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"Omnishambles" is Word Of The Year

15th November, 2012

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

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THE ARTICLE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

The Oxford English Dictionary has chosen the neologism (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year for 2012. The OED's blog defines this recent addition to the English vocabulary as "a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged, characterized by a string of blunders and miscalculations". It is a noun and is used informally. The word is a combination of the prefix "omni," which means "in all ways" or "of all things," and "shambles," which means "a state of total disorder from every possible angle". The word was first coined in 2009 in a BBC political comedy but rose to prominence earlier this year after it was used to attack the British government by at least eight politicians in the British Parliament.

Other words in Oxford's top ten include "Eurogeddon" - the threatened financial collapse in Europe - and "second screening" - to watch television and a device such as an iPad simultaneously. The texting acronym "YOLO" - you only live once - also made it onto the list. Oxford said there was no guarantee omnishambles would be added to its dictionary. It said the word first had to "stand the test of time". Oxford selects its Word Of The Year "to reflect the ethos of the year and its lasting potential as a word of cultural significance". Past winners include "podcast," "carbon footprint" and "credit crunch". This year's American winner is "gif" - the format extension of many images on the Internet.

Sources: **BBC** - <http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/uk-politics-20309441>
OED - <http://blog.oxforddictionaries.com/press-releases/uk-word-of-the-year-2012/>

WARM-UPS

1. ENGLISH VOCABULARY: Walk around the class and talk to other students about English vocabulary. Change partners often. Share your findings with your first partner.

2. CHAT: In pairs / groups, decide which of these topics or words from the article are most interesting and which are most boring.

dictionaries / neologisms / blog / blunders / noun / shambles / political comedy / "Eurogeddon" / financial collapse / simultaneously / device / guarantee / ethos / gif

Have a chat about the topics you liked. Change topics and partners frequently.

3. WORDS OF THE YEAR: What do they mean? Complete this table with your partner(s). Change partners and share what you wrote. Change and share again. (Answers)

| | Part of speech | Possible meaning(s) |
|---------------|----------------|---------------------|
| omnishambles | | |
| Eurogeddon | | |
| second screen | | |
| YOLO | | |
| mummy porn | | |
| green-on-blue | | |

4. VOCABULARY: Students A **strongly** believe vocabulary will become very easy to learn in the future; Students B **strongly** believe it will always be difficult. Change partners again and talk about your conversations.

5. NEOLOGISMS: Which of these past new words do you use often? Rank these and share your rankings with your partner. Put the most used at the top. Change partners often and share your rankings.

- credit crunch
- carbon footprint
- podcast
- information superhighway
- soccer mom
- ground zero
- cloud computing
- Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD)

6. DICTIONARY: Spend one minute writing down all of the different words you associate with the word 'dictionary'. Share your words with your partner(s) and talk about them. Together, put the words into different categories.

BEFORE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

1. TRUE / FALSE: Read the headline. Guess if a-h below are true (T) or false (F).

- a. The word "omnishambles" was first used by Shakespeare. T / F
- b. "Omnishambles" means to do something "better than excellent". T / F
- c. The word is often found on British coins, especially old ones. T / F
- d. Eight or more politicians used the word to criticize the UK government. T / F
- e. "Eurogeddon" describes a possible war between all European countries. T / F
- f. The acronym "YOLO" means "you only live once". T / F
- g. "Omnishambles" is not in the Oxford English Dictionary. T / F
- h. The American winner of Word Of The Year is the image extension "gif". T / F

2. SYNONYM MATCH: Match the following synonyms from the article.

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. neologism | a. promise |
| 2. comprehensively | b. mess |
| 3. characterized | c. criticize |
| 4. shambles | d. messaging |
| 5. attack | e. spirit |
| 6. simultaneously | f. typified |
| 7. texting | g. new word |
| 8. guarantee | h. mirror |
| 9. reflect | i. at the same time |
| 10. ethos | j. completely |

3. PHRASE MATCH: (Sometimes more than one choice is possible.)

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. this recent addition to | a. is used informally |
| 2. characterized by a | b. acronym "YOLO" |
| 3. It is a noun and | c. string of blunders |
| 4. from every | d. extension |
| 5. rose to | e. possible angle |
| 6. other words in | f. the English vocabulary |
| 7. the texting | g. potential |
| 8. stand the test | h. Oxford's top ten |
| 9. its lasting | i. prominence |
| 10. format | j. of time |

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WHILE READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

GAP FILL: Put the words into the gaps in the text.

The Oxford English Dictionary has chosen the (1) _____ (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year for 2012. The OED's blog defines this (2) _____ addition to the English vocabulary as "a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged, characterized by a (3) _____ of blunders and miscalculations". It is a noun and is used (4) _____. The word is a combination of the (5) _____ "omni," which means "in all ways" or "of all things," and "shambles," which means "a state of total (6) _____ from every possible angle". The word was first coined in 2009 in a BBC political comedy but (7) _____ to prominence earlier this year after it was used to attack the British government by at (8) _____ eight politicians in the British Parliament.

rose
disorder
neologism
string
least
informally
recent
prefix

Other words in Oxford's top ten (9) _____ "Eurogeddon" - the threatened financial (10) _____ in Europe - and "second screening" - to watch television and a (11) _____ such as an iPad simultaneously. The texting (12) _____ "YOLO" - you only live once - also made it onto the list. Oxford said there was no guarantee omnishambles would be added to its dictionary. It said the word first had to "(13) _____ the test of time". Oxford selects its Word Of The Year "to reflect the ethos of the year and its (14) _____ potential as a word of cultural significance". Past winners include "podcast," "carbon footprint" and "credit (15) _____ ". This year's American winner is "gif" - the (16) _____ extension of many images on the Internet.

acronym
format
collapse
crunch
include
stand
device
lasting

LISTENING – Guess the answers. Listen to check

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

- 1) The Oxford English Dictionary has chosen the ...
 - a. oldologism (old word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year
 - b. neologism (neo word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year
 - c. neologism (new word) "omnishambles" as its Neologism Of The Year
 - d. neologism (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year
- 2) ... a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged
 - a. mismanaged comprehensively
 - b. completely managed
 - c. comprehensively mismanaged
 - d. managed comprehensively
- 3) characterized by a _____ of blunders and miscalculations
 - a. string
 - b. ripe
 - c. cotton
 - d. thread
- 4) a state of total disorder from ...
 - a. possibly every angle
 - b. every possible angle
 - c. every angle possibility
 - d. angle possibly every
- 5) ... _____ prominence earlier this year
 - a. roses too
 - b. two roses
 - c. rose to
 - d. to rose
- 6) the _____ financial collapse in Europe
 - a. threats of
 - b. threatening
 - c. threat of
 - d. threatened
- 7) The texting acronym "YOLO" – _____ - also made it onto the list.
 - a. youth owes life one
 - b. you only live online
 - c. youth owns life once
 - d. you only live once
- 8) It said the word first had to ...
 - a. "understand the timed test".
 - b. "stand the testing time".
 - c. "stand the test of time".
 - d. "understand the test of time".
- 9) reflect the ethos of the year and its lasting potential as a ...
 - a. word of cultural significance
 - b. word of political significance
 - c. world of cultural significance
 - d. word of significant culture
- 10) gif" – the format _____ of many images on the Internet
 - a. extensive
 - b. exhaustion
 - c. expansion
 - d. extension

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LISTENING – Listen and fill in the gaps

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

The Oxford English Dictionary (1) _____ (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year for 2012. The OED's blog defines this (2) _____ English vocabulary as "a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged, characterized by a string of (3) _____ ". It is a noun and is used informally. The word is a combination of the prefix "omni," which means "in all ways" or "of all things," and "shambles," which means "(4) _____ from every possible angle". The (5) _____ in 2009 in a BBC political comedy but (6) _____ earlier this year after it was used to attack the British government by at least eight politicians in the British Parliament.

Other words in Oxford's top ten include "Eurogeddon" - the threatened financial collapse in Europe - (7) _____ - to watch television and a device such (8) _____. The texting acronym "YOLO" - you only live once - also (9) _____. Oxford said there was no guarantee omnishambles would be added to its dictionary. It said the word first had to "(10) _____ ". Oxford selects its Word Of The Year "to reflect the ethos of the year and its lasting (11) _____ cultural significance". Past winners include "podcast," "carbon footprint" and "credit crunch". This year's American winner is "gif" - (12) _____ of many images on the Internet.

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

1. What word in the first sentence means "new word"?

2. What is "omnishambles" characterized by?

3. When was the word "omnishambles" used for the first time?

4. Where was the word "omnishambles" used for the first time?

5. How many politicians attacked the British government?

6. What new word means to watch TV and an iPad at the same time?

7. What does "YOLO" mean?

8. What did the OED not guarantee?

9. What does "omnishambles" have to do to get in the OED?

10. Why does the article mention the image format extension "gif"?

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

1. The word "omnishambles" is characterized by a string of ...
 - a) beepers
 - b) bounders
 - c) blunders
 - d) bloopers
2. "Omnishambles" is a noun that is used...
 - a) informally
 - b) formally
 - c) colloquially
 - d) typically
3. When was the word "omnishambles" first used?
 - a) 2009
 - b) 2010
 - c) 2011
 - d) 2012
4. Where was the word "omnishambles" first used?
 - a) In a BBC political drama.
 - b) In a BBC political comedy.
 - c) In a BBC political documentary.
 - d) In a BBC political movie.
5. How many politicians used the word in the UK Parliament?
 - a) Eight, at most.
 - b) Eight.
 - c) Seven or eight.
 - d) At least eight.
6. Another in Oxford's top ten was...
 - a) "globalgeddon"
 - b) "Eurogeddon"
 - c) "climategeddon"
 - d) "terrorgeddon"
7. "YOLO" means...
 - a) You only live once.
 - b) You once live only.
 - c) Youth owes life one.
 - d) Youth owes life once.
8. What test does "omnishambles" have to stand?
 - a) The Test Of International Vocabulary
 - b) The U.S. citizenship test
 - c) The test of time.
 - d) The test of global acceptance
9. What kind of potential must "omnishambles" show?
 - a) Basting.
 - b) Wasting.
 - c) Fasting.
 - d) Lasting.
10. Which of these is a past Word Of The Year winner?
 - a) Credit crunch.
 - b) Internet.
 - c) Carbon.
 - d) Shambles.

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ROLE PLAY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

Role A – Traditionalist

You really don't like new words. Think of three reasons why. English already has the exact word you need for any situation. If we keep making new words, we won't understand each other. People make new words because they don't understand their language properly. They lack intelligence.

Role B – Word lover

You totally love new words. Think of three reasons why. You love the way English vocabulary has developed. The language needs new words to define new situations in life. You think people who create new words are super-cool. You think people who dislike new words live in the past.

Role C – "Omnishambles" creator

You are a very educated and intelligent writer. You have a huge vocabulary. You think English needs more words. Think of three reasons why. There was no other word to describe the situation you wanted to explain. You love Shakespeare because he invented thousands of new words.

Role D – English learner

You think "enough already!!!" You are good at English but don't want more words to learn. Think of three reasons why. You think "omnishambles" is a stupid word and English speakers don't know it. You think it is better to use "total shambles" because everyone can understand this.

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AFTER READING / LISTENING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

1. WORD SEARCH: Look in your dictionary / computer to find collocates, other meanings, information, synonyms ... for the words 'English' and 'word'.

| English | word |
|----------------|-------------|
| | |

- Share your findings with your partners.
- Make questions using the words you found.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

2. ARTICLE QUESTIONS: Look back at the article and write down some questions you would like to ask the class about the text.

- Share your questions with other classmates / groups.
- Ask your partner / group your questions.

3. GAP FILL: In pairs / groups, compare your answers to this exercise. Check your answers. Talk about the words from the activity. Were they new, interesting, worth learning...?

4. VOCABULARY: Circle any words you do not understand. In groups, pool unknown words and use dictionaries to find their meanings.

5. TEST EACH OTHER: Look at the words below. With your partner, try to recall how they were used in the text:

| | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• chosen• addition• string• omni• 2009• eight | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• ten• second• once• time• past• gif |
|--|---|

ENGLISH VOCABULARY SURVEY

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

Write five GOOD questions about English vocabulary in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper. When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

| | STUDENT 1 _____ | STUDENT 2 _____ | STUDENT 3 _____ |
|------|--------------------|--------------------|--------------------|
| Q.1. | | | |
| Q.2. | | | |
| Q.3. | | | |
| Q.4. | | | |
| Q.5. | | | |

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

ENGLISH VOCABULARY DISCUSSION

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

- a) What did you think when you read the headline?
- b) What springs to mind when you hear the word 'vocabulary'?
- c) How happy are you with your knowledge of English vocabulary?
- d) Do you know more words than average in your own language?
- e) What do you think of the word "omnishambles"?
- f) Do you think English has enough words without adding more?
- g) What recent neologisms are there in your language?
- h) What recent world events might be an "omnishambles"?
- i) Could anything you've ever done be described as an "omnishambles"?
- j) Do you think "omnishambles" will survive?

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ENGLISH VOCABULARY DISCUSSION

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

- a) Did you like reading this article? Why/not?
- b) What's the best way to learn vocabulary?
- c) What do you think of the other neologisms mentioned in the article?
- d) Have you ever made a new word (in any language)?
- e) What do you think of so many English words being part of your language?
- f) What are your favourite / least favourite English words?
- g) Are there words in English you still keep forgetting?
- h) Is your teacher good at teaching vocabulary?
- i) How interested are you in learning neologisms?
- j) What questions would you like to ask a neologisms expert?

DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT A's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student B)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

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DISCUSSION (Write your own questions)

STUDENT B's QUESTIONS (Do not show these to student A)

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____
6. _____

MULTIPLE CHOICE - LANGUAGE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

The Oxford English Dictionary has chosen the (1) ____ (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year for 2012. The OED's blog defines this recent (2) ____ to the English vocabulary as "a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged, characterized by a string of blunders and miscalculations". It is a noun and is used informally. The word is a combination of the (3) ____ "omni," which means "in all ways" or "of all things," and "shambles," which means "a state of total disorder from every possible (4) ____ ". The word was first (5) ____ in 2009 in a BBC political comedy but rose to prominence earlier this year after it was used to attack the British government by at (6) ____ eight politicians in the British Parliament.

Other words in Oxford's top ten include "Eurogeddon" - the (7) ____ financial collapse in Europe - and "second screening" - to watch television and a device such (8) ____ an iPad simultaneously. The texting acronym "YOLO" - you only live once - also (9) ____ it onto the list. Oxford said there was no guarantee omnishambles would be added to its dictionary. It said the word first had to "(10) ____ the test of time". Oxford selects its Word Of The Year "to (11) ____ the ethos of the year and its lasting potential as a word of cultural (12) ____ ". Past winners include "podcast," "carbon footprint" and "credit crunch". This year's American winner is "gif" - the format extension of many images on the Internet.

Put the correct words from the table below in the above article.

- | | | | | |
|-----|-----------------|------------------|----------------|----------------|
| 1. | (a) neologism | (b) organism | (c) patriotism | (d) schism |
| 2. | (a) subtraction | (b) plus | (c) addition | (d) added |
| 3. | (a) suffix | (b) fixative | (c) prefix | (d) add-on |
| 4. | (a) box | (b) corner | (c) line | (d) angle |
| 5. | (a) coined | (b) billed | (c) receipted | (d) paid |
| 6. | (a) last | (b) least | (c) lesser | (d) lessen |
| 7. | (a) throaty | (b) treaty | (c) threaded | (d) threatened |
| 8. | (a) was | (b) as | (c) has | (d) is |
| 9. | (a) had | (b) did | (c) made | (d) took |
| 10. | (a) firm | (b) stand | (c) take | (d) be |
| 11. | (a) redo | (b) revise | (c) report | (d) reflect |
| 12. | (a) lexis | (b) significance | (c) neologist | (d) vocabulary |

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SPELLING

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

Paragraph 1

1. chosen the gonmeisol
2. this recent tdinoiad to the English vocabulary
3. characterized by a string of dlensrub
4. The word is a bitaonncomi of ...
5. a state of total oderidrs from every possible angle
6. rose to eeorcimnnp earlier this year

Paragraph 2

7. the edtarnheet financial collapse in Europe
8. The texting ronmcay "YOLO"
9. no eugatrena omnishambles would be added
10. its lasting pnleotait
11. a word of cultural cifenacnsiig
12. "gif" – the format xentinseo of many images

PUT THE TEXT BACK TOGETHER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

Number these lines in the correct order.

- () screening" – to watch television and a device such as an iPad simultaneously. The texting acronym
- () miscalculations". It is a noun and is used informally. The word is a combination of the prefix "omni," which means "in all
- () added to its dictionary. It said the word first had to "stand the test of time". Oxford selects its
- () a word of cultural significance". Past winners include "podcast," "carbon footprint"
- () Other words in Oxford's top ten include "Eurogeddon" - the threatened financial collapse in Europe - and "second
- (**1**) The Oxford English Dictionary has chosen the neologism (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year
- () earlier this year after it was used to attack the British government by at least eight politicians in the British Parliament.
- () ways" or "of all things," and "shambles," which means "a state of total disorder from every possible
- () been comprehensively mismanaged, characterized by a string of blunders and
- () "YOLO" – you only live once - also made it onto the list. Oxford said there was no guarantee omnishambles would be
- () and "credit crunch". This year's American winner is "gif" – the format extension of many images on the Internet.
- () for 2012. The OED's blog defines this recent addition to the English vocabulary as "a situation that has
- () angle". The word was first coined in 2009 in a BBC political comedy but rose to prominence
- () Word Of The Year "to reflect the ethos of the year and its lasting potential as

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PUT THE WORDS IN THE RIGHT ORDER

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

1. recent this defines blog OED's The addition.

2. has that situation A mismanaged comprehensively been.

3. from angle state disorder possible A total every of.

4. word The 2009 in coined first was.

5. By eight the least in Parliament at politicians British.

6. such as an iPad simultaneously. Watch TV and a device

7. guarantee omnishambles There would was be no added.

8. had to stand the test of time The word first.

9. Its as of potential word significance lasting a cultural.

10. images Internet format many the The of on extension.

CIRCLE THE CORRECT WORD (20 PAIRS)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

The Oxford English Dictionary has *chosen / choice* the neologism (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year for 2012. The OED's blog *definitions / defines* this recent addition to the English vocabulary as "a situation that has been *comprehensively / comprehensive* mismanaged, characterized by a *string / rope* of blunders and miscalculations". It is a *verb / noun* and is used informally. The word is a combination of the *suffix / prefix* "omni," which means "in *all / every* ways" or "of all things," and "shambles," which means "a state of *total / totally* disorder from every possible angle". The word was first *banked / coined* in 2009 in a BBC political comedy but rose to prominence earlier this year after it was used to attack the British government by at *last / least* eight politicians in the British Parliament.

Other words in Oxford's top *ten/ list* include "Eurogeddon" - the threatened *financial / finances* collapse in Europe - and "second screening" - to watch television and a device such *has / as* an iPad simultaneously. The texting *acronym / synonym* "YOLO" - you only live once - also *did / made* it onto the list. Oxford said there was no *warranty / guarantee* omnishambles would be added to its dictionary. It said the word first had to "*stand / sit* the test of time". Oxford selects its Word Of The Year "to *reflect / refract* the ethos of the year and its *listing / lasting* potential as a word of cultural significance". Past winners include "podcast," "carbon footprint" and "credit crunch". This year's American winner is "gif" - the *format / formal* extension of many images on the Internet.

Talk about the connection between each pair of words in italics, and why the correct word is correct.

INSERT THE VOWELS (a, e, i, o, u)

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

The Oxford English Dictionary has chosen the
omnishambles (new word) as the Word of
The Year for 2012. The OED's blog defines the recent
addition to the English vocabulary as "a set of
terms that has been comprehensively misnamed,
characterized by a string of blind and
miscellaneous". The word is a combination of the prefix
"omni," which means "in all ways" or "everything,"
and "shambles," which means "a state of
disorder from every possible angle". The word was
first coined in 2009 on a BBC political comedy
radio programme called the Saturday Foot was
said to attack the British government by the
right politicians in the British Parliament.

The words in Oxford's top ten include "arguing" -
the trend of declining clips in rap - and
"sounding" - to watch television and
diverse such as the PDS mysteriously. The
cronym "Y_L" - only live - is made
the list. Oxford said the words are
omnishambles would be added to the dictionary.
said the word first had the "stand the test of time".
Oxford selects the Word of the Year "to reflect the
the fact that year and its listing point to the
of cultural significance". Post winners include
"pdcst," "carbon footprint" and "credit crunch". The
year's major winners are "g-f" - the format
texts in many magazines in the internet.

PUNCTUATE THE TEXT AND ADD CAPITALS

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

the oxford english dictionary has chosen the neologism (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word Of The Year for 2012 the oed's blog defines this recent addition to the english vocabulary as "a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged characterized by a string of blunders and miscalculations" it is a noun and is used informally the word is a combination of the prefix "omni" which means "in all ways" or "of all things" and "shambles" which means "a state of total disorder from every possible angle" the word was first coined in 2009 in a bbc political comedy but rose to prominence earlier this year after it was used to attack the british government by at least eight politicians in the british parliament

other words in oxford's top ten include "eurogeddon" - the threatened financial collapse in europe - and "second screening" - to watch television and a device such as an ipad simultaneously the texting acronym "yolo" - you only live once - also made it onto the list oxford said there was no guarantee omnishambles would be added to its dictionary it said the word first had to "stand the test of time" oxford selects its Word Of The Year "to reflect the ethos of the year and its lasting potential as a word of cultural significance" past winners include "podcast" "carbon footprint" and "credit crunch" this year's american winner is "gif" - the format extension of many images on the internet

PUT A SLASH (/) WHERE THE SPACES ARE

From <http://www.BreakingNewsEnglish.com/121115-vocabulary.html>

The Oxford English Dictionary has chosen the neologism (new word) "omnishambles" as its Word of the Year for 2012. The OED's blog defines this recent addition to the English vocabulary as "a situation that has been comprehensively mismanaged, characterized by a string of blunders and miscalculations". It is a noun and is used informally. The word is a combination of the prefix "omni," which means "in all ways" or "of all things," and "shambles," which means "a state of total disorder from every possible angle". The word was first coined in 2009 in a BBC political comedy but rose to prominence earlier this year after it was used to attack the British government by at least eight politicians in the British Parliament. Other words in Oxford's top ten include "Eurogeddon" - the threatened financial collapse in Europe - and "second screening" - to watch television and a device such as a iPad simultaneously. The texting acronym "YOLO" - you only live once - also made it onto the list. Oxford said there was no guarantee omnishambles would be added to its dictionary. It said the word first had to "stand the test of time". Oxford selects its Word of the Year "to reflect the ethos of the year and its lasting potential as a word of cultural significance". Past winners include "podcast," "carbon footprint" and "credit crunch". This year's American winner is "gif" - the format extension of many images on the Internet.

HOMework

1. VOCABULARY EXTENSION: Choose several of the words from the text. Use a dictionary or Google's search field (or another search engine) to build up more associations / collocations of each word.

2. INTERNET: Search the Internet and find out more about English vocabulary. Share what you discover with your partner(s) in the next lesson.

3. ENGLISH VOCABULARY: Make a poster about English vocabulary. Show your work to your classmates in the next lesson. Did you all have similar things?

4. OMNISHAMBLES: Write a magazine article about the word "omnishambles". Include imaginary interviews with people who are for and against it.

Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Write down any new words and expressions you hear from your partner(s).

5. WHAT HAPPENED NEXT? Write a newspaper article about the next stage in this news story. Read what you wrote to your classmates in the next lesson. Give each other feedback on your articles.

6. LETTER: Write a letter to a vocabulary expert. Ask him/her three questions about English vocabulary. Give him/her three of your opinions on it. Read your letter to your partner(s) in your next lesson. Your partner(s) will answer your questions.

ANSWERS

TRUE / FALSE (p.4)

a F b F c F d T e F f T g T h T

SYNONYM MATCH (p.4)

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1. neologism | a. new word |
| 2. comprehensively | b. completely |
| 3. characterized | c. typified |
| 4. shambles | d. mess |
| 5. attack | e. criticize |
| 6. simultaneously | f. at the same time |
| 7. texting | g. messaging |
| 8. guarantee | h. promise |
| 9. reflect | i. mirror |
| 10. ethos | j. spirit |

COMPREHENSION QUESTIONS (p.8)

1. Neologism
2. A string of blunders and miscalculations.
3. 2009
4. In a BBC political comedy.
5. At least 8.
6. Second screen(ing)
7. You only live once.
8. That it would put "omnishambles" in its dictionary.
9. Stand the test of time.
10. It won the Word Of The Year" in the USA

MULTIPLE CHOICE - QUIZ (p.9)

1. c 2. a 3. a 4. b 5. d 6. b 7. a 8. c 9. d 10. a

ALL OTHER EXERCISES

Please check for yourself by looking at the Article on page 2.
(It's good for your English ;-)