$200 per session...
4. MIRROR GAZING : f) ...be able to summon ghosts by staring... c) ...The process involves emptying your mind...

Part B:

5 mins.

Ask students to read the sentences from the transcript and discuss with their partner where they think each word from the vocabulary section goes. Play the audio and ask the students to check their predictions.

1. psychic
2. summon
3. inclined
4. disturbing

4. Listening for details

5 mins.

Tell students that they are going to listen again, ask them to answer the questions and then compare their answers with their partner.

1. French, German
2. Baltimore in 1891
3. spiritually inclined
4. basic questions
5. as a "voicebox" for the dead
6. Raymond Moody



5. Vocabulary for conversation

5 mins.

Ask students to look through the extracts together and try to guess the meaning, monitor to support and then allow them to personalise the vocabulary with a quick discussion.

what side of the fence you find yourself on - used to show what side of a debate or an argument you favour

dearly departed - a respectful way to address people who have recently passed away

emptying your mind - clearing your mind of any thoughts

Sources:

<https://www.britannica.com/topic/Ouija-board>

<https://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/the-strange-and-mysterious-history-of-the-ouija-board-5860627/>

https://www.brown.edu/Departments/Joukowsky_Institute/courses/13things/9781

<https://www.wikihow.com/Perform-a-5%C3%A9ance>

<https://www.wmagazine.com/story/seance-how-to-conduct-at-home-guide>

<https://www.enmaybe.com/talking-to-the-dead-with-a-spiritual-medium>

<https://www.centreofexcellence.com/becoming-a-medium>

<https://www.gaia.com/article/psychomanteum-mirror-gazing>

<https://emmawilkin.com/words-of-the-week-2/2022/11/8/psychomanteum>

<https://www.orlandosentinel.com/1993/11/23/mirror-gazing-contact-with-dead-is-new-grief-therapy/>

6. Focus on vocabulary

Part A:

5 mins.

Ensure students can correctly pronounce the target vocabulary. Ask them to complete the task by themselves first, and then compare answers with a partner.

1. → b. 2. → f. 3. → a. 4. → g. 5. → e. 6. → d. 7. → h. 8. → c.

Part B:

5 mins.

Ask students to identify which parts of speech could fill the gaps before completing the exercise. Circulate and help as needed.

1. turning up

2. Reverend

3. grief

4. gravel

5. superficial

6. craggy

7. set up

8. obsolete

7. Skimming for general understanding

5 mins.

You may want to set a time limit and highlight the differences between skimming and scanning at this point.

1. B) Soften the hurt

2. C) Talking but not connected

3. A) Opening the door for tragedy

4. F) The spread of the phone

5. D) Phone on a post

6. E) Mystery for Mr Brown

7. G) A chance to process

**Sources:**

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wind_phone

<https://www.mywindphone.com/>

<https://paw.princeton.edu/article/essay-how-wind-phone-can-help-grieving-community>

<https://www.npr.org/2023/11/22/1214962946/this-wind-phone-helps-grievers-feel-connected-to-their-lost-loved-ones>

<https://lithub.com/how-japans-wind-phone-became-a-bridge-between-life-and-death/>

<https://www.funeralguide.co.uk/blog/phone-of-the-wind>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p0j4yyqj>

<https://www.dailypost.co.uk/news/north-wales-news/poignant-wind-phone-nestled-anglesey-26524125>

8. Reading comprehension**Part A:**

5 mins.

Ask students to read in more detail and complete the exercise. Ask them to underline where they find the answer, and then compare it with their partner.

- | | | | |
|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| 1. False | 2. True | 3. True | 4. False |
| 5. False | 6. False | 7. False | 8. False |

1) (...of Itaru Sasaki a garden designer from Japan...)

2) (...Sasaki discovered that the whole process of talking into an obsolete phone comforted him during the dark days...)

3) (...since this generous act his phone has received over 30,000 visitors...)

4) (...Worldwide there are believed to be over 200 locations in which you can come across a wind phone ...)

5) (...The phone itself is connected to a simple wooden post beside a gravel path ...)

6) (...is particularly gorgeous as it looks out over the Irish Sea...)

7) (...It is unclear who set up this particular phone...)

8) (...while the wind phone may seem superficial to some ...)

Part B:

5 mins

Students discuss talking points from the article and share their opinions with each other about windphones

9. Optional extension: vocabulary for conversation

5 mins.

Ask students to look through the sentences together and try to guess the meaning, monitor to support and then allow them to personalise the vocabulary with a quick discussion.

trying to come to terms with - the process of trying to understand or accepting an idea or an emotion

catching on - becoming more popular

come across - find something by chance