



In **Lesson 23** Isabel and Gianni take **Grandma Gloria** for a doctor's appointment.

Since she has retired, she has not been feeling very well. Mr Bond thinks that Grandma Gloria is depressed because she is always at home alone. **Grandpa Adrian** is still working, but he will retire in a few months.

**Dr Ferrand** receives Grandma Gloria, Isabel and Gianni at 9:30. Grandma Gloria tells the doctor that she is exhausted, has no appetite and is nervous all the time.

Dr Ferrand tells her that all the tests that they ran the week before are normal, except her cholesterol level, which is a little high. Then he sounds her back. All seems normal.

Grandma Gloria would like the doctor to prescribe some anti-depressants for her, but Dr Ferrand says that they would only create problems for her. He suggests doing some volunteer work at a local hospital instead, to keep her busy and to make her feel useful.

Grandma Gloria likes the idea and says that she will discuss it with her husband.

After the doctor's visit, Isabel and Gianni take Grandma Gloria for a walk in Hyde Park and then they have lunch at a trendy pub.

When Isabel and Gianni arrive home and tell the Bonds that Grandma is healthy and strong, they are relieved and happy. They think that the idea of doing some volunteer work is splendid.

They all celebrate the good news with beer, snacks, caviar and champagne.

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*Dinner at a Restaurant*

8:00 a.m. Breakfast Time

- Mr Bond** - *Buongiorno!*  
Is there anything special for breakfast?
- Isabel** - *Buongiorno, Daddy.*  
Gianni has prepared a special breakfast, "**Bruschetta**": toasted bread with tomatoes, basil, olive oil, capers, oregano and a little salt. This is Gianni's grandfather's favourite breakfast.
- Mr Bond** - That sounds fine to me.
- Gianni** - My Grandpa has a glass of red wine with his *bruschetta*, but you can have coffee instead of wine.
- Mr Bond** - No, no! I want to have an authentic Sicilian breakfast, with a glass or two of red wine, and... coffee afterwards. Ha ha ha!
- Gianni** - I am going to have the same.
- Mrs Bond** - Richard, remember that you have to work today.
- Isabel** - Don't worry, Mum. After two glasses of wine, Dad becomes jolly, so he will work with more enthusiasm.
- Mr Bond** - Isabel is right, as usual. By the way, Gianni, when are your parents arriving?
- Gianni** - They will arrive this afternoon, at about 3 o'clock.
- Isabel** - After lunch, we are going to the airport to pick them up.
- Gianni** - No, that won't be necessary. My father sent me an email yesterday saying that we needn't go to the airport. After picking up his rental car, he will drive to the hotel, and we can meet there at around five thirty.

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### *Dinner at a Restaurant*

- Mrs Bond** - That is fine.  
After work, we can go directly to the hotel to meet your parents. Then we can all go to a nice restaurant, in two cars.
- Mr Bond** - I am going to book a table for eight people at **Corrigan's Mayfair**, a traditional English restaurant, so your parents will get a taste of typical English cooking.
- Mrs Bond** - But why a table for eight? There are seven of us.
- Mr Bond** - The other day Isabel told me that **Melody** would like to meet Gianni's parents and Francesco, so I invited her to join us.  
Don't you think it was a good idea, Gianni?
- Gianni** - It was a splendid idea, Mr Bond.
- After breakfast, Mr and Mrs Bond go to work. Gianni and Isabel go for a walk, and then have lunch at a pub.  
At five o'clock, they go to the hotel.
- Isabel** - I think we should wait for your parents here in the lounge.
- Gianni** - Yes, but we could ask the concierge to inform them that we are here.
- Isabel** - A good idea.
- Gianni** - Good afternoon.
- Concierge** - Good afternoon, sir. What can I do for you?
- Gianni** - I would like to speak with my parents, **Giuseppe and Marta Mancini**. My brother is also with them.

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*Dinner at a Restaurant*

- Concierge** - Oh, yes.  
The Italian family in suite 7, on the third floor.  
Just a moment, please.

The concierge calls suite 7.

- Concierge** - Hello, Mr Mancini? Your son is here in the lounge.

Mr Mancini tells the concierge that he will come down in five minutes.

- Concierge** - Your father says that he is coming down in five minutes.

- Gianni** - Thank you so much sir.

The concierge smiles.

- Isabel** - I can't wait to see them.

- Gianni** - Oh, look who is there!

- Isabel** - **M e l o d y!**  
But how could you know that we were going to be here?

- Melody** - Very simple. **Uncle Richard** phoned me this morning saying that you and Gianni would be in the Duke's Hotel lounge at about five.

- Gianni** - These English girls astonish me!  
So smart, so extremely intelligent.

- Melody** - Thank you, Gianni.

- Isabel** - Look, look Gianni! Your parents are coming out of the lift. Let us go!

They hug and kiss one another. Isabel and Signora Marta have tears in their eyes.

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### Dinner at a Restaurant

- Francesco** - Isabel, *chi è questa bella ragazza?*
- Isabel** - Francesco! You must speak English! You have come to London to learn English.
- Francesco** - *Hai ragione.* You have right.
- Melody** - No Francesco, no. You should say, "**You are right.**" I am Melody, Isabel's cousin.
- Francesco** - Thank you, Melody. If Isabel said me about her beautiful cousin, I came before.

#### Everybody laughs

- Melody** - I see that you are not as shy as Isabel says. Now let us improve your English. You should have said, "If Isabel had told me about her beautiful cousin, I would have come sooner."
- Francesco** - Difficult, difficult. Ha ha ha!
- Signor Mancini** - *Che bello. Francesco ha trovato l'insegnante perfetta. Bella e brava.*
- Gianni** - *Papà, Papà.* You must speak English too.
- Signor M.** - *Va bene.* OK.

In that moment Isabel's parents enter the hotel lounge. More hugs, kisses and hand shaking. Everybody is smiling. Everybody is happy.

- Mr Bond** - Welcome to London!  
Rebecca and I have been longing to meet you.
- Signor M.** - Thank you, Mr Bond. We are very happy to meet you, too.  
You must excuse my English; it is not very good.
- Mr Bond** - Your English is perfect. But call me **Richard**, please.

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### *Dinner at a Restaurant*

- Signor M.** - *Va bene, Riccardo.*
- Mr Bond** - I like *Riccardo*. Ha ha ha!

Holding Gianni's mother's hand, Mrs Bond says to her, "Call me **Rebecca**, and I will call you **Marta**."

- Mr Bond** - I have booked a table at a restaurant. You must be hungry. The food on aeroplanes is seldom any good.
- Signor M.** - In fact, it was horrible.
- Mr Bond** - Let us go, then. I will go first in my car, and you can follow me. The restaurant is not far from here.

They leave the hotel and fifteen minutes later arrive at the restaurant.



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### *Dinner at a Restaurant*

**Melody** - What a beautiful restaurant. Are you hungry, Francesco?

**Gianni** - Francesco is always hungry. Ha ha ha!

They all go inside the restaurant.  
After a few minutes a waiter comes.

**Waiter** - Good evening. How may I help you?

**Mr Bond** - Good evening. We have a reservation in the name of Richard Bond.

**Waiter** - Yes Mr Bond. Would you follow me, please?



**Waiter** - Sit down, please.  
I will bring you the menus in a moment.

**Signora M.** - What a charming place!

**Mrs Bond** - I love this restaurant, it is pleasantly decorated and the food is always delicious.

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### *Dinner at a Restaurant*

#### The waiter brings the menus.

- Waiter** - Can I get you something to drink while you are choosing your meals?
- Mr Bond** - May I see the wine list, please?
- Waiter** - Of course, I will bring it straight away.
- Mr Bond** - Giuseppe, you must choose the wine. Gianni says you are an expert.
- Signor M.** - I like wine, although the real expert is my father. But I can choose it.

#### The waiter brings the wine list.

- Signor M.** - We could order a bottle of red wine and one of white wine, because they say that white wine goes better with fish.
- Mr Bond** - I agree with you. We could also order some Coca-Cola for Francesco and Melody.
- Francesco** - I don't want Coca-Cola. I prefer wine.
- Melody** - So do I.
- Gianni** - You can't drink alcohol. In England, the legal drinking age is 21.
- Francesco** - You are wrong. That is in the United States. I have just looked on the internet with my smartphone. It says, "In the UK, young people aged sixteen and seventeen can drink beer or wine in a bar or a restaurant, if they are accompanied by someone aged eighteen or over."

#### Everybody laughs

- Gianni** - *Dio mio*, another smartphone addict! Francesco, where did you get that phone?

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*Dinner at a Restaurant*

- Francesco** - It was a present for my graduation.
- Mr Bond** - All right, we are going to order three bottles then.
- Mrs Bond** - And some mineral water, please.
- Signor M.** - We could order two bottles of *Petto Dragone* - *Etna Rosso* and one of *Tifeo Etna Bianco*.
- Francesco** - I don't think three bottles will be enough.
- Signora M.** - Francesco! Francesco!

Everybody laughs.



- Gianni** - Well, Francesco, do you like the menu?
- Francesco** - It is complicated. I want fish and chips.
- Gianni** - Come on, Francesco, this is a high-class restaurant, with fine traditional English cuisine.
- Francesco** - OK, but I want fish and chips.

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## Dinner at a Restaurant

**Gianni** - Francesco, I'll translate the fish dishes for you:

oysters	<u>oi</u> stəz	= <i>ostriche</i>
mussels	m <u>a</u> səlz	= <i>cozze</i>
crabs	kr <u>æ</u> bz	= <i>granchi</i>
salmon	s <u>æ</u> mən	= <i>salmone</i>
shellfish	f <u>e</u> lfiʃ	= <i>frutti di mare</i>
prawns	pr <u>o</u> :nz	= <i>gamberi</i>
eel	<u>i</u> :l	= <i>anguilla</i>
cod	k <u>o</u> d	= <i>merluzzo</i>
sole	s <u>o</u> ul	= <i>sogliola</i>
shrimps	f <u>r</u> imps	= <i>gamberetti</i>
bass	b <u>æ</u> s	= <i>spigola</i>
scallops	sk <u>a</u> :ləps	= <i>capesante</i>

**Francesco** - Hmm hmm. I want a big plate with salmon, shrimps and crabs... and potato chips!

**Melody** - I am going to order different fish dishes, so we can share.

**Francesco** - A good idea, Melody.

**Isabel** - Don't order any dessert. After dinner, we are going home to have the delicious cake that I have prepared.

**Mr Bond** - After having the cake, signor Mancini and I can sit on the terrace and drink a nice glass of whisky, while smoking a Cuban cigar.

**Signor M.** - *Perfetto!*

## Vocabulary

We needn't go...	=	<i>Non c'è bisogno di andare...</i>
I can't wait to see them.	=	<i>Non vedo l'ora di vederli.</i>
special	sp <u>e</u> fəl	= <i>speciale</i>
toasted	t <u>o</u> stɪd	= <i>tostato</i>
capers	k <u>e</u> ɪpəz	= <i>capperi</i>
authentic	o:θ <u>e</u> ntɪk	= <i>autentico</i>
afterwards	<u>a</u> :ftəwədz	= <i>dopo</i>
jolly	dʒ <u>o</u> li	= <i>allegro</i>
enthusiasm	ɪnθj <u>u</u> :ziæzəm	= <i>entusiasmo</i>
around	ə <u>r</u> aʊnd	= <i>circa</i>
directly	dəɪ <u>r</u> ektli	= <i>direttamente</i>
traditional	trədɪ <u>i</u> fənəl	= <i>tradizionale</i>
extremely	ɪkstri: <u>i</u> mlɪ	= <i>estremamente</i>
shy	<u>f</u> ai	= <i>timido, riservato</i>
sooner	s <u>u</u> :nə	= <i>prima</i>
to shake hands	tu <u>f</u> eɪk h <u>æ</u> ndz	= <i>stringere la mano</i>
to long	tu l <u>o</u> ŋ	= <i>desiderare fortemente</i>
to excuse	tu ɪkskj <u>u</u> :z	= <i>scusare</i>
seldom	s <u>e</u> ldəm	= <i>raramente</i>
decorated	d <u>e</u> kəreɪtɪd	= <i>decorato</i>
straight away	stre <u>i</u> t əw <u>e</u> i	= <i>immediatamente</i>
addict	<u>æ</u> dɪkt	= <i>drogato</i>
graduation	grædʒu <u>e</u> ɪfən	= <i>diploma</i>
complicated	k <u>o</u> mplɪkeɪtɪd	= <i>complicato</i>
cuisine	kwi: <u>z</u> i:n	= <i>cucina</i>
to share	tu <u>f</u> eə	= <i>condividere</i>

## Useful Phrases

- Good morning, I would like to reserve a table for dinner, for six people.
- Of course, madam. May I have your name?
- My name is Rosy Black.
- What time will you be arriving?
- At seven thirty.
- All right, Ms Black. We have reserved a table for you, for six people at seven thirty.



- We have a reservation for 2 people.
- What would you like to drink?  
or Can I get you something to drink?
- I'll have a pint of lager, please.
- For me, a bottle of mineral water please.
- I will be back to take your order in a few minutes.
- Are you ready to order?
- I would like grilled salmon and a lettuce and tomato salad please.
- Enjoy your meal.
- Would you like something for dessert?
- Was everything all right?
- Everything was delicious, thank you.
- May I have the bill, please?

## Useful Phrases

- Good evening, what would you like for your main course?
- For a main course, we would like salmon.
- I am sorry, there is no salmon available this evening. Would you like to order something else?
- Is striped bass available?
- Yes, of course.  
Can I bring you some starters (*antipasti*) too?
- Yes, please. What do you recommend?
- I suggest our specialty, fried oysters.
- For me, fried oysters are fine.
- I would prefer something else. What else have you got?
- How about mussels marinara?
- Perfect! I love mussels.

Words in which **aw** is pronounced **o:**

**law**    l<sup>o:</sup> = legge

                     *Lawrence, the Lawyer*

- When I was a young man studying **law** at college, I was full of enthusiasm.

My dream was to become a **law**maker some day.

I used to think, "As a **law**yer and a **law**maker I'll be loved and admired by everybody."

At our first criminal **law** lesson our professor taught us that an out**law** and a **law**less person are synonyms.

He also told us that a fl**aw**less, capable **law**yer is respected even by criminals.

I was dr**aw**n to this profession because I love to help people.

What **aw**esome satisfaction to hear a client say to you: "Thank you. You have changed my life for the better."

A few years ago, I helped a p**aw**nbroker who was in trouble.

He was about to shut down his p**aw**nshop because he felt guilty for what he was doing, and he couldn't sleep at night.

I convinced him that he was not cheating or doing anything wrong at all; on the contrary, he was just helping people in financial difficulties.

After being in the profession for about twenty years, though, and having worked on hundreds of **law**suits, I have sadly realized that being a **law**yer has a lot of dr**aw**backs.

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Words in which **aw** is pronounced **o:**                     *Lawrence, the Lawyer*

Very few people love you.

People make hundreds and hundreds of derogatory, **awful** jokes about **lawyers**.

Some time ago I found myself in the **awkward** situation of hearing a friend of mine telling one of these horrible jokes.

He knew that I was a **lawyer** myself. I couldn't believe it! People are so insensitive. I dropped my **jaw** in disbelief!

Lately, though, when I hear such jokes I don't get upset anymore. I just **yawn**.

But a moment comes in our lives when we must **draw** our conclusions.

Last Saturday while I was at home working in my office, through the open window I **saw** my neighbour in his garden.

He was mulching his **strawberry** patch with **straw** and **sawdust**. He looked so relaxed!

When he finished the mulching, he mowed his **lawn** for about an hour.

After that, he tried to cut down a dead tree with a big hands**aw**. As he couldn't manage to do it, though, he took a chains**aw** and in a few seconds he cut down the tree.

Then he **crawled** under his children's sees**aw** and started hammering. Apparently the sees**aw** was broken and he was trying to fix it.

Words in which **aw** is pronounced **o:**           *Lawrence, the Lawyer*

When he finished, he took a large piece of cardboard and scrawled on it: "My dear children, your seesaw is fixed now. Enjoy yourselves."

Soon after, he went into his house.

I thought, "He has gone to rest for a while."

But no! After a few minutes, he came out with a big bottle of beer, a bowl and a blanket.

A moment later he sprawled out on the blanket and started eating coleslaw, raw onions and drinking beer.

I began to feel a little jealous. I thought, "This man is far from brawny, in fact he is rather scrawny. Where does he get all his energy from?"

He often gets up at dawn, sits on his porch with a shawl around his shoulders and starts drawing. He then entertains himself with a jigsaw puzzle. My God! He always looks so happy and relaxed!

When I see him so relaxed, and satisfied with his life, I'm happy for him, of course.

But today, when my wife told me that next week our neighbour and his wife are going to Warsaw on a holiday, that was the straw that broke the camel's back. In this case, my back.

So I said to myself, "Lawrence, enough is enough." I decided on the spot, next month I'm going to withdraw from my practice and retire.



Words in which **aw** is pronounced **o:**Lawrence, the Lawyer

When I told my wife about my great decision, tears of joy came to her eyes.

She looked at me lovingly and said: "Lawrence, my love, you have taken the right decision. I foresaw it long ago."

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the straw that broke the camel's back  
(*la goccia che fece traboccare il vaso*)

enough is enough = *basta*

## Vocabulary

lawmaker	l <u>o:</u> meikə	= <i>legislatore</i>
outlaw	<u>au</u> tl <u>o:</u>	= <i>criminale</i>
lawless person	l <u>o:</u> ləs p <u>ɜ:</u> sən	= <i>criminale</i>
flawless	fl <u>o:</u> ləs	= <i>impeccabile</i>
capable	k <u>ei</u> pəbəl	= <i>capace</i>
drawn	dr <u>o:</u> n	= <i>attirato</i>
awesome	<u>o:</u> wsəm	= <i>grandioso</i>
pawnbroker	p <u>o:</u> nbroukə	= <i>prestatore su pegno</i>
pawnshop	p <u>o:</u> n f <u>o</u> p	= <i>banco dei pegni</i>
guilty	g <u>i</u> lti	= <i>colpevole</i>
to cheat	tu t <u>f</u> <u>i:</u> t	= <i>imbrogliare</i>
lawsuit	l <u>o:</u> su:t	= <i>causa</i>
drawback	dr <u>o:</u> bæk	= <i>svantaggio</i>
awkward	<u>o:</u> kwəd	= <i>imbarazzante</i>

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## Vocabulary

to drop	tu dr <u>o</u> p	= <i>lasciar cadere</i>
jaw	dʒ <u>o</u> :	= <i>mandibola</i>
disbelief	disbil <u>i</u> :f	= <i>incredulità</i>
lately	l <u>e</u> itli	= <i>ultimamente</i>
upset	ap <u>s</u> et	= <i>agitato</i>
to yawn	tu j <u>o</u> :n	= <i>sbadigliare</i>
to draw	tu dr <u>o</u> :	= <i>trarre (conclusioni)</i>
to mulch	tu m <u>a</u> ltʃ	= <i>pacciamare</i>
patch	pæ <u>t</u> ʃ	= <i>pezzo (di terreno)</i>
straw	str <u>o</u> :	= <i>paglia</i>
sawdust	s <u>o</u> :dast	= <i>segatura</i>
to mow	tu m <u>o</u>	= <i>falciare il prato</i>
lawn	l <u>o</u> :n	= <i>prato</i>
to cut down	tu k <u>a</u> t d <u>a</u> un	= <i>tagliare / segare</i>
handsaw	hæ <u>n</u> ds <u>o</u> :	= <i>sega</i>
chainsaw	tʃ <u>e</u> in <u>s</u> o:	= <i>motosega</i>
to crawl	tu kr <u>o</u> :l	= <i>strisciare</i>
seesaw	s <u>i</u> :s <u>o</u> :	= <i>altalena</i>
to hammer	tu hæ <u>m</u> ə	= <i>martellare</i>
broken	br <u>o</u> kən	= <i>rotto</i>
to fix	tu f <u>i</u> ks	= <i>riparare</i>
cardboard	k <u>a</u> :db <u>o</u> :d	= <i>cartone</i>
to scrawl	tu skr <u>o</u> :l	= <i>scribacchiare</i>
blanket	blæ <u>n</u> kit	= <i>coperta</i>

## Vocabulary

to sprawl	tu spr <u>o:l</u>	= <i>distendersi</i>
coleslaw	k <u>ou</u> ls <u>lo:</u>	= <i>insalata di cavolo</i>
raw	r <u>o:</u>	= <i>crudo</i>
brawny	br <u>o:</u> ni	= <i>muscoloso / robusto</i>
scrawny	skr <u>o:</u> ni	= <i>magro / macilento</i>
dawn	d <u>o:n</u>	= <i>alba</i>
shawl	f <u>o:l</u>	= <i>scialle</i>
porch	p <u>o:t</u> f	= <i>veranda</i>
shoulder	f <u>ou</u> ldə	= <i>spalla</i>
to draw	tu dr <u>o:</u>	= <i>disegnare</i>
jigsaw puzzle	dʒ <u>i</u> gso: p <u>a</u> zəl	= <i>puzzle</i>
to withdraw	tu wiðdr <u>o:</u>	= <i>ritirare / ritirarsi</i>
practice	pr <u>æ</u> ktis	= <i>studio / professione</i>
to retire	tu rit <u>aiə</u>	= <i>andare in pensione</i>
long ago	<u>l</u> o:ŋ əg <u>ou</u>	= <i>molto tempo fa</i>
foresee foresaw foreseen		= <i>prevedere</i>
fo:s <u>i:</u> fo:s <u>o:</u> fo:s <u>i:</u> n		

	<p>Licenziare</p> 	<p>To sack</p> 	<p>To fire</p> 
	<p>D'ora in poi</p>	<p>In future</p>	<p>In the future</p>
	<p>In ospedale</p>	<p>In hospital</p>	<p>In the hospital</p>
	<p>Lavanderia automatica</p>	<p>Laundrette</p>	<p>Laundromat</p>
	<p>Biglietto di andata e ritorno</p>	<p>Return ticket</p>	<p>Round trip ticket</p>
	<p>Aumento di stipendio</p>	<p>Pay rise</p>	<p>Pay raise</p>

La musica è molto importante **per** me.

Music is very important ~~for~~ me.

Music is very important **to** me.

**È** una bella giornata.

~~Is~~ a beautiful day.

**It is** a beautiful day.

Questa spiaggia è sporca. Questa è l'ultima volta che **vengo** qui.

This beach is dirty. This is the last time that I ~~come~~ here.

This beach is dirty. This is the last time that I **will come** here.

Gira **a** destra.

Turn ~~at~~ right.

Turn right.

Il mio capo **mi fa lavorare** persino la domenica.

My boss ~~makes me to work~~ even on Sunday.

My boss **makes me work** even on Sunday.

Ti **dispiace chiudere** la porta, per piacere?

Do you ~~mind to shut~~ the door, please?

Do you **mind shutting** the door, please?

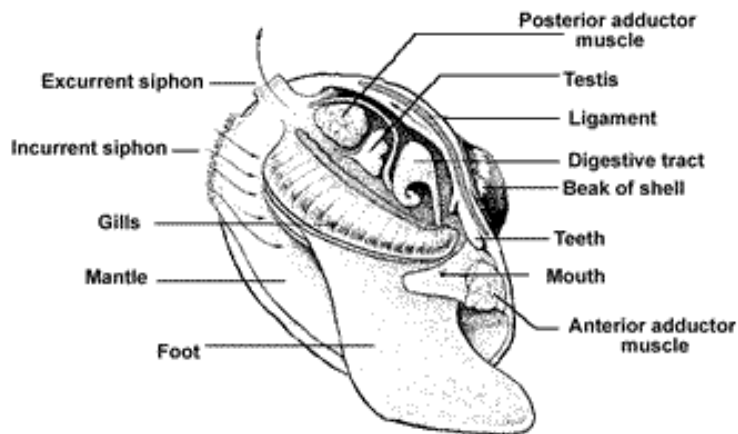
Questo è il miglior vino che ho **mai** bevuto.

This is the best wine I have ~~never~~ drunk.

This is the best wine I have **ever** drunk.

## Homophones

89 **muscles** masəlz = *muscoli*  
**mussels** masəlz = *cozze*



- As you can see from the image on the left, **mussels** have one foot, a mouth, teeth, and also **muscles**.

90 **one** wən = *uno*  
**won** wən win won won = *vincere*

- Manchester United have **won** only **one** of their last seven Premier League matches, after beginning the campaign with three consecutive victories.

91 **packed** pækt = *zeppo, stipato, gremito*  
**pact** pækt = *patto, accordo*

- Last Saturday it was my wife's birthday, so we decided to have dinner at a fancy restaurant.  
 After waiting for more than an hour we managed to get a table. The place was **packed**. We had to wait another hour to be served.  
 When we returned home we made a **pact**. We will never go to fancy restaurants on a Saturday.  
 fancy = *costoso ed elegante (ristorante, vestiti, hotel...)*

## Phrasal Verbs and Idioms

**stressed out** = *stressato*

Some common signs of being **stressed out** are frequent headaches, backache and stomach ache.

If you are **stressed out**, you may have difficulty falling asleep. You may also wake up early in the morning.

<<<\*>>>

**to worry about** = *preoccuparsi per / di*

Everyone has been **worried about** their health on certain occasions.

For example, if you have chest pain you may think that it is the symptom of a heart attack. But don't **worry about** it, chest pain can have many causes and is usually not serious.

===

chest pain = *dolore al petto*

<<<\*>>>

**window shopping** = *looking at shop windows without buying anything*

Many office workers **go window shopping** on their lunch hour, looking for things to buy on the weekend.

<<<\*>>>

**to shop around** = *going to different shops comparing prices*

If you have no time to **shop around**, go online and use price comparison engines. You will find the best prices and save time and money.

## Phrasal Verbs and Idioms

to queue up = *fare la fila*

to get into = *entrare*

The day before Black Friday people start **queuing up** outside department stores as early as 2 or 3 o'clock in the afternoon, to be the first ones to **get into** the store the next day.

<<<\*>>>

to bring down / to reduce = *ridurre*

to lower the price = *abbassare il prezzo*

I have had my house on the market for over six months, but I haven't been able to sell it, so I have decided **to bring down** the price.

<<<\*>>>

to fork out money = *to spend a lot of money*

I have been ripped off = *sono stato fregato*

The roof of my house has been leaking for a long time. I have been **forking out** money on several roof repair experts, but no one has been able to locate the leaks so far.

I think they are **ripping me off**.

===

roof leak = *infiltrazione d'acqua dal tetto*

repair = *riparazione*

so far = *fino ad ora*

to locate = *localizzare*



## Phrasal Verbs and Idioms

to get in / into = *entrare*

During the Christmas holidays I have gained so much weight that I can't **get into** my clothes.

===

to gain weight = *mettere peso*

to lose weight = *perdere peso*

<<<\*>>>

to browse around = *to look at things in a casual way*

to browse the internet = *navigare su internet*

to surf the internet = *navigare su internet*

to pick out = *scegliere*

Some people go to a department store and **browse around** for quite a long time before **picking out** what they like.

According to eMarketers', UK adults spend an average of two hours a day mobile **browsing**. They also spend two more hours **browsing on** their computer.

<<<\*>>>

to mark down = *abbassare (il prezzo)*

I bought a pair of trousers at the summer sale. The price was **marked down** 25% from the regular price.

<<<\*>>>

to try on = *provare (un vestito, un paio di scarpe)*

Buying clothes online is rather difficult, because you can't **try** them **on** to see if they fit you. Of course, you can always return them.

## Mrs Dallaway "Retail Therapy"

- Lately, I have been feeling **stressed out**. I think it is due to lack of sleep (*dovuto alla mancanza*). The main reason, though, is that I am **worried about** David's final exams.

Yesterday my mother-in-law said to me jokingly, "On Saturday, the summer sales start. Why don't you try retail therapy to relax a bit?"

**Retail therapy** means: going shopping to make you feel more cheerful.

So, here we are. It is Saturday morning, and Josephine and I have been **window shopping** and **shopping around** for more than three hours. We have visited at least five shopping centres.

Now we are **queuing up** to get into Global Fashion. They are **selling off** their summer stock at half price. On some items, they have **brought down** the price by 60%.

I have never gone on a shopping spree in my whole life. I don't **fork out** money easily. I am a careful shopper. In fact, I have never been **ripped off**.

We finally **have got into** Global Fashion. Now we are **browsing around** the shoe department. I see that their summer shoes have been **marked down** 45%.

After **trying on** at least a dozen pairs of shoes I have finally **picked out** a pair of red sandals.

Josephine looks at me sweetly and says, "Jenny, you already look more relaxed. I think that the retail therapy is beginning to take effect."

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retail	ri:teɪl	= <i>vendita al dettaglio</i>
wholesale	həʊlseɪl	= <i>vendita all'ingrosso</i>
selling off	seɪlɪŋ ɒf	= <i>liquidando</i>
cheerful	tʃiəfʊl	= <i>allegro</i>
shopping spree	ʃɒpɪŋ spri:	= <i>spending a lot of money very quickly</i>