VOL. 3 WEEKLY IN ENGLISH Chaque semaine Ce dont parle le monde anglophone WEEK OF NOVEMBER 9 TO 15, 2026

The Lucerna

HEBDOMADAIRE EN ANGLAIS VOL.3 COMMÉMORATION FOOTBALL CINÉMA

TEXTE EN ANGLAIS EXPLICATIONS EN FRANÇAIS — L'ÉDITION POUR LES LECTEURS FRANCOPHONES

ELEVEN ELEVEN — AND TWO MINUTES OF SILENCE !

11 novembre, 11 h

Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m., Britain, Canada, Australia and America stop for two minutes.

Veterans Day Remember Day Voir page 2

THE BIG STORY À la une

Eleven Eleven : The Two Minutes When the English-Speaking World Stops

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : A2

On Wednesday, November 11, at eleven o'clock in the morning, something quiet happens across the English-speaking world. In London, Ottawa, Canberra and Washington, people stop what they are doing, and for two minutes they stand still and say nothing. It is the two-minute silence – for the soldiers who died in war, and for all who served.

The date is not an accident. At 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918, the guns of the First World War fell silent. The armistice – the agreement to stop fighting – began at the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. In Britain it is Remembrance Day ; in the United States, Veterans Day, for all who served.

The symbol is the poppy, a small red flower. Poppies grew on the battlefields of Flanders, where so many soldiers died. People wear a paper poppy in November, to help veterans and their families. In London, the King leads the National Act of Remembrance at the Cenotaph in Whitehall – the monument to the dead with no grave of their own.

This week is full of other dates too. On Friday, November 13, the BBC's Children in Need appeal fills British television, and a new Scrooge comes to the cinema. On Sunday, November 15, American football comes to Munich, tennis opens its season finale in Turin, and England play Spain in Madrid.

And one promise from last issue : the midterm election results. This issue went to press on November 2, before the November 3 vote – so it prints no results, and invents none. Page 6 explains why counting takes time. Welcome back to VOL.3 !

Note | an armistice = l'armistice • a veteran = un ancien combattant • to fall silent = se taire.

THE WEEK IN NUMBERS Chiffres

Nov 11, 11:00 – the silence (le silence) · 1918 – the armistice (l'armistice)

Nov 13 (ven.) – Children in Need + Ebenezer · Nov 15 (dim.) – NFL Munich + ATP Finals

TRY IT NOW À vous de jouer

A2 1.
The fighting stopped with an ___ in 1918.

A2 2.
A ___ is a person who served in the armed forces.

A2 3.
The silence is on Wednesday, ___.

A2 4.
People wear a red ___ in November.

B1 5.
At 11 a.m., the guns fell ___.

B1 6.
The silence lasts ___ minutes.

SEARCHES OF THE WEEK

Recherches de la semaine Google Trends

1. veterans day
2. nfl munich
3. ebenezer
4. children in need
5. atp finals

Snapshots, early November : search interest changes during the day.
Intérêt relatif, pas des volumes exacts.

IN THIS ISSUE Sommaire

p.2 Silence, poppies & Pudsey A2
p.3 Scrooge comes to town A2→B1
p.4 Munich, Turin & Madrid B1
p.5 Pudsey and the 26 challenge B1
p.6 Why counting takes time B2
p.7 Phrases of the week A2→B2
p.8 Exercises & answers all

THE WORD OF THE WEEK

« remembrance »
the act of remembering those who died in war.

Souvenir. Remembrance = jour du Souvenir.



A field of poppies, painted by Claude Monet. The poppy is the flower of remembrance : it grew on the battlefields of Flanders, and it is worn every November.

Claude Monet — public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

FOUR COUNTRIES, ONE MINUTE

One silence, four names. In the United States it is Veterans Day. In Britain it is Remembrance Day. In Canada and Australia, the name is the same too – with the same poppy and the same 11 a.m. silence.

Remember on Wednesday, laugh on Friday, watch sport on Sunday. See you on page 2 !

IN BRIEF En bref

ELECTION
Nov 3 : Americans voted. Press time Nov 2 : no results, none invented. (p. 6)

SILENCE
Wed, Nov 11, 11 a.m. : two minutes of silence in Britain, Canada, Australia, US. (p. 2)

MUNICH
Sunday, November 15 : Patriots–Lions, Allianz Arena, Munich, 3:30 p.m. (p. 4)

LIGHTNING QUIZ Quiz éclair

Lisez la une, choisissez la bonne réponse Réponses page 8

A2 7.
The two-minute silence is on... A. November 13 · B. Wednesday, November 11 · C. November 15

A2 8.
The armistice began in... A. 1914 · B. 1939 · C. 1918

A2 9.
People wear... A. a red poppy · B. a white hat · C. a blue ribbon

A2 10.
The NFL game in Munich is on... A. Friday · B. Sunday, November 15 · C. Tuesday

Wednesday, November 11 : Two Minutes That Stop a Country

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : A2

On Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m., Britain stops. Buses stop. Shops go quiet. In schools, children stand still. For two minutes, nobody speaks. The silence remembers the soldiers who died in the First World War – and in every war since.

Why eleven eleven ? The First World War ended at 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918. The armistice was signed that morning, and the guns stopped. In 1920, Britain built the Cenotaph in Whitehall, London – a stone monument with no body inside it, for all the dead. Every year since, people have gathered there.

In Canada, Australia and New Zealand, the day is the same : Remembrance Day, the same poppy, the same silence at 11 a.m. In the United States, November 11 is Veterans Day – a day for all veterans, living and dead. The names are different. The silence is the same.

The poppy is small, red and paper. Volunteers sell it on streets and in shops, and the money helps veterans and their families. Many people wear it on the left, near the heart – and they wear it all through November, until the day itself is past.

And what about the weekend just gone ? On Sunday, November 8, it was Remembrance Sunday in Britain – the main ceremony, three days before Armistice Day itself. And in India and in Indian homes around the world, Sunday, November 8, was Diwali, the festival of lights : a five-day festival of lamps, sweets and family, with the main night on Sunday. Two festivals of light and memory, one weekend – both just passed, not coming.

This week looks forward too. On Wednesday, November 11, shoppers mark Singles' Day – 11.11, the biggest online shopping day in China, now copied around the world. On Friday, November 13, Britain's Children in Need appeal takes over television. Page 5 has the story of Pudsey the bear.

ELEVEN ELEVEN Onze heures onze

11 a.m. on the 11th day of the 11th month : the eleventh hour. Two minutes of silence – 120 seconds. Tradition says the first minute is for the dead, the second for the living who came home.

WHAT IS ON THIS WEEK ?

Second story of the week – and it is on your screen. On Friday, November 13, two films open : « Ebenezer », a dark new Scrooge from Dickens, and « How to Rob a Bank », a heist comedy. One ghost story, one bank story – and both for a Friday night out.

On television, the week is just as full. The Children in Need appeal show is live on Friday night, and the ATP Finals begin in Turin on Sunday. Page 3 has the film guide, page 4 the sport.

How do you say the time of the silence ? « At eleven o'clock – eleven eleven. » is the sentence of the week. The phrase box below shows three ways to say it.

Note | a silence = le silence • an armistice = l’ armistice • a poppy = le coquelicot • a veteran = un ancien combattant.



The Cenotaph in Whitehall, London, at its unveiling on November 11, 1920. More than a century later, the same stone is still the centre of Britain's Remembrance Sunday.

Horace Nicholls — public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

DID YOU KNOW ?

The Cenotaph was unveiled on November 11, 1920 – two years after the armistice.

The two-minute silence is held at 11 a.m. on November 11 in Britain, Canada, Australia and New Zealand.

Diwali's main night was Sunday, November 8 : lamps, sweets and family, on the darkest night of the lunar month.

AND YOU ? Et vous ?

And you ? Do you wear a poppy in November ? What does your country do on November 11 ? Write two sentences in English for VOL.4.

Que fait ton pays le 11 novembre ? Écris deux phrases pour la rédaction.

SAY IT : ELEVEN ELEVEN Dire l’ heure

The silence, in three sentences Le silence en trois phrases

At eleven o'clock.
11 heures du matin.

Two minutes of silence.
Deux minutes de silence.

We will remember them.
Nous n’ oublierons pas.

- **remember** = to keep in your mind (garder)
- **silent** = saying nothing (ne rien dire)
- **to honour** = to show respect (respecter)
- **a ceremony** = a formal event (une cérémonie)

This week : on Wednesday, November 11, at 11 a.m., the silence begins. Two minutes – for the dead, and for all who served.

EXERCISES Exercices

Réponses page 8 Retrouvez chaque réponse par son numéro

A THE DATE

D’ après la date et l’ heure, complétez en anglais.

A2 11. Complétez
The silence begins at ___ o'clock.

A2 12. Complétez
Remembrance Day is on 11 ___.

A2 13. Complétez
The silence lasts ___ minutes.

A2 14. Complétez
People wear a red ___ in November.

A2 15. Complétez
The armistice began in ___.

B WILL

Réécrivez avec will + verbe (promesses et choses à venir).

A2 16. Réécrivez
They (remember) them. → ___

A2 17. Réécrivez
She (wear) a poppy. → ___

A2 18. Réécrivez
We (stand) still. → ___

B1 19. Réécrivez
They (watch) the ceremony ? → ___

C COMPREHENSION

Lisez la page 2 et choisissez.

A2 20.
The silence begins at… A. 10 a.m. · B. 11 a.m. · C. noon

A2 21.
The Cenotaph was unveiled in… A. 1918 · B. 1919 · C. 1920

A2 22.
Diwali's main night was… A. Sun, Nov 8 · B. Wed, Nov 11 · C. Fri, Nov 13

A2 23.
In the US, November 11 is… A. Remembrance Day · B. Veterans Day · C. Singles' Day

D THE WORDS

A2 24–27. Associez

24. a poppy
25. an armistice
26. a veteran
27. a ceremony

a. a red flower worn in November
b. an agreement to stop fighting
c. a person who served in the forces
d. a formal public event

Friday Night at the Movies : Scrooge Comes Early

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : A2 → B1

On Friday, November 13, a ghost comes to the cinema – early. « Ebenezer » is a dark new telling of Charles Dickens's « A Christmas Carol », with Johnny Depp as Ebenezer Scrooge, the miser who hates Christmas. Christmas is still six weeks away. The film does not wait.

Dickens wrote the story in 1843, in London. Scrooge is visited in one night by three ghosts : the Ghost of Christmas Past, the Ghost of Christmas Present, and the Ghost of Christmas Yet to Come. By morning, the cold old man is warm again. The book made Christmas what it is in Britain – and the films keep remaking it.

The second film of the week is very different. « How to Rob a Bank » is a heist comedy : bank robbers who film their crimes and post them online. The police follow the likes. It is fast, funny and very 2026 – crime as content.

Which film would you choose ? A ghost story in Dickens's London, or a bank story on today's internet ? In our newsroom, the vote is split again – half for the ghost, half for the bank. Tell us your choice on page 7.

COMING SOON Bientôt au cinéma

Fri Nov 20 – « The Hunger Games : Sunrise on the Reaping » opens in cinemas. Fri Nov 27 – Disney's « Hexed » arrives.

Sun Nov 15 – the ATP Finals begin in Turin. Fri Nov 13 – Children in Need, live from Salford.

One week, one screen, many stories – and Christmas is coming, one film at a time.

A film is not only a story – it is also English practice. Listen for three things : the catchphrase (the line everybody repeats), the joke (why does the room laugh ?), and the ending (happy, sad, or open ?). After the film, try to tell the story in five English sentences.

And if you stay at home, the same rule works for a series : one episode, five sentences, in English. The best five-sentence reviews will be printed in VOL.4 – send yours to the newsroom.

Note | a miser = un avare • a ghost = un fantôme • a heist = un braquage • yet to come = à venir.

A COMPREHENSION

Lisez l'article de la page 3 et choisissez la bonne réponse.

A2 28.
« Ebenezer » opens on… A. November 11 · B. Friday, November 13 · C. November 15

A2 29.
Scrooge is played by… A. Johnny Depp · B. Charles Dickens · C. John Leech

A2 30.
Dickens wrote the story in… A. 1918 · B. 1920 · C. 1843

B1 31.
Scrooge is visited by… A. one ghost · B. three ghosts · C. five ghosts

B1 32.
In « How to Rob a Bank », the robbers… A. post their crimes online · B. rob a ghost · C. hate Christmas

B1 33.
« The Hunger Games : Sunrise on the Reaping » opens on… A. November 13 · B. November 15 · C. November 20

B SENTENCES

Complétez la phrase avec le mot donné.

A2 34. Complétez
The film ___ on Friday, November 13.

A2 35. Complétez
Scrooge is a ___ who hates Christmas.

B1 36. Complétez
In our newsroom, the vote is ___ : half ghost, half bank.

B1 37. Complétez
Marley's ___ visits Scrooge at night.

C THE WORDS

A2 38–41. Associez

38. a miser
39. a ghost
40. a heist
41. a catchphrase

a. a line everybody repeats
b. a person who loves money and hates spending it
c. the spirit of a dead person
d. a robbery, usually of a bank

D PAST SIMPLE

Réécrivez au prétérit (choses déjà arrivées).

A2 42. Réécrivez
Dickens (write) the story in 1843. → ___

A2 43. Réécrivez
The ghosts (visit) Scrooge in one night. → ___

B1 44. Réécrivez
Scrooge (become) warm again by morning. → ___

B1 45. Réécrivez
She (choose) the ghost story. → ___



A ghost in art : Marley's Ghost visits Scrooge, in John Leech's illustration for Dickens's « A Christmas Carol » (1843). Not film art – but this week, every ghost is a star.
John Leech — public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

SCROOGE'S NIGHT La nuit

Three ghosts, one night : Past, Present, and Yet to Come. By morning, Scrooge is a new man – and Christmas is saved, six weeks early.

FIVE SENTENCES

After any film or episode, tell the story in five English sentences : who, where, what happened, the surprise, the ending. Five sentences are enough – and they are excellent practice.

Example : « A ghost comes to a house. A miser is cold and alone. Three ghosts visit him. He sees his past, his present and his future. Then he is warm again. » Now it is your turn.

Cinq phrases : qui, où, ce qui s'est passé, le rebondissement, la fin — cinq phrases suffisent.

Sunday in Munich, Turin and Madrid

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : B1

Sunday, November 15, is the biggest sports day of the autumn. Three cities, three sports, one Sunday – and American football in the home of Bayern Munich.

In Munich, the NFL plays at the Allianz Arena : the Detroit Lions, the home team, against the New England Patriots. The game starts at 3:30 p.m. local time – 9:30 a.m. in New York. It is the Lions' first game in Germany, and a special game for their German-American star, Amon-Ra St. Brown, whose mother is German. The game is part of NFL Week 10, and it is the week's most talked-about fixture.

Back in the United States, Week 10 continues the same day : the Chiefs play the Falcons in Atlanta, the Vikings play the Packers at Lambeau Field, and the 49ers play the Cowboys in Arlington. The week began on Thursday, November 12, with the Commanders at the Giants, and ends on Monday, November 16, with the Chargers at the Ravens.

In Turin, Italy, tennis begins its season finale : the ATP Finals, from Sunday, November 15, to Sunday, November 22. The eight best singles players of the year play in two groups of four, and the final is on November 22. The field was settled on Monday, November 9, after the Paris Masters.

And in Madrid, football takes the stage : Spain play England in the Nations League on Sunday night, three days after England play Croatia at Wembley on Thursday, November 12. Scotland play North Macedonia at Hampden Park on Friday, November 13. One Sunday is not enough – good thing the week has seven days.

WHY MUNICH ? Pourquoi Munich ?

The NFL plays games outside the United States every year, so new fans can see the sport live. Munich hosted NFL games in 2022 and 2024, and will host again in 2028. This year there are nine international games in all – a record.

How do you follow three sports in one day ? Choose one game to watch fully, and follow the others on your phone. That is the modern fan : one screen for the game, one screen for the scores.

The Allianz Arena holds 70,000 people – bigger than most NFL stadiums. And next week ? The Ashes begin : Australia against England in the first Test in Perth, from Saturday, November 21. Cricket's oldest rivalry, back in Australia. The weekend starts on Sunday – and it does not stop.

Note | a fixture = un match (au calendrier) • a group = un groupe • a finale = la finale • a star = une star.

A COMPREHENSION

Lisez l'article de la page 4 et choisissez la bonne réponse.

B1 46.
In Munich, the Lions play… A. the Patriots · B. the Falcons · C. Bayern Munich

B1 47.
The Munich game starts at… A. 9:30 a.m. Munich time · B. 7:45 p.m. · C. 3:30 p.m. local time

B1 48.
The ATP Finals are in… A. Paris · B. Turin · C. Madrid

B1 49.
England play Croatia on… A. Thursday, November 12 · B. Friday, November 13 · C. Sunday, November 15

B1 50.
Scotland play… A. Spain · B. Croatia · C. North Macedonia

B1 51.
Week 10 ends with… A. Commanders at Giants · B. Chargers at Ravens · C. 49ers at Cowboys

B SENTENCES

Complétez la phrase avec le mot donné.

B1 52. Complétez
The Allianz Arena ___ the NFL on Sunday.

B1 53. Complétez
The ATP Finals ___ on Sunday, November 15.

A2 54. Complétez
The Allianz Arena is ___ than most NFL stadiums.

A2 55. Complétez
___ singles players play in Turin.

C THE WORDS

B1 56–59. Associez

56. a fixture
57. a group
58. a finale
59. a star

a. a famous player, loved by the fans
b. a game in a season's schedule
c. the last event of a season
d. a small set of players who play each other

D PAST SIMPLE

Réécrivez au prétérit (pour parler d'un match terminé).

B1 60. Réécrivez
The Lions (play) in Munich on Sunday. → ___

B1 61. Réécrivez
She (watch) the tennis in Turin. → ___

B1 62. Réécrivez
They (follow) the scores on their phones. → ___

B1 63. Réécrivez
He (choose) one game to watch fully. → ___



American football in 1910 : Miami against Wittenberg. The helmets were leather, the fields were mud – but the game was already America's game. This week, the game goes to Munich.
Frank R. Snyder — public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15 Dimanche

NFL : Patriots–Lions, Munich (Allianz Arena), 3:30 p.m. local time.

ATP Finals begin, Turin. Nations League : Spain–England, Madrid, 7:45 p.m.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 12 : England–Croatia, Wembley. FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13 : Scotland–North Macedonia, Hampden.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16 : Chargers–Ravens close NFL Week 10.

ONE SCREEN, TWO SCREENS

The modern fan watches one game fully and follows the others on a phone. Try it in English : « The score is 14–10. » « Who scored ? » « Munich is winning ! » – short sentences, live English.

Anglais du match : le score, qui a marqué, qui mène — des phrases courtes, c'est l'anglais en direct.

Friday, November 13 : Pudsey, 26 and Kindness

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : B1

On Friday, November 13, Britain turns yellow. It is the BBC Children in Need appeal show, live from Salford, on BBC One and iPlayer – a night of music, comedy and stories, to raise money for children and young people across the UK. The star is a yellow bear with a spotted bandage over one eye : Pudsey Bear.

This year's idea is simple : Challenge Yourself 2026. Take on a challenge inspired by the number 26 – 26 miles, 26 cakes, 26 songs. Run with Pudsey and Joe Wicks asks people to walk, run or roll two miles a day for two weeks, until they reach a marathon. Every mile, every pound, helps a child who needs someone by their side.

The presenters are Alex Jones, Sara Cox, Rylan and Mel Giedroyc, with Tyler West. Schools join in too : in the week of November 9, children run, bake and dress up, and the money goes to projects near their homes. One night, one bear, thousands of small challenges.

Friday, November 13, is also World Kindness Day. Kindness is the week's other word : a small act, a kind message, help for a stranger. On social media, young people post their 26 challenges with the same sentence : « Challenge yourself – and be kind. » That is the most repeated sentence of the week.

And the children ? They watch Pudsey, and they ask the best questions : « Why does Pudsey wear a bandage ? » « Can we do 26 too ? » « How much money will we raise ? » The answer to the last question is : we will know on Friday night. The total will still be there in the morning – and so will the kindness.

26, IN NUMBERS Le nombre 26

26 miles is a marathon, more or less. Two miles a day adds up to 26 – that is why the number is 26. One challenge, one number, thousands of children helped.

If you want to practise Friday-night English, try this : watch ten minutes of the appeal show in English, and write down five sentences you hear. « Challenge yourself » will certainly be one of them. The other four are your homework.

Note | an appeal = l'appel aux dons • a challenge = le défi • to raise money = collecter des fonds • kindness = la gentillesse.

A COMPREHENSION

Lisez l'article de la page 5 et choisissez la bonne réponse.

B1 64.
The Children in Need appeal show is on... A. Wednesday, November 11 · B. Friday, November 13 · C. Sunday, November 15

B1 65.
Pudsey Bear is... A. a yellow bear · B. a red poppy · C. a footballer

B1 66.
Challenge Yourself 2026 is inspired by... A. 11 · B. 13 · C. 26

B1 67.
Run with Pudsey asks for... A. one mile a day · B. two miles a day · C. 26 miles a day

B1 68.
The appeal show is live from... A. Salford · B. Munich · C. Turin

B1 69.
Friday, November 13, is also... A. Veterans Day · B. Diwali · C. World Kindness Day

B SENTENCES

Complétez la phrase avec le mot donné.

B1 70. Complétez
Take on a ___ inspired by 26.

B1 71. Complétez
The show helps to ___ money for children.

A2 72. Complétez
Be ___ : help a stranger today.

A2 73. Complétez
The show is ___ from Salford.

C THE WORDS

B1 74–77. Associez

74. an appeal
75. a challenge
76. kindness
77. a marathon

a. being kind to other people
b. a race of about 26 miles
c. a public call for help and money
d. a hard task you take on

D PRESENT CONTINUOUS

Réécrivez au présent continu (une action en cours).

B1 78. Réécrivez
Children (run) two miles today. → ___

B1 79. Réécrivez
Schools (bake) 26 cakes this week. → ___

B1 80. Réécrivez
We (watch) Pudsey tonight. → ___

B1 81. Réécrivez
She (raise) money for children. → ___

FIVE SENTENCES Cinq phrases

Watch ten minutes of the appeal show in English. Write down five sentences you hear. « Challenge yourself » will be one of them.

FRIDAY-NIGHT PHRASES

« Challenge yourself ! » « Every mile helps. » « Be kind ! » – three sentences for one night. Learn them, and Friday night in English is yours.

« Every mile helps » means : each small step counts. After that sentence, the running begins – and the giving too.

Chaque mile compte | Every mile helps = chaque pas compte.

MUNICH WEEKEND

After Friday, the weekend keeps going : the Lions' Fan Fest in Munich on Friday and Saturday, November 13–14, at Odeonsplatz, before Sunday's game. The weekend warms up for Munich.

After November 3 : Why the Results Take Time

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level : B2

On Tuesday, November 3, Americans voted in the midterm election – all 435 seats in the House of Representatives, about a third of the Senate, and governorships in many states. This issue went to press on Monday, November 2, the day before the vote. That is why it prints no results. There were no results to print – and this paper invents none.

Some races are called on election night. A news organisation « calls » a race when the maths is clear : the candidate behind cannot catch up. But a call is not the official result. The official result comes later, when each state checks – the canvass – and certifies its count. States certify between November 10 and December 18, and in some states there is no fixed date at all.

Why does counting take days ? Mail ballots take time : every envelope must be opened, every signature checked. Some states count mail ballots that arrive after Election Day, if they were posted in time. In Alaska and Maine, ranked-choice voting can add rounds – and days. In Georgia and Mississippi, a Senate race with no majority winner goes to a runoff on December 1.

Leads can change as the count goes on. In some states, the votes cast on the day are counted first ; in others, mail votes come first. A candidate who leads at midnight can trail by Friday – and that is normal. It is not a sign of anything wrong. It is the system, working slowly, in public.

The last midterm, in 2022, tells the same story. The Senate was not decided until the Saturday after Election Day, and the House until the Wednesday after. Nobody knows whether this year will be faster or slower – and this paper will not guess.

A PRACTICE BALLOT Bulletin test

For Governor : ☐ Candidate A · ☐ Candidate B. For the House : ☐ Candidate C · ☐ Candidate D. Names are codes here – this ballot teaches how to mark, not whom to choose.

A note on numbers in this issue : this paper prints no poll figures and no predictions, and no results it cannot verify. When the verified results are in, VOL.4 will report them – who won, and what changes. Patience is part of the system, not a failure of it.

Note | to call a race = annoncer le résultat • to certify = certifier • a runoff = le second tour • patience = la patience.

READ THE CHART Graphique

How long did the last midterm take ? In 2022, the count ran past election night. The chart is history, not a prediction for 2026.

Senate decided : 4 days after Election Day (2022)

House decided : 8 days after Election Day (2022)

States certify : November 10 to December 18 (2026 calendar)

Runoff, if needed : December 1 (Georgia / Mississippi)

A CHART READING

Lisez le graphique historique ci-dessus, choisissez la bonne réponse.

B2 82.
In 2022, the Senate was decided… A. on election night · B. 4 days after Election Day · C. 18 days after

B2 83.
In 2022, the House was decided… A. 4 days after · B. 6 days after · C. 8 days after

B2 84.
States certify between… A. November 10 and December 18 · B. November 3 and 10 · C. December 1 and 31

B2 85.
A runoff, if needed, is on… A. November 10 · B. December 1 · C. December 18

B2 86.
This chart is… A. history, not a prediction · B. a prediction · C. a poll

B2 87.
The House took longer than the Senate by… A. 2 days · B. 12 days · C. 4 days

B COMPREHENSION

Lisez l’ article de la page 6 et choisissez la bonne réponse.

B2 88.
This issue went to press on… A. November 3 · B. November 2 · C. November 11

B2 89.
The official result comes when… A. the state certifies its count · B. TV calls the race · C. the first votes arrive

B2 90.
Counting takes time because… A. TV is slow · B. voters are late · C. mail ballots must be opened and checked

B2 91.
Ranked-choice voting is used in… A. Texas and Florida · B. Alaska and Maine · C. Ohio and Georgia

B2 92.
A lead that changes is… A. normal · B. a sign of fraud · C. impossible

B2 93.
The verified results will be reported in… A. VOL.2 · B. this issue · C. VOL.4

C SENTENCES

Complétez la phrase avec le mot donné.

B2 94. Complétez
Each state must ___ its count.

B2 95. Complétez
News organisations ___ a race when the maths is clear.

B2 96. Complétez
___ is part of the system.

B1 97. Complétez
Counting ___ time in every state.

B1 98. Complétez
The rule ___ from state to state.

B1 99. Complétez
A call is not the ___ result.



A voting booth in the Old State House, Hartford, Connecticut : one voter, one ballot, one private moment. On Tuesday, November 3, millions of Americans did the same.
Kenneth C. Zirkel — CC0, via Wikimedia Commons

HOW LONG ? Quelle durée ?

House : 2 years, all 435 seats each midterm. Senate : 6 years, about a third each election. President : 4 years. Governor : usually 4 years.

FIFTY ELECTIONS

One country, fifty systems : that is why American election night is a map, not a single number. Learn the map, and the night makes sense.

Une carte : cinquante États, cinquante règles — c’ est pourquoi, le soir des élections, on regarde une carte, pas un seul chiffre.

LANGUAGE IN HAND La langue en main

LEVEL A2 Les bases

ELEVEN ELEVEN

« At eleven o'clock, we stop. » Eleven is the number of the week : the eleventh hour, the eleventh day, the eleventh month. Say it slowly : e-LEV-en. The silence starts at eleven – and the word is easy to remember, because the date is the word.

WILL + VERB

For a plan or a promise : « We will remember them. » will + the verb, with no change. It is the future of the week – use it for every promise of November 11.

THE EXAMPLE L'exemple

« The silence will last two minutes. » – will + last (page 2).

LEVEL B1 Plus loin

COMPARATIVES

Short adjective + -er + than : « The Allianz Arena is bigger than most NFL stadiums. » Long adjective : more + adjective : « more convenient ». And good becomes better – never « more good ». The Allianz example is on page 4.

THE PAST SIMPLE

Regular verbs add -ed : remembered, watched. Irregular verbs change : write → wrote, go → went, choose → chose. Use it for what is already finished – Diwali, which was on November 8, and Bonfire Night, which was on November 5. The November 15 games are still to come at press time, so their results are not past yet.

THE EXAMPLE L'exemple

« Dickens wrote the story in 1843. » – write → wrote (page 3).

LEVEL B2 Le défi

HEADLINE PRESENT

Headlines speak in the present : « Munich waits for the NFL. » The present simple makes news feel live. Read the front page again and find three present-tense verbs.

WHETHER = IF ?

« Nobody knows whether this year will be faster or slower. » Whether introduces an open question inside a sentence – more elegant than if, and safe everywhere. It is the word for counting-week uncertainty.

THE EXAMPLE L'exemple

« Patience is part of the system, not a failure of it. » – part of = une partie (page 6).

THE TOOLBOX Boîte à outils

Three sentences to keep in your pocket, one for each level :

A2 – « At eleven o'clock – we stop. »

B1 – « Dickens wrote the story in 1843.»

B2 – « Nobody knows whether this year will be faster. »

And the newspaper reflex : every phrase of the week comes from an article of this issue. Re-read the article, and the phrase becomes easy.

Boîte à outils : trois phrases de poche, une par niveau ; toutes les phrases de la semaine viennent des articles de ce numéro — relisez l'article, et la phrase devient facile.

PHRASES OF THE WEEK Phrases de la semaine (de ce numéro)

Chaque phrase : un point de grammaire + un petit exercice Réponses page 8

« On Wednesday, November 11, at eleven o'clock in the morning, something quiet happens across the English-speaking world. » (page 1)

Grammaire : happen prend un -s à la 3e personne.

A2 100.
Something quiet ___ across the world. (happen)

« At 11 a.m. on November 11, 1918, the guns of the First World War fell silent. » (page 1)

Grammaire : le prétérit de fall est fell.

B1 101.
The guns ___ silent in 1918. (fall)

« For two minutes, nobody speaks. » (page 2)

Grammaire : après nobody, le verbe est au singulier.

A2 102.
For two minutes, nobody ___. (speak)

« Christmas is still six weeks away. » (page 3)

Grammaire : is = est ; still = toujours, encore.

B1 103.
Christmas ___ still six weeks away. (be)

« One Sunday is not enough – good thing the week has seven days. » (page 4)

Grammaire : has = a ; the week, singulier, prend has.

B1 104.
The week ___ seven days. (have)

« The total will still be there in the morning – and so will the kindness. » (page 5)

Grammaire : will still = continuera ; still se place après will.

B2 105.
The total ___ still be there. (will)

« Patience is part of the system, not a failure of it. » (page 6)

Grammaire : of = de ; part of = une partie de.

B2 106.
Patience is part of the system, not a failure ___ it. (of)

« There were no results to print – and this paper invents none. » (page 6)

Grammaire : there were = prétérit de « il y a ».

A2 107.
There ___ no results to print. (be)

THE ERROR CLINIC Les erreurs

Chaque phrase contient une erreur : trouvez-la et corrigez-la.

A2 108. Corrigez
✗ « He don't remember them. »

A2 109. Corrigez
✗ « Yesterday the guns falled silent. »

B1 110. Corrigez
✗ « This stadium is more bigger than most. »

B1 111. Corrigez
✗ « She will watches the film on Friday. »

READERS' CORNER Courrier des lecteurs

« I wore a poppy all week, and I stood still at eleven. Two minutes felt very long – and very short, at the same time. » – an editor's example : no real reader letters had arrived when this issue went to press, so the example stands, honestly labeled

Note de la rédaction | VOL.2 avait promis de publier de vraies lettres de lecteurs dans VOL.3, mais à la mise sous presse la rédaction n'avait reçu aucune vraie lettre ni aucun texte de VOL.2 — ce numéro le dit honnêtement et n'invente aucune lettre. Envoie-nous ta lettre et ton texte ; à partir de VOL.4, nous publierons les vraies lettres reçues.

NEXT WEEK VOL.4 La semaine prochaine

The verified midterm results – who won, and what changes. The Ashes begin in Perth on Saturday, November 21. « The Hunger Games : Sunrise on the Reaping » opens on Friday, November 20. And your real letters, if they arrive.

Les résultats vérifiés des élections de mi-mandat, le premier test des Ashes le 21 novembre, le nouveau « Hunger Games » le 20 novembre — et vos vraies lettres de lecteurs.

EXERCISES & ANSWERS Exercices et réponses

FINAL TEST Test final Answers at the bottom of this page Les réponses sont en bas de cette page

A CLOZE Texte à trous

Maya is sixteen. On (112)___, November 11, she wears a red (113)___ to school. At eleven o'clock, the whole school stands in (114)___ for two minutes. « (115)___, eleven, eleven », says her teacher. On Friday, Maya bakes cakes for (116)___, the yellow bear. « When (117)___ we know the total ? » asks Maya. « On Friday night », says her mother. « On Sunday, Maya is (118)___ to watch the game from Munich – and the poppy will (119)___ be on her coat. »

Les choix :

112. [A2] A. Monday • B. Wednesday • C. Friday

113. [A2] A. poppy • B. hat • C. ticket

114. [B1] A. noise • B. music • C. silence

115. [A2] A. Ten • B. Eleven • C. Twelve

116. [A2] A. Pudsey • B. Scrooge • C. Dickens

117. [A2] A. do • B. are • C. will

118. [B1] A. goes • B. going • C. go

119. [B1] A. still • B. never • C. soon

B MULTIPLE CHOICE QCM

A2 120.
The silence begins at 11 a.m. In words : ... A. ten o'clock · B. eleven o'clock · C. twelve o'clock

A2 121.
On Wednesday, we ___ a poppy. A. wear · B. wears · C. wearing

B1 122.
Dickens ___ the story in 1843. A. writes · B. wrote · C. writing

B1 123.
The Allianz Arena is ___ than most NFL stadiums. A. big · B. bigger · C. biggest

B2 124.
___ the rain, the ceremony went on all morning. A. Despite · B. Because · C. Unless

B2 125.
Nobody knows ___ this year will be faster. A. whether · B. what · C. who

A2 126.
The film ___ on Friday, November 13. A. will open · B. will opened · C. will opens

B1 127.
They are going to ___ the game on Sunday. A. watch · B. watches · C. watched

B1 128.
« Challenge yourself » means... A. the show is over · B. voting is closed · C. take on a challenge

C READING Compréhension

On Wednesday morning, Tom, a teacher from Manchester, finished his breakfast and walked to school early. At eleven o'clock, the whole school stood still for two minutes. There was no sound in the hall. « We remember them », said Tom, quietly. In the afternoon, his class baked 26 cakes for Children in Need, and a poppy box stood by the door. On Friday night, Tom watched the appeal show with his family – and Pudsey was, as always, yellow and smiling.

A2 129.
Tom is... A. a nurse · B. a teacher · C. a driver

A2 130.
At eleven o'clock, the school... A. sang · B. stood still for two minutes · C. went home

B1 131.
His class baked... A. 26 cakes · B. 11 cakes · C. 13 cakes

B1 132.
On Friday night, Pudsey was... A. red · B. yellow and smiling · C. asleep

D SENTENCES Phrases à former

A2 133.
Will future : « On Friday, they (watch) the appeal show. » → ___

B1 134.
Past simple : « The guns (fall) silent in 1918. »

B1 135.
Comparative : « The arena is ___ (big) than most stadiums. »

B2 136.
Whether : « ___ this year will be faster, nobody knows yet. »

E TRANSLATION Traduction

B2 137.
Translate : « Patience is part of the system, not a failure of it. »

A2 138.
Traduis : At 11 a.m. on Wednesday, November 11, Britain holds two minutes of silence.

B1 139.
Traduis : On Sunday, the NFL plays in Munich.

B1 140.
Translate : « Not every country calls it by the same name. »

F WORDS Mots à associer

B1 141–144. Associez

141. a silence
142. an armistice
143. a runoff
144. a miser

a. the second vote, when no one wins a majority
b. a quiet time with no speaking
c. an agreement to stop fighting
d. a person who loves money and hates spending it

G DIALOGUE À compléter

– Good morning ! Is this the way to the Allianz Arena ? – Yes, welcome. May I see your (145)___ ? – Here it is. Is the (146)___ long ? – No, five minutes only. It is my first NFL game. What do I do with the (147)___ ? – Wear it with pride, and cheer for the Lions. – And the famous (148)___ ? – Two anthems, one game. Enjoy Munich. – I will ! See you on (149)___ ! – Have a good day.

Levels : 145–148 [A2] • 149 [B1]

H WRITING Écriture [B1]

Write a short text (80 to 100 words) : « My Wednesday, November 11 ». Tell us : did you stand still at eleven, what did you wear, what did you watch on Friday – and one sentence about the game in Munich on Sunday. The best texts will appear in VOL.4 (page 7, « Readers' Corner »).

Écris en anglais (80–100 mots) : « Mon mercredi 11 novembre ». Dis si tu es resté immobile à 11 h, ce que tu portais, ce que tu as regardé vendredi — et une phrase sur le match de Munich dimanche.

MODEL Texte modèle

On Wednesday, November 11, our school stopped for two minutes. At eleven o'clock, the hall went quiet, and I thought about the soldiers of the First World War. In the evening, we watched the news from London, and my mother wore her poppy at dinner. On Friday, we baked 26 cakes for Children in Need, and Pudsey smiled from the television. On Sunday, we watched the game from Munich. It was a week of silence, kindness and sport – and I slept well, because I had remembered.

ANSWERS Toutes les réponses commentées (pages 1 à 8)

— Page 1 —

1. armistice (armistice = l'armistice) • 2. veteran (veteran = l'ancien combattant) • 3. November 11 (Jour du souvenir, le 11 novembre (mercredi)) • 4. poppy (poppy = le coquelicot) • 5. silent (fall silent = se taire, s'arrêter) • 6. two (two minutes = deux minutes) • 7. B (Le silence, mercredi 11 novembre) • 8. C (L'armistice, en 1918) • 9. A (Les gens portent un coquelicot rouge) • 10. B (Le match NFL à Munich, dimanche 15 novembre)

— Page 2 —

11. eleven (11 heures = eleven o'clock) • 12. November (Le 11e mois = November) • 13. two (deux minutes = two minutes) • 14. poppy (poppy = le coquelicot) • 15. 1918 (L'année de l'armistice : 1918) • 16. They will remember them. (they → will remember) • 17. She will wear a poppy. (she → will wear) • 18. We will stand still. (we → will stand) • 19. Will they watch the ceremony ? (Question : will se place en tête) • 20. B (Le silence commence à 11 h du matin) • 21. C (Le monument a été inauguré en 1920) • 22. A (La nuit principale de Diwali, dimanche 8 novembre) • 23. B (Aux États-Unis, on dit Veterans Day) • 24. a (poppy = le coquelicot a) • 25. b (armistice = l'armistice b) • 26. c (veteran = l'ancien combattant c) • 27. d (ceremony = la cérémonie d)

— Page 3 —

28. B (« Ebenezer » sort le vendredi 13 novembre) • 29. A (Johnny Depp joue Scrooge) • 30. C (L'histoire a été écrite en 1843) • 31. B (Trois fantômes lui rendent visite en une nuit) • 32. A (Les braqueurs publient leurs crimes en ligne) • 33. C (Le nouveau « Hunger Games » sort le 20 novembre) • 34. opens (open = sortir ; à la 3e personne, opens) • 35. miser (miser = l'avare) • 36. split (split = partagé) • 37. ghost (ghost = le fantôme) • 38. b (miser = l'avare b) • 39. c (ghost = le fantôme c) • 40. d (heist = le braquage d) • 41. a (catchphrase = une phrase culte a) • 42. Dickens wrote the story in 1843. (write → wrote) • 43. The ghosts visited Scrooge in one night. (visit → visited) • 44. Scrooge became warm again by morning. (become → became) • 45. She chose the ghost story. (choose → chose)

— Page 4 —

46. A (Le match de Munich : Patriots contre Lions) • 47. C (Coup d'envoi à Munich à 15 h 30, heure locale) • 48. B (Les ATP Finals ont lieu à Turin) • 49. A (L'Angleterre contre la Croatie, jeudi 12 novembre) • 50. C (L'Écosse contre la Macédoine du Nord) • 51. B (Match du lundi soir de la semaine 10 : Chargers contre Ravens) • 52. hosts (host, 3e personne du singulier : hosts) • 53. begin (Comme dans le texte de la page 4 : verbe au pluriel) • 54. bigger (big → bigger) • 55. eight (huit = eight) • 56. b (fixture = un match au calendrier b) • 57. d (group = le groupe d) • 58. c (finale = la finale c) • 59. a (star = la star a) • 60. The Lions played in Munich on Sunday. (play → played) • 61. She watched the tennis in Turin. (watch → watched) • 62. They followed the scores on their phones. (follow → followed) • 63. He chose one game to watch fully. (choose → chose)

— Page 5 —

64. B (Le gala de collecte a lieu le vendredi 13 novembre) • 65. A (Pudsey est un petit ours jaune) • 66. C (Le défi s'inspire du chiffre 26) • 67. B (Deux miles chaque jour) • 68. A (Le gala est diffusé en direct depuis Salford) • 69. C (Le 13 novembre est aussi la Journée mondiale de la gentillesse) • 70. challenge (challenge = le défi) • 71. raise (raise money = collecter des fonds) • 72. kind (kind = gentil) • 73. live (live = en direct) • 74. c (appeal = l'appel aux dons c) • 75. d (challenge = le défi d) • 76. a (kindness = la gentillesse a) • 77. b (marathon = le marathon b) • 78. Children are running two miles today. (run → are running) • 79. Schools are baking 26 cakes this week. (bake → are baking) • 80. We are watching Pudsey tonight. (watch → are watching) • 81. She is raising money for children. (raise → is raising)

— Page 6 —

82. B (En 2022, le Sénat n'a été fixé que 4 jours plus tard) • 83. C (En 2022, la Chambre n'a été fixée que 8 jours plus tard) • 84. A (Les États certifient entre le 10 novembre et le 18 décembre) • 85. B (Second tour le 1er décembre) • 86. A (Le graphique, c'est l'histoire — pas une prévision pour 2026) • 87. C (La Chambre a été fixée 4 jours après le Sénat) • 88. B (Ce numéro est parti à l'impression le 2 novembre, avant le vote) • 89. A (Le résultat officiel vient de la certification des États) • 90. C (Les bulletins par courrier prennent du temps à dépouiller) • 91. B (L'Alaska et le Maine utilisent le vote par ordre de préférence) • 92. A (Les changements de tête sont normaux) • 93. C (VOL.4 rapportera les résultats vérifiés) • 94. certify (certify = certifier, confirmer officiellement) • 95. call (call a race = annoncer le résultat de l'élection) • 96. patience (patience = la patience) • 97. takes (take time = prendre du temps) • 98. differs (differ → differs, 3e personne) • 99. official (official = officiel)

— Page 7 —

100. happens (happen → happens) • 101. fell (fall → fell) • 102. speaks (nobody → speaks) • 103. is (is = est toujours) • 104. has (have → has) • 105. will (will still = continuera) • 106. of (of = de) • 107. were (there were = prétérit de « there are ») • 108. He doesn't remember them. (À la 3e personne, doesn't + verbe de base) • 109. Yesterday the guns fell silent. (Le prétérit de fall est fell) • 110. This stadium is bigger than most. (bigger est déjà un comparatif : pas de more en plus) • 111. She will watch the film on Friday. (Après will, le verbe est à l'infinitif)

— Page 8 —

112. B (Le 11 novembre est un mercredi) • 113. A (poppy = le coquelicot) • 114. C (silence = le silence) • 115. B (eleven = onze) • 116. A (Pudsey, le petit ours jaune) • 117. C (will + verbe de base : know) • 118. B (be going to → is going) • 119. A (still = toujours) • 120. B (11 heures = eleven o'clock) • 121. A (we → wear (infinitif)) • 122. B (Pour le passé, on emploie wrote) • 123. B (than → comparatif bigger) • 124. A (despite + nom : malgré la pluie) • 125. A (whether = si) • 126. A (Futur : will + verbe de base) • 127. A (be going to + infinitif watch) • 128. C (challenge yourself = relève le défi) • 129. B (Dans le texte : a teacher from Manchester) • 130. B (Toute l'école observe deux minutes de silence) • 131. A (La classe a cuisiné 26 gâteaux) • 132. B (Pudsey est jaune comme toujours) • 133. On Friday, they will watch the appeal show. (will + infinitif) • 134. The guns fell silent in 1918. (fall → fell (verbe irrégulier)) • 135. bigger (big → bigger (comparatif)) • 136. Whether (whether introduit une subordonnée en « si ») • 137. La patience fait partie du système, et non un échec de celui-ci. (part of = une partie de ; not a failure = pas un échec) • 138. Le mercredi 11 novembre, à 11 h, la Grande-Bretagne observe deux minutes de silence. (at 11 a.m. ; two minutes of silence) • 139. Ce dimanche, la NFL joue à Munich. (on Sunday ; in Munich) • 140. Chaque pays ne l'appelle pas de la même façon. (not every = pas chaque ; call = appeler) • 141. b (silence = le silence b) • 142. c (armistice = l'armistice c) • 143. a (runoff = le second tour a) • 144. d (miser = l'avare d) • 145. ticket (ticket = le billet) • 146. line (line = la file d'attente (anglais américain)) • 147. scarf (scarf = l'écharpe) • 148. anthem (anthem = l'hymne) • 149. Sunday (Le match a lieu le dimanche 15 novembre) • 150. Tâche ouverte — points dans le cadre d'écriture ; texte modèle dans le cadre de cette page (Noté sur les points)