

# The Parrot and the Lobster

## The Parrot

A magician had a pet parrot that was part of his show.

The parrot had seen the tricks so many times that it got very bored.

Then the magician got a job entertaining the passengers on an ocean liner.

He pulled rabbits out of a hat and then made them disappear.

He waved his hands and made a pack of cards vanish into thin air.

All the time the parrot sat on its perch and sourly watched the same old show.

But then the boilers in the engine room suddenly exploded and the ship sank.

There was nothing left on the ocean but the magician and the parrot.

They were sitting at opposite ends of a big plank.

Curiosity finally overcame the parrot and grudgingly it said,

“All right, I’ll buy it. What did you do with it?”

## The Lobster

A man went into a milk bar and ordered a milk shake.

He drank it to the last drop, smacking his lips now and then.

At last he said to the man behind the counter, "that's the best milk shake I've ever had.

Just to show you how much I appreciate it, I want you to have this as a present."

Then he reached into his pocket and pulled out a live lobster.

The man didn't really know what to do but finally he said,

"Thank you very much. I'll take it home for dinner."

"Oh, she's already had dinner," said the customer.

"Why don't you take her to a nightclub?"

## **The Lobster and the Parrot (Teacher's notes)**

Aims: to give students practice in linking sentences  
to improve fluency skills in telling stories

Level: intermediate

Time: 45 minutes

- 1 Pre-teach key vocabulary – parrot, magician, sourly, grudgingly, lobster, appreciate.
- 2 Make as many copies as needed for pairs. This could also be done with sets of cut-ups.
- 3 Ss get the copy or the jumbled sets and are asked to separate them and put each story in the correct order.
- 4 Pairs check with other pairs until agreement is reached. T makes final check.
- 5 Pairs agree on who is going to tell which story and choose up to ten key words which will help them to tell the story. T takes away copies or cut-ups.
- 6 Pairs split and form new pairs with the same story to practise.
- 7 Pairs go back to original partner and they tell each other their story.
- 8 Ss write their story either in class or for homework.