

Planting the evidence

This year, three million¹ households² in Britain will wake up to find their garden has been turned over³ - by a new breed⁴ of burglar⁵. As⁶ the trade⁷ in stolen shrubs⁸, patio furniture⁹ and lawns¹⁰ flourishes¹¹ into¹² a lucrative black market¹³, John Hind unearths¹⁴ the reasons why our back yards¹⁵ have become fertile hunting grounds¹⁶ for fly-by-night¹⁷ thieves

THE OBSERVER -
SUNDAY AUGUST 20, 2006

Shortly¹⁸ after moving¹⁹ into an avenue²⁰ in Whitfield, Dundee, John and Debbie Dolan planted 11 flowering²¹ shrubs to brighten up²² their front garden²³. A week later, leaving the house at 4.30am²⁴ to work in a bakery²⁵, John sensed²⁶ something amiss²⁷.

'I thought "F-un-ny²⁸," he recalls²⁹. 'And I looked around and the garden was very tidy³⁰. The earth³¹ was level³², and everything seemed OK. Then I realised... nine of our shrubs had disappeared. Debbie was dumbfounded³³.' [...] In the long run, passengers flying from international hubs such as Heathrow and Gatwick could even face a lie-detector test before they board.

A week later, John was getting into his car at 4.30am, thought 'F-un-ny' again and clicked³⁴ that there was now level earth where his and Debbie's remaining two shrubs had stood. [...]. Later that day one of their shrubs was recovered³⁵. It had been dropped³⁶ into the field opposite³⁷ and Debbie concluded that the thieves had decided at the very³⁸ last moment that it wasn't an impressive enough specimen³⁹ to put in their van⁴⁰. 'So we replanted it, damaged⁴¹, in its original spot⁴², and put⁴³ everything into reviving it⁴⁴.'

One morning a fortnight⁴⁵ later, John again thought 'F-un-ny'. The sole⁴⁶ survivor was gone, for good⁴⁷.

When reported⁴⁸ to police, the previous incidents⁴⁹ were officially recorded as simply 'Theft, Other'. But they are examples of what is unofficially being categorised as Gardening Crime⁵⁰, or 'GC'. Gardening Crime deserves⁵¹ its own category because it has distinct, special, peculiar⁵² elements. It involves things of value which would be more secure kept indoors⁵³ but which, by their very nature, cannot be. It doesn't threaten⁵⁴ human life but involves the removal⁵⁵ of their living, growing things. It doesn't invade the Englishman's 'castle⁵⁶ but it crosses the 'moat⁵⁷. It is often considered too trivial⁵⁸ to report, yet can spark⁵⁹ extended⁶⁰ bewilderment⁶¹, upset⁶² and paranoia. [...]

In fact⁶³, Britons⁶⁴ are expected to spend more than £3.6bn⁶⁵ on their gardens in 2006 and some insurers⁶⁶ predict⁶⁷ up to⁶⁸ a seventh of the items purchased⁶⁹ will eventually⁷⁰ go walkabout⁷¹ (from garden or garden shed⁷²). [...] The ABI estimates one in seven⁷³ gardens fall prey⁷⁴ each year. Gardening Which? magazine thinks it's only one in 10, over⁷⁵ two years, but breaks down⁷⁶ the woe⁷⁷: 26 per cent have⁷⁸ planted tubs⁷⁹ and baskets stolen⁸⁰ and 13 per cent have plants lifted⁸¹ straight⁸² from the ground. The black-market value of a hanging basket or small shrub is only £5, a

large potted⁸³ bay tree⁸⁴ £30, but the average⁸⁵ insurance claim⁸⁶ after a GC incident is more than £250 [...].

Bob, Frank and Mick are three officers⁸⁷ who take garden crime very seriously. At the Chelsea Flower Show last year they built and planted their own garden complete with deep plant anchors and countless⁸⁸ 'horticultural nasties⁸⁹'. At West Drayton station, on the outskirts⁹⁰ of Greater London⁹¹, they man⁹² a nerve⁹³ centre, above the Dogs Section⁹⁴, where they plot⁹⁵ to banish⁹⁶ GC⁹⁷ from the borough⁹⁸ of Hillingdon. Sgt⁹⁹ Bob Lander, Sgt Mick Smooker and crime prevention design¹⁰⁰ adviser Frank Freeman's jobs are to get inside the minds of garden criminals and either¹⁰¹ hunt them down¹⁰² or make gardens as unappealing¹⁰³ and unpleasant for them as¹⁰⁴ legally possible. [...]

Bob, Frank and Mick size up¹⁰⁵ different types of gardening criminals who've operated on their patch¹⁰⁶. There are drunks¹⁰⁷ going home late who steal plants and flowers 'as¹⁰⁸ a way¹⁰⁹ of getting out of trouble with the missus¹¹⁰'. There are those who steal 50 hanging baskets on a Saturday night to sell for a five¹¹¹ each at a carboot sale¹¹² 80 miles away on Sunday. Then there are robbers¹¹³ stocking up¹¹⁴ with other people's plants and garden ornaments to auction off¹¹⁵ on eBay. There are 'travellers' heading for¹¹⁶ Wales, 'a hotbed¹¹⁷ of garden spoil disposal¹¹⁸'. There are semi-pros¹¹⁹ who'll nick¹²⁰ special plants and shrubs (and koi carp¹²¹) to order for collectors¹²². There are malicious¹²³ or envious¹²⁴ individuals, picking on¹²⁵ gardens entered for bloom¹²⁶ competitions. And there are gangs who'll rip out¹²⁷ an entire Japanese garden, like doing a bank job¹²⁸, while the owners are on holiday. [...]

The shire¹²⁹ experiencing the highest rate of GC in Britain, according to Halifax insurance, is Yorkshire [...]. Halifax insurance estimates that the average Yorkshire garden has a one in 10 chance¹³⁰ of a theft before summer is out¹³¹. But office worker¹³² David Harris, living with his wife in a fortified property three miles from the centre of Doncaster, has devoted¹³³ every spare¹³⁴ moment and penny to ensure¹³⁵ he's not one of them. Since jettisoning¹³⁶ the idea of a summer holiday, last year and this, David has put this money and all his savings¹³⁷ into 'securing¹³⁸ and strengthening¹³⁹ our garden sufficiently so that¹⁴⁰ no man, woman, druggie¹⁴¹ or child would stand a cat in hell's chance¹⁴² of profiting¹⁴³ from it. [...]



Exercise

Which preposition is missing?

by - up to - into - inside - from - out - in - out from

1. I've just received a note ... my teacher.
 2. The two boys jumped ... the school window.
 3. He walked ... the room.
 4. The jewels are kept ... a locked box.
 5. They were persuaded little ... little.
 6. She threw the letter ... the wastebasket.
 7. You can make ... five copies.
 8. Let's divide the cake ... four parts.
-

¹ **Three million:** una nota sull'uso dei numerali come *million, dozen, hundred, thousand*, che non prendono la -s del plurale, tranne quando vengono usati come espressione indefinite. Alcuni esempi: *I bought two dozen eggs. Their profits rose from £187.3 million to £186.6 million last year. She paid three hundred dollars, ma: she earned hundreds of dollars. Thousands of students came to the demonstration.*

² **Households [household]:** a social unit made up of those living together in the same house: famiglia.

³ **Turned over [to turn, turned, turning, turns]:** turn upside down, or throw so as to reverse.

⁴ **Breed:** *kind, class*: specie, razza.

⁵ **Burglar:** *a thief who enters a building with intent to steal*: scassinatore.

⁶ **As:** *while, when*.

⁷ **Trade:** *the activity of buying and selling, or sometimes bartering, goods; commerce*.

⁸ **Shrubs [shrub]:** *a woody plant that has several stems and is smaller than most trees*: arbusto, cespuglio.

⁹ **Patio furniture:** mobili da giardino. Da notare che il sostantivo *furniture* è *uncountable*, perciò un mobile si traduce con *a piece of furniture*.

¹⁰ **Lawns [lawn]:** *a field of cultivated and mowed grass*: prato.

¹¹ **Flourishes [to flourish, flourished, flourishing, flourishes]:** *to grow well or luxuriantly; thrive*.

¹² **Into:** qui la preposizione *into* è usata per indicare trasformazione, cambiamento, risultato. Esempio: *that little boy had already grown into a man*: quel ragazzino era già diventato un uomo. Quando *into* è usata con un verbo di movimento, come *go, come, run, walk, put, sit down, jump, fall, throw*, ecc: indica il movimento che termina in un'area circoscritta o all'interno di qualcosa. *Let's go into the library*: Andiamo in biblioteca.

¹³ **Black market:** *the illegal business of buying or selling goods or currency in violation of restrictions such as price controls or rationing*.

¹⁴ **Unearths [unearth, unearthed, unearthing, unearths]:** *to bring to public notice; uncover*: rivelare. In inglese c'è un gioco di parole con il secondo significato del verbo (derivato da *earth=terra*) ovvero *to bring up out of the earth; dig up*: dissotterrare.

¹⁵ **Black market:** *the illegal business of buying or selling goods or currency in violation of restrictions such as price controls or rationing*.

- ¹⁶ **Hunting grounds** [*hunting ground*]: terreno di caccia.
- ¹⁷ **Fly-by-night**: *who appears and disappears rapidly.*
- ¹⁸ **Shortly**: *a short time. Shortly before/after: poco (tempo) prima/dopo; shortly after/before dinner: poco prima/dopo di cena.*
- ¹⁹ **Moving** [*to move, moved, moving, moves*]: *to go to a different place to live or work.*
- ²⁰ **Avenue**: *a wide road, with trees or tall buildings on both sides, or a wide countryside path or road with trees on both sides: viale.*
- ²¹ **Flowering**: fiorito, in fiore.
- ²² **To brighten up** [*brightened, brightened, brightening, brightens*]: *to make or become more brighter, lighter, more colorful, or livelier: rallegrare.*
- ²³ **Front garden**: giardino davanti.
- ²⁴ **4.30am**: a differenza dell'italiano, in inglese si usano i numero dall'uno al dodici per esprimere le ore. Da mezzanotte a mezzogiorno si aggiunge "a.m." o "am", (=ante meridiem), e "p.m." o "pm" (=post meridiem) da mezzogiorno a mezzanotte.
- ²⁵ **Bakery**: *a place where products such as bread, cake, and pastries are baked or sold.* Anche: *bakeshop*. Questo sostantivo deriva dal verbo *to bake*=cuocere (in forno).
- ²⁶ **Sensed** [*to sense, sensed, sensing, senses*]: *to become aware of through the senses: avvertire, percepire.*
- ²⁷ **Amiss**: *wrong; out of proper order.*
- ²⁸ **F-un-ny**: strano. Sono utilizzati i trattini per rappresentare graficamente la sensazione di incredulità espressa nel commento.
- ²⁹ **Recalls** [*to recall, recalled, recalling, recalls*]: *to remember.*
- ³⁰ **Tidy**: *marked by good order and cleanliness in appearance or habits.*
- ³¹ **Earth**: *the softer, friable part of land; soil, especially productive soil. The Earth è anche la Terra intesa come pianeta.*
- ³² **Level**: *qui: flat and horizontal, with an even surface or top: spianato, piatto, livellato.*
- ³³ **Dumbfounded**: *astonished, amazed, astounded, thunderstruck, staggered, surprised, stunned, flabbergasted: sbalordito, stupito.*
- ³⁴ **Clicked** [*to click, clicked, clicking, clicks*]: *to be understood, or become clear suddenly.*

³⁵ **Recovered** [to recover, recovered, recovering, recovers]: to gain or get again: recuperare, ritrovare. *To recover* ha anche il significato di rimettersi, ristabilirsi, essere in ripresa. Il sostantivo *recovery* può essere guarigione, recupero, ripresa (economica).

³⁶ **Dropped** [to drop, dropped, dropping, drops]: let fall to the ground: far cadere.

³⁷ **Opposite**: di fronte, dirimpetto.

³⁸ **Very**: da notare che *very* non è solo avverbio, ma anche aggettivo con uso enfatico, intensivo, che corrisponde a proprio, vero e proprio, solo. *The very last moment* si può tradurre con l'ultimissimo momento. Altri esempi: *the very thought of meeting her frightens him*: il solo pensiero di incontrarla lo spaventa; *those were his very words*: quelle furono le sue precise parole.

³⁹ **Specimen: sample**: campione, esemplare.

⁴⁰ **Van**: a medium-sized road vehicle used especially for carrying goods and which often has no windows in the sides of the back half: furgoncino, camioncino. In AE: a medium-sized vehicle with windows all round, used for carrying more people than an ordinary car: pulmino.

⁴¹ **Damaged** [to damage, damaged, damaging, damages]: to harm or spoil..

⁴² **Spot**: a particular place.

⁴³ **Put** [to put, put, putting, puts]: qui: dedicare, impegnarsi a fondo, metterci (per la riuscita di qualcosa). Qualche esempio: *if you put some effort into your work, you will improve*: se metterai un po' d'impegno nel tuo lavoro, migliorerai. *To put money/energy into something*: mettere/investire denaro/energia in qualcosa.

Spot: a particular place.

⁴⁴ **Reviving** [to revive, revived, reviving, revives]: rianimare, far rivivere, far riprendere (i sensi) a; riprendersi, rianimarsi.

⁴⁵ **Fortnight**:: a period of 14 days: two weeks.

⁴⁶ **Sole**: being the only one.

⁴⁷ **For good**: permanently, forever.

⁴⁸ **Reported** [to report, reported, reporting, reports]: to make known to the proper authorities, to make a complaint to a person in authority about something or someone: denunciare.

⁴⁹ **Incidents** [incident]: qui: episodi, non incidenti. Incidente è *accident*.

⁵⁰ **Gardening Crime:** o anche *garden crime: burglary of garden sheds and theft of garden equipment.*

⁵¹ **Deserves** [*to deserve, deserved, deserving, deserves*]: *to be worthy of*: meritar(si).

⁵² **Peculiar:** ecco un aggettivo che talvolta può trarci in inganno: non sempre significa infatti peculiare, ma strano, bizzarro.

⁵³ **Indoors;** *of, situated in, or intended for use in the interior of a building.* L'avverbio contrario è *outdoors*. Gli aggettivi corrispondenti sono *indoor* e *outdoor*.

⁵⁴ **Threaten** [*to threaten, threatened, threatening, threatens*]: *to menace.*

⁵⁵ **Removal:** *the act of removing: the fact of being removed*: rimozione, soppressione, eliminazione.

⁵⁶ **Castle:** qui si fa riferimento al famoso detto inglese “*A man’s home is his castle*”.

⁵⁷ **Moat:** *a deep wide trench around the walls of a castle or fortress that is usually filled with water*: fossato.

⁵⁸ **Trivial:** *of little significance or value.* Attenzione! Ecco un *false friend*. *Trivial* non è *triviale=coarse*, bensì insignificante, di poco conto; banale, futile; superficiale (riferito a persone). Esempi: *a trivial accident; the trivial round*= la solita routine.

⁵⁹ **Spark** [*to spark, sparked, sparking, sparks*]: *put in motion or move to act*: qui: scatenare, suscitare. *Spark* è scintilla, *spark plug* è la candela d'accensione di un veicolo.

⁶⁰ **Extended:** qui: *great in range or scope*: ampio, diffuso.

⁶¹ **Bewilderment:** *the condition of being confused or disoriented.*

⁶² **Upset:** *a disturbance, disorder, or state of agitation.*

⁶³ **In fact:** in effetti, effettivamente.

⁶⁴ **Britons:** *a British person*: britannico. Questo termine non è generalmente usato in Gran Bretagna se non dalla stampa. L'aggettivo corrispondente al sostantivo *Briton* è *British*. Ricordiamo che sostantivi e aggettivi di nazionalità si scrivono sempre con l'iniziale maiuscola.

⁶⁵ **£3.6bn:** 3,6 miliardi di sterline. Si noti il punto laddove in italiano utilizziamo la virgola. *Bn* è l'abbreviazione di *billion*.

⁶⁶ **Insurers** [*insurer*]: *a person or company providing insurance.*

⁶⁷ **Predict** [to predict, predicted, predicting, predicts]: to tell beforehand, to say what is going to happen in the future, often on the basis of present indications or past experience: prevedere.

⁶⁸ **Up to**: as many or as much as: fino a.

⁶⁹ **Purchased** [to purchase, purchased, purchasing, purchases]: to buy.

⁷⁰ **Eventually**: è importante ricordare che questo avverbio e il corrispondente aggettivo *eventual* differiscono dalla coppia *eventuale-eventualmente*. In italiano infatti i due termini indicano la possibilità che qualcosa si verifichi o no, mentre *eventual-eventually* esprimono la certezza che un qualcosa prima o poi accadrà (o che alla fine è già accaduto in passato). Esempi: *They will eventually accept our offer*: finiranno per accettare la nostra offerta. *His eventual success*: il successo che prima o poi avrà/che infine è riuscito a ottenere.

⁷¹ **Go walkabout**: sparire. Questa espressione viene dall'Australia e riferita a un aborigeno australiano indica il suo ritorno per un certo periodo alla vita nomade.

⁷² **Shed**: a structure built for shelter or storage: rimessa, capanno.

⁷³ **One in seven**; used to indicate the second and larger term of a ratio or proportion.

⁷⁴ **Fall prey** [fall, fell, fallen, falling, falls]: cadere preda.

⁷⁵ **Over**: in the course of.

⁷⁶ **Breaks down** [to break, broke, broken, breaking, breaks] qui: analyze something by dividing into parts.

⁷⁷ **Woe**: great suffering from loss, misfortune, or trouble.

⁷⁸ **Have something stolen**: in questo caso *have* traduce l'espressione *undergo something, to be the victim of an unpleasant action*: *I had my purse taken out of my handbag*.

⁷⁹ **Tubs** [tub]: a low, open, often round container of any size that is used for purposes such as storage and washing: vasca. *Bathtub*: vasca da bagno. *A tub of icecream*.

⁸⁰ **Have something stolen**: in questo caso *have* traduce l'espressione *undergo something, to be the victim of an unpleasant action*: *I had my purse taken out of my handbag*.

⁸¹ **Lifted** [to lift, lifted, lifting, lifts]: qui: to steal; pilfer. A quest'uso colloquiale si collega il verbo *to shoplift*=taccheggiare, *shoplifting*=taccheggio, *shoplifter*=taccheggiatore.

- ⁸² **Straight:** *in a straight line; directly.*
- ⁸³ **Potted** [*to pot, potted, potting, pots*]: *to plant or grow in a pot: piantare in un vaso, mettere in vaso.*
- ⁸⁴ **Bay tree:** *a species of laurel (Laurus nobilis): alloro.*
- ⁸⁵ **Average:** *qui: typical. Il termine average in matematica indica la media.*
- ⁸⁶ **Claim:** *demand for something as rightful or due: richiesta di risarcimento.*
- ⁸⁷ **Officers** [*officer*]: *officer è ufficiale in senso militare. Si usa anche per indicare un appartenente alle forze dell'ordine.*
- ⁸⁸ **Countless:** *too numerous to be counted.*
- ⁸⁹ **Nasties** [*nasty*]: *dall'aggettivo nasty: qui: trappole, trucchi, trabocchetti.*
- ⁹⁰ **Outskirts** [*outskirt*]: *the parts far from the center of a place or town: periferia, sobborghi.*
- ⁹¹ **Greater London:** *area amministrativa che comprende Londra e le zone circostanti.*
- ⁹² **Man** [*to man, manned, manning, mans*]: *take charge of a certain job; occupy a certain work place: presidiare.*
- ⁹³ **Nerve:** *qui: nevralgico.*
- ⁹⁴ **Dog Section:** *unità cinofila; anche: Canine Unit. Con un gioco di parole omofone, ovvero scritte diversamente, ma con la stessa pronuncia, in AE le canine units sono spesso indicate come K9 units.*
- ⁹⁵ **Plot** [*to plot, plotted, plotting, plots*]: *qui: to conceive and arrange an action.*
- ⁹⁶ **Banish** [*to banish, banished, banishing, banishes*]: *to get rid of something completely: bandire.*
- ⁹⁷ **GC:** *gardening crime.*
- ⁹⁸ **Borough:** *a town having a municipal corporation and certain rights, such as self-government.*
- ⁹⁹ **Sgt:** *abbreviazione per sergeant: the rank of police officer next below a captain, lieutenant, or inspector. Come già segnalato per altre abbreviazioni (Mr, Mrs, Dr, etc.) si noti in questo testo in BE l'assenza del punto, che invece si usa in AE (Mr., Mrs., Dr., Sgt., etc.).*

- ¹⁰⁰ **Crime prevention design adviser**; consulente per la pianificazione anticrimine.
- ¹⁰¹ **Either... or**: corrisponde alla forma italiana o... o, sia...che : *He is either drunk or mad; few of your great writers, either in prose or verse, are Londoners. Si noti la differenza di pronuncia tra BE e AE.*
- ¹⁰² **Hunt down** [to hunt, hunted, hunting, hunts]: *to track or pursue somebody or something until captured or found.*
- ¹⁰³ **Unappealing**: *not attractive.*
- ¹⁰⁴ **As ... as**: *This form indicates a comparison: I can jump as high as you, ma può tradurre anche quasi, appena: as recently as January; he drinks as many as four bottles of milk a day; call me as soon as you can.*
- ¹⁰⁵ **Size up** [to size, sized, sizing, sizes]: *to look at critically or searchingly, or in minute detail: valutare, soppesare.*
- ¹⁰⁶ **Patch**: *a small plot or piece of land, especially one that produces or is used for growing specific vegetation.*
- ¹⁰⁷ **Drunks** [drunk]: *a drunkard: ubriaco.*
- ¹⁰⁸ **As**: *come.*
- ¹⁰⁹ **Way**: *modo.*
- ¹¹⁰ **Missus**: *wife: termine colloquiale usato per riferirsi alla propria consorte.*
- ¹¹¹ **Fiver**: *BE: a five-pound note; AE: a five-dollar bill.*
- ¹¹² **Carboot sale**: *è il tipico mercatino dell'usato all'aperto della Gran Bretagna. Chiunque può partecipare, occorre solo pagare l'affitto per lo spazio dove esporre la propria mercanzia. I venditori, anche famiglie che vogliono sbarazzarsi di vecchi oggetti, espongono la loro merce su semplici bancarelle o spesso nel baule della propria auto (car boot).*
- ¹¹³ **Robbers** [robber]: *a person who steals: rapinatore. Dal verbo to rob. Il sostantivo corrispondente è robbery.*
- ¹¹⁴ **Stocking up** [to stock, stocked, stocking, stocks]: *to keep for future sale or use.*
- ¹¹⁵ **To auction off** [to auction, auctioned, auctioning, auctions]: *to sell at or by an auction: mettere/vendere all'asta.*
- ¹¹⁶ **Heading for** [to head, headed, heading, heads]: *to go in a particular direction.*

¹¹⁷ **Hotbed:** covo (di criminali).

¹¹⁸ **Spoil disposal:** rivendita di oggetti rubati, qui si parla di *garden spoil disposal*, cioè di articoli e piante da giardino. *Disposal* significa anche *getting rid of something or putting something out of the way*, e proprio da questa accezione derivano le espressioni *waste disposal*, smaltimento dei rifiuti, *bomb disposal*, disinnescamento di bombe, e *bomb disposal squad*, squadra artificieri.

¹¹⁹ **Semi-pros** [*semi-pro*]: *semi-professional*.

¹²⁰ **Nick** [*to nick, nicked, nicking, nicks*]: *BE: to steal something from its owner (informal)*.

¹²¹ **Koi carp:** carpe koi. Si tratta di un particolare tipo di pesci d'acqua dolce importati dal Giappone quale ornamento dei laghetti nei giardini. "Koi" in giapponese significa carpa. Quanto al termine inglese *carp*, come altri riferiti ad animali (*fish, sheep, etc.*) può essere sia *countable* sia *uncountable* e invariato al plurale.

¹²² **Collectors** [*collector*]: collezionista.

¹²³ **Malicious:** *having the nature of or resulting from malice; deliberately harmful*.

¹²⁴ **Envious:** invidioso.

¹²⁵ **Picking on** [*to pick, picked, picking, picks*]: *to harass, to criticize, punish or be unkind to the same person frequently and unfairly*: maltrattare, prendersela con. *Stop picking on me! Smettila di prendertela con me! Pick on someone your own size! È troppo facile prendersela con i più deboli!*

¹²⁶ **Bloom:** floreale. In questo caso il sostantivo (*noun*) funge da aggettivo (*adjective*).

¹²⁷ **Rip out** [*to rip, ripped, ripping, rips*]: *use force to remove something*, smantellare, demolire: *most of the original features of the house were ripped out*.

¹²⁸ **Bank job:** espressione colloquiale: colpo o rapina in banca.

¹²⁹ **Shire:** *an administrative division of Great Britain, equivalent to a county, now used in combination in the names of many British counties: Yorkshire, Oxfordshire. The shires sono le contee rurali dell'Inghilterra centrale, quali Leicestershire, Nottinghamshire and Derbyshire.*

¹³⁰ **A one in ten chance:** si noti la costruzione aggettivata che traduce l'italiano: una possibilità su dieci. Infatti, per esprimere una scelta o selezione tra qualcosa o tra un gruppo di persone, oltre alla forma *one in...*, ad esempio: *she is one in a million*, si può utilizzare anche la preposizione *out of*: *one out of four plants survived*.

¹³¹ **Out:** *over, finished.*

¹³² **Office worker:** *impiegato.*

¹³³ **Devoted** [*to devote, devoted, devoting, devotes*]: *to give or apply (one's time, attention, or self) entirely to a particular activity, pursuit, cause, or person.*

¹³⁴ **Spare:** *free, not taken up by scheduled activities.*

¹³⁵ **To ensure** [*ensured, ensuring, ensures*]: *to make sure that something will happen or be available.*

¹³⁶ **Jettisoning** [*to jettison, jettisoned, jettisoning, jettisons*]: *reject; discard or abandon something such as an idea or project. Questo verbo deriva dal sostantivo jettison che indica il carico di una nave gettato in mare in situazioni di emergenza.*

¹³⁷ **Savings:** *money saved, a bank account for savings: risparmi. Savings account: conto di risparmio.*

¹³⁸ **Securing** [*to secure, secured, securing, secures*]: *make safe; make certain something is protected from danger or risk.*

¹³⁹ **Strengthening** [*to strengthen, strengthened, strengthening, strengthens*]: *reinforce.*

¹⁴⁰ **So that:** *in such a way that.*

¹⁴¹ **Druggie:** *(informal) a person who frequently uses illegal drugs.*

¹⁴² **Stand a cat in hell's chance:** *quest'espressione al negativo (qui introdotto da no man) significa non avere nessuna possibilità.*

¹⁴³ **Profiting** [*to profit, profited, profiting, profits*]: *profittare di (from/by something).*