VOL. 5 WEEKLY IN ENGLISH 每週一期 讀英語世界正在談的事 WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23 TO 29, 2026

# The Lucerna

英語週報 VOL.5 購物 聖誕 電影

英語正文 繁體中文講解 – 給繁體中文讀者的版本

## BLACK FRIDAY WEEK IS HERE!

11月27日星期五 黑色星期五大促銷已提前開始

Friday, November 27: the big day. The sales began in October – and run to Monday, November 30.

預算案與冬季帳單 詳見第6版

THE BIG STORY 頭條

## Black Friday Week: The Sales Started Early

By The Lucerna newsroom Reading level: A2

On Friday, November 27, the shops open early for Black Friday – the biggest shopping day of the year. But the sales did not wait for Friday. In Britain, Currys started its sale on October 28, and Argos opened its sale at the end of October. Amazon's Black Friday Week runs from Thursday, November 19, to Cyber Monday, Monday, November 30 – twelve days of deals.

Black Friday is one day. The sales last all month. The shops call it "Black November": a month of offers, not a day. And the warnings are out too. Which?, the consumer group, tracked 175 products through the 2024 sales – and found none of them at its cheapest price of the year on Black Friday itself. For Amazon, 88% of the deals it tracked in 2024 were the same price, or cheaper, at another time of the year.

So the rule for this week is simple: check the price before you buy. A bargain is not a bargain if you did not need it. A price cut is only a cut if the old price was real. This issue shows you how to read a deal – and how to say "no" to it, in English.

There is help with winter, too. The Budget of October 28 gives £100 to many homes in England this winter, to help pay for energy – for homes in Council Tax bands A to D. The 5p cut in fuel duty, and the VAT cut on home electricity, run until July 2027.

Welcome to VOL.5 – and to the Christmas countdown.

譯注｜Black Friday = 黑色星期五（感恩節後的大促銷日）· a bargain = 便宜貨 · Cyber Monday = 網路星期一。

### THE WEEK IN NUMBERS 數字看本週

Nov 27 – Black Friday（黑色星期五）· Nov 30 – Cyber Monday

12 – days of Amazon's Black Friday Week（亞馬遜大促銷12天）

175 – products tracked by Which? in 2024（當天最便宜的商品一件也沒有）

£100 – energy help this winter（能源補貼100英鎊）

### TRY IT NOW 即學即練

**A2 1.** Black Friday is on ___, November 27.

**A2 2.** Cyber Monday is on ___, November 30.

**A2 3.** The ___ started before Black Friday.

**A2 4.** Which? found no product at its ___ price.

**B1 5.** The Budget gives £___ for winter bills.

**B1 6.** A ___ is a thing bought for less than usual.

### SEARCHES OF THE WEEK

本週英語世界熱搜 Google Trends 快照

1. black friday
2. wicked for good
3. i'm a celebrity
4. strictly blackpool
5. advent calendar

Snapshots, mid-November: search interest changes during the day.
相對熱度示意，非精確搜尋量。

### IN THIS ISSUE 本期目錄


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### THE WORD OF THE WEEK

*"bargain"*
a thing bought for less than its usual price. "A real bargain!" = a very good price.

便宜貨。A bargain is a good price, not a cheap thing.



A wild turkey, drawn by John James Audubon. Thanksgiving is on Thursday, November 26 – the day before Black Friday, and the first day of the long shopping weekend.

John James Audubon – public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

### ONE DAY, FOUR DAYS

Black Friday is one day: Friday, November 27. But the sales run for four days – Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Cyber Monday, November 30. That is why the shops say "Black Friday Weekend".

Read page 6 for the Budget – and the numbers behind the sales.

### IN BRIEF 快訊

**BUDGET**
Oct 28: the Chancellor's first Budget. £100 for winter energy bills. (p. 6)

**JUNGLE**
Mon, Nov 16, 9 p.m.: I'm a Celebrity returns to ITV1. (p. 5)

**WICKED**
Nov 21: Wicked: For Good opens in cinemas. (p. 3)

### LIGHTNING QUIZ 閃電問答

讀頭版，選出正確答案 答案見第8版

**A2 7.** Black Friday 2026 is on... A. Nov 26 · B. Nov 27 · C. Nov 30

**A2 8.** Cyber Monday is on... A. Mon, Nov 30 · B. Fri, Nov 27 · C. Thu, Nov 26

**A2 9.** Amazon's Black Friday Week runs... A. 2 days · B. 7 days · C. 12 days

**B1 10.** The £100 energy payment is for... A. every home in the UK · B. homes in Council Tax bands A–D in England · C. shops

# The First Sunday of Advent: Four Candles, Four Weeks

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level: A2

On Sunday, November 29, the first candle is lit. It is the first Sunday of Advent – four Sundays of waiting, four candles, and then Christmas Day, on Friday, December 25. In Britain, Advent is the quiet start of Christmas: the markets open, the lights go on, and the countdown begins.

The Christmas tree has a long story in Britain. The first royal tree stood at Windsor in December 1800, put up by Queen Charlotte, the German-born wife of King George III. But the tree became famous in 1848, when the Illustrated London News printed a picture of Queen Victoria, Prince Albert and their children around a candlelit tree at Windsor Castle. The tree in the picture stood on a table – not on the floor. In 1850, an American magazine printed the same picture, with the royal family changed into an ordinary family.

The tree stood on a table, not on the floor. That is the sentence to remember from this page – and the picture on this page is the American copy, from Godey's Lady's Book, December 1850.

This year, the Christmas countdown has a new face. On Tuesday, November 3, John Lewis showed its Christmas advert for 2026: “Gloria and Pickles”. Gloria, played by Dame Kristin Scott Thomas, is a grandmother who wants to give her grandchildren a real present – not money in a card. Pickles, her old toy dog, comes to life and talks her into one last shopping trip. The song is Sam Fender's cover of the Rolling Stones' “You Can't Always Get What You Want”. The line is: “Don't give up on giving.” It is the twentieth John Lewis Christmas advert.

And on Monday, November 30, Scotland has its own day: St Andrew's Day, a bank holiday in Scotland. St Andrew is Scotland's patron saint – and the day is the last day of the sales, Cyber Monday, too. One day, two reasons to stay at home – or to go out.

Four candles, four weeks. Light one each Sunday, and Christmas will come.

### THE CALENDAR　本週日曆

Nov 29 – First Sunday of Advent（將臨期第一主日）· Nov 30 – St Andrew's Day, Scotland（聖安德魯日）

Dec 25 – Christmas Day, Friday（聖誕節，週五）· Nov 3 – John Lewis advert（廣告上線）

### WHAT IS ON THIS WEEK?

Second story of the week – and it is on your screen. On Saturday, November 21, the dancers go to Blackpool for Strictly Come Dancing, and the new Wicked film opens in cinemas. On Thursday, November 26, Zootropolis 2 opens – and on Friday, November 27, the sales reach their peak. Page 3 has the film guide, page 4 the sport.

On television, the week is just as full. I'm a Celebrity is on every night from the jungle, and the shops are full every day. Advent begins on Sunday – and the first candle is lit.

How do you say the date of Christmas? “On Friday, December 25.” is the sentence of the week. The phrase box below shows three ways to say it.

譯注｜Advent = 將臨期 · a candle = 蠟燭 · a patron saint = 主保聖人。



“The Christmas Tree”, from Godey's Lady's Book, December 1850 – the American copy of the famous 1848 Windsor picture. The tree stands on a table, with the family around it.
After Joseph Lionel Williams – public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

### DID YOU KNOW?

Advent means “coming”: four Sundays before Christmas.

Queen Charlotte's tree of 1800 was the first royal Christmas tree in Britain.

The 1848 tree was a fir about eight feet high, with six tiers of branches.

### AND YOU?　說說你自己

What does your family do in the last week of November? Do you light a candle, open a calendar, or go to a market? Write three sentences in English for VOL.6.

你家11月最後一週做什麼？寫三句英語寄給編輯部。

## SAY IT: MERRY CHRISTMAS!　這樣說聖誕

Three greetings for the season　三句節日問候

**Happy Advent!**
將臨期快樂！

**Merry Christmas!**
聖誕快樂！

**Happy St Andrew's Day!**
聖安德魯日快樂！

- **an advent calendar** = a calendar with 24 doors
- **a candle** = a stick of wax that burns
- **a market** = small shops outside（市集）
- **a saint** = a holy person（聖人）

## EXERCISES　第2版練習

答案見第8版　題目可跨級混排，按題號找答案

### A　THE DATE

根據日期與時間，用英語補全句子。

**A2 11.** 填空
Advent begins on Sunday, November ___.

**A2 12.** 填空
Christmas Day is on ___, December 25.

**A2 13.** 填空
St Andrew's Day is on ___, November 30.

**A2 14.** 填空
The advert came out on November ___.

**A2 15.** 填空
The first royal tree dates from ___.

### B　WILL

用 will + 動詞原形改寫（承諾）。

**A2 16.** 改寫
Families (light) the first candle on Sunday. → ___

**A2 17.** 改寫
Christmas (come) in four weeks. → ___

**A2 18.** 改寫
We (open) the calendar on December 1. → ___

**B1 19.** 改寫
They (watch) the advert again? → ___

### C　COMPREHENSION

讀第 2 版文章，選出正確答案。

**A2 20.**
The first Sunday of Advent is... A. Nov 22 · B. Nov 29 · C. Dec 25

**A2 21.**
The 1848 tree stood... A. on the floor · B. in the garden · C. on a table

**A2 22.**
The advert is called... A. “Gloria and Pickles” · B. “Happy Advent” · C. “The Christmas Tree”

**A2 23.**
St Andrew's Day is a bank holiday in... A. England · B. Scotland · C. Wales

### D　THE WORDS

**A2 24–27.** 把詞和釋義配對

24. an advent calendar
25. a candle
26. a market
27. a saint

a. a holy person
b. a calendar with 24 little doors
c. a place with small shops outside
d. a stick of wax that burns

# At the Movies: Two Witches and a Fox

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level: A2 → B1

On November 21, a familiar name returns to the cinema: Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West. “Wicked: For Good” is the second half of the story that began with “Wicked” in 2024. Cynthia Erivo plays Elphaba, and Ariana Grande plays Glinda, the Good Witch. Jonathan Bailey plays Fiyero, Jeff Goldblum plays the Wizard, and Michelle Yeoh plays Madame Morrible. Jon M. Chu directs.

The first film was a hit: it took more than $750 million around the world. Now the second film is expected to open big. Early forecasts put the first weekend at $112 million to $115 million in North America alone, and about $200 million around the world. The story comes from L. Frank Baum's book “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz”, published in 1900 – the picture on this page is from that first book.

Two witches, one fox – and a ballroom in Blackpool. That is this week in one line: two witches on the big screen, a fox on the big screen too – and dancing in Blackpool on Saturday night.

The fox is Nick Wilde – and Judy Hopps, the rabbit police officer, is back with him. “Zootropolis 2” opens on Thursday, November 26. Judy and Nick chase a snake, Gary De'Snake, voiced by Ke Huy Quan. The first film, in 2016, took more than $1 billion around the world and won the Oscar for Best Animated Feature. The directors, Jared Bush and Byron Howard, are back too.

And on the dance floor? On Saturday, November 21, at 6:35 p.m., Strictly Come Dancing goes to Blackpool. Eight couples dance in the Tower Ballroom. Last Sunday, Will Best and his partner Dianne Buswell left the show, one week before Blackpool – they lost the dance-off to Jaime Winstone and Carlos Gu. At the top of the leaderboard: Cach Mercer and Maddie Ingoldsby, with 39 points out of 40 for their Charleston.

### COMING SOON　即將上映

Nov 21 – “Wicked: For Good” opens in cinemas. The first film took more than $750 million worldwide.

Nov 21 – Strictly Come Dancing: Blackpool, 6:35 p.m., BBC One. Eight couples left.

Nov 26 – “Zootropolis 2” opens in cinemas. Judy and Nick chase a snake.

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.6 – send yours to the newsroom.

譯注｜a witch = 女巫 · a forecast = 預測 · a dance-off = 淘汰舞對決 · a leaderboard = 排行榜。

## A　COMPREHENSION

讀第 3 版文章，選出正確答案。

**A2　28.**
“Wicked: For Good” opens on… A. November 20 · B. November 21 · C. November 26

**A2　29.**
Elphaba is played by… A. Cynthia Erivo · B. Ariana Grande · C. Michelle Yeoh

**A2　30.**
The first Wicked film took… A. less than $100 million · B. about $200 million · C. more than $750 million

**B1　31.**
“Zootropolis 2” opens on… A. Nov 21 · B. Thu, Nov 26 · C. Nov 29

**B1　32.**
The snake in Zootropolis 2 is voiced by… A. Ke Huy Quan · B. Jason Bateman · C. Jared Bush

**B1　33.**
Blackpool night is on… A. Sunday · B. Friday · C. Saturday, November 21

## B　SENTENCES

用所給詞補全句子。

**A2　34.**　填空
The film ___ on November 21.

**A2　35.**　填空
Nick Wilde is a ___.

**B1　36.**　填空
The first Zootropolis film ___ an Oscar.

**B1　37.**　填空
Cach and Maddie scored 39 ___ out of 40.

## C　THE WORDS

**A2　38–41.**　把詞和釋義配對

38. a witch
39. a forecast
40. a dance-off
41. a leaderboard

a. a list that shows who is winning
b. a woman with magic powers
c. a dance that decides who leaves
d. a guess about what will happen

## D　PAST SIMPLE

用一般過去時改寫（已經發生的事）。

**A2　42.**　改寫
The first film (take) more than $750 million. → ___

**A2　43.**　改寫
Baum (publish) the book in 1900. → ___

**B1　44.**　改寫
Will Best (leave) the show on Sunday. → ___

**B1　45.**　改寫
The first film (win) an Oscar. → ___



The Wicked Witch of the West melts – W. W. Denslow's drawing from the first edition of “The Wonderful Wizard of Oz” (1900). The film's witches come from this book.
W. W. Denslow – public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

### THE WITCHES　兩個女巫

Elphaba, the Wicked Witch of the West, and Glinda, the Good Witch: two friends, two choices, one story. The book is from 1900 – the film is from this week.

## 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 witch leaves home. She meets a friend and loses her. She learns a hard truth. She flies away – free. Then the story starts again.” Now it is your turn.

五句影評｜who、where、發生了什麼、轉折、結局——五句就夠。

# Derby Weekend: Liverpool, Arsenal, Twickenham

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level: B1

Sunday, November 29, is derby day – twice. At 12:00, Everton play Liverpool in the Merseyside derby. At 4:30, Arsenal play Manchester City. Two derbies, one Sunday, and the title race in between. The Premier League's twelfth week begins on Friday, November 27: Nottingham Forest play Chelsea at 8 p.m. On Saturday, November 28, Manchester United play Brentford – and Leeds play Coventry.

The league returns this Saturday, November 21, after the international break: Manchester City play Fulham at 12:30, and Newcastle play Arsenal at 5:30. On Sunday, November 22, Liverpool play Manchester United at 4:30 – and on Monday, November 23, Brentford play Everton at 8 p.m. Then, a week later, comes the derby weekend.

Rugby has a final, too. The Nations Championship – the new name for the autumn internationals – ends with a Finals Weekend at Twickenham, from Friday, November 27, to Sunday, November 29. The first final is on Sunday, November 29. Before that, on Saturday, November 21, England play New Zealand at Twickenham at 2:10 p.m. – the biggest game of the autumn. England have already beaten Australia, 45–22, and Japan, 78–15, at Twickenham this month.

And tennis ends its year in Turin. The ATP Finals run from Sunday, November 15, to Sunday, November 22. The eight best singles players of the year play in two groups of four. The champion of the last two years, Jannik Sinner, is out with a knee injury – so a new champion is certain. The semi-finals are on Saturday, November 21. The finals are on Sunday, November 22: the doubles final at 3 p.m. local time, and the singles final not before 6 p.m.

The first international ended 0–0 – and football has never stopped since. That was Scotland against England, on November 30, 1872, at Hamilton Crescent in Glasgow. About 4,000 people watched. The picture on this page is from that day – and November 30 is still a football date: it is St Andrew's Day, and Cyber Monday, too.

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.

**WHY NOVEMBER 30?　為什麼是30日？**

November 30, 1872: the first international, Scotland 0–0 England. November 30, 2026: St Andrew's Day in Scotland – and Cyber Monday. Football began on a St Andrew's Day.

The ATP Finals in Turin run from Sunday, November 15, to Sunday, November 22. The eight best singles players of the year play in two groups of four: Alexander Zverev, Carlos Alcaraz, Ben Shelton, Daniil Medvedev, Flavio Cobolli, Arthur Fils, Frances Tiafoe and Rafael Jodar. The champion of the last two years, Jannik Sinner, is out with a knee injury.

譯注｜a derby = 同城德比 · a final = 決賽 · a break = 間歇期 · a draw = 平局。

## A　COMPREHENSION

讀第 4 版文章，選出正確答案。

**B1　46.**
The Merseyside derby is on… A. Sat, Nov 28 · B. Sun, Nov 29, 12:00 · C. Mon, Nov 30

**B1　47.**
Arsenal play Manchester City on… A. Fri, Nov 27 · B. Sat, Nov 28 · C. Sun, Nov 29, 16:30

**B1　48.**
The Nations Championship final is on… A. Sunday, November 29 · B. Saturday, November 21 · C. Friday, November 27

**B1　49.**
England play New Zealand on… A. Nov 14 · B. Sat, Nov 21, 2:10 p.m. · C. Nov 29

**B1　50.**
The ATP singles final is not before… A. 3 p.m. · B. 12 p.m. · C. 6 p.m. local time

**B1　51.**
The first international was played on… A. November 30, 1872 · B. November 30, 2026 · C. November 21, 1872

## B　SENTENCES

用所給詞補全句子。

**B1　52.**　填空
Everton v Liverpool is a ___.

**B1　53.**　填空
The Nations Championship ends with a ___.

**B1　54.**　填空
England have ___ Australia and Japan at Twickenham.

**A2　55.**　填空
Scotland 0–0 England: the game was a ___.

## C　THE WORDS

**B1　56–59.**　把詞和釋義配對

56. a derby
57. a final
58. a break
59. a draw

a. a pause between parts of a season
b. a game that ends with the same score
c. the last game of a competition
d. a game between two teams from the same city

## D　PAST SIMPLE

用一般過去時改寫（比賽已結束的說法）。

**B1　60.**　改寫
England (beat) Australia 45–22 on November 8. → ___

**B1　61.**　改寫
Scotland (play) England in 1872. → ___

**B1　62.**　改寫
About 4,000 people (watch) the game. → ___

**B1　63.**　改寫
Sinner (miss) the ATP Finals with a knee injury. → ___




The first international: Scotland against England, November 30, 1872, at Hamilton Crescent, Glasgow. The game ended 0–0. The drawing is by William Ralston.

William Ralston – public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

**DERBY WEEKEND　德比週末**

Fri Nov 27: Forest–Chelsea 20:00. Sat Nov 28: Man Utd–Brentford, Leeds–Coventry.

Sun Nov 29: Everton–Liverpool 12:00, Arsenal–Man City 16:30.

Rugby finals weekend: Fri Nov 27–Sun Nov 29, Twickenham.

## 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 1–0.” “Who scored?” “Liverpool are winning!” – short sentences, live English.

看球英語｜比數、誰得分、誰領先——短句就是直播英語。

# Into the Jungle: Eleven Campmates, Three Weeks

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level: B1

On Monday, November 16, at 9 p.m., eleven famous faces walk into the Australian jungle. “I'm a Celebrity… Get Me Out of Here!” is back on ITV1 – and it will be on every night for about three weeks. Ant and Dec are back too, live from the camp near Murwillumbah in New South Wales.

Who is in the camp? Wayne Rooney, the former England captain, leads the line-up. Joanna Page, who plays Stacey in “Gavin & Stacey”, is there. So is Ade Adepitan, the Paralympic medallist and television presenter – the first wheelchair user ever to take part in the show. ITV has changed the camp for him: the paths and the trials are built so a wheelchair can use them.

The other eight are AJ Odudu, the Big Brother presenter; Ricky Wilson, the Kaiser Chiefs singer; Sharky, the YouTuber from the Beta Squad; Chloe Burrows, from Love Island; Claire Sweeney, the actress; Jack Skipper, the comedian; Leomie Anderson, the model; and Mariella Frostrup, the broadcaster. Eleven campmates – and more may arrive later. Late arrivals are a tradition on this show.

What do they do in the jungle? They live together, cook together, and take Bushtucker Trials – the challenges that win food for the camp. Each star is a meal: win ten stars, and the camp eats ten meals. The public votes, and the last one standing is the King or Queen of the Jungle.

In the jungle, a star is a meal. That is the sentence to remember – and the reason the trials matter. A star is not a prize for the wall. It is dinner.

Why does Britain watch? Because the jungle is honest television: famous people, no make-up, no phones, and rice and beans for dinner. And because the launch is a national moment: the show usually starts on a Sunday, but this year it starts on a Monday – because England played Spain in the Nations League on Sunday, November 15.

### THE CAMP IN NUMBERS　營地

11 – campmates on the first night. 3 – weeks in the jungle, about. 1 – first wheelchair user in the show's history.

If you want to practise jungle English, try this: watch one trial, and say what happened in three English sentences. “He ate the bug. He won five stars. The camp eats tonight.” Three sentences – and a whole evening of practice.

譯注｜a campmate = 營地成員 · a trial = 挑戰任務 · a star = 星星（= 一份飯） · the public = 公眾

## A　COMPREHENSION

讀第 5 版文章，選出正確答案。

**B1　64.**
“I'm a Celebrity” starts on… A. Sun, Nov 15 · B. Mon, Nov 16, 9 p.m. · C. Fri, Nov 20

**B1　65.**
The first wheelchair user in the show is… A. Ade Adepitan · B. Wayne Rooney · C. Ricky Wilson

**B1　66.**
The camp is near… A. Sydney · B. Perth · C. Murwillumbah, New South Wales

**B1　67.**
How many campmates on the first night? A. 8 · B. 11 · C. 12

**B1　68.**
A star in a trial means… A. one meal for the camp · B. one vote · C. one night

**B1　69.**
The show starts a day late because… A. of the rain · B. of the film · C. England played Spain on Sunday

## B　SENTENCES

用所給詞補全句子。

**B1　70.**　填空
Eleven famous faces walk into the ___.

**B1　71.**　填空
Win ten ___, and the camp eats ten meals.

**A2　72.**　填空
The public ___ for the King or Queen of the Jungle.

**A2　73.**　填空
More campmates may ___ later.

## C　THE WORDS

**B1　74–77.**　把詞和釋義配對

74. a campmate
75. a trial
76. a star
77. the public

a. the people who watch and vote
b. a person who lives with you in the jungle camp
c. a challenge that wins food
d. one meal, won in a trial

## D　PRESENT CONTINUOUS

用現在進行時改寫（正在發生的事）。

**B1　78.**　改寫
The campmates (live) in the jungle. → ___

**B1　79.**　改寫
Ant and Dec (present) the show. → ___

**B1　80.**　改寫
The public (vote) every night. → ___

**B1　81.**　改寫
They (cook) rice for the camp. → ___



A tiger in a painted jungle: Henri Rousseau's “Surprised!” (1891). The real jungle is on television every night – and the campmates are in it.

Henri Rousseau – public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

### SPEAK UP IN THE JUNGLE　叢林

“I'm a Celebrity – get me out of here!” “Ten stars!” “The camp eats tonight!” – three sentences for three weeks. Learn them, and Monday night in English is yours.

## THE TRIALS

A trial is a test: eat it, hold it, find it. The stars are counted in public, and the camp watches every one. The worst trial is the one with no stars at all.

試煉｜吃、拿、找——星星當眾數，營地人人看。

## AFTER THE JUNGLE

After three weeks, one campmate is crowned King or Queen of the Jungle. The others go home – to showers, to phones, and to real food. The jungle stays in Australia. The stories come home with them.

# The Budget and Your Winter Bills

By The Lucerna newsroom　Reading level: B2

On Wednesday, October 28, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, John Healey, stood up in the House of Commons and read the Budget. It was his first Budget – and the first Budget of the new Prime Minister, Andy Burnham. The slogan was “Breathing Space now, Hope for the Future”. In plain English: help now, hope later.

What is a budget? It is the government's plan for the year: how much money it will take in tax, and how much it will spend. A budget is a plan, not a present. The money has to come from somewhere – and this Budget says it will not come from higher taxes on working people. That promise was in the government's 2024 manifesto, and the Chancellor says he will keep it.

So what changes for you? Three things this winter. First, £100 for energy: households in Council Tax bands A to D in England get a £100 Household Energy Payment this winter. Second, the 5p cut in fuel duty – the tax on petrol and diesel – runs until July 2027. Third, the VAT cut on electricity at home runs until July 2027 too. A hundred pounds does not buy a winter – but it buys a warmer one.

What else? The Budget also raises money in other places: a temporary 3% rise in the tax on the profits of banks and building societies, for fifteen months from January 2027. And the Finance Bill – the law that turns the Budget into rules – was introduced in Parliament on November 3.

What happens next? The Budget is not one day. The Welsh Government publishes its draft budget on November 17. The Scottish Parliament sets its tax rates on December 3. Parliament debates the Finance Bill, line by line. And the help arrives in the winter – when the bills arrive too.

A note on numbers in this issue: this paper prints the Budget of October 28, and says so. The numbers are the ones the Chancellor read to the House of Commons. When the Finance Bill becomes law, VOL.6 will report what changed.

### A PRACTICE BILL　模擬帳單

Your winter bill: electricity £120 a month · gas £90 a month. The £100 payment covers most of one month of electricity. The numbers are practice numbers – they teach how to read a bill, not what you will pay.

This issue went to press on Monday, November 16, 2026. The Welsh draft budget comes out on Tuesday, November 17 – one day after press time. VOL.6 will carry the Welsh numbers.

譯注｜a budget = 預算 · a manifesto = 競選宣言 · fuel duty = 燃油稅 · a bill = 帳單；法案。

## READ THE CHART　讀圖表

How big was the help? The chart is the Budget of October 28 – not a prediction.

**Budget day: Wednesday, October 28, 2026**

**Energy payment: £100, Council Tax bands A–D, England**

**Fuel duty cut: 5p a litre, until July 2027**

**VAT cut on home electricity: until July 2027**

**Bank tax rise: 3%, fifteen months from January 2027**

**Next dates: Wales November 17 · Scotland December 3**

## A　CHART READING

讀上面的預算案圖表，選出正確答案。

**B2　82.**
The Budget was read on… A. Nov 16 · B. Wed, Oct 28 · C. Dec 3

**B2　83.**
The energy payment is… A. £100 · B. £5 · C. £1,000

**B2　84.**
The fuel duty cut runs until… A. Nov 2026 · B. Jan 2027 · C. July 2027

**B2　85.**
The bank tax rise lasts… A. 3 months · B. 15 months · C. 3 years

**B2　86.**
Wales publishes its draft budget on… A. November 17 · B. November 3 · C. December 3

**B2　87.**
Scotland sets its tax rates on… A. Nov 17 · B. Oct 28 · C. Dec 3

## B　COMPREHENSION

讀第 6 版文章，選出正確答案。

**B2　88.**
A budget is… A. a present · B. a plan for the year · C. a bank

**B2　89.**
The Chancellor says taxes on working people will… A. not rise · B. rise a lot · C. fall to zero

**B2　90.**
The £100 payment is for… A. shops · B. every home in the UK · C. homes in bands A–D in England

**B2　91.**
The Finance Bill was introduced on… A. Oct 28 · B. Nov 3 · C. Dec 3

**B2　92.**
The Budget's slogan is… A. “Breathing Space now, Hope for the Future” · B. “Black November” · C. “Don't give up on giving”

**B2　93.**
What will VOL.6 report? A. the 2024 sales · B. the jungle final · C. what changed when the Bill becomes law

## C　SENTENCES

用所給詞補全句子。

**B2　94.**　填空
The ___ is the government's plan for the year.

**B2　95.**　填空
The Chancellor says he will ___ his promise.

**B2　96.**　填空
The fuel duty cut runs ___ July 2027.

**B1　97.**　填空
Parliament ___ the Finance Bill, line by line.

**B1　98.**　填空
The help ___ in the winter.

**B1　99.**　填空
The Budget ___ money from the banks.

### THREE WINTER HELPS　冬季幫助

£100 energy payment · 5p fuel duty cut · VAT cut on home electricity. All three run this winter.

## A PLAN, NOT A PRESENT

A budget is a plan, not a present. Learn the plan, and the winter makes sense.

計畫不是禮物｜預算是計畫，不是禮物——讀懂計畫，冬天就明白了。

## WHO PAYS?

Every budget has two sides: who gets help, and who pays. This Budget helps homes with their bills – and asks the banks to pay a little more, for fifteen months.

誰得幫助、誰來買單｜每個預算都有兩面：誰得到幫助，誰來付錢。

## WORDS　A2　bargain

譯注｜bargain是「便宜貨」：價格好，不一定東西差。

bargain = a thing bought for less than its usual price. “A real bargain!” = a very good price.

A2: “I bought a book for £5 – a real bargain!” The price is low, and the book is good. A bargain is a good price, not a cheap thing.

Try it: sale / bargain – the sale is the event, the bargain is the thing you buy. “The sale is on. I found a bargain.”

## WORDS　B1　more / less

譯注｜comparative = 比較級：用more than / less than說數量和大小。

more than = a bigger number than. less than = a smaller number than. £100 is more than £5. £5 is less than £100.

B1: “£100 is more than the £5 I spent.” With numbers, use more than and less than: more people, less money, more seats, less time.

Try it: “The film is longer than the trailer.” “The book is cheaper than the film.”

## GRAMMAR　A2　will + verb

譯注｜will + 動詞原形：說將要發生的事；疑問句will提前。

The sales will end on November 30. Advent will begin on Sunday. Will the price fall again? Nobody knows.

Rule: will + verb, no -s, no -ed. “She will buy.” “They will watch.” Question: “Will they shop on Friday?”

## GRAMMAR　B1　have done

譯注｜present perfect = 現在完成式：have/has + 過去分詞，說已經開始、到現在還成立的事。

The sales have started already. The shops have opened early. “Have started” = they started, and they are still on.

Rule: have/has + past participle. “I have bought a book.” “She has lit the candle.” Question: “Have you bought a bargain?”

## GRAMMAR　B2　headlines

譯注｜headline present = 標題現在時：報紙標題用現在時說已經發生的事。

Newspapers often use the present in headlines for what already happened: “Shops Open Early for Black Friday” – the shops opened, but the headline says Open. The present makes the news feel fresh. This issue's headline does the opposite on purpose: “Black Friday Week: The Sales Started Early” uses Started, the past – because the news is the early start, not the day itself.

## GRAMMAR　B2　if + will

譯注｜first conditional = 第一條件句：if + 現在時，will + 動詞——說可能發生的事。

If you buy early, you will save money. If the price falls, I will buy two. If = when this happens, that happens.

## GOLDEN SENTENCES

金句（本期正文原句）——背下來，下次你也可以這樣寫。

“Black Friday is one day. The sales last all month.”

—— From page 1 of this issue.

“A bargain is not a bargain if you did not need it.”

—— From page 1 of this issue.

“The tree stood on a table, not on the floor.”

—— From page 2 of this issue.

“Two witches, one fox – and a ballroom in Blackpool.”

—— From page 3 of this issue.

“The first international ended 0–0 – and football has never stopped since.”

—— From page 4 of this issue.

“In the jungle, a star is a meal.”

—— From page 5 of this issue.

“A budget is a plan, not a present.”

—— From page 6 of this issue.

“A hundred pounds does not buy a winter – but it buys a warmer one.”

—— From page 6 of this issue.

## THE DRILLS　本週小練

用下列詞填空：bargain / more / less / will / started / whether / chose / opens。

**A2　100.**　填空
“A ___ is a thing bought for less than usual.”

**B1　101.**　填空
£100 is ___ than £5.

**B1　102.**　填空
£5 is ___ than £100.

**A2　103.**　填空
The sales ___ end on November 30.

**B1　104.**　填空
The sales have ___ already.

**B2　105.**　填空
Nobody knows ___ the price will fall again.

**B2　106.**　填空
ITV ___ Monday for the launch.

**A2　107.**　填空
“Zootropolis 2” ___ on November 26.

## ERROR CLINIC　糾錯門診

**A2　108.**　糾錯
“The sales is starting early.” (wrong verb)

**A2　109.**　糾錯
“A bargain are a good price.” (wrong verb)

**B1　110.**　糾錯
“£100 is less then £5.” (wrong word)

**B2　111.**　糾錯
“Nobody knows if the sales will end or not whether.” (wrong structure)



Samuel Johnson, painted by Sir Joshua Reynolds in 1772. Johnson's dictionary fixed English words – and this page fixes yours.

Sir Joshua Reynolds – public domain, via Wikimedia Commons

## THE TOOLBOX　句型工具箱

A2 – “A bargain is a good price.”便宜貨就是好價錢。

B1 – “£100 is more than £5.” 100英鎊比5英鎊多。

B2 – “If you buy early, you will save money.”早買就省錢。

## READERS' CORNER　讀者來信

VOL.4 promised real letters from VOL.5. No letters arrived by press time. This page keeps the promise open: send your letter, your three sentences, or your five-sentence film review to the newsroom. Real letters, with your name and city only if you give them, will appear here from VOL.6.

VOL.4曾承諾：從VOL.5起刊登真實讀者來信。本期截稿時沒有收到來信——這個承諾仍然有效：請把你的信、三句話練習或五句影評寄給編輯部。真實來信將從VOL.6起刊登，姓名與城市只在你同意時寫出。

## AN EXAMPLE LETTER　示例信

This letter is written by the editor, only to show the shape. It is not a reader's letter. No name and no city are given, because no real letter has arrived yet.

“Dear Lucerna, I read the Black Friday story with my class. We checked the prices together – £100, 5p, 88%. My question: is a bargain still a bargain if I buy two? Thank you for the numbers.” – A reader, somewhere in the world.

這封信是編輯寫的示例，僅供參考格式，不是讀者來信。沒有寫姓名與城市，因為尚未收到真實來信。

## NEXT WEEK　VOL.6預告

Cyber Monday and the first week of December: the jungle final, the Strictly semi-final, the first Nations Championship final – and your letters, the first real ones.

# EXERCISES & ANSWERS 練習與答案

## A CLOZE 完形填空

Maya is a student in London. This week, she is following the sales. On (112)__ morning, November 26, she watches Zootropolis 2 with her class. On Friday, she reads the news about Black Friday. She learns a new word: a bargain is a thing bought for less than usual. She (113)__ the word in her notebook. On Saturday, she writes a sentence: “Black Friday is one day, but the sales (114)__ all month.” Her teacher smiles: “The shops (115)__ their sales on October 28.” Maya (116)__ the prices in her notebook: the shops (117)__ their prices every day. On Sunday, she (118)__ an advent candle with her family. And on Monday, she (119)__ her three sentences about the week to the newsroom.

選項：

112. [A2] A. Monday · B. Thursday · C. Friday

113. [A2] A. write · B. writes · C. is wrote

114. [A2] A. lasts · B. last · C. lasting

115. [A2] A. started · B. start · C. starting

116. [B1] A. write · B. writes · C. writing

117. [B1] A. changes · B. changed · C. change

118. [B1] A. lighting · B. light · C. lights

119. [B1] A. sends · B. send · C. sending

## B MULTIPLE CHOICE 單選

**A2 120.**
How many days is Amazon's Black Friday Week? A. 7 · B. 12 · C. 30

**A2 121.**
Black Friday 2026 is on... A. Fri, Nov 27 · B. Thu, Nov 26 · C. Mon, Nov 30

**A2 122.**
How many products did Which? track in 2024? A. 12 · B. 88 · C. 175

**A2 123.**
“Zootropolis 2” opens on... A. Nov 21 · B. Thu, Nov 26 · C. Nov 29

**A2 124.**
The first Sunday of Advent is... A. Nov 29 · B. Dec 25 · C. Nov 22

**B1 125.**
The Nations Championship final is on... A. Nov 21 · B. Sun, Nov 29 · C. Nov 27

**B1 126.**
The Budget gives £100 for... A. winter energy bills · B. new films · C. football tickets

**B1 127.**
The first international was... A. England 1–0 Scotland · B. Scotland 0–0 England · C. England 4–1 Scotland

**B1 128.**
St Andrew's Day is on... A. Sun, Nov 29 · B. Fri, Nov 27 · C. Mon, Nov 30

## C READING 閱讀理解

Tom is a teacher in Manchester. On Monday, November 16, his class is reading about Black Friday. “The sales started in October,” he says. “And Black Friday is on November 27.” The class asks: “Is a bargain always a bargain?” “No,” says Tom. “Check the price first. Which? found no product at its cheapest price on the day.” Then Tom opens the second story: “On Sunday, Advent begins.” The children smile – Tom is holding an advent calendar with 24 little doors.

**B1 129.**
Tom is... A. a student · B. a teacher in Manchester · C. a reporter

**B1 130.**
The sales started in... A. October · B. December · C. January

**B1 131.**
Tom is holding... A. a turkey · B. a football · C. an advent calendar

**B1 132.**
Tom's class is reading about... A. the Ashes · B. Black Friday · C. the film

## D SENTENCES 完成句子與轉換

**B1 133.**
Will future: “The shops (open) early on Friday.”→ ___

**B1 134.**
Past simple: “The sales (start) in October.”→ ___

**B1 135.**
Comparative: “£100 is ___ than £5.”

**B2 136.**
Whether: “Nobody knows ___ the price will fall.”

## E TRANSLATION 翻譯

**B2 137.**
翻譯：“Black Friday is on November 27.”

**B2 138.**
翻譯：“Advent begins on November 29.”

**B2 139.**
翻譯：“A budget is a plan, not a present.”

**B1 140.**
翻譯：“In the jungle, a star is a meal.”

## F WORDS 詞彙配對

**A2 141–144.** 配對

141. a bargain
142. a budget
143. a trial
144. a draw

a. a game that ends with the same score
b. a thing bought for less than usual
c. the government's plan for the year
d. a challenge that wins food

## G DIALOGUE 對話補全

– Two tickets for Zootropolis 2, please. – Which (145)__? – The front row, please. – Here you are. Is this the (146)__ about Judy and Nick? – Yes, the rabbit and the fox. – One large (147)__ and two drinks, please. – What time is the next (148)__? – At eight. – And the film opens on (149)__, November 26? – Yes, Thursday. Enjoy the film!

Levels: 145–149 [A2]

## H WRITING 寫作 [B1]

Write a short text (80 to 100 words): “My Friday, November 27”. Tell us: did you go shopping, what did you buy, what did you watch on television, what did you read about the Budget – and one sentence about the film on Saturday. The best texts will appear in VOL.6 (page 7, “Readers' Corner”).

用英語寫80–100詞：我的11月27日週五。寫清你是否去購物、買了什麼、晚上看了什麼電視、讀了什麼預算案新聞，再寫一句週六的電影。



The Main Reading Room, Library of Congress – Carol M. Highsmith, public domain.

### MODEL 範文

On Friday, November 27, I went shopping with my mother. The shops opened early, and the streets were full. I bought a book for £5 – a real bargain! In the evening, we watched the jungle on television together with my family. On Saturday, we will watch the new Wicked film. On Sunday, Advent begins, and we will light the first candle. I read about the Budget in class: the government gives £100 to help with winter bills. It is a busy week of sales, films and stories – and I am learning to say it all in English.

# ANSWERS 全部答案與簡析（第1–8版）

### – 第1版 –

1. Friday (星期五) · 2. Monday (星期一) · 3. sales (sales = 促銷) · 4. cheapest (最便宜) · 5. 100 (100英鎊) · 6. bargain · 7. B · 8. A · 9. C (亞馬遜大促銷12天) · 10. B

### – 第2版 –

11. 29 (11月29日) · 12. Friday (聖誕節週五) · 13. Monday (聖安德魯日週一) · 14. 3 (11月3日) · 15. 1800 (1800年) · 16. Families will light the first candle on Sunday. · 17. Christmas will come in four weeks. · 18. We will open the calendar on December 1. · 19. Will they watch the advert again? · 20. B · 21. C (樹放在桌上) · 22. A · 23. B (蘇格蘭銀行假日) · 24. b · 25. d · 26. c · 27. a (saint=聖人 a)

### – 第3版 –

28. B · 29. A · 30. C · 31. B · 32. A 關繼威配音蛇反派) · 33. C · 34. opens · 35. fox (fox = 狐狸) · 36. won (win→ won) · 37. points (point = 分數) · 38. b (witch=女巫 b) · 39. d · 40. c · 41. a · 42. The first film took more than $750 million. · 43. Baum published the book in 1900. · 44. Will Best left the show on Sunday. · 45. The first Zootropolis film won an Oscar. (win→ won)

### – 第4版 –

46. B · 47. C · 48. A · 49. B · 50. C · 51. A · 52. derby · 53. final (final = 決賽) · 54. beaten · 55. draw (draw =平局) · 56. d (derby=德比 d) · 57. c (final=決賽 c) · 58. a · 59. b (draw=平局 b) · 60. England beat Australia 45–22. · 61. Scotland played England in 1872. · 62. About 4,000 people watched the game. · 63. Sinner missed the ATP Finals.

### – 第5版 –

64. B · 65. A · 66. C (營地在新南威爾斯) · 67. B (首夜11名營員) · 68. A (一顆星 = 一份飯) · 69. C (推遲一天因英格蘭比賽) · 70. jungle · 71. stars (star = 星星) · 72. vote (vote =投票) · 73. arrive · 74. b · 75. c · 76. d (star=星星 d) · 77. a · 78. The campmates are living in the jungle. · 79. Ant and Dec are presenting the show. · 80. The public is voting every night. · 81. They are cooking rice for the camp.

### – 第6版 –

82. B (預算案10月28日) · 83. A (能源補貼100英鎊) · 84. C (燃油稅減免至2027年7月) · 85. B (銀行附加稅15個月) · 86. A (威爾斯預算草案11月17日) · 87. C (蘇格蘭稅率12月3日) · 88. B (預算是一年的計畫) · 89. A (工薪階層稅不漲) · 90. C · 91. B · 92. A · 93. C · 94. budget · 95. keep (keep = 遵守) · 96. until (until = 直到) · 97. debates · 98. arrives · 99. raises

### – 第7版 –

100. bargain · 101. more · 102. less · 103. will · 104. started · 105. whether · 106. chose · 107. opens · 108. Correct: The sales are starting early. (sales複數 are) · 109. Correct: A bargain is a good price. (單數 is) · 110. Correct: £100 is more than £5. (more than結構) · 111. Correct: Nobody knows whether the sales will end. (whether 引導從句)

### – 第8版 –

112. Thursday (週四11月26日) · 113. writes (writes三單) · 114. last (last現在時) · 115. started (started過去時) · 116. writes (writes三單) · 117. change (change現在時) · 118. lights (lights三單) · 119. sends (sends三單) · 120. B (亞馬遜大促銷12天) · 121. A (黑色星期五11月27日) · 122. C (Which?追蹤175件商品) · 123. B (《動物方城市2》11月26日) · 124. A (將臨期第一主日11月29日) · 125. B (國家錦標賽決賽11月29日) · 126. A (100英鎊能源補貼) · 127. B (首場國際賽0–0) · 128. C (聖安德魯日11月30日) · 129. B (湯姆在曼徹斯特教書) · 130. A (促銷10月開始) · 131. C (湯姆拿著將臨期日曆) · 132. B (湯姆的課在讀黑色星期五) · 133. The shops will open early on Friday. (will +動詞原形) · 134. The sales started in October. (start → started) · 135. more (more than比較級) · 136. whether (whether =是否) · 137. 黑色星期五是11月27日。 (Black Friday=黑色星期五) · 138. 將臨期從11月29日開始。 (Advent=將臨期) · 139. 預算是一個計畫，不是一份禮物。 (budget=預算) · 140. 在叢林裡，一顆星就是一份飯。 (a star=一顆星) · 141. b (bargain=便宜貨 b) · 142. c (budget=預算 c) · 143. d (trial=挑戰任務 d) · 144. a (draw=平局 a) · 145. row (row =一排座位) · 146. film (film = 電影) · 147. popcorn (popcorn = 爆米花) · 148. show (show = 場次) · 149. Thursday (Thursday =星期四) · 150. 開放題 – 要點見寫作框，範文在第 8 版寫作框內 (按要點給分)