



FEBRUARY 2020

How many languages do you speak?

We were in Amsterdam last month running a “Storytelling” workshop.
<https://www.speakersco.co.uk/workshops/the-power-of-storytelling-in-business>

Now the Dutch are good at languages – 97% speak a second language whereas only 33% do in the UK.

We heard this story about what do you call a person who speaks 3 languages – Tri-lingual.

What do you call someone who speaks two languages – Bi-lingual.

So what do you call someone who only speaks one language – ENGLISH.

Go to the Top!

We normally get our newspaper delivered. Last month something went wrong. On Day 1 it wasn't delivered so we called the delivery people and told them.

On Day 2 still no newspaper – so we called again. This time we were asked whether we got it on-line. Yes we do but like a hard copy too.

Day 3 still no newspaper so this time we called a Supervisor. She told us something was obviously wrong but couldn't tell us what. One thing we did learn was that the driver was on a tight schedule so couldn't walk 50 metres down our street if anything was in the way!

On Day 4 still no newspaper. So it was time to go the top – a letter to The Editor.

“Dear Sir, Can you help us with our delivery.....”

Day 5 – it was delivered and has been since.

Simple really!

Are you going to the top?

New Words

Ann Treneman, a UK Times columnist likes to introduce a new word every week in her column.

A recent one was “Stem Winder”. What does it mean?

“A rousing and passionate speech” – the term originated in the US.

She wants to see more” “Stem Winders” in 2020 and so do we.

As John Kennedy said: “The only purpose of a speech is to get action”

Are you ready to wind up?

The story of a Barista

Simon Sinek, international speaker, tells a story on You Tube about Noah, a barista working in the Four Seasons Hotel in Las Vegas. <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RyTQ5-SQYTo>

Simon felt the service and quality of the coffee was of a high order so he asked Noah how he kept it up

Noah replied: "That's easy - I love my job. Throughout the day managers will walk past and ask how I'm doing and if there's anything I need. Not just my manager but any manger. I feel supported here."

Noah then went on to say: "I also work at Caesar's Palace, where I keep my head just under the radar because I don't want to get in trouble. I just want to get through the day and make my paycheck."

Same person – different management style – different outcomes.

When was the last time you praised anyone in your office?

Words that stick

We always like to hear a local story. It gives insights and paints pictures of what a country is and was like.

This story was told to us by a Jordanian creative who had been to University in the UAE.

"I had very little difficulty following my Arabic Professor. But occasionally he used a word I didn't know.

He used the word "Pushka" and it certainly wasn't Arabic so I asked him what it meant?

He told me that he had learnt it from his father who had worked at the British Embassy.

Apparently, whenever the British went off for a drive in the desert if they got stuck, they would say to their driver "Pushka"

Do you have a local story you can tell?

Good luck with your stories, pitches and presentations in 2020.

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