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**Level 6 – 20th February 2023**

**Letter posted in 1916 delivered 107 years late**

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<https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

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**Please try Levels 4 and 5 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

Many moons ago, it took an age to send someone a message. Today, we have the Internet. We can instantly send someone on the other side of the world a message using email. One message that arrived earlier this week was not so instant. A letter was mailed from the English city of Bath in 1916. It then got lost in the post. It was finally delivered 107 years later to an address in London. The Royal Mail postal service in the UK said it was "uncertain what happened". A spokesperson said she was delighted the letter finally arrived, but had no idea why it was more than a century late. She said it may have fallen behind a piece of furniture.

Before the Internet, people wrote letters on paper. They then put these letters in an envelope. The sender then bought a stamp from a post office and stuck it on the envelope. They then put it in a mail box in the street. A postal worker would collect the envelope and the letter would begin its journey. It usually took a few days to reach its destination, if the address was in the same country. It could take weeks if the address was overseas. It sailed on a ship and was called "sea mail". Later, airplanes transported mail and we used "air mail". However, there was a slight problem with the letter that arrived 107 years late. The person to whom it was addressed was no longer living. He passed away in 1951.

Sources: <https://www.theguardian.com/uk-news/2023/feb/16/letter-lost-in-1916-delivered-in-london-more-than-100-years-later>  
<https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-england-london-64647166>  
<https://www.the-sun.com/news/7419345/letter-posted-during-wwi-delivered/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. WRITING LETTERS:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about writing letters. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, talk about these topics or words from the article. What will the article say about them? What can you say about these words and your life?

moons / an age / message / the world / email / this week / address / delighted / idea  
Internet / paper / stamp / postal worker / journey / overseas / air mail / airplanes

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

**3. POST OFFICE:** Students A **strongly** believe post offices are essential; Students B **strongly** believe they aren't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**4. DELIVERY:** How often are these things delivered to you? How do you feel when you get them? How do you feel if they are late? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners often and share what you wrote.

	How Often	Delivery	Lateness
Letters			
Pizza			
Amazon parcels			
Energy bills			
Flowers			
Games			

**5. MOON:** Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word "moon". Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

**6. BEING LATE:** Rank these with your partner. Put the worst things to be late at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- A pizza delivery
- A friend
- A train or bus
- An Amazon parcel
- A birthday card
- Teachers
- The start of a movie
- Spring

# VOCABULARY MATCHING

## Paragraph 1

- |                   |   |
|-------------------|---|
| 1. many moons ago | a. Brought and handed over (a letter, parcel, or goods) to the proper recipient or address. |
| 2. an age         | b. The place where someone lives or an organization is situated.                            |
| 3. instantly      | c. A time in the not-so-distant past.   |
| 4. delivered      | d. A period of 100 years.   |
| 5. address        | e. A long time.   |
| 6. delighted      | f. Straight away.   |
| 7. century        | g. Feeling or showing great pleasure.   |

## Paragraph 2

- |                 |   |
|-----------------|---|
| 8. envelope     | h. A gentle way of saying died.   |
| 9. journey      | i. A flat paper container with a sealable flap, used to enclose a letter or document.                     |
| 10. destination | j. An act of travelling from one place to another.  |
| 11. overseas    | k. Taken or carried (people or goods) from one place to another by means of a vehicle, aircraft, or ship. |
| 12. transported | l. In another country.  |
| 13. slight      | m. The place to which someone or something is going or being sent.  |
| 14. passed away | n. Small in degree; inconsiderable.   |

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

**1. TRUE / FALSE:** Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

1. The article says a letter was delivered ten moons ago. **T / F**
2. The article said the late letter was sent by a person in Bath. **T / F**
3. The letter was delivered to someone in London. **T / F**
4. A post office worker said the letter was found behind some furniture. **T / F**
5. The article says the Internet ended the art of letter-writing. **T / F**
6. Letters used to take weeks to be delivered. **T / F**
7. All mail is transported by air today. **T / F**
8. The letter's addressee was very happy when he finally got the letter. **T / F**

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** (The words in **bold** are from the news article.)

- |                        |                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. <b>an age</b>       | a. overjoyed          |
| 2. <b>instantly</b>    | b. small              |
| 3. <b>lost</b>         | c. item               |
| 4. <b>delighted</b>    | d. abroad             |
| 5. <b>piece</b>        | e. affixed            |
| 6. <b>stuck</b>        | f. misplaced          |
| 7. <b>destination</b>  | g. departed this life |
| 8. <b>overseas</b>     | h. a long time        |
| 9. <b>slight</b>       | i. journey's end      |
| 10. <b>passed away</b> | j. immediately        |

**3. PHRASE MATCH:** (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- |  |                          |
|--|--------------------------|
| 1. it took an age                      | a. on the envelope       |
| 2. not so                              | b. problem               |
| 3. It then got                         | c. a piece of furniture  |
| 4. why it was more than a              | d. it was addressed      |
| 5. it may have fallen behind           | e. to send               |
| 6. stuck it                            | f. was called "sea mail" |
| 7. It usually took a few days to reach | g. instant               |
| 8. It sailed on a ship and             | h. century late          |
| 9. there was a slight                  | i. its destination       |
| 10. The person to whom                 | j. lost in the post      |

# GAP FILL

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

Many (1) \_\_\_\_\_ ago, it took an (2) \_\_\_\_\_ to send someone a message. Today, we have the Internet. We can instantly send someone on the other (3) \_\_\_\_\_ of the world a message using email. One message that arrived earlier this week was not so instant. A letter was mailed from the English city of Bath in 1916. It then got lost in the (4) \_\_\_\_\_. It was finally delivered 107 years later to an address in London. The Royal Mail postal service in the UK said it was "(5) \_\_\_\_\_ what happened". A spokesperson said she was (6) \_\_\_\_\_ the letter finally arrived, but had no idea why it was more than a (7) \_\_\_\_\_ late. She said it may have fallen behind a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ of furniture.

*delighted*

*piece*

*moons*

*century*

*side*

*uncertain*

*age*

*post*

Before the Internet, people wrote letters on paper. They then put these letters in an envelope. The sender then bought a (9) \_\_\_\_\_ from a post office and stuck it on the envelope. They then put it in a mail (10) \_\_\_\_\_ in the street. A postal worker would (11) \_\_\_\_\_ the envelope and the letter would begin its journey. It usually took a few days to reach its (12) \_\_\_\_\_, if the address was in the same country. It could take weeks if the address was (13) \_\_\_\_\_. It sailed on a ship and was called "(14) \_\_\_\_\_ mail". Later, airplanes transported mail and we used "air mail". However, there was a (15) \_\_\_\_\_ problem with the letter that arrived 107 years late. The person to whom it was (16) \_\_\_\_\_ was no longer living. He passed away in 1951.

*overseas*

*destination*

*box*

*addressed*

*stamp*

*slight*

*collect*

*sea*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

- 1) Many moons ago, it took an age to send \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. someone a messaged
  - b. someone a messenger
  - c. someone a messages
  - d. someone a message
- 2) One message that arrived earlier this week was \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. not so instant
  - b. not so instance
  - c. not so instantaneous
  - d. not so instantaneously
- 3) It was finally delivered 107 years later to an \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. address on London
  - b. address in London
  - c. addresses in London
  - d. a dress in London
- 4) but had no idea why it was more than \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a century belated
  - b. a century irate
  - c. a century latte
  - d. a century late
- 5) She said it may have fallen behind a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. piece off furniture
  - b. pea-soft of furniture
  - c. peas of furniture
  - d. piece of furniture
- 6) They then put these letters \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. inner envelope
  - b. in an envelop
  - c. in an envelope
  - d. in an antelope
- 7) A postal worker would collect the envelope and the letter would \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. beginner's journey
  - b. begin knits journey
  - c. begin nits journey
  - d. begin its journey
- 8) It usually took a few days to \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. roach its destination
  - b. retch its destination
  - c. breach its destination
  - d. reach its destination
- 9) we used "air mail". However, there was \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. ace light problem
  - b. a sight problem
  - c. a smite problem
  - d. a slight problem
- 10) The person to whom it was addressed was \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. no longing living
  - b. no longer living
  - c. no longer live in
  - d. no lengthen living

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

(1) \_\_\_\_\_, it took an age to send someone a message. Today, we have the Internet. We (2) \_\_\_\_\_ someone on the other side of the world a message using email. One (3) \_\_\_\_\_ earlier this week was not so instant. A letter was mailed from the English city of Bath in 1916. It then got lost in the post. It (4) \_\_\_\_\_ 107 years later to an address in London. The Royal Mail postal service in the UK said it was "uncertain what happened". A spokesperson said she (5) \_\_\_\_\_ letter finally arrived, but had no idea why it was more than a century late. She said it may have fallen behind a (6) \_\_\_\_\_.

Before the Internet, people wrote letters on paper. They then put these letters (7) \_\_\_\_\_. The sender then bought a stamp from a post office and (8) \_\_\_\_\_ the envelope. They then put it in a mail box in the street. A postal worker would collect the envelope and the letter would begin its journey. It usually took a few days to (9) \_\_\_\_\_, if the address was in the same country. It could take weeks if the (10) \_\_\_\_\_. It sailed on a ship and was called "sea mail". Later, airplanes transported mail and we used "air mail". However, there was (11) \_\_\_\_\_ with the letter that arrived 107 years late. The person to whom it was addressed was no longer living. He (12) \_\_\_\_\_ 1951.

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

1. How long ago did it take people an age to send a message?
2. Where was the letter sent from?
3. Where was the letter delivered to?
4. How did a postal worker feel when the letter finally arrived?
5. Where did a postal worker say the letter might have fallen?
6. What did people stick on envelopes?
7. Who does the article say collects the letters?
8. How long did a letter take to be delivered overseas?
9. What do we call letters that are transported by airplanes?
10. When did the addressee of the letter die?

# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

- 1) How long ago did it take people an age to send a message?
  - a) ages ago
  - b) many moons ago
  - c) centuries ago
  - d) aeons ago
- 2) Where was the letter sent from?
  - a) Sink
  - b) Kitchen
  - c) Tap
  - d) Bath
- 3) Where was the letter delivered to?
  - a) London
  - b) New York
  - c) Nairobi
  - d) Lima
- 4) How did a postal worker feel when the letter finally arrived?
  - a) apologetic
  - b) confused
  - c) delighted
  - d) amazed
- 5) Where did a postal worker say the letter might have fallen?
  - a) behind the times
  - b) behind some furniture
  - c) from a post truck
  - d) under a sorting machine
- 6) What did people stick on envelopes?
  - a) stamps
  - b) glue
  - c) stickers
  - d) gum
- 7) Who does the article say collects the letters?
  - a) philatelists
  - b) children
  - c) postal workers
  - d) refuge workers
- 8) How long did a letter take to be delivered overseas?
  - a) up to three weeks
  - b) a month or two
  - c) aeons
  - d) ages
- 9) What do we call letters that are transported by airplanes?
  - a) air mail
  - b) plane mail
  - c) cyber mail
  - d) fast
- 10) When did the addressee of the letter die?
  - a) 1954
  - b) 1953
  - c) 1952
  - d) 1951

# ROLE PLAY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

## **Role A – Pizza Delivery**

You think a pizza delivery is the worst thing to be late. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why it isn't so bad for their things to be late. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these being late (and why): a train or bus, an Amazon delivery or the arrival of spring.

## **Role B – A Train or Bus**

You think a train or bus is the worst thing to be late. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why it isn't so bad for their things to be late. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these being late (and why): a pizza delivery, an Amazon delivery or the arrival of spring.

## **Role C – An Amazon Delivery**

You think an Amazon delivery is the worst thing to be late. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why it isn't so bad for their things to be late. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these being late (and why): a train or bus, a pizza delivery or the arrival of spring.

## **Role D – The Arrival of Spring**

You think the arrival of spring is the worst thing to be late. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them why it isn't so bad for their things to be late. Also, tell the others which is the least stressful of these being late (and why): a train or bus, an Amazon delivery or a pizza delivery.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

**1. WORD SEARCH:** Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'letter' and 'email'.

letter	email

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS:** Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

**3. GAP FILL:** In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

**4. VOCABULARY:** Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

**5. TEST EACH OTHER:** Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• moons</li><li>• earlier</li><li>• lost</li><li>• finally</li><li>• delighted</li><li>• piece</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• paper</li><li>• stuck</li><li>• collect</li><li>• weeks</li><li>• air</li><li>• longer</li></ul>
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# WRITING LETTERS SURVEY

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

Write five GOOD questions about writing letters in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

# WRITING LETTERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. What did you think when you read the headline?
2. What images are in your mind when you hear the word 'letter'?
3. What do you think of writing letters?
4. Do you prefer getting letters or emails?
5. In what way are letters better than emails?
6. How environmentally friendly is sending a letter?
7. When was the last time you bought a postage stamp?
8. How useful is the Internet?
9. What things do you send in the post?
10. How important are postal workers?

*Letter posted in 1916 delivered 107 years late – 20th February 2023*  
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# WRITING LETTERS DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

11. Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
12. What do you think of when you hear the word 'email'?
13. What do you think about what you read?
14. What do you think of writing emails?
15. Would you like to be a postal worker?
16. When was the last time someone wrote you a letter?
17. Are real birthday cards better than emails?
18. Who would you like to write a letter to?
19. What do you think of postage stamps?
20. What questions would you like to ask the postal service?

# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

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# DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_

# LANGUAGE - CLOZE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

Many moons ago, it took an (1) \_\_\_\_\_ to send someone a message. Today, we have the Internet. We can instantly send someone on the (2) \_\_\_\_\_ side of the world a message using email. One message that arrived earlier this week was not (3) \_\_\_\_\_ instant. A letter was mailed from the English city of Bath in 1916. It then got lost in the post. It was (4) \_\_\_\_\_ delivered 107 years later to an address in London. The Royal Mail postal service in the UK said it was "uncertain what happened". A spokesperson said she was delighted the letter finally arrived, but had no (5) \_\_\_\_\_ why it was more than a century late. She said it may have fallen behind a (6) \_\_\_\_\_ of furniture.

Before the Internet, people wrote letters (7) \_\_\_\_\_ paper. They then put these letters in an envelope. The sender then bought a stamp from a post office and stuck it on the envelope. They then put it in a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ box in the street. A postal worker would collect the envelope and the letter would begin its (9) \_\_\_\_\_. It usually took a few days to reach its destination, if the address was in the same country. It could take weeks if the address was overseas. It (10) \_\_\_\_\_ on a ship and was called "sea mail". Later, airplanes transported mail and we used "air mail". However, there was a (11) \_\_\_\_\_ problem with the letter that arrived 107 years late. The person to whom it was addressed was no longer living. He passed (12) \_\_\_\_\_ in 1951.

## Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- |     |              |              |               |              |
|-----|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) aged     | (b) ageless  | (c) ageing    | (d) age      |
| 2.  | (a) others   | (b) another  | (c) othered   | (d) other    |
| 3.  | (a) any      | (b) so       | (c) much      | (d) such     |
| 4.  | (a) finality | (b) finalize | (c) finally   | (d) finals   |
| 5.  | (a) ideal    | (b) idealism | (c) idea      | (d) ideology |
| 6.  | (a) piece    | (b) item     | (c) chunk     | (d) bed      |
| 7.  | (a) at       | (b) on       | (c) in        | (d) by       |
| 8.  | (a) mail     | (b) mailed   | (c) mailer    | (d) mailing  |
| 9.  | (a) escapade | (b) journey  | (c) adventure | (d) trip     |
| 10. | (a) piloted  | (b) voyaged  | (c) sailed    | (d) surfed   |
| 11. | (a) sight    | (b) site     | (c) slight    | (d) sate     |
| 12. | (a) in       | (b) up       | (c) over      | (d) away     |

# SPELLING

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. We can lasytnnit send someone
2. It was finally dieelvrde
3. it was caiertnun
4. she was dgdiehtle
5. more than a nutcyre late
6. behind a piece of rirufetun

## Paragraph 2

7. put these letters in an velponee
8. the letter would begin its nuoreyj
9. a few days to reach its tetdnasoini
10. if the address was avseeros
11. airplanes daesrontprt mail
12. there was a tlshgi problem

# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

**Number these lines in the correct order.**

- ( ) city of Bath in 1916. It then got lost in the post. It was finally delivered 107 years later to
- ( ) a few days to reach its destination, if the address was in the same country. It could take
- ( **1** ) Many moons ago, it took an age to send someone a message. Today, we have the
- ( ) Internet. We can instantly send someone on the other side of the world a message
- ( ) arrived 107 years late. The person to whom it was addressed was no longer living. He passed away in 1951.
- ( ) using email. One message that arrived earlier this week was not so instant. A letter was mailed from the English
- ( ) Before the Internet, people wrote letters on paper. They then put these letters in an envelope. The sender then bought
- ( ) idea why it was more than a century late. She said it may have fallen behind a piece of furniture.
- ( ) what happened". A spokesperson said she was delighted the letter finally arrived, but had no
- ( ) an address in London. The Royal Mail postal service in the UK said it was "uncertain
- ( ) a stamp from a post office and stuck it on the envelope. They then put it in a mail box in
- ( ) weeks if the address was overseas. It sailed on a ship and was called "sea mail". Later, airplanes
- ( ) transported mail and we used "air mail". However, there was a slight problem with the letter that
- ( ) the street. A postal worker would collect the envelope and the letter would begin its journey. It usually took

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

1. send message. an to a took It age
2. the city mailed letter of from A Bath.
3. 107 years delivered was It later. finally
4. delighted letter the finally She arrived. that was
5. furniture. It fell piece probably of a behind
6. these in put letters envelope. They then an
7. put a it They box. then mail in
8. days destination. took It to reach usually its
9. weeks address was if the took overseas. It
10. letter person whom the was to addressed. The

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

Many *suns / moons* ago, it took an *age / aging* to send someone a message. Today, we have the Internet. We can *instance / instantly* send someone on the other side of the world a message *using / uses* email. One message that arrived earlier this week was not so *instantly / instant*. A letter was mailed from the English city *in / of* Bath in 1916. It then got lost *in / on* the post. It was finally delivered 107 years later to an address in London. The Royal Mail *postal / posting* service in the UK said it was "uncertain what happened". A spokesperson said she was *delightful / delighted* the letter finally arrived, but had no idea why it was more *than / over* a century late. She said it may have fallen behind a piece of furniture.

Before the Internet, people wrote letters *in / on* paper. They then put these letters in an *enveloped / envelope*. The sender then bought a stamp from a post office and *struck / stuck* it on the envelope. They then put it in a mail box in the street. A *postal / postage* worker would collect the envelope and the letter would begin *the / its* journey. It usually took a few days to reach its *arrival / destination*, if the address was in the same country. It could take *weeks / weekly* if the address was overseas. It sailed on a ship and was called "sea mail". *Latter / Later*, airplanes transported mail and we used "air mail". However, there was a *slight / sight* problem with the letter that arrived 107 years late. The person to whom it was addressed was no longer living. He *passed / passaged* away in 1951.

**Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct. Look up the definition of new words.**

# INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

M\_ny m\_\_ns \_g\_, it t\_\_k \_n \_g\_ t\_ s\_nd s\_m\_\_n\_ \_  
m\_ss\_g\_. T\_d\_y, w\_ h\_v\_ th\_ Int\_rn\_t. W\_ c\_n  
inst\_ntly s\_nd s\_m\_\_n\_ \_n th\_ \_th\_r sid\_ \_f th\_ w\_rld  
\_ m\_ss\_g\_ \_sing \_m\_il. \_n\_ m\_ss\_g\_ th\_t \_rriv\_d  
\_\_rli\_r this w\_\_k w\_s n\_t s\_ inst\_nt. \_ l\_tt\_r w\_s  
m\_il\_d fr\_m th\_ \_nglish city \_f B\_th in 1916. It th\_n  
g\_t l\_st in th\_ p\_st. It w\_s fin\_lly d\_liv\_r\_d 107  
y\_\_rs l\_t\_r t\_ \_n \_ddr\_ss in L\_nd\_n. Th\_ R\_y\_l M\_il  
p\_st\_l s\_rvic\_ in th\_ \_K s\_id it w\_s "\_nc\_rtin wh\_t  
h\_pp\_n\_d". \_ sp\_k\_sp\_rs\_n s\_id sh\_ w\_s d\_light\_d th\_  
l\_tt\_r fin\_lly \_rriv\_d, b\_t h\_d n\_ id\_\_ why it w\_s  
m\_r\_ th\_n \_ c\_nt\_ry l\_t\_. Sh\_ s\_id it m\_y h\_v\_ f\_ll\_n  
b\_hind \_ pi\_c\_ \_f f\_rnit\_r\_.

B\_f\_r\_ th\_ Int\_rn\_t, p\_\_pl\_ wr\_t\_ l\_tt\_rs \_n p\_p\_r.  
Th\_y th\_n p\_t th\_s\_ l\_tt\_rs in \_n \_nv\_l\_p\_. Th\_  
s\_nd\_r th\_n b\_\_ght \_ st\_m\_p fr\_m \_ p\_st \_ffic\_ \_nd  
st\_ck it \_n th\_ \_nv\_l\_p\_. Th\_y th\_n p\_t it in \_ m\_il  
b\_x in th\_ str\_\_t. \_ p\_st\_l w\_rk\_r w\_\_ld c\_ll\_ct th\_  
\_nv\_l\_p\_ \_nd th\_ l\_tt\_r w\_\_ld b\_gin its j\_\_rn\_y. It  
\_s\_\_lly t\_\_k \_ f\_w d\_ys t\_ r\_\_ch its d\_stin\_tin, if  
th\_ \_ddr\_ss w\_s in th\_ s\_m\_ c\_\_ntry. It c\_\_ld t\_k\_  
w\_\_ks if th\_ \_ddr\_ss w\_s \_v\_rs\_\_s. It s\_il\_d \_n \_  
ship \_nd w\_s c\_ll\_d "s\_\_ m\_il". L\_t\_r, \_irpl\_n\_s  
tr\_nsp\_rtd m\_il \_nd w\_ \_s\_d "\_ir m\_il". H\_w\_v\_r,  
th\_r\_ w\_s \_ slight pr\_bl\_m with th\_ l\_tt\_r th\_t \_rriv\_d  
107 y\_\_rs l\_t\_. Th\_ p\_rs\_n t\_ wh\_m it w\_s \_ddr\_ss\_d  
w\_s n\_ l\_ng\_r living. H\_ p\_ss\_d \_w\_y in 1951.

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

many moons ago it took an age to send someone a message today we have the internet we can instantly send someone on the other side of the world a message using email one message that arrived earlier this week was not so instant a letter was mailed from the english city of bath in 1916 it then got lost in the post it was finally delivered 107 years later to an address in london the royal mail postal service in the uk said it was uncertain what happened a spokesperson said she was delighted the letter finally arrived but had no idea why it was more than a century late she said it may have fallen behind a piece of furniture

before the internet people wrote letters on paper they then put these letters in an envelope the sender then bought a stamp from a post office and stuck it on the envelope they then put it in a mail box in the street a postal worker would collect the envelope and the letter would begin its journey it usually took a few days to reach its destination if the address was in the same country it could take weeks if the address was overseas it sailed on a ship and was called sea mail later airplanes transported mail and we used air mail however there was a slight problem with the letter that arrived 107 years late the person to whom it was addressed was no longer living he passed away in 1951

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <https://breakingnewsenglish.com/2302/230220-post-office-letter.html>

Many moons ago, it took an age to send someone a message. Today, we have the Internet. We can instantly send someone on the other side of the world a message using email. One message that arrived earlier this week was not so instant. A letter was mailed from the English city of Bath in 1916. It then got lost in the post. It was finally delivered 107 years later to an address in London. The Royal Mail postal service in the UK said it was "uncertain what happened". A spokesperson said she was delighted the letter finally arrived, but had no idea why it was more than a century late. She said it may have fallen behind a piece of furniture. Before the Internet, people wrote letters on paper. They then put these letters in an envelope. The sender then bought a stamp from a post office and stuck it on the envelope. They then put it in a mailbox in the street. A postal worker would collect the envelope and the letter would begin its journey. It usually took a few days to reach its destination, if the address was in the same country. It could take weeks if the address was overseas. It sailed on a ship and was called "seamail". Later, airplanes transported mail and we used "airmail". However, there was a slight problem with the letter that arrived 107 years late. The person to whom it was addressed was no longer living. He passed away in 1951.





# HOMework

**1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION:** Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

**2. INTERNET:** Search the Internet and find out more about this news story. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

**3. WRITING LETTERS:** Make a poster about writing letters. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

**4. LETTERS:** Write a magazine article about us all moving back to writing letters instead of sending emails. Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against this.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

**5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT?** Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

**6. LETTER:** Write a letter to an expert on writing letters. Ask him/her three questions about writing letters. Give him/her three of your opinions on letter-writing. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## VOCABULARY (p.4)

1. c    2. e    3. f    4. a    5. b    6. g    7. d  
8. i    9. j    10. m    11. l    12. k    13. n    14. h

## TRUE / FALSE (p.5)

- 1 F    2 T    3 T    4 F    5 F    6 T    7 F    8 F

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.5)

1. h	2. j	3. f	4. a	5. c
6. e	7. i	8. d	9. b	10. g

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.9)

1. Many moons ago
2. Bath
3. London
4. Delighted
5. Behind some furniture
6. Stamps
7. Postal workers
8. Up to three weeks
9. Air mail
10. 1951

## WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER (p.19)

1. It took an age to send a message.
2. A letter mailed from the city of Bath.
3. It was finally delivered 107 years later.
4. She was delighted that the letter finally arrived.
5. It probably fell behind a piece of furniture.
6. They then put these letters in an envelope.
7. They then put it in a mail box.
8. It usually took days to reach its destination.
9. It took weeks if the address was overseas.
10. The person to whom the letter was addressed.

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.10)

1. b    2. d    3. a    4. c    5. b    6. a    7. c    8. a    9. a    10. d

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.  
(It's good for your English ;-)