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## **Level 3**

### **Couple finds \$10 million of coins in garden**

**28th February, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

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**Please try Levels 0, 1 and 2 (they are easier).**

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# THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

A couple in California got a huge surprise last year while they were walking in their garden. They found over 1,000 gold coins under a tree. The coins are worth over \$10 million. They counted 1,427 coins. They were all in mint condition. The coins are from the period 1847 to 1894. Some of them are very rare and could be worth up to \$1 million each. The couple said they were walking their dog and they saw some rusty cans sticking out of the ground under an old oak tree. When they dug down, they were shocked at what they found. The woman said: "It was like finding a wonderful hot potato. I never would have thought we would have found something like this."

The couple said they plan to keep some of the coins and sell the others online. They will donate some of the money they receive to charity. They said they would use some of the money to make their house better. The woman had some advice. She said: "Whatever answers you seek, they might be right at home. The answer to our difficulties was right there under our feet for years." She added that people should never be afraid to bend down and look inside a rusty can. Coin expert David Hall made sure the coins were genuine. He was very excited and said: "I don't like to say once-in-a-lifetime for anything, but you don't get an opportunity to handle this kind of material, a treasure like this. Ever."

Sources: <http://news.sky.com/story/1217412/couple-find-gold-coins-worth-10m-in-back-yard>  
<http://www.latimes.com/local/lanow/la-me-ln-gold-coins-california-backyard-20140225,0,2401817.story#ixzz2uPQjSK7W>  
<http://edition.cnn.com/2014/02/25/us/california-gold-discovery/>

# WARM-UPS

**1. GOLD:** Students walk around the class and talk to other students about gold. Change partners often and share your findings.

**2. CHAT:** In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

*couple / huge surprise / walking / garden / mint condition / \$1 million / hot potato / online / donate / charity / advice / difficulties / rusty / genuine / once-in-a-lifetime*

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

**3. HUGE SURPRISE:** Complete this table and share what you wrote with your partner(s). Change partners often.

|                               | How good? | What would you do? |
|-------------------------------|-----------|--------------------|
| You win \$10 million          |           |                    |
| You get 100% in English       |           |                    |
| Someone gives you a rose      |           |                    |
| A long-lost friend emails     |           |                    |
| You reach your perfect weight |           |                    |
| You get a one-year holiday    |           |                    |

**4. GOLD:** Students A **strongly** believe gold is the most beautiful thing on Earth; Students B **strongly** believe it isn't. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

**5. FIND:** Rank these with your partner. Put the best things to find at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- lots of money
- something you lost as a child
- love
- the meaning of life
- your perfect job
- a map to \$1 billion of treasure
- yourself
- an important password

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

# BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

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

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| a. The couple found the gold while they were planting vegetables. | T / F |
| b. There were 1,427 gold coins under a tree.                      | T / F |
| c. The coins are over 500 years old.                              | T / F |
| d. The woman said it was like finding a wonderful hot potato.     | T / F |
| e. The couple will sell all of the coins online.                  | T / F |
| f. They will sell their house and buy a new one in Hawaii.        | T / F |
| g. The woman warned people not to look in rusty cans.             | T / F |
| h. A coin expert said the coins weren't real treasure.            | T / F |

**2. SYNONYM MATCH:** Match the following synonyms from the article.

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. huge              | a. uncommon    |
| 2. worth             | b. give        |
| 3. in mint condition | c. frightened  |
| 4. rare              | d. valued at   |
| 5. wonderful         | e. suggestions |
| 6. keep              | f. lovely      |
| 7. donate            | g. big         |
| 8. advice            | h.             |
| 9. afraid            | i. brand new   |
| 10. opportunity      | j. hold on to  |

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

- |  |                       |
|--|-----------------------|
| 1. A couple in California got              | a. out of the ground  |
| 2. They were all in mint                   | b. online             |
| 3. they saw some rusty cans sticking       | c. condition          |
| 4. they were shocked                       | d. lifetime           |
| 5. It was like finding a wonderful         | e. a huge surprise    |
| 6. sell the others                         | f. was right there    |
| 7. They will donate some of the money they | g. hot potato         |
| 8. The answer to our difficulties          | h. a rusty can        |
| 9. look inside                             | i. at what they found |
| 10. once-in-a-                             | j. receive to charity |

# GAP FILL

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

A couple in California got a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ surprise last year while they were walking in their garden. They found over 1,000 gold coins under a tree. The coins are (2) \_\_\_\_\_ over \$10 million. They counted 1,427 coins. They were all in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ condition. The coins are from the period 1847 to 1894. Some of them are very (4) \_\_\_\_\_ and could be worth up to \$1 million each. The couple said they were walking their dog and they saw some (5) \_\_\_\_\_ cans sticking out of the ground under an old oak tree. When they (6) \_\_\_\_\_ down, they were shocked at what they found. The woman said: "It was like finding a wonderful hot (7) \_\_\_\_\_. I never would have thought we would have found (8) \_\_\_\_\_ like this."

*dug*  
*rare*  
*worth*  
*potato*  
*huge*  
*something*  
*rusty*  
*mint*

The couple said they (9) \_\_\_\_\_ to keep some of the coins and sell the others online. They will (10) \_\_\_\_\_ some of the money they receive to charity. They said they would use some of the money to make their house better. The woman had some (11) \_\_\_\_\_. She said: "Whatever answers you seek, they might be right at home. The answer to our difficulties was right there (12) \_\_\_\_\_ our feet for years." She added that people should never be afraid to (13) \_\_\_\_\_ down and look inside a rusty can. Coin expert David Hall made sure the coins were (14) \_\_\_\_\_. He was very excited and said: "I don't like to say once-in-a-(15) \_\_\_\_\_ for anything, but you don't get an opportunity to handle this kind of (16) \_\_\_\_\_, a treasure like this. Ever."

*under*  
*genuine*  
*donate*  
*material*  
*plan*  
*advice*  
*bend*  
*lifetime*

# LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check.

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

- 1) A couple in California got \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. a hug surprise
  - b. a huge surprise
  - c. a few surprise
  - d. a who surprise
- 2) They found over 1,000 gold coins \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. under the tree
  - b. under tree
  - c. under as tree
  - d. under rat tree
- 3) They were all \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. in minty condition
  - b. in menthol condition
  - c. in mint condition
  - d. in mints condition
- 4) they saw some rusty cans sticking \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. out of the grounds
  - b. out of the grounding
  - c. out of the grounded
  - d. out of the ground
- 5) It was like finding a \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. wonderful hot potato
  - b. wonderful hot tomato
  - c. wonderful hot pot at two
  - d. wonderful hot pat eight oh
- 6) they plan to keep some of the coins and sell \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. the others on a line
  - b. the others offline
  - c. the other zone line
  - d. the others online
- 7) They will donate some of the money they \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. receive to charities
  - b. receive to chastity
  - c. receive torch a tea
  - d. receive to charity
- 8) Whatever answers you seek, they might \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. be left at home
  - b. be sitting at home
  - c. be light at home
  - d. be right at home
- 9) She added that people should never be afraid to bend down and look \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. inside a rust tea can
  - b. inside a rust tee can
  - c. inside a rusted can
  - d. inside a rusty can
- 10) you don't get an opportunity to handle this \_\_\_\_\_
  - a. kinds of material
  - b. kind of materials
  - c. kinds of materials
  - d. kind of material

# LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

A couple in California (1) \_\_\_\_\_ last year while they were walking in their garden. They found over 1,000 gold coins under a tree. The coins (2) \_\_\_\_\_ \$10 million. They counted 1,427 coins. They were all in mint condition. The coins are (3) \_\_\_\_\_ 1847 to 1894. Some of them are very (4) \_\_\_\_\_ worth up to \$1 million each. The couple said they were walking their dog and they saw some rusty cans (5) \_\_\_\_\_ ground under an old oak tree. When they dug down, they were shocked at what they found. The woman said: "It was like finding a (6) \_\_\_\_\_. I never would have thought we would have found something like this."

The couple said they (7) \_\_\_\_\_ of the coins and sell the others online. They will donate some of the money (8) \_\_\_\_\_. They said they would use some of the money to make their house better. The woman had some advice. She said: "Whatever answers you seek, they might (9) \_\_\_\_\_. The answer to our difficulties was right there under our feet for years." She added that people should never be (10) \_\_\_\_\_ and look inside a rusty can. Coin expert David Hall made sure the (11) \_\_\_\_\_. He was very excited and said: "I don't like to say (12) \_\_\_\_\_ for anything, but you don't get an opportunity to handle this kind of material, a treasure like this. Ever."

# COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

1. Where did the couple live?

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2. What were the coins under?

---

3. From what period did the coins come?

---

4. What did the woman compare finding the coins to?

---

5. What did the woman think would never happen?

---

6. Where will they sell some of the coins?

---

7. Who will they give some of the money to?

---

8. Where did the woman say answers to problems might be?

---

9. Who is David Hall?

---

10. What does David Hall not like to say?

---



# MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

1. Where did the couple live?
  - a) California
  - b) Cairo
  - c) Christchurch
  - d) Crimea
2. What were the coins under?
  - a) a house
  - b) a boat
  - c) a tree
  - d) a shopping mall
3. From what period did the coins come?
  - a) 1784-94
  - b) 1847-94
  - c) 1478-94
  - d) 1978-94
4. What did the woman compare finding the coins to?
  - a) treasure at the end of a rainbow
  - b) heaven
  - c) a dream come true
  - d) finding a hot potato
5. What did the woman think would never happen?
  - a) finding \$10 million in gold
  - b) her dream coming true
  - c) getting married
  - d) finding a nineteenth-century coin
6. Where will they sell some of the coins?
  - a) at their local market
  - b) the London Coin Exchange
  - c) New York
  - d) online
7. Who will they give some of the money to?
  - a) Internet start-ups
  - b) charity
  - c) their dog
  - d) the government
8. Where did the woman say answers to problems might be?
  - a) in your head
  - b) under trees
  - c) in books
  - d) at home
9. Who is David Hall?
  - a) the man whose face is on the coins
  - b) the man who found the coins
  - c) a coin expert
  - d) the man who will pay \$10 million
10. What does David Hall not like to say?
  - a) no
  - b) once-in-a-lifetime
  - c) good night
  - d) good luck

# ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

## **Role A – Money**

You think money is the best thing to find. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): love, the perfect job or the meaning of life.

## **Role B – Love**

You think love is the best thing to find. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): money, the perfect job or the meaning of life.

## **Role C – The perfect job**

You think the perfect job is the best thing to find. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): love, money or the meaning of life.

## **Role D – The meaning of life**

You think the meaning of life is the best thing to find. Tell the others three reasons why. Tell them things that are wrong with their things. Also, tell the others which is the least useful of these (and why): love, the perfect job or money.

# AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

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

|             |             |
|-------------|-------------|
| <b>gold</b> | <b>coin</b> |
|-------------|-------------|

- 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>• huge</li><li>• under</li><li>• rare</li><li>• dog</li><li>• dug</li><li>• something</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• keep</li><li>• house</li><li>• advice</li><li>• feet</li><li>• genuine</li><li>• kind</li></ul> |
|---|---|

# GOLD SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

Write five GOOD questions about gold 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<br>_____ | STUDENT 2<br>_____ | STUDENT 3<br>_____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| 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.

## **GOLD DISCUSSION**

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

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What do you imagine when you hear the word 'gold'?
- c) What would you do if you found \$10 million in your garden?
- d) What's the biggest thing you've ever found?
- e) What's the biggest money surprise you've ever had?
- f) Why do people like gold so much? Do you like gold?
- g) Would you like to go on a treasure hunt?
- h) Will you now start looking in rusty cans under trees?
- i) How lucky is the couple in this article?
- j) Why did the woman say it was like "finding a wonderful hot potato"?

*Couple finds \$10 million of coins in garden – 28th February, 2014*  
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## **GOLD DISCUSSION**

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

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What would you do with \$10 million?
- c) How much money should people give to charity if they find money?
- d) Do you find things more or lose things more?
- e) What is your advice if people ask for answers to their difficulties?
- f) How would your lifestyle change if you found \$10 million?
- g) Are you a lucky person?
- h) Would you rather be lucky in love or lucky with money?
- i) What is your biggest treasure?
- j) What questions would you like to ask the couple?

# 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 <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

A couple in California got a (1) \_\_\_\_\_ surprise last year while they were walking in their garden. They found over 1,000 gold coins under a tree. The coins are (2) \_\_\_\_\_ over \$10 million. They counted 1,427 coins. They were all in (3) \_\_\_\_\_ condition. The coins are from the period 1847 to 1894. Some of them are very rare and could be worth up to \$1 million each. The couple said they were walking their dog and they saw some rusty cans (4) \_\_\_\_\_ out of the ground under an old oak tree. When they dug (5) \_\_\_\_\_, they were shocked at what they found. The woman said: "It was like finding a wonderful hot (6) \_\_\_\_\_. I never would have thought we would have found something like this."

The couple said they plan to keep some of the coins and sell the (7) \_\_\_\_\_ online. They will donate some of the money they receive to charity. They said they would use some of the money to (8) \_\_\_\_\_ their house better. The woman had some advice. She said: "Whatever answers you seek, they might be (9) \_\_\_\_\_ at home. The answer to our difficulties was right there under our feet for years." She added that people should never be (10) \_\_\_\_\_ to bend down and look inside a rusty can. Coin expert David Hall (11) \_\_\_\_\_ sure the coins were genuine. He was very excited and said: "I don't like to say once-in-a-lifetime for anything, but you don't get an opportunity to (12) \_\_\_\_\_ this kind of material, a treasure like this. Ever."

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

- |     |                |              |               |              |
|-----|----------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| 1.  | (a) hugging    | (b) huge     | (c) hugs      | (d) hugely   |
| 2.  | (a) worthwhile | (b) worth    | (c) worthless | (d) worthy   |
| 3.  | (a) minted     | (b) minty    | (c) mints     | (d) mint     |
| 4.  | (a) stacking   | (b) sticking | (c) stocking  | (d) slacking |
| 5.  | (a) up         | (b) through  | (c) along     | (d) down     |
| 6.  | (a) ice        | (b) fry      | (c) potato    | (d) pot      |
| 7.  | (a) others     | (b) all      | (c) whole     | (d) rests    |
| 8.  | (a) do         | (b) be       | (c) make      | (d) try      |
| 9.  | (a) wrong      | (b) left     | (c) house     | (d) right    |
| 10. | (a) afraid     | (b) fear     | (c) frighten  | (d) scary    |
| 11. | (a) made       | (b) took     | (c) did       | (d) had      |
| 12. | (a) handle     | (b) hand     | (c) handy     | (d) handful  |

# SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

## Paragraph 1

1. A couple in California got a huge uirsesrp
2. The coins are trwoh over \$10 million
3. They were all in mint cinnotodi
4. The coins are from the poried 1847 to 1894
5. they saw some usyrt cans
6. It was like finding a efldrnuow hot potato

## Paragraph 2

7. They will adteon some of the money
8. The woman had some viedac
9. The answer to our itucfsiildfe
10. people should never be aidfra
11. made sure the coins were iegennu
12. you don't get an yptnoituorp



# PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

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

- ( ) The couple said they plan to keep some of the coins and sell the others online. They will donate
- ( **1** ) A couple in California got a huge surprise last year while they were walking
- ( ) their dog and they saw some rusty cans sticking out of the ground under an old oak tree. When they dug
- ( ) in their garden. They found over 1,000 gold coins under a tree. The coins are worth over
- ( ) genuine. He was very excited and said: "I don't like to say once-in-a-lifetime for
- ( ) afraid to bend down and look inside a rusty can. Coin expert David Hall made sure the coins were
- ( ) better. The woman had some advice. She said: "Whatever answers you seek, they might be right at
- ( ) anything, but you don't get an opportunity to handle this kind of material, a treasure like this. Ever."
- ( ) 1847 to 1894. Some of them are very rare and could be worth up to \$1 million each. The couple said they were walking
- ( ) \$10 million. They counted 1,427 coins. They were all in mint condition. The coins are from the period
- ( ) some of the money they receive to charity. They said they would use some of the money to make their house
- ( ) potato. I never would have thought we would have found something like this."
- ( ) down, they were shocked at what they found. The woman said: "It was like finding a wonderful hot
- ( ) home. The answer to our difficulties was right there under our feet for years." She added that people should never be

# PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

1. couple in California got a huge surprise last year A.

---

2. under coins gold 1,000 over found They tree a.

---

3. the to The from 1847 are period 1894 coins.

---

4. out of the ground They saw some rusty cans sticking.

---

5. finding a It wonderful was hot like potato.

---

6. to plan they said couple The coins the of some keep.

---

7. they charity some money to Donate the receive of.

---

8. make their house better Use some of the money to.

---

9. rusty . and Bend can a look down inside

---

10. this An kind opportunity of to material handle.

---

# CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

A couple in California got a *huge / hug* surprise last year while they were walking in their garden. They found over 1,000 gold coins *under / over* a tree. The coins are *worthy / worth* over \$10 million. They counted 1,427 coins. They were all in *mint / minty* condition. The coins are from the *period / era* 1847 to 1894. Some of them are very *rare / rear* and could be worth up to \$1 million each. The couple said they were *waking / walking* their dog and they saw some rusty cans sticking *in / out* of the ground under an old oak tree. When they *dug / dig* down, they were shocked at what they found. The woman said: "It was like finding a wonderful hot potato. I never would have *thought / thinking* we would have found something like this."

The couple said they *plan / planning* to keep some of the coins and sell the others online. They will *donate / donation* some of the money they receive to *chastity / charity*. They said they would use *other / some* of the money to make their house better. The woman had some *advise / advice*. She said: "Whatever answers you *peek / seek*, they might be right at home. The answer to our *difficult / difficulties* was right there under our feet for years." She added that people should never be afraid to bend *up / down* and look inside a rusty can. Coin expert David Hall made sure the coins were genuine. He was very excited and said: "I don't like to say once-in-a-lifetime for anything, but you don't get an *opportunity / chance* to handle this kind of material, a *treasure / treasury* like this. Ever."

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

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

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

A couple in Cliffron got the surprise last year when they were walking in their garden. They found over 1,000 gold coins under the tree. The coins are worth over \$10 million. They counted 1,427 coins. They were all in mint condition. The coins are from the period 1847 to 1894. Some of them are very rare and could be worth up to \$1 million each. The couple said they were walking through the garden and their rusty cans stuck to the ground under the tree. When they dug down, they were shocked at what they found. The woman said: "It was like finding a windfall right in front of me. I never would have thought I would have found something like this."

The couple said they planted the cans and still thought they were lost. They would not say if they knew they were rich. They said they would save some of the money to make their house better. The woman had some advice. She said: "Whatever answers you seek, they might be right at hand. The answer to our difficulties was right there under the tree for years." She added that people should never be afraid to bend down and look under their cans. Can expert David Hill said the coins were genuine. He was very excited and said: "I don't like to say no - I'll try for anything, but I don't get an opportunity to handle this kind of material, I'll try to look this over."

# PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

a couple in california got a huge surprise last year while they were walking in their garden they found over 1000 gold coins under a tree the coins are worth over \$10 million they counted 1427 coins they were all in mint condition the coins are from the period 1847 to 1894 some of them are very rare and could be worth up to \$1 million each the couple said they were walking their dog and they saw some rusty cans sticking out of the ground under an old oak tree when they dug down they were shocked at what they found the woman said "it was like finding a wonderful hot potato i never would have thought we would have found something like this"

the couple said they plan to keep some of the coins and sell the others online they will donate some of the money they receive to charity they said they would use some of the money to make their house better the woman had some advice she said "whatever answers you seek they might be right at home the answer to our difficulties was right there under our feet for years" she added that people should never be afraid to bend down and look inside a rusty can coin expert david hall made sure the coins were genuine he was very excited and said "i don't like to say once-in-a-lifetime for anything but you don't get an opportunity to handle this kind of material a treasure like this ever"

# PUT A SLASH ( / ) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/1402/140228-gold-coins.html>

A couple in California got a huge surprise last year while they were walking in their garden. They found over 1,000 gold coins under a tree. The coins are worth over \$10 million. They counted 1,427 coins. They were all in mint condition. The coins are from the period 1847 to 1894. Some of them are very rare and could be worth up to \$1 million each. The couple said they were walking their dog and they saw some rusty cans sticking out of the ground under an old oak tree. When they dug down, they were shocked at what they found. The woman said: "It was like finding a wonderful hot potato. I never would have thought we would have found something like this." The couple said they plan to keep some of the coins and sell the others online. They will donate some of the money they receive to charity. They said they would use some of the money to make their house better. The woman had some advice. She said: "Whatever answers you seek, they might be right at home. The answer to our difficulties was right there under our feet for years." She added that people should never be afraid to bend down and look in a rusty can. Coin expert David Hall made sure the coins were genuine. He was very excited and said: "I don't like to say once-in-a-lifetime for anything, but you don't get an opportunity to handle this kind of material, a treasure like this. Ever."







# 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 the gold coins. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

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

**4. TREASURE:** Write a magazine article about the gold. Include imaginary interviews with someone who thinks the couple should keep it and someone who thinks all the money should go to charity.

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 gold. Ask him/her three questions about gold. Give him/her three of your ideas. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

# ANSWERS

## TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F    b T    c F    d T    e F    f F    g T    h T

## SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- |                      |                |
|----------------------|----------------|
| 1. huge              | a. big         |
| 2. worth             | b. valued at   |
| 3. in mint condition | c. brand new   |
| 4. rare              | d. uncommon    |
| 5. wonderful         | e. lovely      |
| 6. keep              | f. hold on to  |
| 7. donate            | g. give        |
| 8. advice            | h. suggestions |
| 9. afraid            | i. frightened  |
| 10. opportunity      | j. chance      |

## COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. California
2. A tree
3. 1847 to 1894
4. Finding a wonderful hot potato
5. Finding \$10 million of coins
6. Online
7. Charity
8. At home
9. A coin expert
10. Once-in-a-lifetime

## MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

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

## ALL OTHER EXERCISES

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