



a

**tot**®

**of English**

## Objectives

A TOT OF ENGLISH is an English magazine for language learners, based on the guidelines provided by the Common European Framework for language teaching. The magazine is for lower-intermediate level students and corresponds to level A2 to B1 of the CEF (reference levels [A1, A2]: basic; [B1, B2]: independent; [C1, C2]: proficient).

A TOT OF ENGLISH has two main objectives: to entertain and interest students with articles, games, cartoons and cut-out books and to provide the teacher with useful material which is easy to use.

A TOT OF ENGLISH is modular, meaning that each unit is a didactic unit in itself and that the magazine's six-yearly issues give you time to plan ahead. Thus, by the end of the school year, students will have covered the equivalent of a lower-intermediate English course.

A TOT OF ENGLISH is an ideal resource for:

- **school curricular based on six complete didactic units**
- **planning language assessment**
- **encouraging independent learning**
- **consolidating an interdisciplinary approach to learning and teaching**

The complete, six-issue series of A TOT OF ENGLISH enables students to engage in familiar discussions regarding the world of animals, the joy of reading, the importance of solidarity and topics which are of importance and interest to them. Students will be able to produce simple written texts relating to familiar topics such as their personal experiences, events which affect them, their dreams, hopes and ambitions. They will also be able to make comparisons between different cultures and their own.

## Content and focus

1. Each issue of the magazine corresponds to a **COMPLETE DIDACTIC UNIT** which includes: a cartoon on page 5, a related article on pages 6 and 7 and revision games and quizzes on page 14 which expand on the main topic of the magazine. Content is "spiral" in its progression, which means that you can address the same issues a number of times, approaching them in different ways. The aim of this is to:
  - ensure the magazines are theme-focused without being repetitive
  - give students the chance to learn, remember and consolidate
  - enable the students to put into practice what they have learnt by reading current, youth-related issues.
2. There are 6 pages of **NEWS AND CULTURE FROM THE ENGLISH-SPEAKING WORLD**: page 4 profiles a celebrity; a pull out poster on pages 8 and 9 illustrates a capital city of an English-speaking country; on pages 12 and 13 *In Britain* deals with current news and events in the UK; and on page 16 *A Taste of Britain* features seasonal recipes from the British Isles. Each page is interactive, so students immediately get the chance to put into practise what they have learnt.

## What's new in 2011-2012

**Tot Mail.** The Tot mailbox is back, full of letters sent to our editor. One of these letters will be published in every issue.

**Tests** New this year, these 6 personality tests help students learn English in a way which is intriguing and fun!

**Cartoons** More new additions this year are the cartoons on page 5, which present illustrated vocabulary in the form of cartoons, linked to the theme of that month's magazine.

**Once again, the Teacher's Notes come with a Language Portfolio to help students keep track of their progress in learning English.**

# A Tot of English Syllabus



MONTH	CONTENT	FUNCTIONS	GRAMMAR
n° ① <b>September October</b>  <b>Young ... and Talented</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learn about some of the lifestyle of these world-famous stars.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflect on the professional route taken by stars of the music industry.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Past simple</li> <li>Present perfect</li> </ul>
n° ② <b>November</b>  <b>2011: The Year of the Bat</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learn words and phrases related to this important mammal.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflect on the role of this animal for the health of our eco-system and the danger of pollution for its conservation.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Present simple</li> <li>Prepositions of place</li> <li>Prepositions of movement</li> </ul>
n° ③ <b>December January</b>  <b>2012 ... and then?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learn about the legends linked to the so-called <i>end of the world</i> in 2012.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Think about and discuss the need to find out scientific facts linked to certain possible events.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Future simple "going to"</li> <li>Future simple "will"</li> <li>Prepositions with time expressions</li> </ul>
n° ④ <b>February</b>  <b>Happy Together</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Words, phrases and trends linked to group relations.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reflect on the advantages and disadvantages of living in a group.</li> <li>Reflect on the dangers of bullying and online friendships.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conjunctions</li> <li>Imperatives</li> <li>Introduction to "should"</li> </ul>
n° ⑤ <b>March April</b>  <b>The Amazing Spider-Man</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expressions linked to the world of cinema and comics.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find out news related to one of the world's most loved comic book characters.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Passive forms</li> </ul>
n° ⑥ <b>May June July</b>  <b>Ready for the Olympics?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Learn expressions linked to the world of sport.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Find out about the thirtieth Olympic Games.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revision of the structures presented throughout the year.</li> </ul>

# Answers



## SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER

**1A: a.** Selena was 7 years old when she began acting. Her first TV series was Barney and Friends. **b.** Her fans love her talent, her spontaneity and her generosity. **c.** In 2009, she went to Ghana to help children who are living in difficult conditions there. **d.** In 2007, Justin published some videos on YouTube and became a big star. **e.** Justin supports the campaign *Schools4all* by the organisation Pencils of Promise. The aim is to raise money to build schools.

**1B: 1** studied; **2** went; **3** saw; **4** made; **5** called.

**1C:** singer, videos, talent, soundtrack, websites.

## NOVEMBER

**2A: 1** Bats are common in many parts of the world and are harmless animals **2** So bats help to “clean up” nature, freeing it of dangerous animals. **3** Bats are really special animals. They are the only mammals that can fly.

**4** They mainly live in tree trunks, under ground or in any “hole” in a building. **5** When they migrate to warmer places, they can make journeys of 4000km.

**2B: 1** don’t understand; **2** like, don’t like; **3** travel, takes; **4** don’t study.

**2C: 1** at; **2** in; **3** to; **4** towards, on; **5** in, near.

## DECEMBER/JANUARY

**3A:** ends; **2** calculations, period; **3** after, winter; **4** aligned, time; **5** waves, reverse; **6** change, disoriented.

**3B: 1** will rain; **2** will arrive; **3** will speak; **4** will have; **5** will go.

**3C: 1** at; **2** on; **3** in; **4** on; **5** at.

## FEBRUARY

**4A:** sociable, group, individual, faults, together, friends, contact, communal: CO-HOUSING.

**4B : 1** don’t forget; **2** wait for me; **3** beware; **4** keep quiet; **5** don’t tell.

**4C:** Together Everyone Achieves More!

## MARCH/ APRIL

**5A: 1.b;** **2.c;** **3.e;** **4.d;** **5.a.**

**5B : 1** is spoken; **2** was made; **3** is eaten; **4** were found; **5** are held

**5C:** open answer

## MAY/JUNE/JULY

**6A: 1** true; **2** true; **3** false; **4** false.

**6B: 1** is studying; **2** went, will go; **3** start; **4** am going to visit, am; **5** arrived, called; **6** haven’t seen; **7** hurry.

**6C: Across:** football, tennis, judo, diving, cycling, swimming. **Down:** athletics, fencing, boxing, rowing, softball, golf: **USAIN BOLT**

## SELF-ASSESSMENT

**Activity 1: 1** – a; **2** – b; **3** – a; **4** – c; **5** – c; **6** – c.

**Activity 2:**

**self-taught:** learned a skill alone, without a teacher

**campaigns:** (here) request for money for a charity

**ecosystem:** the world in which plants and animals live together

**migrate:** verb used when animals travel to another place in a large group

**disoriented:** when you lose your sense of direction

**shopaholic:** a person who can’t stop shopping

**beware:** be careful

give you a hand: help you

**miming:** pretending to do something using just actions

**passers-by:** people who walk past, other pedestrians

**Activity 3: 1.** Selena Gomez represents Unicef as an ambassador; **2.** Bats mainly live in tree trunks, under ground or any “hole” in a building. The University of Florence created a bat-box, which is a nest for bats.

**3.** The sun will be aligned with the centre of the Milky Way for the first time in 26,000 years!**4.** It is when a group of families (sometimes even 20 – 40) live in areas where, as well as having their own houses, there are many communal places too, for example, kitchens, libraries, laundries, DIY workshops and much more. **5.** It was made with a very special material, which reflects the light in a certain way. The new Spider-Man will also have web shooting devices, just like the original cartoon. **6.** When the Olympics are over the village will be transformed into an enormous educational centre and the accommodation will become 4000 apartments.

**Activity 4:** open answer.

# n.1 Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- September/October



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

## 1A Have you read the article *Young ... and Talented?* Now let's see if you can answer the following questions correctly.

1 How old was Selena Gomez when she began acting? What was the name of her first TV series?

.....

2 Why is Selena loved so much by her fans?

.....

3 What important thing did she do in 2009?

.....

4 What did Justin Bieber do in 2007?

.....

5 Which very important campaign does Justin support? What is the aim of the campaign?

.....

## 1B Complete the sentences with the correct verbs.

saw

studied

made

went

called

1 Yesterday I ..... for my maths exam all afternoon.

2 On Sunday I ..... shopping with my friends.

3 We ..... a really good film at the cinema last night.

4 Julie and I ..... a carrot cake last week. This week we're going to make a chocolate cake!

5 I ..... Stefanie about an hour ago but she wasn't home.

## 1C Find 5 words in the word-snake.

SINGERVIDEOSTALENTSOUNDTRACKWEBSITES

# n.2 Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- November



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

## 2A Read the report 2011: *The Year of the Bat* then put the sentences into the correct order.

- 1 world and are / common in many / Bats are / harmless animals / parts of the
- 2 help to / dangerous animals. / "clean up" nature, / So bats / freeing it of
- 3 Bats are / mammals that / animals. They / can fly. / really special / are the only
- 4 any "hole" in / They mainly / a building. / trunks, under / live in tree / ground or in
- 5 they can / of 4000km. / to warmer places, / When they migrate / make journeys

## 2B Complete the sentences

takes

like

don't like

don't study

travel

don't understand

- 1 I ..... the question. Can you explain it better?
- 2 I really ..... biology but I ..... chemistry very much.
- 3 I usually ..... to school by bus, but sometimes my mum ..... me in the car.
- 4 My English teacher says that I ..... enough grammar!

## 2C Complete the sentences with the correct preposition.

to

in

at

towards

in

near

on

- 1 Jane and Miriam arrived ..... school at 8.30 this morning.
- 2 ..... many parts of the world people eat their main meal at mid-day.
- 3 We usually go ..... Italy in the summer holidays to visit my mum's family.
- 4 Walk ..... the supermarket, but turn left before you reach it. My house is the first ..... the right.
- 5 We live ..... a small bungalow, ..... the seaside.

# n.3 Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- December/January



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

## 3A Read the report 2012... and then? and complete the sentences.

- 1 The Maya calendar ..... on 21st December 2012.
- 2 According to their ....., in December 2012 a ..... of 5,125 years will end.
- 3 The day ..... the end of the Maya Calendar there will be a ..... solstice.
- 4 The sun will be ..... with the centre of the Milky Way, for the ..... time in 26,000 years!
- 5 Magnetic ..... generally ..... every 3000 years.
- 6 When these waves reverse or ..... direction, these animals can become .....

## 3B Complete the sentences using the future form 'will' and the correct verb from the box below.

have      go      speak      arrive      rain

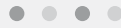
- 1 It's very cloudy today. I think it ..... tomorrow.
- 2 George ..... at 9 o'clock tomorrow morning.
- 3 In 2099, I think everyone in the world ..... English.
- 4 I'm sure you ..... a great time at the concert on Saturday night!
- 5 There's no food in the fridge. I ..... to the supermarket later.

## 3C Complete the sentence with the correct preposition.

- 1 The party starts ..... 8 o'clock.
- 2 I can't go out ..... Tuesday. I have to study!
- 3 My birthday is ..... March. When is yours?
- 4 The new school year starts ..... 12th September this year.
- 5 Can you wake me up ..... 6.30 tomorrow morning? I have to catch the early train to London!

# My language portfolio

Lower intermediate



My name is:

.....

My address is:

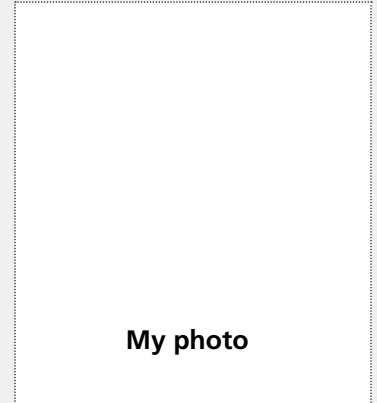
.....

My signature:

.....

I'm studying (language):

.....



## I need this Portfolio to:

- ✓ know what I can say and do in English
- ✓ write down what I learn at school
- ✓ talk about myself, what I'm studying and what I like doing

## Things I know about Britain / the English-speaking world:

.....  
.....  
.....

## Things I would like to know about Britain:

.....  
.....  
.....

## I want to learn English to:

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> learn about Britain           | <input type="checkbox"/> do well at school       | <input type="checkbox"/> listen to English music       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> meet English-speaking friends | <input type="checkbox"/> have fun                | <input type="checkbox"/> live abroad                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> learn new things              | <input type="checkbox"/> learn a new language    | <input type="checkbox"/> write to my pen-pal           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> enjoy my holidays             | <input type="checkbox"/> read my favourite books | <input type="checkbox"/> understand my favourite films |
| <input type="checkbox"/> learn about the world         | <input type="checkbox"/> learn about sports      | <input type="checkbox"/> .....                         |
|  |  | .....  |

## **SPEAKING – I CAN:**

- talk about music and famous singers
- talk about animals
- talk about the Maya calendar and how it works
- talk about sport
- talk about why it is important to be part of a group
- talk about the cinema
- explain how to play a game
- answer questions

## **WRITING – I CAN:**

- write about popular music
- complete a text
- write a short text about animals and their relationship with people
- write an advertisement to encourage people not to be part of a group
- write a slogan about animals and how precious they are
- write a short text about the importance of sport
- do exercises and puzzles
- write a summary of an article

## **READING – I CAN:**

- read an article about interests or hobbies
- read an article about nature
- read an article about animals
- find information about sport
- understand the value of nature
- read a letter from a friend
- understand the instructions of a game
- find information about British culture

## **LISTENING – I CAN:**

- understand a brief passage about animals
- understand what my teacher says
- understand new words about sport
- understand when someone introduces themselves
- understand a game
- understand a question and answer
- understand a cartoon
- understand instructions to do something
- understand other people's tastes
- understand the context of a conversation

**A TOT OF ENGLISH N° ① SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER**

This month I have learnt:

.....

.....

.....

**A TOT OF ENGLISH N° ② NOVEMBER**

This month I have learnt:

.....

.....

.....

**A TOT OF ENGLISH N° ③ DECEMBER/JANUARY**

This month I have learnt:

.....

.....

.....

**A TOT OF ENGLISH N° ④ FEBRUARY**

This month I have learnt:

.....

.....

.....

**A TOT OF ENGLISH N° ⑤ MARCH/APRIL**

This month I have learnt:

.....

.....

.....

**A TOT OF ENGLISH N° ⑥ MAY/JUNE/JULY**

This month I have learnt:

.....

.....

.....

# n.4 Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- February



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

**4A Find 8 words from the report "Happy Together" in the word-snake. The remaining letters spell out a new concept of living in groups.**

C S O C I A B L E O G R O U P H I N D I V I D U A L O F A U L T S U T O G E T H E R S F R I E N D S I C O N T A C T N C O M M U N A L G

**4B Complete the sentences with the correct imperative verb.**

beware

don't forget

wait for me

don't tell

keep quiet

- 1 'I'll be home late tonight'. 'Okay, ..... your keys.'
- 2 '.....! I can't walk as fast as you!'
- 3 '.....of bullies in your group – they can be very dangerous!'
- 4 '..... when you go upstairs! The baby is sleeping.'
- 5 'It's a secret so ..... anyone!'

**4C Break the secret code to discover the meaning of the word 'TEAM'.**

a=\* c=⚙ e=😊 g=□ h=● i=↑ m=○ n=■ o=☉ r=⊕ s=❖ t=★ v=↓ y=◆

★⊙□😊★●😊⊕ T \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

😊↓😊⊕◆⊙■😊 E \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

\*⚙●↑😊↓😊❖ A \_ \_ \_ \_ \_

○⊙⊕😊! M \_ \_ \_ !

# n.5 Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- March/ April



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

## 5A Read the report *The Amazing Spider-Man* and match the 2 parts of the sentences.

- 1  First big surprise: The film is a reboot;
- 2  As we know, the young news photographer
- 3  Peter is a normal guy with normal problems:
- 4  When you do an action scene, something always goes wrong!
- 5  The new Spider-Man will also have

- a web shooting devices, just like the original cartoon.
- b a new film, with a new story, not the sequel\* to the other Spider-Man films.
- c is bitten by a radioactive spider during an experiment at university and he develops his famous super- powers.
- d So you have to be good at improvising!
- e homework; his first love; family problems.

## 5B Put the verbs in brackets into the correct passive forms in the sentences.

- 1 English ..... (speak) in Canada.
- 2 The first Spider-Man film, Spider-Man: The Dragon's Challenge, ..... (make) in 1979.
- 3 A lot of pasta ..... (eat) in Italy.
- 4 These books ..... (find) in the classroom this morning. Are they yours?
- 5 Auditions for The X Factor ..... (hold) in London every year.

## 5C Can you invent a slogan to advertise the new film, *The Amazing Spider-Man*?

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

# n.6 Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- May/June/July



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

## 6A Are the following statements true or false? Write the correct answer next to the false statements.

- |   | T                        | F                        |
|---|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 London will host the Olympics for the third time.                     | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 2 The Paralympics will be held from 30th August to 8th September.       | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 3 The Olympic village will be destroyed at the end of the competitions. | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| 4 Victoria Beckham stars in the advertisement for the Olympics.         | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |

.....

.....

.....

.....

## 6B Complete the sentences with the verb in brackets in the correct tense.

- 1 Mary can't come to the phone right now. She ..... (study).
- 2 Last year we ..... (go) on holiday Egypt but this year I think we ..... probably ..... (go) to Japan.
- 3 I usually ..... (start) school at 8.o'clock.
- 4 Next October I ..... (visit) my pen-friend in Australia; I ..... (be) so excited!
- 5 When Mark ..... (arrive) home from work, he ..... (call) his sister.
- 6 I ..... (not see) the new Spider-Man film yet, but I would really like to see it soon!
- 7 ..... (hurry) Sophie! You'll be late for school!

## 6C Find 12 Olympic sports in the box below. The remaining letters spell the name of a famous Jamaican athlete who has won 3 gold medals! His name is .....

A	F	O	O	T	B	A	L	L
T	E	E	N	N	I	S	R	S
H	N	J	U	G	S	B	O	O
L	C	U	A	O	I	O	W	F
E	I	D	N	L	B	X	I	T
T	N	O	O	F	L	I	N	B
I	G	D	I	V	I	N	G	A
C	Y	C	L	I	N	G	T	L
S	W	I	M	M	I	N	G	L

# Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- Self-assessment



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

Did you enjoy reading "A Tot of English" this year? How much have you learned? Do the activities, add up your points then read your profile.

## Activity 1

Tick the correct answer. You get one point for each correct answer.

### 1 Bats usually eat:

- a  insects, small amphibians and mice
- b  fruit and vegetables
- c  cereal

### 2 When they migrate, bats can travel as far as:

- a  2000 km
- b  4000 km
- c  6000 km

### 3 The day after the last day of the Maya calendar, there will be:

- a  a winter solstice
- b  a summer solstice
- c  a spring equinox

### 4 The Earth's magnetic waves reverse:

- a  every 5000 years
- b  every 1000 years
- c  every 3000 years

### 5 The Olympic village can host:

- a  18,000 people
- b  13,723 people
- c  17,320 people

### 6 The athletes' accommodation will be transformed into:

- a  10,000 apartments
- b  5,000 apartments
- c  4,000 apartments

Max. 6 points

You scored .....points

# Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- Self-assessment



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

## Activity 2

The words below are new words that you have learnt while reading "A Tot of English", can you remember what they mean? Write the meaning next to each word. You get 1 point for each correct answer.

- self-taught: .....
- campaigns: .....
- ecosystem: .....
- migrate: .....
- disoriented: .....
- shopaholic: .....
- beware: .....
- give you a hand: .....
- miming: .....
- passers-by: .....

Max. 10 points

You scored .....points

## Activity 3

Here are some questions about the reports in "A Tot of English". You get 5 points for each correct answer.

- 1 For which organisation does Selena Gomez act as an ambassador?  
.....
- 2 Where do bats live? What was invented at the University of Florence?  
.....
- 3 What will happen on the winter solstice in 2012?  
.....
- 4 What is co-housing?  
.....
- 5 What is special about the new Spider-Man costume?  
.....
- 6 What will happen to the Olympic Village when the competition finishes?  
.....

Max. 30 points

You scored .....points

# Photocopiable Activities

2011-2012- Self-assessment



Name and Surname: ..... Class: .....

## Activity 4

Write a short summary of the article you liked the best and say why you liked it.

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

.....

You teacher will give you a score!

---

## Learner Profile

### 40 points or more!

Congratulations, you're very good! You've paid a lot of attention and remembered what you've read. This is a very high score! You're English is excellent!

### Between 30 and 40

Well done! You remembered almost everything. For an even better result why not re-read the reports that you don't remember so well.

### Less than 30

Hmmm! Not bad but.....you should read the reports and do some of the exercises again. Go on, have another go!