

Unit 34

Abel



GIARDINA CLAUDIA

A Bargain Sale

- Tom** - Hello, darling! Have you already had breakfast?
- Marg.** - No, dear. I've just come down.
- Tom** - Well, I've got a huge appetite this morning! I woke up at dawn and went for an early swim. I've just come back.
- Marg.** - But wasn't the sea very cold?
- Tom** - Yes, indeed it was. Bitterly cold. It certainly wasn't the right hour for swimming... but at least my swim has given me a healthy appetite.
- Marg.** - What's the weather like? Is it still cloudy, like it was yesterday?
- Tom** - Oh, no. The sky is absolutely clear today.
- Marg.** - Then, as soon as breakfast is over, I'm going shopping.
- Tom** - Again? Oh, Margaret!
- Marg.** - It's quite useless to say: "Oh, Margaret!" There is a wonderful bargain sale on, at that big department-store we passed yesterday. They are selling off their whole stock at half price!
- Tom** - How do you know?
- Marg.** - Because it said so on all the price tickets.
- Tom** - They only say that, just to cheat the public.
- Marg.** - Don't be ridiculous, Tom. The original price that was written on the tickets, had been crossed out, and the reduced price was written below it. And it was never less than half the original price. I'm not very good at arithmetic, I know, but even a baby could have understood that.
- Tom** - All right. I see that it's no use arguing with you. You've made up your mind to buy a lot more things that you don't need, and that's that.

(continúa)

A Bargain Sale

- Marg.** - But don't you understand, Tom? - I can buy heaps of lovely things at half their usual price: beautiful underwear, delightful pullovers, costume jewellery, dress materials... dozens of things!
- Tom** - If you don't need them, why buy them? If you just put together all the things that you have bought in Spain, you'll find that you've already bought enough to start a small shop with. And now you say that you want to add even more things to the pile! Oh heavens!
- Marg.** - What a fuss you make about nothing, Tom! Just because I want to make a few purchases!
- Tom** - Darling, I am not making a fuss.
- Marg.** - Oh yes, you are. You're trying to make me believe that all shop-keepers are thieves and liars, and I refuse to listen to you. I'm going to that bargain sale this morning, and it's useless to try and stop me!
- Tom** - This time next week you'll be saying: "Oh why did I spend all that money on things I didn't need?!"
- Marg.** - No, I shan't. I'm very pleased with all the things that I've bought so far. Those beautiful photograph albums that I bought yesterday, for example. The binding is real leather... and the shop assistant gave me a big discount because I bought two of them.
- Tom** - But you didn't need two, did you?
- Marg.** - What's wrong with you to-day, Tom? You seem to be in a very bad mood.
- Tom** - Just because I say that you don't need two huge photograph albums?
- Marg.** - Please stop, Tom! I've listened to quite enough. I told the hall porter to get me a taxi for nine-thirty. It will be here at any moment. So good-bye for the present. I'll see you later.

(continúa)

A Bargain Sale

- Tom** - You don't need a taxi! We can use the car. The mechanic has put it into perfect order again.
- Marg.** - You can use the car, if you want to. I want to be alone this morning, so that I can choose my purchases in peace. So, as I just said: I'll see you later.
- Tom** - But what about your breakfast?
- Marg.** - There's a coffee bar in the department store. I can have something there.

bargain

- > Something that is a **bargain** is good value for money, usually because it has been sold at a lower price than normal.

Collins Dictionary

sale	= <i>venta</i>
bargain sale	= <i>venta de rebajas</i>
for sale	= <i>en venta</i>
to sell off	= <i>liquidar</i>

At **bargain sales**, big department stores often offer a big discount on the original prices of their goods, especially when they are **selling off** their stock of some article that is going out of fashion.

Sometimes this merchandise can be bought at half the original price.

When they see these reduced prices on the price tags, many women buy a lot of things that they don't need, just because the prices are low. Then they return home, with their arms full of parcels and imagine that, in making all these purchases, they have saved money, instead of wasting it.

"Look!" they exclaim to their husbands, "Look! All these lovely things were being offered **for sale** at half price!" And they are astonished when their husbands do not seem to be happy at all.

===

discount	= <i>descuento</i>
goods	= <i>mercancías</i>
stock	= <i>existencias - stock</i>
price tag	= <i>etiqueta (de precio)</i>
purchase	= <i>compra</i>
to purchase	= <i>comprar</i>

Traducción de "cómo"

1.

how

>

How is Elisa?

= ¿Cómo está Elisa?

2.

What is... like?

>

What is Elisa like?

= ¿Cómo es Elisa? (¿Qué tipo es?)

Tom and Margaret

- Last night I slept very well after our long walk, so this morning I went for an early swim.

- What was the sea like?

- Very cold. So after my swim I had a big cup of very hot coffee at that little café near the beach.

- What is the coffee like there? Good?

- Exquisite!

- And what's the weather like this morning? Do you think it's going to be sunny?

- Yes, but very windy.

- You know Elisa, don't you? What's she like?

- She is very smart!

- And what is her boyfriend Brian like?

- He is a really nice guy, who likes to joke and laugh about everything.

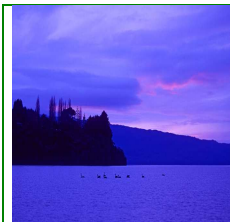
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sunny = soleado

windy = ventoso

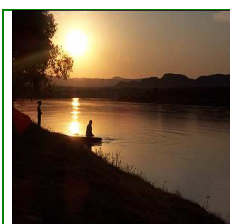
smart = inteligente

guy = tipo - tío



dawn *amanecer, alba*

Dawn is the time of day when light first appears in the sky, just before the sun rises.



dusk *atardecer, crepúsculo*

Dusk is the time just before night when the daylight has almost gone, but when it is not completely dark.

> Many peasants work from **dawn** to **dusk**.

at dawn = *al amanecer*

at dusk = *al atardecer*

at twilight = *al atardecer*

<<<<<§>>>>>

1. ticket = *billete*

> When you want to go somewhere you usually buy your **ticket** in advance. So you buy a train, a bus or a plane **ticket**.
You may buy a **one way ticket** or a **return ticket**.
You also buy **tickets** to go to the cinema, to the theatre, to a concert, to the opera etc.

2. price ticket = *etiqueta (de precio)*

> When you go shopping, before buying something you usually look at the **price ticket**.

3. ticket = *multa*

> If you park your car in the wrong place or for too long, you may get a **parking ticket**.
If you exceed the speed limit you may get a **ticket for speeding**.

1.

mind

= *mente*

to be out of one's mind

= *estar loco (lit. estar fuera de su mente)*

>

Bungee jumping (also spelled "Bungy" jumping) is an activity of jumping from a great height with an elastic cord attached to the ankles.

Although there have been few mortal accidents, sometimes during a bungee jump a blood vessel ns. If this blood vessel is near or in the retina, then the retina can become partially or totally detached, and cause a partial or total loss of sight.

My conclusion:

People that practice bungee jumping must be **out of their minds**.

===

height

= *altura*

ankle

= *tobillo*

cord

= *cuerda*

blood vessel

= *vaso sanguíneo*

to attach

= *atar - sujetar*

to burst

= *reventar*

partial or total loss of sight = *pérdida total o parcial de la vista*

2.

mind

to make up one's mind

= *decidir, decidirse*

Make up your mind!

= *¡Decídete!*

3.

mind

to change one's mind

= *cambiar de opinión*

4.

mind

to go out of one's mind

= *perder la razón, volverse loco*

Nota

Mind you!

= *¡Cuidado!*

I don't mind.

= *No me importa.*



From: Ivan Morrison <van.morr@hotmail.com>
To: Abel Paganini <abel.paganini@gmail.com>
Subject: Good news!

Hi Abel!

Lately the weather has been awful: wind, rain, snow...

But in spite of the weather your silly cousin kept going into the freezing little terrace next to the office to smoke a cigarette from eight to ten times a day.

About ten days ago, Doriana, one of my colleagues, said to me, "Ivan, you must be **out of your mind** to stand in the freezing cold terrace smoking cigarettes. Besides, you look so ridiculous with a cigarette in your mouth and trembling all over. **Mind you**, you don't look macho at all!"

That same day **I made up my mind** to quit smoking, once and for all!

Believe it or not your cousin Ivan hasn't been smoking for a whole week, and he will not **change his mind** as long as he lives.

The first week I thought that I would **go out of my mind**! But now I'm beginning to feel fine.

Now I am much more relaxed. **I don't even mind** my noisy neighbours any more, and when I meet them in the elevator I even manage to smile at them.

Yesterday on my desk I found a box of chocolates and an empty cigarette packet. There was also a card with this message: mens sana in corpore sano = a healthy **mind** in a healthy body :)

Love,

Your cousin Ivan

It is useless. = *Es inútil.*

It is useless to complain. = *Es inútil quejarse.*

It is no use. = *Es inútil.*

It is no use complaining. = *Es inútil quejarse.*

Nota La locución "*it is no use*" rige el gerundio.

> When Margaret makes up her mind to buy something, *it's no use* arguing with her. *It's no use* saying to her, "Don't waste your money!"

When she makes up her mind to do something, she does it, and that's that.

===

and that's that = *y eso es todo*

(*Esta expresión se usa para enfatizar que una situación o decisión no se puede cambiar.*)

<<<<<§>>>>>

this time next week
this time next month etc. = *la semana que viene a estas horas*

Tom and Margaret

- Look at all these lovely things I've bought at the bargain sale, Tom!

- *This time next week* you'll be saying, "Oh! Why did I waste so much money!"

- No, I won't. And *this time next month* I'll have two lovely new dresses, made of this beautiful cloth I've bought.

- Well, *this time next year* you'll be my wife, and you won't be wasting any more money at bargain sales, my darling.

===

cloth = *tela, paño*

at any moment = *de un momento a otro*

at any minute = *de un momento a otro*

<<<<<§>>>>>

for the present = *por el momento, por ahora, por lo pronto*

for now = *por el momento, por ahora, por lo pronto*

When people are going out for only a short time, they often say:

Goodbye for the present!

or

Goodbye for now!

<<<<<§>>>>>

to

"You can use the car, if you want **to**."

that is: (es decir)

"You can use the car, if you want **to use** it."

A menudo, "to" se pone al final de una oración para sustituir un infinitivo.

Teacher and Pupil

- You aren't making any progress at all in French. You don't study as much as you ought **to**. Why don't you study more? Don't you like to study French?

- Oh yes, I like **to**, and I want **to**, but I have so little time.

- Well, if you don't make a little progress soon, I'll have to speak to your father about it. I don't want **to**, in fact I hate **to**, but I will have **to**, because it is my duty.

===

duty = *deber (sustantivo)*

1. **early** = *temprano*

> in the **early** morning - afternoon - evening =
(a primera hora de la mañana...)

2. **early** = *al comienzo de*

> in **early** spring - summer - winter...
(al comienzo de la primavera – del verano - del invierno...)
in **early** January, February, August...

3. **early**

> He is in his **early** twenties. = *Tiene de 20 a 23 años.*
She is in her **early** thirties. = *Tiene de 30 a 33 años.*
He is in his **early** fifties. = *Tiene de 50 a 53 años.*

4. **early** = *los primeros años*

> the **early** 1960s = *de 1960 a 1963*
the **early** 1980s etc. = *de 1980 a 1983*

5. **early** = *primero - primeros*

> Oscar Wilde's **early** works included two collections of fairy stories, *The Happy Prince* and *A House of Pomegranates*.

6. **early** = *temprano, pronto*

> George usually arrives at work **early**.

*** ***

late

= *tarde; con retraso; al final de; los últimos años*

> it is **late** - it is too **late**
The train was an hour **late**.
in **late** July
in the **late** 1970s
George is in his **late** thirties. = *George tiene de 37 a 40 años.*

early - late

Abel

Getting up **early** has never been my idea of having fun; but when we lived in Seville I often did it.

My sister Debra has always been an **early** riser. So she was more than happy to wake me up in the morning.

In **late** spring and in **early** summer we used to get up as **early** as we could and go to have breakfast at Andrés' farm.

Andrés had a large farm just next to our house. He was in his **late** seventies but he was so strong and agile that everybody thought he was in his **early** fifties.

We used to go straight to the cow shed, because at that **early** hour we were sure to find Andrés milking his cows. (He always got up much **earlier** than we did, of course!)

When he saw us he used to smile happily and go on milking the cows. When he finished, he would rise from his little stool, wash his hands and hug us.

After that, Debra and I went to the chicken coops to get some fresh eggs, while Andrés prepared the milk in what he proudly called "my kitchen".

I think that in the **early** twentieth century people had more modern kitchens! There was no electricity, no running water and the floor was just dirt; but we loved that place!

In such a place you would have expected Andrés to light the fire with a flint stone! Like **early** peoples. But no! He used matches! (He needed them to light his pipe.)

He quickly made a fire to heat the milk, toast the bread and fry some eggs. Then he got a bowl of fresh ricotta cheese and put it on the table. My God! What a breakfast!

Sweet Andrés, we have lost touch with you. But I promise that next time we come to Spain we'll come and look for you!

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we used to	= <i>solíamos</i>	flint stone	<i>piedra de lumbre</i>
chicken coop	= <i>gallinero</i>	pipe	<i>pipa</i>
running water	= <i>agua corriente</i>	touch	<i>contacto</i>
dirt	= <i>tierra</i>		

Weather Forecast

= *previsión del tiempo*“Changeable” (*variable*)

It is **forecast** to be a generally changeable week with **low pressure** in the Atlantic producing west or south-**westerly** winds which will bring rain to many areas, especially at the beginning and the end of the week.

During the middle of the week there will be a colder **spell** with night-time **frosts** returning.

Temperatures this week will start off **slightly** above **average** with many places seeing double figures but those values are **unlikely** to be seen again this week. Monday is forecast to be around 10°C in Aberdeen and 11°C in Plymouth.

Temperatures will **slip back** down to below average values for the middle and **latter** part of the week. On Thursday for example, it is predicted to be 5°C in Glasgow and just 6°C in London.

Most places will see some rain this week, some of it **heavy** at times but rainfall amounts are not expected **to exceed** the seasonal average.

There will be drier and brighter spells this week but England and Wales will probably not see as much sunshine, while Scotland and Northern Ireland will probably experience a little bit more than the **seasonal** average.

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to forecast	= <i>pronosticar</i>	average	= <i>medio - promedio</i>
low	= <i>bajo</i>	unlikely	= <i>improbable</i>
pressure	= <i>presión</i>	to slip back	= <i>volver</i>
westerly	= <i>occidental</i>	latter	= <i>último</i>
spell	= <i>período</i>	heavy	= <i>pesado</i>
frost	= <i>escarcha, helada</i>	to exceed	= <i>exceder de</i>
figure	= <i>cifra</i>	bright	= <i>brillante</i>
slightly	= <i>ligeramente</i>	seasonal	= <i>estacional</i>

Common Weather Terms

Precipitation	Any form of water, whether liquid (e.g. rain, drizzle) or solid (e.g. hail, snow), that fall from a cloud or group of clouds and reach the ground.
Dry	A period without precipitation.
Fine	Dry weather during which conditions are mostly sunny or bright.
Wet	A period during which rain or showers occur most of the time.
Showers	Usually begin and end suddenly. Showers may fall in patches rather than across the whole forecast area. They may range in intensity from light to very heavy.
Showery	A period during which there are showers and temporary clearances.
Stormy	A period during which rain and high winds predominate.
Settled	A period of several days during which the weather is either dry, fine, or dry, apart from a few patches of rain. Free from storm or wind.
Unsettled	A period of several days during which rain and hail and sunshine are likely to occur.
Isolated	Rain or showers occur over very little of an area.
Scattered	Rain or showers may occur in a number of places but not everywhere over a district or region.
Fog, Mist, Haze	Are terms to describe reduction in visibility. Fog limits visibility to less than 1 kilometre, while in mist or haze you might be able to see as far as 10 kilometres.
Windy	A period during which there is generally much more wind than is normal.

(continúa)

Changeable A period of several days during which there are a series of large fluctuations between clear or bright conditions, and periods of precipitation. The clear or bright conditions may last as long as a day or two.

Overcast The sky is totally covered with thick and opaque clouds, around 100% cloud cover.

Cloudy For a longer period during the day the sun is obscured by clouds.

===

e.g. (exempli gratia)	<i>por ejemplo</i>	likely	<i>probable</i>
whether	<i>si - sea que</i>	district	<i>región</i>
drizzle	<i>llovizna</i>	term	<i>término</i>
period	<i>período</i>	reduction	<i>reducción</i>
precipitation	<i>precipitaciones</i>	visibility	<i>visibilidad</i>
condition	<i>condición</i>	mist	<i>neblina</i>
mostly	<i>principalmente</i>	haze	<i>bruma</i>
shower	<i>chaparrón</i>	changeable	<i>variable</i>
to occur	<i>ocurrir</i>	series	<i>serie - sucesión</i>
most of	<i>la mayor parte de</i>	fluctuation	<i>fluctuación</i>
patch	<i>mancha</i>	overcast	<i>cubierto (el cielo)</i>
range	<i>radio</i>	totally	<i>totalmente</i>
intensity	<i>intensidad</i>	thick	<i>espeso</i>
light	<i>ligero - luz</i>	opaque	<i>opaco</i>
temporary	<i>pasajero</i>	to obscure	<i>obscurar</i>
clearance	<i>despeje</i>		
to predominate	<i>predominar</i>		
apart from	<i>excepto</i>		
sunshine	<i>brillo del sol, luz del sol</i>		



rain

lluvia

Rain is water that falls from clouds in small drops.



snow

nieve

Snow consists of a lot of soft white bits of frozen water that fall from the sky in cold weather.



cloud

nube

Cloud is a visible mass of water or ice particles in the atmosphere from which rain and other forms of precipitation fall.



fog

niebla

Fog is condensed water vapour in the air at or near ground level.



clear sky

cielo claro - cielo despejado

When the sky has no clouds.



dew

rocío

Dew is water droplets on cool outdoor surfaces: Moisture from the air that has condensed as tiny drops on outdoor objects and surfaces that have cooled, especially during the night.

**avalanche***avalancha - alúd*

A large body of snow, ice or rock and debris sliding down a mountain.

**cyclone***ciclón*

A large-scale storm system with heavy rain and winds that rotate counter clockwise in the northern hemisphere and clockwise in the southern hemisphere around and toward a low-pressure centre.

**anticyclone***anticiclón*

A high-pressure system that moves in a clockwise motion. These bring you sunny skies.

**blizzard***tormenta de nieve*

A severe snowstorm with strong winds and poor visibility. For a snowstorm to be classified as a blizzard, winds must exceed 56 km per hour and the temperature must be -7°C

**air pollution***polución del aire*

Chemicals or substances in the atmosphere that are harmful to living things.

**breeze***brisa*

A light wind.

**flood** *inundación*

It results from days of heavy rain and/or melting snows, when rivers rise and go over their banks.

**lightning** *relámpago*

Flashes of light seen in the sky when there is a discharge of atmospheric electricity in the clouds or between clouds and the ground, usually occurring during a thunderstorm.

**hail** *granizo*

Hail consists of small balls of ice that fall like rain from the sky.

**rainbow** *arco iris*

Rainbows are caused by the reflection and refraction (bending) of sunlight passing through raindrops.

**sunrise** *salida del sol, amanecer*

The time the sun appears above the horizon.

**sunset** *puesta del sol*

The time the sun disappears below the horizon.

drop	<i>gota</i>	condition	<i>condición</i>
bit	<i>trocito</i>	severe	<i>inclemente</i>
frozen	<i>helado (adj.)</i>	snowstorm	<i>tormenta de nieve</i>
mass	<i>masa</i>	to classify	<i>clasificar</i>
particle	<i>partícula</i>	poor	<i>escaso - pobre</i>
atmosphere	<i>atmósfera</i>	visibility	<i>visibilidad</i>
condensed	<i>condensado</i>	to exceed	<i>exceder</i>
vapour	<i>vapor</i>	chemicals	<i>sustancias químicas</i>
level	<i>nivel</i>	substance	<i>sustancia</i>
droplet	<i>gotita</i>	harmful	<i>dañino</i>
outdoor	<i>exterior</i>	light	<i>ligero</i>
surface	<i>superficie</i>	to melt	<i>derretir -se</i>
to cool	<i>refrescar</i>	bank	<i>orilla (de río)</i>
rock	<i>roca</i>	discharge	<i>descarga</i>
debris	<i>detritos</i>	electricity	<i>electricidad</i>
to slide	<i>resbalar</i>	to occur	<i>ocurrir</i>
to rotate	<i>girar - dar vueltas</i>	reflection	<i>reflejo</i>
clockwise	<i>en el sentido de las agujas del reloj</i>	refraction	<i>refracción</i>
counter clockwise	<i>en el sentido contrario al reloj</i>	to bend	<i>doblar</i>
northern	<i>septentrional</i>	to appear	<i>aparecer</i>
southern	<i>meridional</i>	to disappear	<i>desaparecer</i>
hemisphere	<i>hemisferio</i>	below	<i>debajo (de)</i>
low-pressure	<i>baja presión</i>	horizon	<i>horizonte</i>
-7° C	<i>7 grados centígrados bajo cero</i>		

Millie

Last Sunday, soon after Robert had gone to the bedroom for his afternoon nap, Mother telephoned. It woke Robert up, and of course, he was not **amused**.

Mother had telephoned to say that she was going to visit us at five o'clock.

As Robert was not in a splendid mood, I wanted to say, "Oh, no! For heaven's sake don't come today, Mother!" But...well, you can't say such a thing to your own mother, can you? So I just said, "Very well, Mother, I'll see you later then. Goodbye **for the present**."

We had had a late lunch and it was already four o'clock, so I quickly **tidied** the flat and ran downstairs to the little cake shop at the corner of the street, to buy a few **pastries**.

When I got back home, I found that Robert had got up.

As soon as he saw the little parcel of cakes in my hand, he said, "What is there inside that parcel?"

"I thought you might like to have some cakes with your tea, Robert," I said. (Now I suppose you will think: "Aha! So Millie is a **liar**!" But, after all it wasn't a big **lie**, was it? And if you were married to Robert, you might sometimes tell small lies too.) Well, my little lie seemed to put him in a better mood at once. He even smiled, and began to open the parcel of cakes.

"Not now, dear," I said quickly. "Let me make the tea first." But he was already eating one of the best cakes. I was afraid that he might eat them all before Mother came, but in that moment she knocked at the door.

divertido

por ahora

ordené

pasteles

mentirosa - mentira

(*continúa*)

(continuación) *Millie*

Poor dear Mother! She has so little money, but she had bought us a present!

"I've got a nice surprise for you," she said. "I bought it at a bargain sale." And she began to open a very big, flat parcel that she was carrying.

"Now, Mother," I said, "I'm very grateful to you, and I'm sure that Robert will be, too, but you ought not to spend your money on presents for us. You have so little."

"Just wait till you have seen it," she said.

Well, guess what it was! A lovely picture for the wall of our living room! And the **subject** of the picture was so pleasing! Two dear little birds eating **cherries**!

*tema
cerezas*

Robert was still in the kitchen, eating the cakes, and I was in such a hurry to show him the picture that I went to the kitchen with it.

"Look what mother has bought us!" I exclaimed. "A picture for our living room! And in such a pretty **frame** too!"

marco

I thought that he would be just as pleased as I was. But, instead, he just said **loudly**, with an ironic expression on his face, "Birds! Sentimental rubbish! As if you didn't both know that I hate birds, with their horrible noisy singing. Do you think that I want to see those two ridiculous birds on the wall in front of me, at breakfast, lunch and dinner?"

en voz alta

"Oh, Robert," I said, "please be quiet! Mother will hear you!"

(continúa)

(continuación) *Millie*

But she had already heard him and came straight into the kitchen.

Now, although, at times, Mother can be quite as difficult to deal with as Robert, there are moments, too, when she can be very, *very dignified*. And she was dignified now.

digno

"You don't seem to be in a very good mood, Robert," she said, "or maybe you aren't well. *If that is the case*, go to bed, if you want to. *I* shan't be offended. After all, this is your own home, and you are my daughter's husband. I'm not just a person that you hardly know, am I? I can quite understand that you don't want to talk, if you aren't well. Perhaps you have caught a cold. The weather has been so bad all the week, hasn't it? So rainy and cold."

si es así

Robert didn't say a word, and I felt so proud of Mother.

Suddenly, as if she had just remembered it, Mother *picked up* the picture.

recogió

"And it seems, too, that you don't like the present," she said. "What a pity! Millie and I are both very fond of birds. Most people are. But if you like, I can go back to the shop and ask if they will change it. But for the price that I paid there were only pictures of birds or animals. So what animal would you prefer? A monkey, perhaps? Or a hyena? Or a crocodile?"

Poor Robert stood there in absolute silence, just like a child that had been scolded.

(continúa)

(continuación) *Millie*

Mother went away soon after that, although I tried to persuade her to remain for a little while. And she took the picture with her. I was terribly sorry about that, because I wanted so much to keep it.

A few days later she came again saying that, unfortunately, all the animal pictures had already been sold.

"But I managed to get this for you instead," she said, and opening a parcel, she showed me a big dog made of wood, with yellow glass eyes and a furious expression. Its mouth was open, showing all its teeth.

"I hope Robert will like this," she said.

I was too astonished to speak.

She put the dog down on the table and soon went away.

When Robert came home at lunch time, I said, "Mother couldn't get another picture. So she brought that dog. She says that she hopes you will like it."

Robert ate his lunch in absolute silence. We have never had such a **peaceful** meal.

But the next day the dog had disappeared. At first I thought that Robert must have thrown it away, but a day or two later I found it on a **shelf** in our little lumber room. And it looks so angry that I feel really afraid every time that I have to go there.

tranquilo

repisa

*A letter from a difficult to please bachelor
to his best friend:*

Dear James,

I have decided to marry. So I have written the names of all the girls that I know in a little note-book. There are about twenty names in all.

Every evening, when my work is over, I sit in my room and ask myself which of these girls would be the best wife for me.

I take each girl in turn and try to remember all that I can about her - all the things that she has said to me, the kind of clothes that she wears, if she seems to be extravagant or economical, if she is vain, or **conceited**, or **boastful**.

If I remember anything about her that displeases me, I simply **cross out** her name.

So far I have crossed out fifteen names. Now only five remain, but it is so hard to make up my mind!

I don't want a wife who expects me to spend money on her from morning to night. The kind of wife who is always saying, "Buy me this! Buy me that! Give me some money! I want to have a look at that bargain sale."

And I don't want a wife who behaves like a baby either. The **sort** of wife who begins to cry if you speak to her severely, or who makes a fuss about nothing.

No, indeed! I want a quiet, modest, serious wife whose only thought is to make me happy.

She must get up at dawn and spend the day cooking, cleaning and putting the house in order.

When I come home in the evening she must receive me with a smile. I don't want to hear any **complaints** or bad news when I enter the house.

soltero

*engreída -
presumida
borro*

clase

quejas

(continúa)

A Difficult to Please Bachelor.

If, for example, she has cut her finger, I am not to blame, and I don't want to hear a single word about it. If she begins telling me that she has hurt herself in any way, I shall just say, "Listen, my dear, if you have cut yourself, or **burnt yourself**, it isn't my fault, is it? It's no use crying about it. Crying won't help you, will it? This time next week you will have forgotten about it. But cry if you want to. It's all the same to me."

te has quemado

Oh yes. I shall always be very **firm** with her in such **matters**. I am a very sensitive person, you see. I simply cannot bear to hear people talk about cut fingers, or headaches, or things of that kind. It makes me feel really ill! I just can't bear it, and that's that.

*firme
asuntos*

But women are always complaining, aren't they? So I must choose my **bride** very carefully. I mustn't be in a hurry.

esposa

I don't want to discover, soon after the wedding, that I have made a big mistake. But I'm tired of being single, so let me have another look at my notebook...

James replies:

Dear Rolf,

I'm afraid, my dear friend, that with your old fashioned, and above all **selfish** ideas, you'll remain a bachelor for the rest of your life.

egoísta

The Clever Queen

Long, long ago there lived a poor old **peasant** who had only one daughter and no one else in the world.

He was simple and ignorant, but his daughter was so wise and clever that she could **find a way out** of any difficulty, and **though** she had never been to school, she could answer any question that was put to her, as well as if she had been a university professor.

One beautiful morning in spring the King happened to pass by their poor little **cottage**. He was riding a splendid white horse and was surrounded by a large group of **noble** ladies and gentlemen, who were also riding magnificent horses.

They were on their way to the **nearby woods** where they were going to have a picnic.

Behind them came three big **carts** in which there were a large number of servants and several enormous baskets full of food and wine for the picnic.

Hearing the sound of so many horses, the old peasant came out of his cottage and stood **gazing** in admiration at all the richly dressed people and the King with his golden **crown**.

The whole cavalcade had stopped for a moment, so that the King could admire the **view**. So the peasant was able to **approach** them and **ask for alms**.

campesino

*encontrar una solución
aunque*

casita de campo

nobles

cercanos bosques

carros

mirando fijamente

corona

*panorama
acercarse
pedir limosnas*

(continúa)

The Clever Queen

Although he was **plainly** only an ignorant peasant, there was so much dignity in his **manner**, and he **bowed** so correctly, that the King asked him where he had learnt to behave so well.

"My daughter teaches me how to behave, Your Majesty," replied the old man.

"Then your daughter must be a very clever woman," said the King with a smile.

"She is the wisest woman in the world," said the old man.

The King and the courtiers laughed **heartily** at this **remark**.

Then the King, who **was very fond** of playing cruel **tricks** on people, ordered one of the servants to take thirty eggs from one of the food baskets.

"Give these thirty eggs to your clever daughter," said the King, "and say that I want her **to hatch** thirty **chicks** from them. It will be a very easy **task** for The Wisest Woman in the World, as you call her.

When she brings the thirty chicks to the palace, she shall be **suitably** rewarded for her trouble. But **if she fails** to bring exactly thirty chicks, you shall both be severely punished - you, because you are a **vain** old **boaster** and she, because she allows you to boast about her.

And laughing heartily the King rode on, followed by all the **courtiers**.

claramente
modales
hizo una reverencia

efusivamente
observación

le gustaba mucho
bromas

empollar
pollitos - tarea

adecuadamente
si no lo consigue
presumido - fanfarrón

cortesanos

(*continúa*)

The Clever Queen

When the girl saw the eggs she at once understood what a cruel trick had been played on her, **for** all the eggs had been boiled! So how could chicks be hatched from them?

porque

But she was not afraid. She quickly boiled some **beans** and told her father **to dig** a hole by the side of the road. When the King and his courtiers came riding back from the woods, she said that her father **was to kneel down** beside the hole and put the beans into it. Then he had to say loudly, "Well, I hope that I shall get a good **crop** from these boiled beans."

alubias - cavar

debía arrodillarse

cosecha

When the King heard these words, he laughed in **scorn**.

desprecio

"How can you **expect** a crop from boiled beans, you old fool?" he said **contemptuously**.

esperar

desdeñosamente

Having previously been instructed by his daughter, the old man replied carelessly, "Why not, Your Majesty? Nowadays, it seems, people can even hatch chicks from boiled eggs."

The capricious King was so pleased and **amused** by this reply, that he told one of the servants to give the peasant a **tiny bunch of flax**.

divertido

un manojito de lino

"Tell your daughter not to worry about hatching the chicks," he said. "She may do whatever she pleases with the eggs. But I want her to make all the **sails** necessary for a big ship. She **is** to make them from this bunch of flax and they must be ready the day after tomorrow."

velas - debe

(continúa)

The Clever Queen

Bring the finished sails to the palace before nightfall the day after tomorrow, **unless** you wish to be severely punished for all your boasting about your daughter's **wisdom**."

a menos que

sabiduría

And he galloped away, followed by all the laughing courtiers.

The peasant went **weeping** to his daughter and told her all.

llorando

She remained quite calm and after reflecting for a moment, gave her father a **tiny chip** of wood.

trocito

"Go **after** the King, at once," she said. You cannot hope **to catch up with him** of course, but if you walk fast, you can reach the palace by tomorrow morning. Give this chip of wood to the King and say that I want the royal **carpenters** to make me a **spinning wheel** and a **weaving loom** out of this chip of wood. Then, if the wheel and the loom are ready by tomorrow evening, I promise to **spin, weave and stitch** the sails within the **appointed** time."

detrás

alcanzarle

carpinteros

rueca - telar

*hilar, tejer y coser
establecido*

When the King received this message he was so delighted by the girl's quick **wit** that he told her father to bring her to the palace.

ingenio

When she came into his **presence**, he saw that she was as beautiful as she was clever. Her golden hair **hung** to her knees in two thick **plaits**, and her eyes were like **deep** blue **sapphires**, while, **in spite of** her poor clothes and rough, **clumsy** shoes, she walked and moved with the dignity of a queen and the **grace** of a dancer.

presencia

colgaban - trenzas

profundo - zafiros

no obstante - burdos

gracia

(continúa)

The Clever Queen

"There is no one like her in the world," thought the King, "and if she can answer the **riddle** that I will ask her, she will be my wife."

"**Maiden**," he asked her then, "what is it that can be heard at the greatest distance?"

And without a moment of **hesitation**, she replied, "A **lie**, Sire."

"Maiden," said the King, "you will be my wife."

She bowed low, saying simply, "If that is your **will Sire**, promise me one thing, on your honour of King: If one day you find that you are tired of me and **banish me** from your court, allow me to take with me any one thing that I may choose as a souvenir of my lost happiness."

The King laughed.

"Such a day will never come," he said. But to please her, he wrote the promise on a **parchment** and gave it to her to keep.

They were soon married and the King told his wife that her father, too, might come and live at the palace.

But the new queen refused this **favour**. Her **wisdom** told her that a man so full of capricious **fancies** as her new husband was, might at first be amused by her father's simple **ways** but would probably very soon become tired of them. So she felt that it would be much wiser to leave the old man in his **humble** cottage.

acertijo

muchacha

*vacilación
mentira*

deseo Señor

me echas

pergamino

*favor
sabiduría
antojos
modales*

humilde

(*continúa*)

The Clever Queen

With the money that the King gave her to buy herself **trinkets**, she bought her father warm woollen clothes for the winter, a **carpet**, a big arm-chair with soft cushions, a mattress **stuffed** with **feathers** and many other comforts, so that he was far happier in his cottage than he would have been in the palace, **despised** by all the courtiers and laughed at by the servants.

At first the King was very happy with his new wife. From morning to night he passed his time inventing difficult questions to ask her, and delighting in her brilliant answers.

But at last, as she had **foreseen**, he became tired of this pastime.

Finally the day came when he ordered her to leave the palace and go back to her father's cottage - for ever.

"As you please, Sire," she said calmly. "Allow me only, I beg you, to remain here till tomorrow morning, so that we may take our evening meal together, as usual. I promise not to speak one word to you."

With cold indifference the King **granted** her request. So, in absolute silence, they took their last meal together.

When the last **course** had been served, the king got up, with a **yawn**, and went to his bedroom. He suddenly felt very **weary**.

The moment that his head touched the **pillow**, he **fell asleep**.

*baratijas**alfombra**relleno**plumas**despreciado**previsto**concedió**plato**bostezo**cansado**almohada**se durmió**(continúa)*

The Clever Queen

After some hours had passed, a gleam of candlelight woke him. Slowly he sat up, rubbing his eyes.

But what had happened? How had his great bedroom become so small? Where were the splendid paintings? Where was the magnificent furniture?

"Where am I?" cried the King.

Then he saw that his wife was kneeling beside the bed. She was once again dressed in her simple peasant's clothes, and in her hand she held a roll of parchment.

"Do not be angry, dearest husband," she said sweetly. Read here, on this parchment, your written promise. You said that if you ever banished me, you would allow me to take away with me whatever thing I liked most in the palace. I neither like nor love anything in the whole world as much as I love you. So tonight I put a sleeping powder in your wine, so that you might not wake as the carriage brought you here to my father's cottage. A King may not break his word. I have taken the thing that I like most. Will you not let me keep it?"

The King suddenly felt his hard, proud heart melting at the thought of the devotion with which she had repaid his cruelty. And he was delighted too, to see that even in such a desperate moment she had been as clever as always in finding a way out of her difficulties.

brillo
frotándose

arrodillada

rollo

polvo
coche
faltar a la palabra

derretirse
devuelto

una solución

(continúa)

The Clever Queen

“My dear, clever wife,” he said tenderly, “you will indeed keep me, and I will keep you. Tomorrow we return to the palace together.”

con ternura

And from that day on, so the story says, he loved her with all his heart, and more with every year that passed.

The End

Vocabulary

- 7°C		7 grados centígrados bajo cero
a way out	ə wei aut	una solución
absolutely	æbsəlu:tli	absolutamente
to add	tu æd	añadir
air pollution	eə pəlu:ʃən	polución del aire
amused	əmju:zd	divertido
ankle	æŋkəl	tobillo
anticyclone	æntisaɪkloun	anticiclón
apart from	əpa:t from	además de
appointed	əpɔɪntɪd	establecido
to argue	tu a:gju:	discutir
arithmetic	əriðmətik	aritmética
atmosphere	ætmosfɪə	atmósfera
to attach	tu ətætʃ	atar, sujetar
avalanche	ævələ:ntʃ	avalancha, alúd
average	ævərɪdʒ	medio, promedio
bachelor	bætʃələ	soltero
to banish	tu bæniʃ	echar - desterrar
bank	bæŋk	orilla (de río)
bargain	bɑ:gɪn	oferta, ganga
bargain sale	bɑ:gɪn seɪl	venta de rebajas
beans	bi:nz	alubias
below	bɪləu	bajo
to bend	tu bend	doblar
binding	bændɪŋ	encuadernación
bit	bit	trocito
blizzard	blɪzəd	tormenta de nieve
blood vessel	blʌd vesəl	vaso sanguíneo
boaster	bəʊstə	fanfarrón
to bow	tu bau	hacer una reverencia

Vocabulary

breeze	bri:z	brisa
bright	brait	brillante
bunch	bʌntʃ	manejo
to burst	tu bɜ:st	reventar
carpenter	kɑ:pintə	carpintero
carpet	kɑ:pɪt	alfombra
carriage	kærɪdʒ	coche de caballos
cart	kɑ:t	carro
to catch up	to kætʃ ʌp	alcanzar
certainly	sɜ:tənli	seguramente
changeable	tʃeɪndʒəbl	variable
chemicals	kemɪklz	sustancias químicas
cherry	tʃeri	cereza
chick	tʃɪk	pollito
chicken coop	tʃɪkɪn ku:p	gallinero
to choose	tu tʃu:z	elegir
to classify	tu klæsɪfaɪ	clasificar
clear	kliə	claro, despejado
clearance	kliərəns	despeje
clockwise	klɒkwaɪz	en el sentido de las agujas del reloj
cloudy	klaudi	nublado
clumsy	klʌmzi	burdo
conclusion	kənklʊ:ʒən	conclusión
condensed	kəndənst	condensado
condition	kəndɪfən	condición
contemptuously	kəntemptʃuəsli	desdeñosamente
to cool	tu ku:l	refrescar
cord	kɔ:d	cuerda
costume jewellery	kɒstju:m dʒu:əlri	bisutería
cottage	kɒtɪdʒ	casita de campo

Vocabulary

counter clockwise	kauntə klɒkwaiz	<i>en el sentido contrario al reloj</i>
courtier	kɔ:tiə	<i>cortesán</i>
to cross out	tu kros aut	<i>borrar</i>
crown	kraun	<i>corona</i>
cyclone	saiɪkloun	<i>ciclón</i>
dawn	do:n	<i>alba, amanecer</i>
daylight	deɪlaɪt	<i>luz del día</i>
debris	deɪbri	<i>detritos</i>
deep	di:p	<i>profundo</i>
to despise	tu dispaɪz	<i>despreciar</i>
dew	dju:	<i>rocío</i>
dirt	dɜ:t	<i>tierra - suciedad</i>
discharge	dɪstʃa:dʒ	<i>descarga</i>
discount	dɪskaunt	<i>descuento</i>
district	dɪstrikt	<i>distrito</i>
dress material	dres mətiəriəl	<i>tejido</i>
drizzle	drɪzəl	<i>llovizna</i>
drop	drop	<i>gota</i>
droplet	drɒplət	<i>gotita</i>
dusk	dʌsk	<i>atardecer, crepúsculo</i>
electricity	ilektrɪsɪti	<i>electricidad</i>
elevator	elɪveɪtə	<i>ascensor (USA)</i>
to exceed	tu iksɪ:d	<i>exceder de/en</i>
exquisite	ekskwɪzɪt	<i>exquisito</i>
to fail	tu feɪl	<i>fracasar</i>
fancy	fænsi	<i>fantasía</i>
favour	feɪvə	<i>favor</i>
feather	feðə	<i>pluma</i>
figure	fɪɡə	<i>cifra</i>
flax	flæks	<i>lino</i>

Vocabulary

flint stone	flint stoun	<i>piedra de lumbre</i>
flood	flʌd	<i>inundación</i>
fluctuation	flʌktʃueɪʃən	<i>fluctuación</i>
fog	fɒg	<i>niebla</i>
for sale	fə seɪl	<i>en venta</i>
for the present	fə ðə prezənt	<i>por ahora, por lo pronto</i>
forecast	fɔ:kɑ:st	<i>previsión</i>
to forecast	tu fɔ:kɑ:st	<i>prever</i>
to foresee	tu fɔ:si:	<i>prever</i>
frame	freim	<i>marco</i>
frost	frost	<i>escarcha, helada</i>
frozen	frouzən	<i>helado (adjetivo)</i>
to gaze	tu geɪz	<i>mirar fijamente</i>
gleam	gli:m	<i>brillo, destello</i>
goods	gudz	<i>mercancías</i>
grace	greɪs	<i>gracia</i>
to grant	tu gra:nt	<i>conceder</i>
harmful	hɑ:mful	<i>dañino</i>
to hatch	tu hætf	<i>empollar</i>
haze	heɪz	<i>bruma</i>
healthy	helθi	<i>sano</i>
heartily	hɑ:tili	<i>efusivamente</i>
height	hait	<i>altura</i>
hemisphere	hemɪsfɪə	<i>hemisferio</i>
hesitation	hesɪteɪʃən	<i>vacilación</i>
horizon	həraɪzən	<i>horizonte</i>
huge	hju:dʒ	<i>inmenso</i>
humble	hʌmbəl	<i>humilde</i>
intensity	ɪntensɪti	<i>intensidad</i>

Vocabulary

ironic	<u>a</u> ironik	irónico
to kneel	tu ni:l	arrodillarse
lately	le <u>i</u> tli	últimamente, recientemente
latter	læ <u>t</u> ə	último, segundo (de dos)
leather	le <u>ð</u> ə	cuero, piel
level	le <u>v</u> əl	nivel
liar	la <u>i</u> ə	mentiroso
light	la <u>i</u> t	ligero - luz
likely	la <u>i</u> kli	probable
low	lou	bajo
low-pressure	lou-pre <u>f</u> ə	baja presión
maiden	me <u>i</u> dən	muchacha
manner	mæ <u>n</u> ə	modales
mass	mæ <u>s</u>	masa
to melt	tu melt	derretir -se
mind	ma <u>i</u> nd	mente
mist	mi <u>s</u> t	neblina
mood	mu: <u>d</u>	humor
most of	mo <u>u</u> st ov	la mayor parte de
mostly	mo <u>u</u> stli	principalmente
noble	no <u>u</u> bəl	noble (adjetivo)
northern	no: <u>ð</u> ən	septentrional
to obscure	tu ob <u>s</u> kjuə	obscurar
to occur	tu ək <u>ɜ:</u>	ocurrir
opaque	ou <u>p</u> ei <u>k</u>	opaco
outdoor	au <u>t</u> do: <u>ɜ:</u>	exterior
overcast	ou <u>v</u> əka: <u>s</u> t	cubierto (el cielo)
parchment	pə: <u>t</u> f <u>m</u> ənt	pergamino
partial	pə: <u>f</u> əl	parcial
particle	pə: <u>t</u> ikəl	partícula

Vocabulary

pastries	peɪstrɪz	pasteles
patch	pætʃ	mancha
peasant	pezənt	campesino
period	pɪəriəd	período
pillow	pɪləʊ	almohada
plainly	pleɪnli	claramente
plait	plæt	trenza
poor	puə	escaso - pobre
precipitation	prɪsɪpɪteɪʃən	precipitaciones
to predominate	tu prɪdɒmineɪt	predominar
presence	prezəns	presencia
pressure	preʃə	presión
price tag	praɪs tæg	etiqueta de precio
purchase	pɜːtʃɪs	compra
to purchase	tu pɜːtʃɪs	comprar
range	reɪndʒ	radio
to reduce	tu rɪdʒuːs	reducir
reduced	rɪdʒuːst	reducido
reduction	rɪdʌkʃən	reducción
reflection	rɪflekʃən	reflejo
refraction	rɪfrækʃən	refracción
remark	rɪmɑːk	observación
riddle	rɪdəl	acertijo
to rise	tu raɪz	salir (el sol, la luna)
rock	rɒk	roca
roll	rəʊl	rollo
to rotate	tu raʊteɪt	girar, dar vueltas
to rub	tu rʌb	frotar -se
running water	rʌnɪŋ wɔːtə	agua corriente
sale	seɪl	venta

Vocabulary

sapphire	sæfaɪə	zafiro
scorn	sko:n	desprecio
seasonal	si:zənəl	estacional
to sell off	tu sel of	liquidar
sentimental	sentimentəl	sentimental
series	siəri:z	serie, sucesión
severe	siviə	inclemente
shopkeeper	fɒpki:pə	tendero
shower	fauə	chaparrón
sight	sait	panorama
sire	saɪə	señor
to slide	tu slaid	resbalar
slightly	slaitli	ligeramente
to slip back	tu slip bæk	volver
snowstorm	snou sto:m	tormenta de nieve
southern	sʌðən	meridional
spell	spel	período
to spin	tu spin	hilar
to stitch	tu stitʃ	coser
stock	stok	existencias, stock
stuffed	stʌft	relleno
substance	sʌbstəns	substancia
suitably	su:təbli	adecuadamente
sunrise	sʌnraiz	salida del sol, amanecer
sunshine	sʌnfain	luz del sol
surface	sɜ:fis	superficie
task	ta:sk	tarea
temporary	tempərəri	pasajero
tenderly	tendəli	con ternura
term	tɜ:m	término

Vocabulary

terrace	<i>te<u>r</u>is</i>	<i>terrazza</i>
that is	<i>ðæt iz</i>	<i>es decir</i>
thick	<i>θik</i>	<i>espeso</i>
thief	<i>θi:f</i>	<i>ladrón</i>
thieves	<i>θi:vz</i>	<i>ladrones</i>
ticket	<i>t<u>i</u>kit</i>	<i>billete; multa</i>
to tidy	<i>tu taɪdi</i>	<i>ordenar, arreglar</i>
tiny	<i>taini</i>	<i>minúsculo</i>
total	<i>to<u>u</u>təl</i>	<i>total</i>
totally	<i>to<u>u</u>təli</i>	<i>totalmente</i>
touch	<i>tʌtʃ</i>	<i>contacto</i>
to tremble	<i>tu tre<u>m</u>bəl</i>	<i>temblar</i>
trick	<i>trik</i>	<i>broma - truco</i>
trinket	<i>tri<u>n</u>kit</i>	<i>baratija</i>
twilight	<i>twai<u>l</u>ait</i>	<i>atardecer</i>
underwear	<i>ʌndəweə</i>	<i>ropa interior</i>
unlikely	<i>ʌnla<u>i</u>kli</i>	<i>improbable</i>
useless	<i>ju:sləs</i>	<i>inútil</i>
value	<i>vælju:</i>	<i>valor</i>
vapour	<i>veɪpə</i>	<i>vapor</i>
visibility	<i>vizib<u>i</u>liti</i>	<i>visibilidad</i>
to weave	<i>tu wi:v</i>	<i>tejer</i>
westerly	<i>w<u>e</u>stəli</i>	<i>occidental</i>
whether	<i>w<u>e</u>ðə</i>	<i>si - sea que</i>
will	<i>wil</i>	<i>deseo - voluntad</i>
windy	<i>windi</i>	<i>ventoso</i>
wisdom	<i>w<u>i</u>zdəm</i>	<i>sabiduría</i>
wit	<i>wit</i>	<i>ingenio - inteligencia</i>
wood	<i>wud</i>	<i>bosque - madera</i>
yawn	<i>jo:n</i>	<i>bostezo</i>