

All About 'Down'

A) Instructions: Look at the sentences below. Fill in the spaces using a word from the centre box. You will need to change the form of some of the words.

Every year, Jack promises to down on junk food.

..... down! You're going to get a speeding ticket!

Alex always down the Christmas decorations on January 5th.

step	calm
slow	cut
crack	take

Please down! You don't need to panic!

The police are down on drink-driving.

Yesterday, Mr. Shaw down as chairman of the bank.

B) Check your understanding.

1. to leave an senior job or position =
2. to become more relaxed =
3. to remove something hanging on a wall =
4. to reduce your speed =
5. to increase effort to stop a crime =
6. to reduce the amount of something bad you do =

All About 'Down' : Picture Captions



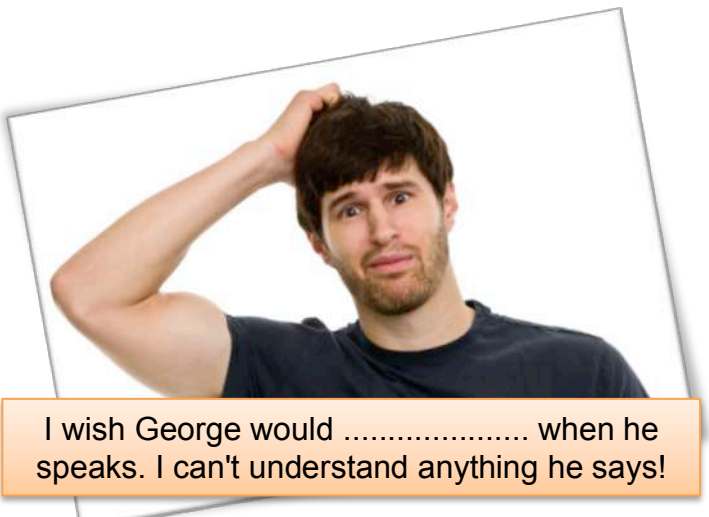
I think you should that painting. It's terrible!



The mayor because of the scandal.



How can I? I've just won the lottery!



I wish George would when he speaks. I can't understand anything he says!



This year, the government plans to tax evasion.



I'm going to fizzy drinks. They're so bad for me!

Discussion Questions

Ask and answer these questions with a partner:

- Do the police ever crack down on crime? Which crimes would you like the police to crack down on?
- Do you ever put up decorations in your house? Is there a rule about when to take them down?
- When did you last tell someone to calm down? Do you get excited easily?
- Have any famous politicians or business people in your country stepped down because of a scandal?
- Is there anything you need to cut down on?
- Are there many speed cameras on the roads in your country? Do drivers slow down because of them?

All About 'Down'

Teaching Notes

Target Structure:	Expressions using 'Down'
Vocabulary:	General
Level:	Intermediate
Time:	40 minutes
Preparation:	None

Suggested Teaching Method

This worksheet looks at six common expressions using the word 'Down'.

Part A

Explain that today's lesson is looking at some common expressions using the word 'down'. Give one worksheet to each student.

Elicit the answer to one of the speech bubbles from a confident student.

Students can work alone, or in pairs. If working in pairs, have one student read a bubble to his/her partner. Encourage students to work through the bubbles in a random order, so that they don't overhear other pairs' answers.

When the students have finished, they can check with a new partner from a different group.

Finally, go through the answers with the group.

Part B

Students can work alone and check in pairs. Go through the answers with the group. Give additional information as necessary.

Picture Captions

Have students cover the first page before beginning this exercise. You may want to pre-teach vocabulary, including: *scandal*, *lottery*, *tax evasion* and *fizzy*.

Students can work alone and check in pairs. Go through the answers with the group.

Discussion Questions

Students should read through the questions first. Answer any vocabulary queries.

Give a few minutes for students to write some notes in the spaces after the questions. They don't need to write sentences – that can be set as homework, if you wish.

After the students have had a few minutes to think about their answers, assign pairs, or small groups. Students can ask and answer the questions. Encourage follow-up questions and eye contact.

Monitor the discussion, but try not to interrupt. Make notes on English errors while you are monitoring.

When the discussion comes to a close, elicit some feedback to the questions. Also, write on the board some errors you heard while monitoring. Elicit correction.

Answer Key

Part A

Every year, Jack promises to cut down on junk food.

Slow down! You're going to get a speeding ticket!

Alex always takes down the Christmas decorations on January 5th.

Please calm down!
You don't need to panic!

The police are cracking down on drink-driving.

Yesterday, Mr. Shaw stepped down as chairman of the bank.

Part B

1. to leave an senior job or position = step down
2. to become more relaxed = calm down
3. to remove something hanging on a wall = take down
4. to reduce your speed = slow down
5. to increase effort to stop a crime = crack down (on)
6. to reduce the amount of something bad you do = cut down (on)

Picture Captions

I think you should take down that painting. It's terrible!

The mayor stepped down because of the scandal.

How can I calm down? I've just won the lottery!

I wish George would slow down when he speaks. I can't understand anything he says!

This year, the government plans to crack down on tax evasion.

I'm going to cut down on fizzy drinks. They're so bad for me.

How are we doing?



Have you taught this lesson? We would be pleased to hear your feedback.

Send your comments to editor@handoutsonline.com.

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