

READING AND SPEAKING

A tale of two millionaires

- 1 Who are the richest people in your country? Where does their money come from? How do they spend their money?
- 2 Match the verbs and nouns. Many of them are to do with money.

Verbs	Nouns
buy	a bank account
spoil	poverty
wear	a thief
open	a will
live in	stocks and shares
inherit	a child
make	a leg
arrest	ragged clothes
invest	a lot of money from someone
amputate	a lot of money in something

- 3 You are going to read about two millionaires. One was very mean, the other very generous. First read *quickly* about Milton Petrie. Can you remember any examples of his kindness?
- 4 Now read *quickly* about Hetty Green. Can you remember any examples of her meanness?
- 5 Read one text more carefully, then answer the questions with a partner who read the other text.
 - 1 When were Milton and Hetty born?
 - 2 What were their parents like?
 - 3 How did Milton and Hetty become so wealthy?
 - 4 Who wore ragged clothes?
 - 5 What was the meanest thing Hetty did?
 - 6 Why did Milton like making a lot of money?
 - 7 Who did they marry?
 - 8 When did they die? How old were they?
 - 9 Who left the most money? Who did they leave it to?

What do you think?

Discuss these questions in small groups.

- How were Milton and Hetty's childhoods different?
- How did their childhoods affect them later?
- Why was Milton especially generous to policemen?
- Why did Hetty's daughter build a hospital?
- What was the kindest thing Milton did?
- Who had the happier life? Milton or Hetty?

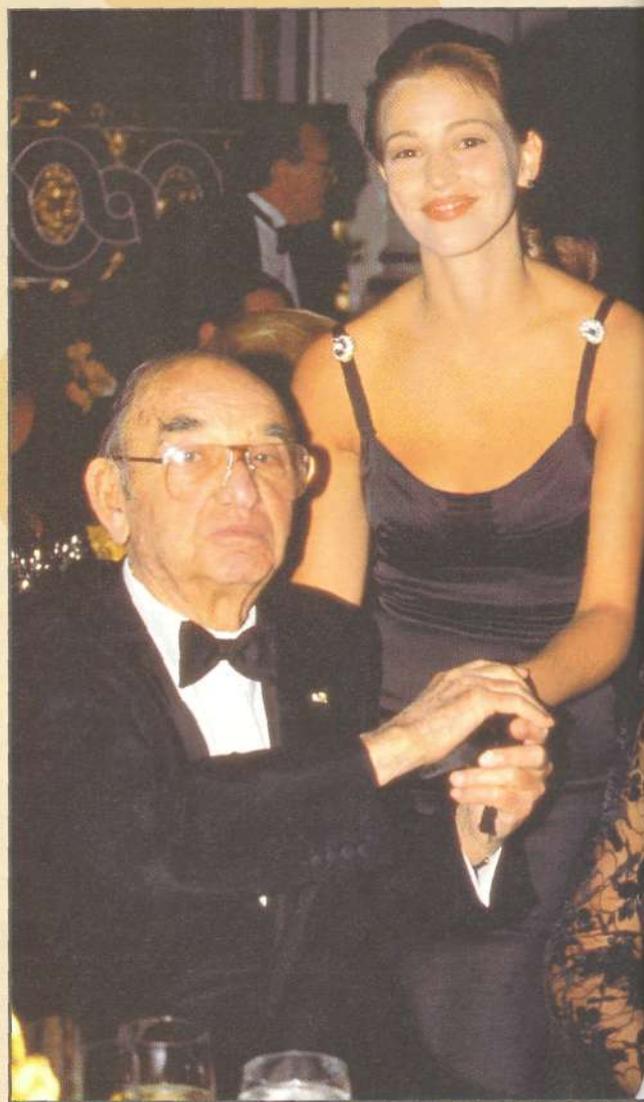
A tale of two millionaires

Some millionaires spend...

Milton Petrie

The Most Generous Man in the World

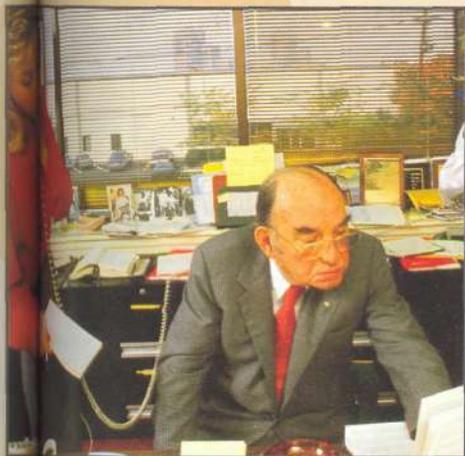
Every morning, billionaire Milton Petrie walked from his New York apartment and bought a newspaper from the ragged old man on the street corner. One morning the man wasn't there. Petrie learned that he was very ill in the city hospital. Immediately he paid his hospital bill and later, when the man died, paid for his funeral.



Milton with the model he helped

of two millionaires

spend it and some save it. Elizabeth Wilson reports on one of each.



The old man was just one of many people that Milton Petrie helped with his money. Whenever he read about personal disasters in his newspaper Petrie sent generous cheques, especially to the families of policemen or firemen injured at work. He also sent cheques to a mother who lost five children in a fire, and a beautiful model, whose face was cut in a knife attack. It cost him millions of dollars, but he still had millions left. He said that he was lucky in business and he wanted to help those less fortunate than himself. 'The nice thing is, the harder I work, the more money I make, and the more people I can help.'

Milton Petrie died in 1994, when he was 92. His will was 120 pages long because he left \$150 million to 383 people. His widow, Carroll, his fourth and last wife, said his generosity was a result of the poverty of his early years. His family were poor but kind-hearted. His father was a Russian immigrant who became a policeman, but he never arrested anyone, he was too kind. He couldn't even give a parking ticket.

Hetty Green

The Richest, Meanest Woman in the World

Henrietta (Hetty) Green was a very spoilt, only child. She was born in Massachusetts, USA, in 1835. Her father was a millionaire businessman. Her mother was often ill, and so from the age of two her father took her with him to work and taught her about stocks and shares. At the age of six she started reading the daily financial newspapers and she opened her own bank account.

Her father died when she was 21 and she inherited \$7.5 million. She went to New York and invested on Wall Street. Hetty saved every penny, eating in the cheapest restaurants for 15 cents. She became one of the richest and most hated women in the world. She was called 'The Witch of Wall Street'. At 33 she married Edward Green, a multimillionaire, and had two children, Ned and Sylvia.

Hetty's meanness was legendary. She always argued about prices in shops. She walked to the local grocery store to buy broken cookies (biscuits) which were much cheaper, and to get a free bone for her much-loved dog, Dewey. Once she lost a two-cent stamp and spent the night looking for it. She never bought clothes and always wore the same long, ragged black skirt. Worst of all, when her son Ned fell and injured his knee, she refused to pay for a doctor and spent hours looking for free medical help. In the end Ned's leg was amputated.

When she died in 1916 she left her children \$100 million (worth \$9.3 billion today). Her daughter built a hospital with her money.



VOCABULARY AND PRONUNCIATION

Synonyms

- 1 We often use synonyms in conversation because we don't want to repeat words.



Complete the conversations, using an adjective of similar meaning from the box.

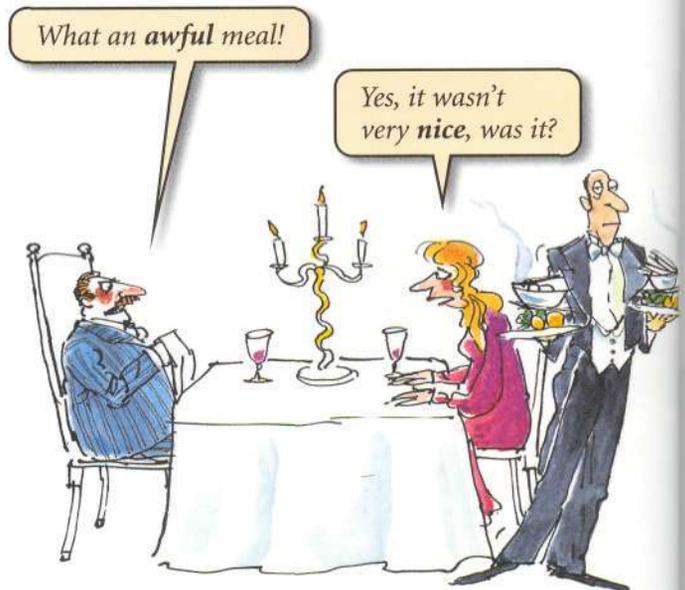
fed up generous brilliant messy modern wealthy

- 'Mary's family is very rich.'
'Well, I knew her uncle was very _____.'
- 'Look at all these new buildings.'
'Yes. Paris is much more _____ than I expected.'
- 'Wasn't that film wonderful?'
'Yes, it was _____.'
- 'George doesn't earn much money, but he's so kind.'
'He is, isn't he? He's one of the most _____ people I know.'
- 'Ann's bedroom's really untidy again!'
'Is it? I told her it was _____ yesterday, and she promised to clean it.'
- 'I'm bored with this lesson!'
'I know, I'm really _____ with it, too!'

- 2 **T 6.8** Listen and check. Listen again, paying particular attention to the stress and intonation. Practise the conversations with a partner.

Antonyms

- 3 We can also use antonyms in conversation to avoid repeating words.



Match the following adjectives with their *two* opposites in exercise 1.

interested	bored _____	fed up _____
horrible	_____	_____
mean	_____	_____
old	_____	_____
poor	_____	_____
tidy	_____	_____

- 4 Sometimes it is more polite to use *not very* and an opposite adjective.

Tom's so short.

Well, he's **not very tall**.

He always wears such dirty clothes.

They certainly **aren't very clean**.

Reply to these sentences. Be more polite.

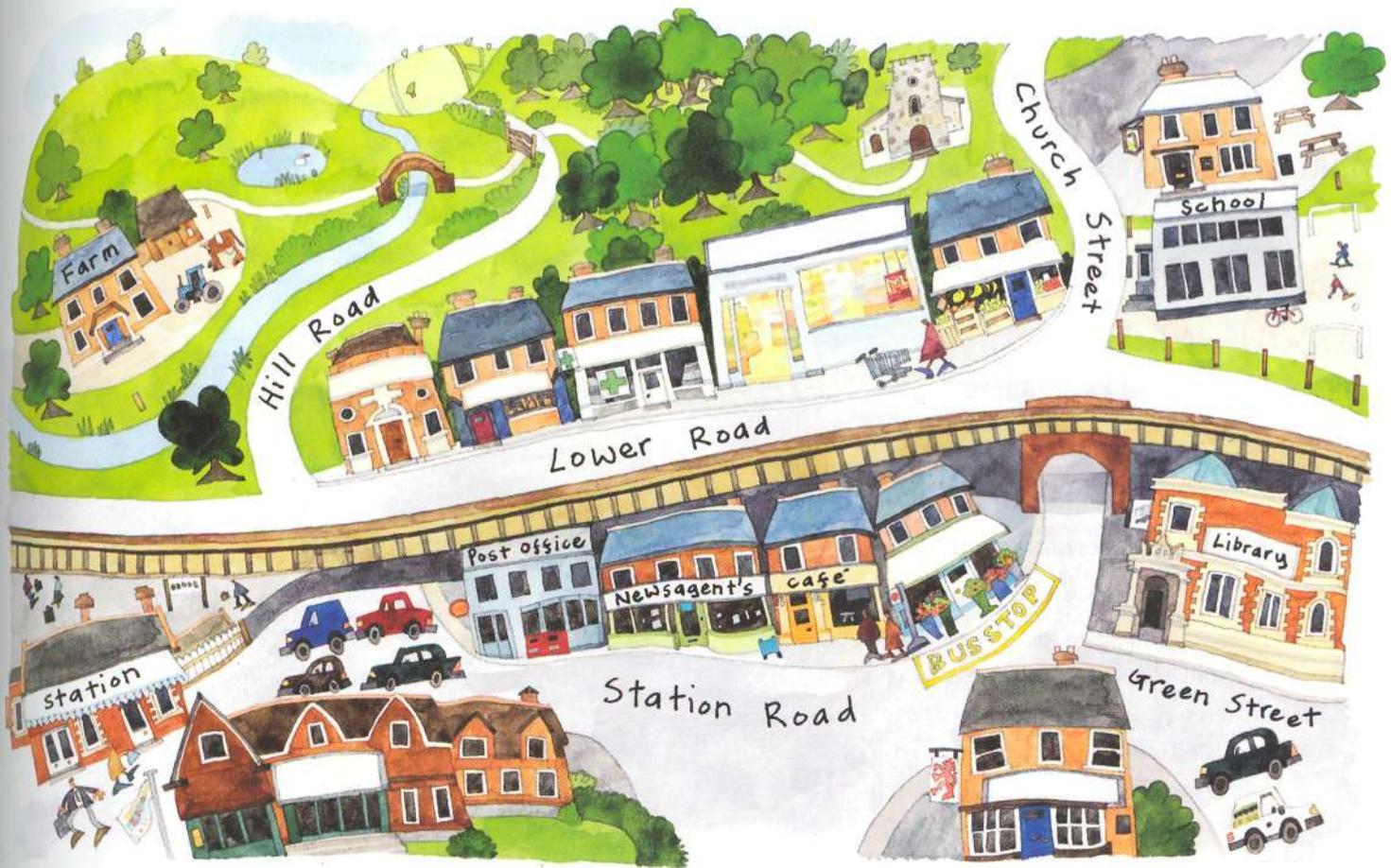
- London's such an expensive city.
 - Paul and Sue are so mean.
 - Their house is always so messy.
 - Their children are so noisy.
 - John looks so miserable.
 - His sister's so stupid.
- 5 **T 6.9** Listen and check. Pay particular attention to the stress and intonation. Practise the conversations with your partner.

EVERYDAY ENGLISH

Directions

1 Look at the map of Chesswood and find these things:

- a farm
- a wood
- a pond
- a path
- a hill
- a river
- a bridge
- a gate



2 Read these descriptions and add the places to the map.

- 1 The hotel is **opposite** the car park.
- 2 The bank is **on the corner of** Lower Road and Hill Road. It is **next to** the baker's.
- 3 The supermarket is **between** the chemist's and the greengrocer's.
- 4 There is a bus stop **in front of** the flower shop in Station Road.
- 5 There are two pubs. The Red Lion is in Station Road, **opposite** the flower shop **near** the railway bridge, and the Old Shepherd is in Church Street, **behind** the school.

3 Ask and answer questions about the places on the map. Use the prepositions from exercise 2.

Where's the library?

It's on the corner of Station Road and Green Street, opposite the flower shop.

4 Complete the directions from Chesswood farm to the church with the prepositions in the box. Look at the map to help you.

up down over past through out of (x2) in(to) across

You go _____ the path, _____ the pond, _____ the bridge, and _____ the gate. Then you go _____ the road and take the path _____ the wood. When you come _____ the wood you walk _____ the path and _____ the church. It takes five minutes.

T 6.10 Listen and check.

5 Give your partner directions to get to your house from your school.