

# 2Ts in a Pod

Podcasts in the Classroom



## Katy Wright & Tim Warre

Teachers & Teacher Trainers CIC & IH Barcelona



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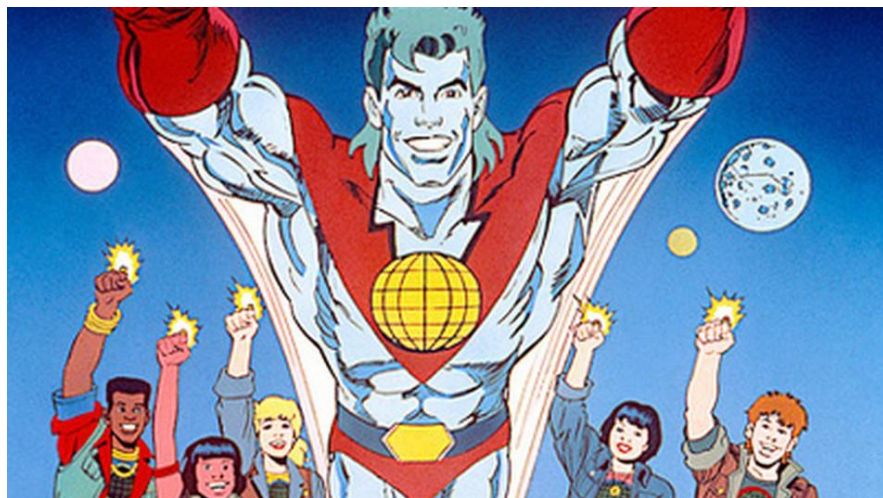


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# Who are we?

- Ben Ward – Freelance English Teacher & sound engineer
- Katy Wright – English teacher & teacher trainer Institució Cultural del CIC
- Tim Warre – ADoS IH Barcelona extraescolar department & teacher trainer at TEFL Iberia



# Who are we?



- Bi-weekly (ish) podcast for English learners B2+
- Interviews, anecdotes and vocabulary based around the topic of the episode
- Topics include: Pet Hates, Food, Coincidences etc.
- A note on authenticity:
  - Made for learners so not strictly authentic materials.
  - Language and delivery as natural as possible and unscripted.
  - Rude words and bloopers often make the edit.



# Podcasts and authentic audio in the Classroom



- Four lesson plans:
  1. Coincidences (2Ts in a Pod)
  2. Pet hates (2Ts in a Pod)
  3. Embarrassing moments (This American Life)
  4. Video activity (Joe Lycett)
- Podcast clips as listening texts
- Podcast clips as vehicles for functional language
- Working with transcripts to boost decoding skills and pronunciation.
- Full lesson plans: <https://freeenglishlessonplans.com/>



Stu(dy)ng  
Stu(d)ied  
Coincidence? I think not.

## Podcast clips as listening texts & vehicles for functional language

*Listen to this clip from episode 11: Small World & Coincidences*

- Katy tells the story of identical twins separated at birth.
- Predict: What coincidences could there have been in their lives?
- Make a note of all the coincidences you hear.
- Key:
  - Both called James
  - Both grew up to be police officers
  - Both marry a Linda
  - Both had sons called James Alan/Allan
  - Both had a dog called Toy
  - Both remarried women called Betty



# Coincidences



*Now listen again and note down useful expressions for expressing surprise:*

- What???
- Seriously??
- No way!
- You're shitting me!
- That's mental!
- How bizarre!





## Decoding exercise:

\_\_\_\_\_ coincidence stories that have happened in the world. \_\_\_\_\_ one. Right. So, as I mentioned I studied psychology at University so I'd, I'd heard about these guys. \_\_\_\_\_ article that I found on boredpanda.com. And it's called "10+ crazy coincidences \_\_\_\_\_ believe actually happened". So here's the thing. There's two twins who were separated at birth.

**I've got some** coincidence stories that have happened in the world. **This one's a good** one. Right. So, as I mentioned I studied psychology at University so I'd, I'd heard about these guys. **This is an** article that I found on boredpanda.com. And it's called "10+ crazy coincidences **that are hard to** believe actually happened". So here's the thing. There's two twins who were separated at birth.

## Production:

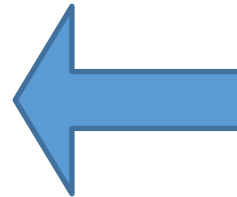
Students plan and tell their own small world/coincidence stories and react accordingly.

# Pet Hates - 2Ts in a Pod: Episode 5

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## Prediction:

- This is Tim
- What are Tim's pet hates?
- Listen to the extract, check predictions
- Ask students if they also find these things annoying.
- Ask students to make a list of 3 of their biggest pet hates and share them with their partner



## Transcribing Pragmatic Language:

- Listen again. Write down expressions they hear related to being annoyed or irritated.
- Students compare.
- Give the students the transcript of the extract.
- Check understanding of the expressions in open class.
- Point out the stressed words in these expressions
- Ask students to repeat the expressions with their partner to practice pronunciation and stress



# Pet Hates - 2Ts in a Pod: Episode 5

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## Production Stage:

- Go back to the list of 3 pet hates they discussed earlier in the lesson.
- Ask students to talk about them again but this time using the expressions from the extract
- Monitor and give feedback on emergent language

# This American Life: 20 acts in 60 minutes – Act 1



## Lead-in

- Do you know this guy?
- You are going to listen to him talking about an embarrassing moment.
- What would an actor find embarrassing?
- Play the audio file (This American Life: 20 acts in 60 minutes)
- Were your predictions correct?



# This American Life: 20 acts in 60 minutes – Act 1



- Listen again and fill in the gaps



So                                                        sudden, the 10 minutes we're sitting there  
                                                       for it            to            start, three or four people                                  to  
me and recognize me. I mean, they know exactly who I am. And  
they are quoting lines from a television show                                                       .  
And like, hey, you were Joshua on Friends.

- Drill the connected speech

- Listen to the extract again and underline the stressed words

So all of a sudden, the 10 minutes we're sitting there waiting for it to start, three or four people come up to me and recognize me. I mean, they know exactly who I am. And they are quoting lines from a television show I was on. And like, hey, you were Joshua on Friends.

- Ask students to practice saying the text to each other using the stress and connected speech

## Language Analysis

- How do we tell stories in English? What tenses do we use?
- “The guy is sort of not taking the photo very quickly.”
- “He’s just sort of staring at me.”
- “I’m like, ok, it was really wonderful to meet you.”
- Present tenses to make stories more immediate.
- Other interesting language:
- “I was like hey” – introducing direct speech
- Fillers:
- So, like, you know, I mean...

- Think about an embarrassing moment that you've had or someone you know has had
- Write down 6 words related to your story
- Now tell your partner
- Monitor for emergent language
- Error correction in open class
- Students repeat the task with a different partner taking feedback on board
- 2<sup>nd</sup> + 3<sup>rd</sup> opportunity to tell story helps develop fluency
- Optional extra: Get them to record their own "podcast" style story and upload it to SoundCloud or a wiki for the others to enjoy

# Joe Lycett: Property Scam



- Lead-in
- Pre-teach vocabulary + UK cultural references:
  - Obsession with class – supermarkets + shops
  - Scams as a concept – brainstorm examples
  - The website gumtree



# Waitrose





# Joe Lycett: Property Scam



## Pre-Listening

- You're going to watch a video of the British comedian Joe Lycett telling a story about how he scammed a scammer via email.
- What do you think he's going to do?



# Joe Lycett: Property Scam



## Listening 1

- Watch the first part of [the video \(until 01:26\)](#) and answer these questions:
  - Gist:
    - What is the scam?
  - Now listen again:
    - Detail:
      - Why does Joe start emailing Gemma?
      - What does Gemma say about the flat?
      - What does Gemma ask Joe to do?
- Prediction: What is Joe going to do next?

# Joe Lycett: Property Scam



## Listening 2

- Watch the next part (until 2:06): Were your predictions correct?
- Detail questions:
  - Where did Joe say he was?
  - Where was he really?
  - What was Gemma's excuse for not meeting him?
- Predict: What do you think Joe will do next?

# Joe Lycett: Property Scam



- Repeat for parts 3&4
- Lesson plan includes:
  - Student handout.
  - Teacher's notes.
  - Full transcript + gapped transcript for decoding exercises.
  - Follow-up discussion activity:
    - Is this a good way to deal with scammers?
    - Do similar scams exist in your country?
    - Have you ever been a victim of a scam?
    - What do you think of this type of comedy? Do you find it funny?
    - Which other stand-up comedians do you like? Have you ever been to a live show?
    - Did you enjoy this activity?

# Useful Tools and Websites



- <https://eltgeek.wordpress.com/> - Olya Sergeeva's blog, great for further reading into decoding.
- <http://tubequizard.com/> - Olya Sergeeva's amazing decoding site: Lyricstraining for Youtube videos.
- <https://soundcloud.com/2tspod> - Give us a like or a subscribe!
- <https://www.thisamericanlife.org/> - Great podcast with full transcriptions + clipping tool coming soon!
- <https://www.wnycstudios.org/shows/radiolab> – Podcast science, technology and more, great for high levels.
- [Kermode & Mayo's Film Review](#) – Film review show with reviews of varying lengths.
- <https://trint.com/> - Transcription software – free trial 30 mins of audio for free.
- <https://freeenglishlessonplans.com/> - Download all the lesson plans.

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