



# Half a million secrets

Lesson code: JS2H-KDMB-F91G-6

ADVANCED

## 1 Warm-up

Give some examples of secrets. Can you think of any famous secrets that have come out in the news recently?

## 2 Vocabulary development

Match the underlined words to their definitions.

1. I used to work with a bunch of uptight people and had to wear a tie.
  2. Johnny is extremely artful. He used paint, glue and glitter in his impression of the Tower Bridge.
  3. Soon the idea began spreading virally.
  4. He had a big smile and chuckled to himself.
  5. I cried my eyes out when she sang that soulful song.
  6. Politicians are often indifferent to human frailty. They are only interested in personal gain.
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- a. (spreading) very quickly, especially on the Internet
  - b. always behaving in a very correct way
  - c. expressing strong emotions, especially sadness
  - d. laughed quietly, especially in a private or secret way
  - e. showing creative skill
  - f. the condition of being weak or not in good health

## 3 Watching and listening

You are going to watch a part of the video presentation by Frank Warren. Read the questions below and then watch the video to find the answers.

1. How did the idea of secret postcards start?
2. If you are rude, what coffee will you receive?
3. Why is it sometimes good not to use a wireless microphone?
4. What was the 'Sunday morning ritual'?
5. What is the story behind the cat and the ring?



## 4 Find the words

Read the transcript and find words or phrases which mean ...

1. distributed (phrasal verb, P1) \_\_\_\_\_
2. arrange things so that they are placed one on top of another (verb, P2) \_\_\_\_\_
3. a very small number of things or people (noun, P3) \_\_\_\_\_
4. very many, especially more than reasonable (adj., P4) \_\_\_\_\_
5. torn into small pieces (phrasal verb, P6) \_\_\_\_\_
6. happy, excited and full of energy (adj., P7) \_\_\_\_\_
7. something that you do regularly (noun, P8) \_\_\_\_\_
8. made a sudden sound or said something suddenly (verb, P9) \_\_\_\_\_

## 5 Talking point

In pairs, discuss any of the following questions.

1. Do you know anyone who is a 'blabbermouth'?
2. Have you recently found out about a secret and did you manage to keep it?
3. Do you think that politicians' and celebrities' private lives should remain a secret?

## 6 Use of English

Read the text below and type the word which best fits in each space. Use only one word in each space. More than one answer possible. Then check with the video.

around                      embarrassing                      explanation                      made                      mention                      with

This next one takes a little \_\_\_\_\_<sup>1</sup> before I share it with you. I love to speak on college campuses and share secrets and the stories \_\_\_\_\_<sup>2</sup> students. And sometimes afterwards I'll stick \_\_\_\_\_<sup>3</sup> and sign books and take photos with students. And this next postcard was \_\_\_\_\_<sup>4</sup> out of one of those photos. And I should also \_\_\_\_\_<sup>5</sup> that, just like today, at that PostSecret event, I was using a wireless microphone. "Your mic wasn't off during sound check. We all heard you pee." This was really \_\_\_\_\_<sup>6</sup> when it happened, until I realized it could have been worse. Right. You know what I'm saying...

## 7 Flashcard review

Don't forget what you learned in this lesson! Go to [www.linguahouse.com](http://www.linguahouse.com), click 'Learning English' and enter Lesson code: JS2H-KDMB-F91G-6.

