



ELM

English Learning Magazine



April 2013

Issue 3



Easter

Grammar up

Simple past stories

Puzzles

Stories



THE SITE THAT HAS IT ALL

www.enggames.eu

New blog for teachers of English

ELT worksheets

Information about English courses

Free online vocabulary course

Games for learning English

Games for IWB

Infographics for teaching grammar

Videos for ELT

Content

- 4** **Simple past story I**
Short story about a bad day.
- 5** **Cat comic**
Funny short strip for everyone
- 6** **The Truck**
Will Sidney know who the girl is?
- 7** **Easter**
2 Grammar up articles about Easter
- 9** **Simple past story II**
A short story about a normal class
- 10** **Obvious Answers Quiz**
A tricky quiz for you.
- 11** **Maria and the Friendly Goat**
A story about a girl who loved animals

- 12** Puzzles
Here you can win out book Grammar up, if you solve the puzzles.
- 14** Komeeen story
Facebook Fun

Authors

This issue is the work of two people: Lynne Blackburn and Zdenek Rotrekl. We tried to create a magazine which will be as interactive as possible. Even though, it is aimed at students of English, teachers can use it too because each of the pages can be use as a separate worksheet.

Both of us teach English as a foreign language.

This magazine is free and can be distributed and used in classrooms. However, it cannot be sold or used for any other commercial purposes.

Contributors welcome

If you feel like publishing anything that you feel would fit into this magazine please do not hesitate to send it to our email: rotreklzdenek@gmail.com We promise to get in contact with you.

How to use Simple Past Stories

First, use your dictionary and translate the words in the table. Then read the text and answer the comprehension questions. Next there is the new grammar up exercise. Read the text aloud and replace all the - with prepositions (on, in, at, of etc.) and all the * with articles (the / a /an). Moreover, all the verbs are in capital letters and you should put the verbs into the correct tense. If you work on your own, write your answers and then check them in exercise 2 or if you work with a partner, read the text aloud and your partner will check your answers.

In the other exercises you should solve the crossword, put the bold words into the correct order and then retell the story. Enjoy!!!

More Grammar up exercises can be found at <http://www.aj3000.com/grammarup.html>

Simple past story I

1. Translate the following words:

Forget		Leave	
Think		Everything	
Tram		Steal	
Lose		Fall	
Sausage		Stomach ache	

2. Read the text and put the actions into the order as they happened:

Yesterday was a bad day. First I forgot to do my homework and my teacher was angry. I left school at 2 o'clock and I thought that everything was OK. I went home by tram and someone stole my money. Then I lost my keys and I couldn't get home. So I went out but I fell and I broke my leg. In the evening I ate a bad sausage and then I had stomach ache. It was a really bad day.

Put the actions into the correct order

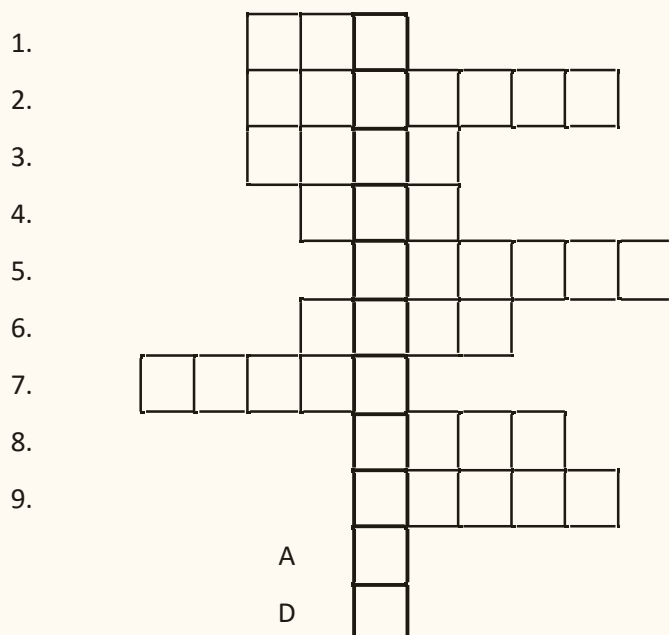
go out
have stomach ache
forget his homework
leave school
lose keys
eat a bad sausage

someone steals his money
teacher be angry
cannot get home
break his leg
fall

3. Grammar up

Yesterday BE * bad day. First I FORGET - do my homework and my teacher BE angry. I LEAVE school - 2 o'clock and I THINK that everything BE OK. I GO home - tram and someone STEAL my money. Then I LOSE my keys and I CANNOT get home. So I GO out but I FALL and I BREAK my leg. - * evening I EAT * bad sausage and then I HAVE stomach ache. It BE * really bad day.

4. Solve the crossword



1. I ____ stomach ache.
2. I ____ it was a really bad day.
3. I ____ by tram to school.
4. I ____ chicken for dinner.
5. I ____ to tidy up my room and my parents were angry.
6. I ____ my house and I went to school.
7. I ____ my arm when I played football
8. I ____ my keys.
9. Someone ____ my wallet.

5. Put the bold words into the correct order

Yesterday was a bad day. First **homework my do to forgot I** and my teacher was angry. I left school at 2 o'clock and I thought that everything was OK.**money home and my went tram stole I by someone ..** Then I lost my keys and I couldn't get home. So I went out **broke but fell I my I and** leg. In the evening **and then I had stomach ache I ate a bad sausage**. It was a really bad day.

6. Find the verbs in the past tense in the wordsearch. There are 9 verbs.

T B L A Q T
O R L T K H
G O E E E O
R K F L L U
O E O E I G
F T F D A H
S T N E W T

7. Retell the story. Use the clues below:

Forget homework
leave school
go home
steal money
lose keys
cannot get home
go out
fall
break leg
eat sausage
have stomach ache

How to use Grammar Up exercises

Grammar up is a new and unique way to improve your English and grammar. Each article consists of two texts. One is bold - this is the correct English - and the other is small - this is the text without grammar.

First read the bold text several times aloud. Then cover the bold text with a piece of paper. Complete the small text in writing first. Replace the dashes with articles and prepositions and put the verbs into the correct form and tense. Once you finish check your answers against the bold text. Then print out the page again, cover the bold lines and read the small text. Add the missing grammar while your read the text aloud. Check your answers at the end of each line.

You can see a video explanation at <http://www.aj3000.com/grammarup.html>

The Truck



Chapter 5

Some of you might have already guessed it. I am a secret agent. But I will probably disappoint you. I am not like James Bond. In fact, I got this job just because I was anything but James Bond.

First of all, I am not interesting. Some people might even say that I am boring. People just do not remember meeting me. For example, two weeks ago I spoke to Jane. She is beautiful and intelligent. However, a week after I met her, she didn't even remember talking to me. She didn't even greet me. Quite simply, I am invisible. I have always been like this. And that's why they gave me this job.

My phone rang again while I was sitting in the tram, which was full of pensioners going shopping. I picked it up. It was Michael from Headquarters.

"I have contacted all our women agents and all of them are fine," he told me. "Are you sure you know the woman?"

"Yes, I am pretty sure about this. I've heard her voice somewhere before, it was very special."

"You know, if this is just a stupid joke, the agency will not pay you. What exactly did she tell you?"

"She said: help me, please. And then the call was disconnected."

"Well, we checked the number and the call was made from Serbia. In fact from a petrol station on a highway. Do you have any friends in Serbia?"

"None that I know of," I answered.

"So you just think you might know her," Michael said in an icy voice.

Might. This was a word which was very unpopular in the agency. We needed facts!! Not might or maybe! Facts. Act on fact!

"I will have another think. " I promised my boss. "But it was a distress call. I know a distress call when I hear it."

Yes, I knew the way a distress call should be made. When I was a scout leader I taught children how to do it. It was easy: first say what is going on, then give your name, give your location and give your number so that the authorities can contact you and check your information. For some reason, I felt that this was extremely important. But I couldn't figure out why.

"Where are you going?" Michael asked.

"Prague airport, " I answered.

"Shall we book some tickets?"

" No, I don't know where I'm going yet. I will call you in two hours."

"Okay, don't forget to collect all the tickets, so that they can pay you for this. Let me know as soon as you know anything more."

Collect the tickets, ha! The real life of a secret agent was completely different from a film.

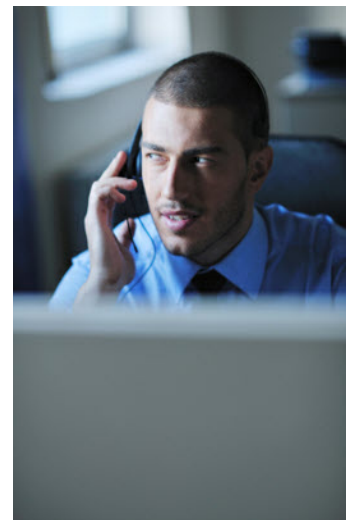
I decided to travel by bus. First of all, the bus service to Prague was much more frequent than the train service and it was more comfortable. A free chocolate drink was included in the price, and you could choose what you will watch or listen to watch or listen to during your journey. So I would be able to put my earphones on and think about the problems I needed to sort.

I watched a comedy for children called Nanny McPhee and I enjoyed it. I practised my English and I forgot about everything. And then suddenly it all came to me.

It was so easy. It was enough to put the facts together. The facts: It was a woman who called, it was not an agent and the call came from Serbia. I do not know anyone in Serbia. I have never been there. And the woman said: „Help me p..." Not help me please. It was only my supposition that she had said please. And that was the biggest mistake!!!

Because when you make a distress call, you aren't polite, you give info. You give your name. A name that starts with P. Petra! And I knew just one Petra with a very special voice.

I picked my phone up. 'Michael,' I said, 'I know who phoned.'



EASTER



Before you read. Translate the following words:

Easter		Maundy Thursday	
Last Supper		crucifixion	
resurrection		Christian	
To whip		A stick	
tradition		A relative	
A willow		Hand-painted	

Easter in the Czech Republic

Easter in the Czech Republic is in many ways the same as it is in other Christian countries.

Easter - * Czech Republic BE - many ways * same as it BE - other Christian countries.

Christians celebrate the Last Supper on Maundy Thursday, the crucifixion on Good Friday

Christians celebrate * Last Supper - ynadMu Thursday, * cuicirniox - Good Friday

and the resurrection of Jesus Christ on Easter Sunday.

and * ecorsteurinr - Jesus Christ - Easter Sunday.

However, in the Czech Republic, we have a strange tradition on Easter Monday.

However, - * Czech Republic, we HAVE * strange ritatonid - Easter Monday.

On the morning of Easter Monday, boys and men visit their female relatives and friends

- * morning - Easter Monday, boys and men VISIT their female tlsrieuae and friends

and whip (beat) them on their bottoms with a willow stick! This stick is called pomlázka

and whip (beat) them - their bottoms - * wlilwo stick! This stick CALL pomlázka

and you can see it in the picture. This tradition is supposed to make sure that

and you can see it - * picture. This ittdnario SUPPOSE - make sure that

the girls stay healthy for the rest of the year. The girls then give the boys

the girls stay ylhthae - * rest - * year. * girls then GIVE * boys

hand-painted eggs. Nowadays, children often get a chocolate egg instead of a real one

adnh-nidaetp eggs. Nowadays, children often GET * chocolate egg instead - * real one

and adult men are always offered an alcoholic drink. The boys

and tldau men ALWAYS OFFER * alcoholic drink. * boys

and men walk around the houses till midday and then they are supposed to go home,

and men walk around * houses - midday and then they SUPPOSE - go home,

but in reality they often stop at a friend's and celebrate till the evening.

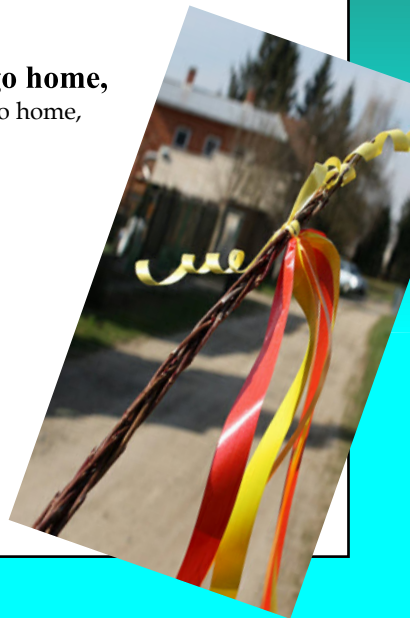
but - reality they often STOP - * friend's and cableeter - * evening.

Do you like this magazine? You can buy
more from us.

Grammar up - 30 texts to grammar up

<http://www.aj3000.com/grammarup.html>

\$ 1.99



EASTER



Before you read. Translate the following words:

A festival		bonnet	
instead		Dress up	
adult		Egg hunt	
What a shame.		Nowadays	
A transcript		rarely	

Easter in Great Britain

Hi guys, Lynford here. Easter is a great festival because you get to eat a lot of chocolate!!!

Hi guys, Lynford here. Easter BE * great fleiastrv because you get - eat * lot - chocolate!!!

I went to visit my grandma and I interviewed her about Easter for you. Here is the transcript.

I GO - visit my grandma and I INTERVIEW her - Easter - you. Here is * transcript.

Me: Hi gran, thank you for the Easter egg.

Me: Hi gran, thank you - * Easter egg.

Gran: That's OK Lynford. Now you are fifteen, maybe you would like money instead?

Gran: That's OK Lynford. Now you BE fifteen, maybe you would like money siadtne?

Me: No, gran, a little egg is just the ticket! What was Easter like when you were a little girl?

Me: No, gran, * little egg is just * ticket! What BE Easter like when you BE * little girl?

Gran: It was special. We all got dressed up in our best clothes and all the girls had

Gran: It was islcaep. We all GET dressed up - our best hstcelo and all * girls HAVE

an Easter bonnet. That's a beautiful hat. We decorated them with chicks, daffodils, eggs....

an Easter btenon. That's * beautiful hat. We DECORATE them - chicks, daffodils, eggs....

I always felt special in my Easter bonnet! You rarely see these nowadays. What a shame!

I always FEEL special - my Easter bonnet! You rrlyae see these nowadays. What * seham!

Me: Yeah, that's a shame, gran. What else did you do?

Me: Yeah, that's * mshea, gran. What else YOU DO?

Gran: Well, on Easter Sunday, we went to church, of course! Then, on Easter Monday,

Gran: Well, - Easter Sunday, we GO - church, - course! Then, - Easter Monday,

we had some fun. We used to have an egg hunt. The adults hid eggs all around the house

we HAVE some fun. We used - have * egg nhut. * adults HIDE eggs all around * house

and the garden for us kids to go and find.

and * garden - us kids - go and find.

Me: We still have egg hunts!

Me: We still have egg tuhsn!

Gran: Yes, and often, these are big, organised events, aren't they, Lynford?

Gran: Yes, and often, these are big, ORGANISE teesvn, aren't they, Lynford?

Me: Yes, there was an egg hunt at Lister Park near here, wasn't there?

Me: Yes, there BE * egg nuth - Lister Park near here, wasn't there?

Gran: Yes. I went. I took your little cousins. They didn't find any eggs, but I found three!

Gran: Yes. I GO. I TAKE your little cousins. They NOT FIND any eggs, but I FIND three!

Very tasty.

Very tasty.,

Me: Gran, you are an adult!

Me: Gran, you are * dluat!

Gran: True, but I do like a nice bit of chocolate!

Gran: True, but I do like * nice bit - chocolate!

Me: Fair enough! Thank you, gran.

Me: Fair enough! Thank you, gran.



Simple past story II

1. Translate these words:

Nervous		To look	
To cough		To drop	
To throw		To swing	
Forward		A seat	
Give sb a chance			

2. Read the text and answer the questions:

Miss Brown was our new teacher. When she came into the classroom, she looked really nervous. Sam coughed and then Micky dropped his pen. Miss Brown said, 'Good morning, everyone. I'm your new teacher.' Jan made a paper plane and threw it at her. Julius swung back and forward on his seat and Renata took her mobile phone out. Peter stood up and said to everyone, 'Come on, guys, this isn't fair! Just give her a chance, will you?'

- a) *Who coughed when Miss Brown came?*
- b) *What did Miss Brown say?*
- c) *Who made a paper plane when Miss Brown came?*
- d) *What did Renata do?*
- e) *What did Julius do?*
- f) *Who helped Miss Brown?*

3. Cover up the text in exercise 2 and replace the verbs.

Miss Brown w__ our new teacher. When she c__ into the classroom, she looked really nervous. Sam c_____ and then Micky d_____ his pen. Miss Brown s____, 'Good morning, everyone. I'm your new teacher.' Jan m____ a paper plane and t_____ it at her. Julius s_____ back and forward on his seat and Renata t____ her mobile phone out. Peter s_____ up and s____ to everyone, 'Come on, guys, this isn't fair! Just give her a chance, will you?'

4. Grammar up:

Miss Brown w__ our new teacher. When she c____ - * classroom, she looked really nervous. Sam c____ and then Micky d_____ his pen. Miss Brown s____, 'Good morning, everyone. I'm your new teacher.' Jan m____ * paper plane and t_____ it - her. Julius s_____ back and forward - his seat and Renata t____ her mobile phone out. Peter s_____ up and s____ - everyone, 'Come on, guys, this isn't fair! Just give her * chance, will you?'

5. Put in a connective: and/so/because

Miss Brown was nervous _____ she was new.
Micky had a paper plane _____ he threw it at her.
Peter thought it wasn't fair _____ I asked them to give her a chance.



6. Match up the opposite words:

New	put away
Nervous	catch
Come in	sit down
Drop	old
Morning	confident
Throw	go out
Take out	pick up
Stand up	afternoon

7. Find the past tenses in here (9):

Z D C Z S X A W K
L G E O D D O E S
T J Y P R X D R C
W P P P P E D H T
D E H G U O C T O
M Q J S O C R I O
R E A T N S A D K
L I S W U N G M L
D E D A M G E L E

OBVIOUS ANSWERS QUIZ:

Try it and learn some trivia*. (Clue – the answers are *not* so obvious!)



- 1) How long did the Hundred Years' War last?
- 2) Which country makes Panama hats?
- 3) We use *cat gut* to make fishing lines. From which animal do we get *cat gut*?
- 4) In which month do Russians celebrate the October Revolution?
- 5) Camels are animals that store water in their humps. They live in the desert. What is a camel's hair brush made of?
- 6) Canaries are small bright yellow birds. The Canary Islands in the Pacific ocean are named after what animal?
- 7) King George 6th (VI) was a king of England. What was King George VI's first name?
- 8) A finch is a small bird. What colour is a purple finch?
- 9) Gooseberries are sour green berries that grow on bushes. Where are Chinese gooseberries from?
- 10) Each aeroplane has a recorder which records all the details of the flight. This is called the black box. What colour is it?

*Trivia = facts which are true, but not really important

Correct answers:

Simple past story II:

2. a) Sam b) Good morning, everyone. I'm your new teacher. c) Jan. d) Took her mobile phone out.. e) Julius swung back and forward on his seat. f) Peter.
5. A) Because b) and c) so
6. New - old, Nervous - confident, come in - go out, drop - pick up, morning - afternoon, throw - catch, take out - put away, stand up - sit down

OBVIOUS ANSWERS QUIZ:

- 1) 116 years 2) Ecuador 3) Sheep and horses 4) November 5) Squirrel fur 6) Dogs 7) Albert 8) Red 9) New Zealand 10) Orange.

Maria and the Friendly Goat



Maria lived in a small village in the mountains and she didn't have many friends. She was a lonely girl who liked spending time listening to music and dreaming about the future. Oh, and she loved animals. She fed the birds, she looked after the family dog and she always stopped to play with the neighbour's cat.

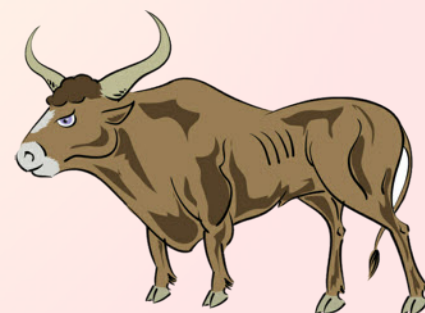
Every day, Maria crossed a big field to get to school. An old goat lived in this field.

Every morning, on her way to school and every afternoon on her way back home, she gave this goat something to eat. She gave him chocolate, cake, a sandwich, a piece of cheese, anything she had, and he ate everything. He particularly loved chocolate, especially kitkats. He loved kitkats so much that he even ate the wrapper! He was a big white goat, with great, curled horns, but he never headbutted Maria. He loved her to pat his head and scratch his back and she spent a lot of time with this animal. Maria thought about a name for this old goat and she decided to call him Choco. He answered to this name immediately. Maria spent three happy years like this. She fed Choco, stroked him, told him all her secrets. She told him about her boyfriends, about her hopes of finding a job working with animals. She told him everything. She thought of Choco as her best friend.

However, all things end and Choco was getting old. One day Maria went to the field and Choco wasn't there. The farmer was waiting for her. 'I'm sorry, sweetheart, I know how you loved Choco, but he has died. Please don't be sad. In human terms, he was a hundred and seven years old! He had such a wonderful life, thanks to you.'

Maria was very sad and she cried, but she was pleased Choco had had such a good life. She sat there for hours thinking about Choco and what a great friend he was.

Many years passed and Maria went to college. She studied Animal Science, of course. It was 20th December and she came home to visit her parents for Christmas. She got off the train and set off to her house. She had to cross the field where she and Choco had been so happy together. She was half way across, when she saw a big, black shape in the field. It turned and looked at her. It stamped its foot. With horror, Maria saw that it was a bull! Maria froze. She stood still. She was terrified! It ran at her, with its head down. She saw huge horns, pointed at her.



Then she saw a white shape, running towards the bull. The white shape stopped in front of the bull and the bull stopped in its tracks, reared up and bellowed. The bull looked frightened! It turned and ran away. What was the white shape? She looked, but she couldn't see it now. Then, she heard something, like paper rustling and when she looked down, she saw a kitkat wrapper.

Maria believed the white shape was her old friend. 'Thank you, Choco,' she whispered to the sky, 'You came back to save me'.

English Puzzles

Hidden picture: present continuous tense.

Colour the squares where the sentence is correct. What letter does it make? Correct the sentences in the white boxes.



The girl is singing a beautiful song.	The boys is playing football on the field.	He making some cakes.	They are jump on the trampoline.	They are eating their food very fast!
The boys is laughing at my joke.	Julius is playing on his play station.	John having a lot of fun!	Are you going to the cinema this afternoon?	Are you read your book?
Mary and Jack are do their homework.	Mr and Mrs Smith are talk with their friends.	The teacher is shouting at the class.	We are camp in the countryside. Our tent is small.	I is sitting on my favourite chair.
Jenny is brush her teeth.	I'm leaving this minute! I've had enough!	Peter and Paul is put some shelves up for me.	I am speaking to my friend on the phone.	Is he come with us? Or is he stay with you?
Mum and dad are watching TV.	Paula is ride her horse.	Micky going to school now.	I am tidy up my room now to keep my mum happy.	Are you listening to me? Or are you looking out of the window?

Hidden picture II: Comparatives

Colour the squares where the sentence is correct. What letter does it make? Correct the sentences in the white boxes.


Norway is colder than the Czech Republic.	Russia is bigger than the Czech Republic.	Math is difficulter than English.	Canada is largeer than the United States of America.	Loch Ness is deeper than our lake.
Holland is flatter than the Czech Republic.	This object is heavier than my bag.	Our countryside is more hilly than the countryside in Belgium.	The top of the mountain is windyer than the village under it.	My nose is redder when it is cold outside.
Michael Schumacher is more famous than Karel Gott.	These trousers are shorter than the jeans.	This building is older than our house.	This mountain is more higher than the mountain near our home.	This food is hotter than the food we had yesterday.
The sky today is cloudier than it was yesterday.	The shopping centre is more crowded today then it was last week.	This watch is expensiver than the one we bought for you.	Our village is smaller than the town.	My pet dog is nicer than yours.
Yesterday it was warmer than it is today.	London is more famouser than Brno.	This river is widdier than the Thames.	People in Africa are friendlier than people in Europe.	It is more difficult to learn to speak English than to learn to speak Spanish.



Present perfect maze

If the answer is Yes – turn right. If it is No – turn left. If the question is not grammatically correct go straight on.

Has Argentina ever won the World cup in football?	Has Lady Gaga flew by a plane?	Has she ever been on the beach?	Has the Queen Elizabeth II. lived in New York?
Has Elton John ever ride a horse?	Has the director Peter Jackson ever written a famous a song?	Has John Lennon died in 1980?	Has Mick Jagger ever played with the Beatles?
Has New Zealand ever won the World cup in rugby?	Has the Czech Republic been the member of the EU?	Has Roger Federer won more than 15 grand slam tournaments?	Has Adele won any Golden Globe awards?
Have Dustin Hoffman played in any comedies?	Has Dan Brown written a lot of thrilling books?	Has Shakespeare wrote Juliet and Romeo?	Has Leonardo di Caprio ever won an Oscar?
Has David Copperfield done a lot of magic tricks?	Has Meryl Streep ever won an Oscar?	Has J.K. Rowling written more than 12 books?	Have you ever read any books in English?


Enter here

Competition

Have you managed to solve the three puzzles? Why don't you send us your solution and we will enter your name into a raffle and three lucky winners will get our Grammar up publication.

So, do not hesitate and send us your solution by **25th May 2013**.

Our e-mail: rotreklzdenek@gmail.com



Komeen story 3 - Facebook Fun

