

# The Dead Parrot

1. Match the words in the left column with their synonyms or definitions on the right:

stunned	tired
shagged out	heartbroken
pining	lean against
kipping on it's back	fastened with a metal spike
nailed	knocked unconscious
nuzzling up	sleeping

O: No, no, 'e's uh,... 2. \_\_\_\_\_  
 C: Look, matey, I know a dead parrot when I see one, and I'm looking at one right now.  
 O: No no he's not dead, he's, he's restin'! Remarkable bird, the Norwegian Blue, idn't, ay? Beautiful plumage!  
 C: The plumage don't enter into it. It's 3. \_\_\_\_\_  
 O: Nononono, no, no! 'E's resting!  
 C: All right then, if it's restin', I'll wake it up! 'Ello, Mister Polly Parrot! I've got a lovely fresh cuttle fish for you if you show....  
 O: There, he moved!  
 C: No, he didn't, that was you 4. \_\_\_\_\_!  
 O: I did not!!  
 C: Yes, you did!  
 C: 'ELLO POLLY!!!!!!

C: Now that's what I call a dead parrot.  
 O: No, no.....No, 'e's stunned!  
 C: Um...now look...now look, mate, I've 'ad enough of this. That parrot 5. \_\_\_\_\_, and when I bought it not 'alf an hour ago, you assured me that its 6. \_\_\_\_\_ was due to it bein' tired and shagged out after a long squawk.  
 O: Well, he's...he's, ah...probably pining for the fjords.  
 C: PININ' for the FJORDS?!?!?!? What kind of talk is that?, look, why did it 7. \_\_\_\_\_ on its back the moment I got 'im home?  
 O: The Norwegian Blue prefers kippin' on it's back! Remarkable bird, id'nit,? Lovely plumage!  
 C: Look, I took the liberty of 8. \_\_\_\_\_ that parrot when I got it home, and I discovered the only reason that it had been sitting on its perch in the first place was that it 9. \_\_\_\_\_ there.  
 O: Well, o'course it was nailed there! Otherwise it would have nuzzled up to those bars, and VOOM!  
 C: Mate, this bird wouldn't "voom" if you 10. \_\_\_\_\_ volts through it!

11. You will hear many synonyms of the word "dead".  
 Note down as many as you can:

## 12. REPORTED SPEECH

replace 2x
wish
go
be out of
purchase
nail
examine  
be wrong
wake up
be
rest 2x

The customer entered a pet shop and said that \_\_\_\_\_ to make a complaint about the parrot he \_\_\_\_\_ in the shop. The owner asked what \_\_\_\_\_ with the parrot and the customer replied that the parrot \_\_\_\_\_ dead. The owner objected to it saying the parrot \_\_\_\_\_. The customer got angry and said that if the parrot \_\_\_\_\_, he \_\_\_\_\_. The customer also mentioned that he \_\_\_\_\_ the parrot and discovered that it \_\_\_\_\_.

After a long absurd argument the owner finally agreed \_\_\_\_\_ the parrot but then found out they \_\_\_\_\_ parrots. He advised the customer \_\_\_\_\_ to his brother's pet shop in Bolton, the brother \_\_\_\_\_ the parrot for him.

A LETTER OF COMPLAINT

Background

Problem

Effect

Solution

Warning (optional)

Closing

- A. I look forward to receiving your explanation of these matters.
- B. This large number of errors is unacceptable to our customers, and we are therefore unable to sell these books.
- C. This error put our firm in a difficult position, as we had to make some emergency purchases to fulfil our commitments to all our customers. This caused us considerable inconvenience.
- D. I enclose a copy of the book with the errors highlighted. Please re-print the book and send it to us by next Friday.
- E. I am writing to inform you of my dissatisfaction with the food and drinks at the 'European Restaurant' on 18 January this year.
- F. I look forward to receiving your payment.
- G. I am writing to ask you to please make up the shortfall immediately and to ensure that such errors do not happen again.
- H. Otherwise, we may have to look elsewhere for our supplies.
- I. I'm afraid that if these conditions are not met, we may be forced to take legal action.
- J. I am writing to inform you that the goods we ordered from your company have not been supplied correctly.
- K. On 16 October 2012 we placed an order with your firm for 12,000 ultra super long-life batteries. The consignment arrived yesterday but contained only 1,200 batteries.
- L. We have found 16 spelling errors and 2 mis-labelled diagrams in the sample book.

46. The following text has to do with whether or not a contract must be in writing before the courts will enforce it. Before you read the text try to think of at least two types of contract that, in your opinion, must be in writing.

1 There is no basic requirement that contracts be in writing signed by all the  
 2 parties. There is, however, a long history of statutory requirements that  
 3 *certain contracts* be proved by a signed writing or some other special form  
 4 of evidence. The history is reflected in the term "Statute of Frauds" in  
 5 deference to the 1677 English statute which singled out certain contracts  
 6 as requiring writing or special forms of proof. However, even if a particular  
 7 contract requires a writing, this does not mean that both parties must sign  
 8 it or that the signing occur at the time of contracting. The Statute of Frauds  
 9 is only concerned with the proof of the contract.

The English Statute of Frauds<sup>10</sup> addressed five types of contracts which  
 11 were commonly subject to perjured testimony. These were (1) promises to  
 12 answer for the debt of another (*guaranty contracts*); (2) agreements  
 13 involving real property; (3) agreements that could not be performed within  
 14 a year; (4) marriage settlement contracts; and (5) special promises to be  
 15 personally responsible for the debts of an estate (decedent). A sixth type of  
 16 contract requiring a writing, also identified under an English statute, deals  
 17 with the sale of goods, that is, personal property. These statutes were  
 enacted, in substance, in the United States.

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The Statute of Frauds can be explained as .....

The types can be remembered by the mnemonic "MY LEGS":

M = .....

Y = .....

L = .....

E = .....

G = .....

S = .....