



Because this is the language which is spoken all over the world. If you speak English you can keep in contact with the friends you met during the summer; you are able to use a computer; you can understand the texts of your favourite songs and read the English article about the Take That. In other words, you feel a citizen of the world. Welcome.

Telefon house



E.T., FROM SPACE WITH LOVE

A big head, a funny body, the long finger, two sweet and frightened eyes. E.T. loved his terrestrial friends but he also felt homesick. In the end he left on a flying saucer, with the promise to keep them in his heart of hearts for ever, and we all cried tears of deep emotion.

E.T. told the story of a nice and peaceful extra terrestrial being. But, do extra terrestrial beings exist? Nobody can tell for sure. Of course there are many people who believe in an extraterrestrial life, and people who don't.

It all began centuries ago, with descriptions or drawings of unknown objects which were seen in the sky. In our time the UFO phenomenon became famous in 1947, when an american businessman, who was piloting his plane, happened to meet nine silver flying saucers, as big as a large passenger plane. They performed flight manoeuvres at low altitude, at 2.000 km per hour. He said they seemed «saucers which sprang on water» and because of this description, we still call them «flying saucers». The short form UFO is the acronym of Unidentified Flying Object.

Since then hundreds of people have been telling about their sightings of unidentified

objects crossing the sky. Some of them are reliable, some are not: they include civil and military pilots, astronauts, astronomers, staff of control towers and many ordinary people who were in their cars, or in a stadium, or in their gardens.

They all agree in the descriptions they give: dimensions, colours, incredibly high speeds, manoeuvres that are impossible for our aircraft ...

For a great number of sightings the mystery has been

solved, since they were explained by known phenomena, but many other cases still have no scientific explanation.

In the past, all over the world, metallic flying objects or some sort of space pilots were mentioned in different kinds of writings or engraved on the walls of caves. A few weeks ago, an ancient painting of Palazzo Pitti, in Florence, was the last piece of news about UFOs. Indeed, an UFO can be recognized in it, they say.

Therefore, E.T. is not a recent discovery, though discovery is an improper word for something which cannot be conclusively proved. Anyway, the United States, Russia, China and many other countries have established official commissions in order to study the possibility of extraterrestrial life and ways to communicate with it.

Extra Terrestrial Highway is the name which was given to a Nevada state route last February, by the Department of Transportation. It's a couple of hours from Las Vegas, 98 miles of desolate route on which an average of 53 cars a day pass by, but where there are many UFO sightings. The Governor, at an official ceremony, unveiled eight-foot-wide (m. 2,4) alien-friendly road signs, "in case we have visitors landing from above", he explained.

Certainly, tourism in Las Vegas will benefit from this



highway.

So, there we are: many fascinating stories and theories which leave the sceptics with a lot of doubts.

"People have too much imagination! It's a case of collective suggestion! Just a business! It's a dream to escape from reality!" they say. But some add: "Perhaps it's fear of the unknown; they are afraid of reshuffling their knowledge and their ideas about the power of the human being". They prefer non to believe.

Actually there is no evidence of extraterrestrial visitors and the most common and sensible question is: "If they exist, why don't they try to contact us?" Are we too primitive for them? Or do they think they'd better not interfere with our process of civilization? And if they exist, do they come from other planets or from a parallel world? What do they like and believe in? Etc...

We suppose they are peacefull, because they could easily have attacked us. We can only suppose. But, why not consider ourselves as inhabitants of space, and not only of the earth? We are Italians, now we're a bit European, in the future we could become Universal citizens.

Antonella Ferri



THE GREY GHOST

Are you a racist? Certainly not! But, as you know, racism still exists, because many people do not accept diversity of any kind. "We rent apartments, immigrants need not to apply". "We are looking for a 'pizzaiolo'. We'd prefer if he came from the North of Italy". "You are a dirty nigger" said an eleven-year-old Italian boy to a foreign schoolmate. The headmaster suspended him for one day.

These episodes happen more often than we can imagine. And abroad? Tennis champion Boris Becker left his country, Germany, because his wife was repeatedly insulted by his own people and he was frequently attacked, too. He married a black woman, that was the great crime he had committed.

And can a little girl rest in peace in a cemetery for whites if she had black relatives? Recently, in the United States, a white community wanted her to be removed for this reason.

Not to talk of South Africa, where apartheid has been officially abolished, but where a great number of white parents don't want their children to share the same classroom with black children.

Possibly, in your classroom there is one pupil, or more than one, who has a skin colour which is different from yours and you don't care. Children usually do not mind about such a detail, because they look at the important aspects of a person: sympathy, kindness, cleverness.

For instance, Scout and Jem don't mind at all. They are sister and brother, six and ten respectively, when the story begins. They live with their father Atticus, a lawyer, in a small village in the South of United States. Their mother died when Scout was two. Calpurnia has been working in their house since then: she is a black woman with a strong character.

One day Scout and Jem meet Dill, a boy of their age. Dill likes to impersonate various characters, his mind is full of projects and ideas. And one day he has the idea of discovering the secret of Boo: a strange man who lives in the neighborhood and whose parents don't allow him to go out of the home. There must be a secret behind the shutters of that house, and they have to solve it. So the adventure begins.

In the trunk of a tree they find two dolls of soap, a broken watch and chain, a couple of mascot coins. Who put those objects there for them? And why? Are they a present or a trap?

In the meantime, a black man is charged with violence (rape) on a white woman and Atticus has to defend him. But it's an arduous task, because almost the whole village is on the woman's side. She's white, therefore she must be telling the truth.

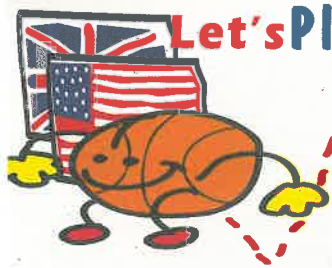
And the children? Somebody will try to kill them, but an unexpected person will save them. The black man will be proved innocent, but... the Grey Ghost, does it exist? Why is it in the story?

If you want to live Scout's and Jem's adventures, then you have to read "To Kill a Mockingbird", written by Ms. Harper Lee. It's available in a cheap edition; the Italian title is "Il buio oltre la siepe"; it won the Pulitzer Prize in 1960.

It's a fascinating story told by the young girl, Scout, who runs into the difficult and cruel world of the adults. While playing and living their everyday life, Scout and Jem will learn and teach a lot, at the same time.

Yet they are ordinary children who disobey, look for fun, invent and dream and they have to cope with the problems of their society: ignorance, poverty, loneliness, fear of diversity. In the end they win their battle, though the war continues.

Let's Play



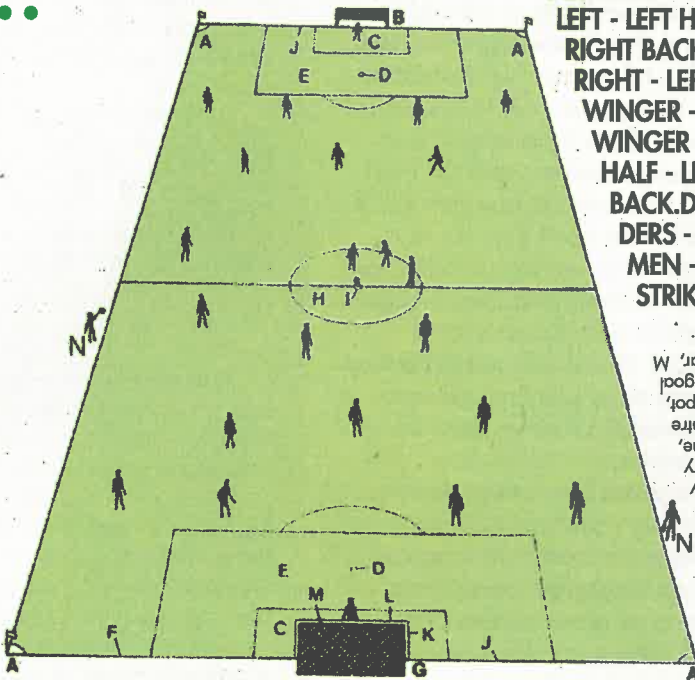
SOCCER OR FOOTBALL?

Do you know the words for each part of the football (or soccer, as they call it in the United States) field and for each member of the team? There is a word for each letter.



GOAL AREA - CENTRE CIRCLE - LINESMAN - GOAL LINE - PENALTY SPOT - CORNER - TOUCHLINE - CROSSBAR - REFEREE - GOAL - CENTRE SPOT - NET - GOAL POST - PENALTY AREA - CENTRE CIRCLE - GOAL CENTRE HALF - GOALKEEPER - CENTRE

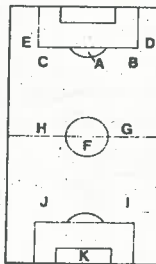
FORWARD - INSIDE LEFT - LEFT HALF - RIGHT BACK - INSIDE RIGHT - LEFT WINGER - RIGHT WINGER - CENTRE HALF - LEFT BACK. DEFENDERS - MIDFIELD MEN - STRIKERS.



KEY.
A corner, B goal, C goal area, D penalty spot, E penalty area, F touchline, G goal, H centre circle, I centre spot, J goal line, K goal post, L crossbar, M net, N linesman.

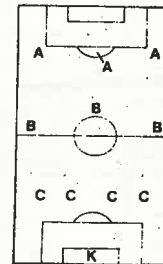
TRADITIONAL LINE-UP

A centre forward, B inside right, C inside left, D right winger, E left winger, F centre half, G right half, H left half, I right back, J left back, K goalkeeper.



MODERN LINE-UP

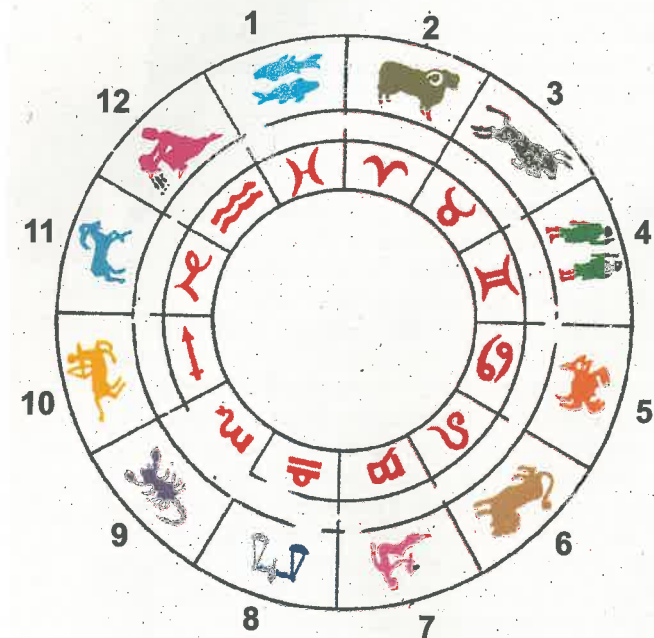
A strikers, B midfield men, C defenders.



WHAT'S YOUR SIGN?

Can you name the signs?

VIRGO - SCORPIO - LIBRA - GEMINI - LEO - ARIES - CANCER
CAPRICORN - PISCES - SAGITTARIUS - TAURUS - AQUARIUS



KEY PISCES, 2) ARIES, 3) TAURUS, 4) GEMINI, 5) CANCER, 6) LEO, 7) VIRGO, 8) LIBRA, 9) SCORPIO, 10) CAPRICORN, 11) SAGITTARIUS, 12) AQUARIUS

ARE YOU HUNGRY?

Can you complete the menu and choose your dinner?

STARTERS

MEAT

FISH

VEGETABLES

DESSERTS

DRINKS

FRIED SOLE - BARLEY SOUP - ROAST BEEF AND YORKSHIRE PUDDING - TOMATO SALAD - CIDER - MINERAL WATER - ORANGE MERINGUE PIE - ORANGE JUICE - ANGEL CAKE - SCONES WITH JAM - CHERRY PIE - SHEPHERD'S PIE - BEEF OLIVES - BOILED POTATOES - TROUT PIE - SCOTCH BROTH - PRAWN COCKTAIL - GRILLED MACKEREL - ROAST CHICKEN - SCOTTISH SALMON - RATATOUILLE ROULADE - ASPARAGUS CREAM - AUBERGINE AND BEAN STIR-FRY - BEER.

KEY STARTERS: barley soup - scotch broth - scotch cocktail - asparagus cream. MEAT: Roast beef and Yorkshire pudding - shepherd's pie - beef olives - roast chicken. FISH: fried sole - trout pie - grilled mackerel - scottish salmon. VEGETABLES: tomato salad - boiled potatoes - ratatouille roulade - aubergine and bean stir-fry. DESSERTS: orange meringue pie - angel cake - scones with jam - cherry pie. DRINKS: beer - mineral water - cider - orange juice.