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What does the future hold?

COLLOQUIAL ENGLISH

THE INTERVIEW

a You are going to listen to an interview with Frank Clifford, an astrologer and palmist. Before you listen, read the glossary and look at how the words are pronounced to help you understand what he says.

Glossary

birth chart /bɜ:0 tʃɑ:t/ a map which shows the position of the planets when a person was born

unalterable /An'pitərəbl/ which can't be changed

destiny /'destəni/ what will happen to somebody in the future

genuine /'dzenjum/ real, authentic

scared the life out of me terrified me

curse /k3:s/ a word or phrase which has magic power to make something bad happen

- b Listen to part 1. Answer the questions with a partner.
 - 1 What does an astrologer find out from a person's birth chart?
 - 2 What does a palmist find out from reading someone's palm?
 - 3 How can astrologers and palmists help people with their
 - 4 Would Frank Clifford tell people if he 'saw' that they were going to have a serious illness? Why (not)?
- c 1.19 Listen to part 2. Answer the questions with a partner.

What does he say about ...?

- 1 choosing an astrologer or palm reader
- 2 a palmist he visited when he was 17
- 3 the kind of people who visit him
- 4 the different attitudes of men and women
- 5 predicting his own future





d 1.20 Listen and complete the phrases. What do you think they mean?

COMMON PHRASES

- 1 ...or he may do a print and have _____ at what is being shown in the hands now...
- 2 So it's our job really to encourage people to live their
- 3 I'm not a doctor so I wouldn't _____. (informal)
- 4 ...so I thought I'd learn this subject and understand on earth she was talking about. (informal)
- 5 A lot of people would expect bored housewives, and people with ______ to do, or...
- 6 ...but in fact the truth is you tend to get ______ of people. (informal)
- e Listen to the interview again with the tapescript on page 121. Would you like Frank Clifford to read your palm or do you a birth chart? Why (not)?

IN THE STREET

a Listen to five people talking about horoscopes. Write the number of the speakers next to their star sign. Which people believe strongly that star signs can influence people's personality?





Miles





Theresa



Kurt

Aries /'eəriːz/
Taurus /'tɔːrəs/
Gemini /'dʒemɪnaɪ/
Cancer /'kænsə/
Leo /'liːəʊ/
Virgo /'vɜːɡəʊ/

Libra /'liːbrə/ Scorpio /'skɔːpiəʊ/ Sagittarius /sædʒɪ'teərɪəs/ Capricorn /'kæprɪkɔːn/ Aquarius /ə'kweərɪəs/ Pisces /'paɪsiːz/

- b Listen again and write the name of the person.
 - 1 Who thinks they are typical of their star sign?
 - 2 Who thinks you can often know what someone is like if you know their star sign?
 - 3 Who nearly forgets what star sign they are?
 - 4 Who is the most sceptical about horoscopes and star signs?
 - 5 Who sometimes enjoys reading his / her horoscope?
- c Listen and complete the phrases with one word. What do you think they mean?

COMMON PHRASES

- 1 _____ particularly, no.
- 2 I think it's _____ minimal. (informal)
- 3 You can definitely _____ their, sort of, personality straight away.
- 4 _____ whatsoever.
- d Listen to the interviews again with the tapescript on page 122. Then answer the same questions with a partner.



An informal email / letter

WRITING

If you are writing an email, it is more usual to start with *Hi*. If you are writing a letter you should start with *Dear*.

- a Read the email from Chris. It has 12 mistakes: four grammar, four punctuation, and four spelling. With a partner, correct the mistakes.
- b Read Chris's email again and find phrases that mean...
 I haven't written or phoned.
 I've been reading and replying to my emails.
 Say hello to your family from me.

⊖ ⊖ ⊖			New Message				
Send Send	Chat	Attach	Address	Fonts	Colors	Save As Draft	
	From:	Chris					
	To:	Eva					
■▼ 5	Subject:	News					

Hi Eva,

Sorry that I havent been in touch for a while but I've been ill. I got flu last week and I had a temprature of 39°C so I've been in bed since four days. I'm feeling a bit better today so I've been catching up on my emails. Luckly my classes at university don't start till next week.

How are you? What have you been doing? Anything exciting. Here everyone are fine – apart from me and my flu! My brother lan has just started his new job with a record-company – I think I told you about it when I last wrote – anyway, he's really enjoying it. How are your family? I hope they're well.

I have a good news – I'm going to a conference in your town in may, from 16th to 20th. Could you recomend a hotel where I could stay in the centre of town? It needs to be somewhere not too expensive because the university is paying. I'll have a free half-day for siteseeing. Do you think you'll can show me around? That would be great.

Well, that's all for now. Please give my regards to your family. I hope to hear from you soon.

Take care,

Chris

c You're going to answer Chris's email. Look at the Useful language expressions and try to complete them.

Useful I	anguage
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Opening expressions

Thanks your email / letter.
It was great ² hear from you.
Sorry for ³ writing earlier / that I haven't been in touch for a while.
I ⁴ you and your family are well.
Responding to news
Sorry 5 hear about your exam results.
Glad ⁶ hear that you're all well.
Good luck ⁷ the new job.
Hope you 8 better soon.
Closing expressions
Anyway, / Well, that's all 9 now.
Hope to hear from you soon. / Looking 10
to hearing from you soon.
11 my regards (love) to
Take 12 / 13 wishes / Regards / (Lots
of) love from
(= something you forgot and want to

PLAN the content.

- 1 Underline the questions in the email that Chris wants you to answer.
- 2 Underline other places in the letter where you think you need to respond, e.g. *I've been ill.*
- 3 Think about how to respond to each of the things you've underlined.

WRITE 120–180 words, in two or three paragraphs. Use informal language (contractions, colloquial expressions, etc.), and expressions from **Useful language**.

CHECK your email for mistakes (grammar, punctuation, and spelling).