
BBC LEARNING ENGLISH

6 Minute English worksheet

The joys of writing lists



Listen to the full episode here: <https://bbc.in/47uohHM>

1. Look at the cover image and title of the episode. What do you think this episode is about? What do you know about this topic already? What vocabulary do you associate with this topic?

2. Now listen to the first two minutes of the episode.

- What do the presenters say the episode is about?
- What is this week's question? What do you think the answer is?

3. Now listen to the whole episode. As you listen, write down the six items of vocabulary. What do they mean?

a) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

b) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

c) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

d) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

e) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

f) Word/phrase: _____

It means: _____.

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4. What did you learn that was surprising or new in this episode?

5. Answer the quiz questions. Listen again or use the transcript to help you.

1. A 'list of all the things you would like to do before you die' is a _____.
 - a) to-do list
 - b) top 10 list
 - c) bucket list
2. "This new mobile phone contract will give you unlimited data and calls for half the money you used to pay – it's really good _____."
 - a) buck for your bang
 - b) bang for your buck
 - c) pass the buck
3. What are 'pros and cons'?
 - a) advantages and disadvantages
 - b) causes and effects
 - c) trials and errors
4. What is 'puke' slang for?
 - a) visitor
 - b) vehicle
 - c) vomit
5. Which word means 'overly sweet, sentimental or insincere'?
 - a) coastline
 - b) saccharine
 - c) turbine
6. What refers to 'the most important or essential point of' something?
 - a) the nub of
 - b) the hub of
 - c) the sub of

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6. Write your own sentences using the vocabulary.

7. Answer the following questions.

- What are three things you have learnt from this episode?
- How does this topic make you feel?
- Give three examples relevant to your life using the vocabulary.

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Answers

3.

- a. bucket list – list of all the things a person would like to do before they die
- b. puke – (slang) vomit, sick
- c. bang for your buck – (idiom) value gained in return for the money, time or effort you spend doing something
- d. saccharine – excessively sweet or sentimental and so considered insincere or inauthentic
- e. the nub (of something) – the most important or essential point (of a situation, problem, etc.)
- f. pros and cons – advantages and disadvantages

5. 1c, 2b, 3a, 4c, 5b, 6a

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Teacher's notes

This worksheet is standardised so that you can amend and use it as appropriate with your classes.

Some topics may be difficult for learners, especially those which could be upsetting or cause offence. Please be mindful of this when using this worksheet, and adapt it as necessary.

Extension activities

- Role-play an interview with an 'interviewer' and an 'expert' on this topic.
- Write a short story or article using the vocabulary from this episode.
- Read original articles on this topic.
- For homework: If it is available in your country, download and listen to the original podcast these extracts were taken from.